

International Summer Term Programme “Agriculture, Food and Nutrition” 28 April - 23 July 2026



Dear students,

In the following summer term, from **28 April until 23 July 2026**, Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences (HSWT) in Germany invites you to join our English-taught study programme in the field of **Agriculture, Food and Nutrition** at our campus in Triesdorf.

Guided by HSWT's experienced teaching staff, you will learn about the general structure of the agricultural, food and farming industry in Germany and gain profound insight into current trends and developments. By employing varied teaching methods such as seminars, group learning, online courses and excursions, students are given the opportunity to develop their personal as well as professional skills. Studying in our international student community will be an exciting learning and cultural experience.

Classes take place at our Triesdorf campus, which forms an integral part of the Triesdorf Educational Centre for Agriculture, Food and the Environment ('Bildungszentrum Triesdorf'), the only one of its kind in Germany. The centre's close integration with state-of-the-art infrastructure creates valuable synergies that provide many benefits for our university and its departments.

Participation Requirements

- » Enrollment in Agriculture, Food Stuff Management or related fields in a university outside of Germany
- » Undergraduate students 2nd year or advanced
- » English language proficiency of at least level B1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)
- » Willingness to learn and work
- » Team spirit

How to apply

If your university and HSWT have a cooperation agreement (e.g. Erasmus+) please ask your department coordinator or International Office coordinator to nominate you for the programme (by September 12th 2026). Once we have received your nomination, we will send you a link to our online application form. Applicants will be interviewed via Zoom in the last two weeks of October by the department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition. If there is no agreement in place, you may study with us as a Freemover. In this case, please send an [e-mail](#) to the International Office at HSWT by the end of October 2025.

During the online application, you will be asked to upload the following documents:

- » CV
- » Transcript of Records
- » University Entrance Certificate (e.g. High-School Diploma)
- » Motivation Letter
- » Proof of Language (English)
- » Scan of personal ID or passport

In addition, a Learning Agreement with your course choice will have to be filled.

Costs

HSWT does not charge any tuition fees. A semester fee of approx. 75 Euro has to be paid upon enrollment.

Accommodation

There are various student residences and private rooms for rent. The International Office at HSWT will support students in finding accommodation. The rental rate per month will be approximately 300-350 Euro.

We look forward to welcoming you at HSWT!

