Studying in Göttingen
Information Guide for international Students

Faculty of Agricultural Sciences
Georg-August University Göttingen

Edition: October 2009
Foreword

We are happy to welcome you as new students at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of the Georg-August-University of Göttingen.

Founded in 1737, the University of Göttingen is one of the oldest Universities of Germany. It bears the name of its founder King George II of Great Britain who, as Georg August, was also Elector of Hanover. The University is a research university of international renown with strong focuses in research-led teaching. Göttingen has many advantages as a location for university studies which the Georg-August-University is enhancing by developing innovative degree programmes, introducing Bachelor’s and Master’s degree structures, carrying out a systematic internationalisation of its study programmes and implementing quality-assurance measures. Approximately 24,000 young people currently study here, some twelve per cent of whom are from abroad – a clear demonstration of the pull that the University has long exerted internationally.

The University has thirteen Faculties: Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Faculty of Biology incl. Psychology, Faculty of Chemistry, Faculty of Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology, Faculty of Geoscience and Geography, Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, Faculty of Physics, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Economic Sciences, Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Theology, Medical School. Further a wide range of centres and institutes form part of the university landscape.

The Faculty of Agricultural Sciences which dates back to 1952 has three Departments: Department of Animal Sciences, Department of Crop Sciences, Department for Agricultural Economics and Rural Development, eight research centres, and an Institute of Veterinary Medicine.

The research and teaching profile of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences is characterized by a system oriented approach towards the agricultural land use in temperate, tropical and subtropical regions. The focus is on main problems of a sustainable land use like for example a sufficient and balanced nutrition of the world population and the conservative use of natural resources. This comprehensive research and teaching standard can be offered by the Faculty based on the broad spectrum of available nature and social science institutes within the faculty.

In accordance with one of the main targets of the University: to intensify the process of internationalisation, the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences offers both an international oriented MSc- and PhD-Programme with English as teaching language. These programmes have a high percentage of international students. New is the MSc-Programme “Sustainable International Agriculture (SIA)” which will start in winter semester 2009/2010 as a joint study programme in co-operation with the Faculty of Organic Agricultural Sciences, University of Kassel-Witzenhausen.

The information above and much more you find on the webpage of the University. This small guide intends to help you to find the information you search on the webpage and to help you through the first weeks in Göttingen. On behalf of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, I wish you a very pleasant and informative stay in Göttingen.

Prof. Dr. Dr. Bertram Brenig
Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences
July, 2009
1 Introduction

1.1 Climate in Germany

Germany has four seasons: winter, spring, summer and autumn. In September the summer ends and in October when the semester with the courses begins we have autumn with average temperatures around 12 to 15°C. On the following web-page you can see the average temperature day and night and absolute minimum and maximum in the different months:

http://ch.wetter.com/reise/laenderinfos/klimadatenbank/?type=temp&continent=EU&country=DE&station=104380

The table below the curves gives you also the average rainfall per months (Ø Niederschlag mm). You might come from a country with rainy season(s) and dry season(s). In Germany we have no such seasons. It might rain any time of the year. At winter time we might have snow for rather long periods or almost no snow at all. Some of you will experience you first snow in Germany. It is lovely but cold. You should bring a sweater and jacket which you can put on before you leave the plane.

In tropical countries you have almost the same day length throughout the year. The further you move away from the equator the shorter are the days in winter and the longer the days in summer. You will come at a time of the year where the day length is from about 6 am to 7 pm. On the 22\textsuperscript{nd} December we have the shortest day from 8:30 to 17:00.

In autumn most of our trees loose their leaves. The forest looks brown and we see no wild flowers. In the springtime around April the trees get green again, we have the flowers in the spring and beginning of the summer and all fruits in the summer and autumn.

You might come from a country, where you don’t talk about the weather, it is just hot!! In Germany the most common subject of small talk conversation is the weather, because it might change from day to day.

1.2 Göttingen

The historical and renowned town of Göttingen is situated in the scenic foothills of the Harz Mountains in the southern part of Lower Saxony (second largest state in Germany), one hundred and twenty kilometres south of Hanover and almost in the geographical centre of Germany. The town lies on the north-south Autobahn A7 halfway between Bonn and Berlin, and on the German Railway's north-south main line (ICE station). This convenient access to high-speed trains connects travellers from Göttingen not only with major airports in Hanover, Berlin and Frankfurt, but also with other German cities.

Göttingen is well known for its charming and cosmopolitan atmosphere, and has often been referred to as a ‘university with a town.’ It has about 125,000 inhabitants, with a student population of about 24,000. Göttingen offers a broad variety of options for
enjoying sport, cultural events and sightseeing in one’s spare time. All this makes living in Göttingen very convenient.

1.3 The Georg-August University Göttingen

The Georg-August University Göttingen was founded in 1737 by the local ruler, Elector George Augustus II of Hanover. It began with four faculties (referred to as Fakultäten in German) and soon became one of Europe’s best-attended universities in the 18th and 19th centuries. The post-war expansion of the university after 1945, led to the establishment