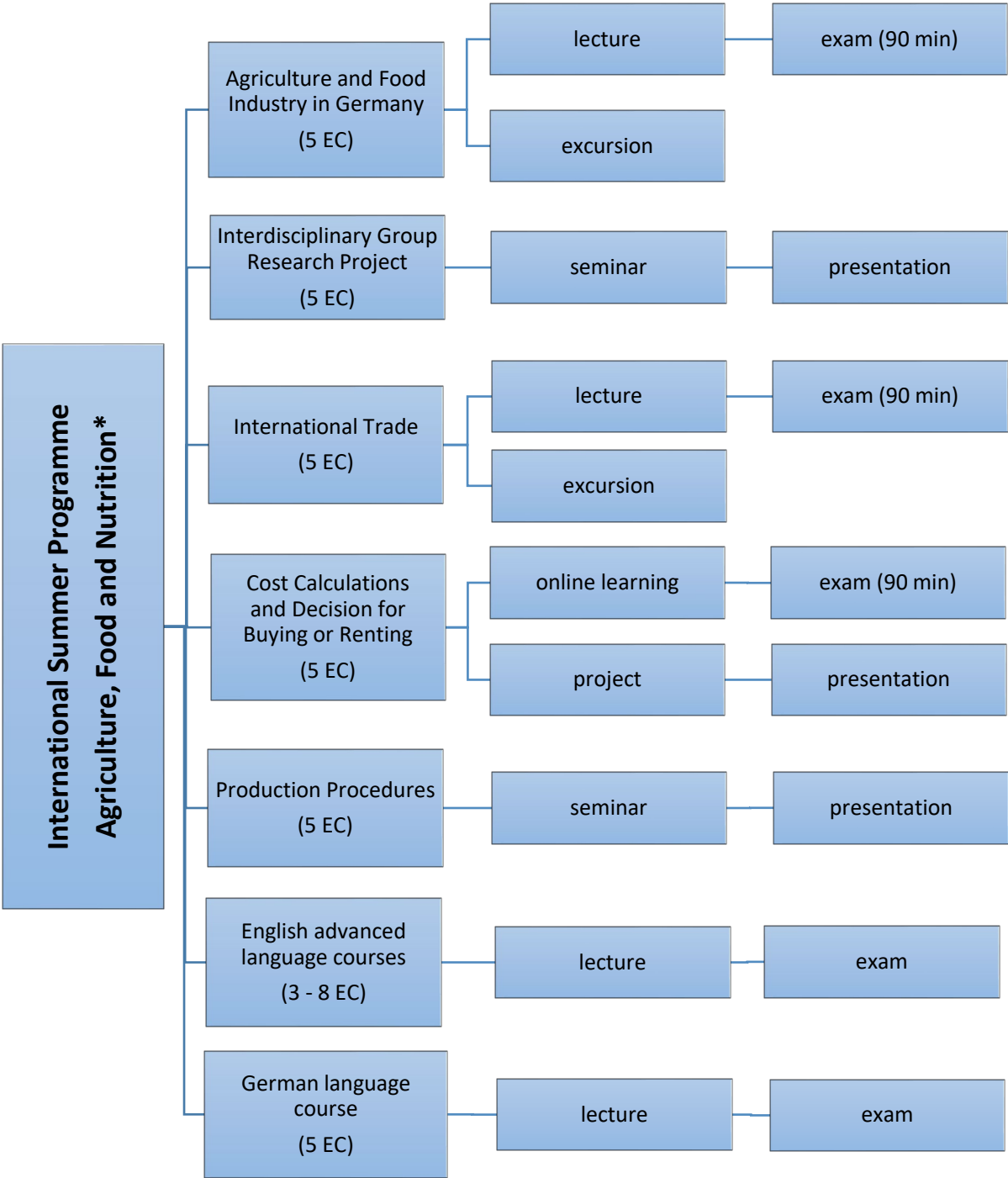
Contact for questions:

International Office
summer.lt@hswt.de

Dr. Bernd Müller

Coordinator Department of Agriculture, Food
and Nutrition

Curriculum Overview



***Please note:** Courses will be offered **on campus** with student presence required. Course offerings may be subject to change; additional courses, online or on campus, may be offered. Participating students should select courses for at least 20 EC.

Course descriptions

Agriculture and Food Industry in Germany (930100350)

Hours/week: 4 SWS	ECTS-credits: 5	Target group: Students in Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering, MBA and related fields	Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Schlauderer and others
<p>Objectives of the course/Learning outcome: Students are able to describe the meaning and form of Agriculture and Food Industry in Germany. They can describe basics of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -typical German farms and mid and long term developments - organic farming - agricultural markets and global issues - diversification and business start up - German retail as part of the food value chain - precision agriculture <p>The module includes lectures and excursions.</p>			
<p>Assessment methods: written exam, 90 minutes</p>			

Interdisciplinary Group Research Project (930900220)

Hours/week: 4 SWS	ECTS-credits: 5	Target group: Students in Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering, MBA and related fields	Lecturer: Dr. Kateryna Tuzhyk
<p>Objectives of the course/Learning outcome: Students are enabled to answer agricultural related questions in a scientific manner. During this course all steps of scientific work will be realized: starting with the formulation of a research question, stating a hypothesis, identification of suitable methods to answer proposed questions, data collection and “re-search”, summarizing and presenting results, and finally prepare a written document in paper format. The following topics are proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water-Food-Energy-Nexus, • Principles of sustainable agriculture, • Climate-Smart Agriculture, • Caring about the “unseen” – soils and groundwater • Agriculture in 2050 <p>Course format: Seminar / working groups of 4-5 students</p>			
<p>Assessment methods: project paper and oral presentation</p>			

International Trade (930900210)

Hours/week: 4 SWS	ECTS-credits: 5	Target group: Students in Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering, MBA and related fields	Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Johannes Holzner, Dr. Henrike Burchardi
<p>Objectives of the course Students are capable of understanding processes and correlations at national and international level agricultural markets in order to draw conclusions about economic activity. On completion of the module students will be able to apply strategies and marketing approaches in international trade. They have knowledge of international trade agreements as well as trade flows and can evaluate concepts for international companies in the agricultural sector</p>			
<p>Learning outcome: 1. Familiarity with the development of supply and demand of supply, foreign trade, market and supply, Pricing policy, as well as the marketing system for the main plant and animal products under special consideration of regional and supra-regional markets</p>			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - market for cereals and cereal products - Market for oilseed and protein crops - Market for potato and potato products - sugar market - Market for slaughter cattle and meat - Market for milk and milk products and market for eggs - market for eggs <p>2. Knowledge of the development of a positive market influence for agriculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increase market transparency - quality production - Improvement of market position through mergers <p>3. Knowledge of the development and causes of market structure and competitive conditions among the most important</p> <p>Branches of the food industry (industry, craft)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mills, malting, breweries, bakeries - Oil mills, starch and sugar factories - meat industry, dairy industry
<p>Assessment methods: written exam, 90 minutes</p>

Cost calculations and decision for buying or renting (Online Course) (931300200)

<p>Hours/week: 2 SWS</p> <p><u>Workload:</u> Approximately 6 hours per week</p>	<p>ECTS-credits: 5</p>	<p>Recommended prerequisites: a basic knowledge in the field of agricultural sciences (all disciplines) is required.</p>	<p>Lecturer: Prof. Ralf Schlauderer</p>
<p>Objectives of the course</p> <p>The goal of the course is to provide the theoretical basis for decision-making in production and the subsequent illustration on specific practical examples. In this case, the course deals primarily with the issue of purchasing long-term means of production such as tractors. In the process, the question is addressed whether the long-term means of production should preferably be purchased or leased. With the example of such questions, the theoretical basics of economic decisions are illustrated and discussed. Subsequently the developed theoretical principles are applied to specific practical examples. The results are discussed and evaluated from the perspective of decision-makers. Additionally, the course is utilizing Moodle. For each module, there is time for questions and discussions in a virtual chat room scheduled, to which all users have access to.</p> <p>Next to acquiring theoretical knowledge, students will conduct a project based on the course content: students will calculate typical machinery combination of their country and presents the results.</p> <p>Learning outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To accurately define costs, to explain cost categories and to apply the terms to typical examples of agriculture - To define and apply machinery costs, procedural costs and comparative costs - To calculate and appropriately interpret the total costs per year and costs per unit of output such as tractors hours or hectares - To calculate the Minimum Extent of Utilization for machinery, equipment and typical agricultural means of production and to appropriately evaluate the results <p>Further information: https://ima.hswt.de/en/triesdorf-en/mooc-en</p>			
<p>Assessment methods: The module is examined by a written exam 45 min (50%) and the presentation of the project (50%).</p>			

Production Procedures (Online Course + Exercises)

Hours/week: 4 SWS <u>Workload:</u> Approximately 6 hours per week	ECTS-credits: 5	Recommended prerequisites: a basic knowledge in the field of agricultural sciences (all disciplines) is required.	Lecturer: Prof. Ralf Schlauderer
<p>Objectives of the course</p> <p>The goal of the course is to provide the theoretical basis for calculating and assessing production procedures such as production of wheat, barley, milk, pork etc. The method explained is the total and partial cost calculation. To properly assess the production procedures gross margin, entrepreneurial profit, economic profit as well as remuneration of production factors are used. Subsequently the developed theoretical principles are applied to specific practical examples. The results are discussed and evaluated from the perspective of decision-makers. Students will calculate an example of a production procedure of their own country and will present the results in written and oral form.</p> <p>Learning outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To accurately define production procedures, the terms of gross margin, entrepreneurial profit, economic profit, remuneration of production factors, break even for production and profitability - To define and apply partial and total cost calculation. - To calculate and appropriately interpret the gross margin, entrepreneurial profit and other terms (as named before) - To be able to calculate and assess the economic profitability of a production procedure. 			
<p>Assessment methods: The module is examined by a written exam 45 min (50%) and the presentation of the project (50%).</p>			

German as a Foreign - Language Basic 1 (960400030)

Hours/week: 4 SWS	ECTS-credits: 5	Target group: Students in the field of Agriculture	Lecturer: Philipp Raab
<p><i>(For students with prior German knowledge, advanced courses may be offered, either online or as group sessions, depending on the number of participants and skill level)</i></p> <p>Objectives of the course/Learning outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to cope with some simple everyday situations in the foreign language in written and spoken forms of communication as well as to give simple information about studies, university and career wishes. • The ability to perceive cultural differences and to comment on them in simple statements. • Development of learning strategies that serve the further development of the students' language skills <p>Course content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition and practice of basic language skills (listening comprehension, reading comprehension, speaking, writing, grammar, vocabulary) • Study of areas of practical everyday life and regional studies topics, e.g. simple, short reading and listening texts as well as audiovisual material such as city maps, room reservations, travel descriptions, etc; role playing such as simple interviews or telephone conversations etc.; filling out forms with personal details, writing e-mails. 			
<p>Assessment methods: tba</p>			

English for Agribusiness (960500020)

Hours/week: 2 SWS	ECTS-credits: 3 – 5*	Target group: Students in the field of Agriculture	Lecturer: Susanne Kroner
Objectives of the course/Learning outcome: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ability to understand and use the foreign language in written and spoken forms of communication of medium complexity in a large number of study and occupational situations. The ability to express oneself in appropriate and understandable ways in subject areas of the entire value chain, i.e. being able to recognize and comment on aspects of plant and animal production, first-stage processing of agricultural products, the food industry and the wholesale and retail business Development of learning strategies to enhance the students' individual language skills. Course content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition and development of linguistic skills (listening and reading comprehension, speaking, writing, grammar, vocabulary). Training of subject-relevant forms of communication (presentations, role-playing games, e.g. conversations with business partners; Reading scientific texts of medium complexity; Create written reports of medium complexity). 			
Assessment methods: tba			

Business English for the Food Industry (960200010)

Hours/week: 2 SWS	ECTS-credits: 3 – 5*	Target group: Students in the field of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition	Lecturer: Thomas Bartl
Objectives of the course/Learning outcome: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ability to understand the foreign language in a large number of study-, university- and professional communication situations in written and spoken forms of communication and to use it appropriately. The ability to express oneself appropriately and understandably about contents in the field of the food industry and about conditions of one's own studies (including a planned or already completed study or internship abroad), to comment on them in short discussions and to give a lecture on them. Development of learning strategies that serve the independent development of the students' language skills. Course content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition and development of language skills (listening comprehension, reading comprehension, speaking, writing, grammar, vocabulary). Activity with job- and study-oriented communication situations (presentations, applications in the foreign language, reading and discussing texts from the food industry, etc.) Training of study- and subject-oriented communication situations (projects, presentations and discussions on specialized material) 			
Assessment methods: tba			

*Introduction to the academic work

Hours/week: 2 SWS	ECTS-credits:	Target group: Students in the field of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition	Lecturer: Thomas Bartl
Objectives of the course/Learning outcome: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduces the nature of academic work at the university with special attention on various forms of assignments and assessment methods; the characteristics of language use particular to academia; and factors particular to HSWT. Course content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of skills in various forms of oral presentations. Form and content of a variety of written assignments 			

Campus Life & Activities

Although Triesdorf is one of the smallest university locations in Germany, it does not mean that it is a sleepy place. Over 2.000 young people are studying here, and: Triesdorf has a strong **international profile**. Students from all around the world come to Triesdorf to learn more about agriculture, nutrition, engineering and related fields.

At the university, many different sport activities are offered, following the concept - from students for students. You can try something new every day and expand your network of **contacts** and **friends**. Triesdorf is also well known for its **parties** and for its easygoing **open-air celebrations**.

Triesdorf is located in the **Franconian Lake District**. With a variety of **activities**, ranging from swimming and other water sports to hiking, from enjoying nature to cultural festivals, the region offers many opportunities to enjoy your free time while following an instructive exchange programme at our university's campus in Triesdorf. With short distances and a well-developed road network, seven lakes can be reached easily either by bicycle or public transport.



Testimonials from previous participants



"The people here are very welcoming and students are always supported. The university environment allowed me to focus and study in peace. The most important thing I learned was to communicate with new friends from different nationalities."

Kimmouy M., Cambodia

"I spent my time visiting farms around Triesdorf and learned about agricultural mechanisation. All the lecturers were very dedicated and HSWT gave me the best support I could imagine. I will miss the evenings with new friends from all over the world."

Japeth N., Kenya

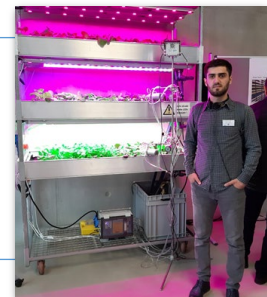


"HSWT is an international university, where many students from different countries study. It is very advantageous to study together with foreign students, because by communicating with them in a foreign language, we improved our language skills and got acquainted with the cultures of different countries."

Gurbanov O., Azerbaijan

"For me, the most interesting is the friendly relationship with the professors. In my country, focus is on theoretical knowledge that comes from books that are over ten years old, here the information is always up to date."

Hamza A., Serbia

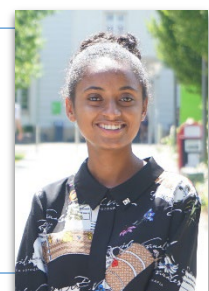


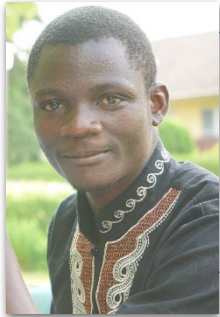
"The education system in Germany is different from my country. I was quite keen on discovering it in order to compare and maybe suggest some changes to the way of studying at home. All professors were really passionate about their subjects. It was obvious that they spend a lot of time to prepare everything. Also, the support team always had an open ear for me no matter what the problem was."

Valeriia M., Ukraine

"I spent my free time traveling to other places and being together with my friends. My favorite activities are reading different books, playing football; my favorite place is being around the lake beach."

Komartisif M., Ethiopia



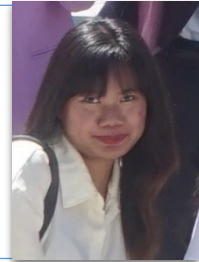


"HSWT is well equipped with agricultural farms and farm machineries which suited my field of specialisation. I especially liked the dairy farms, automated milking machine system and the modern pig rearing systems. The hardworking spirit from all the departments is really encouraging. I hope to be back again."

Emmanuel A., Kenya

"I like the campus in Triesdorf because it is peaceful. I learned new teaching methods and how to organise my self-studies. I spent my free time travelling. I very much appreciate everything I got here and thank HSWT for supporting us."

Naruechol L., Thailand



"I can use the knowledge about calculation in production and can calculate what is better for me, to buy new machinery (like a tractor for example) or to buy an already used tractor."

Dusko K., Bosnia and Herzegovina

"I didn't hesitate when I was offered the opportunity to join the program because it was a chance for me to study in Germany. I liked the way the courses were organized and also the quality. There are farms students can go to and improve their knowlegde. I also liked the infrastructure of Germany, the discipline, the cleanliless. It is a good environnement for studies."

Paka R., Togo



"I was in Europe and Germany for the first time actually. I like the student atmosphere as I have met new friends from other countries, like Russia, Paraguay, Azerbaijan and Bosnia. There is a good relationship between teachers and students, they are very friendly towards us. I also enjoyed the nature of Germany, especially, in Triesdorf."

Muslikhiddin N., Uzbekistan

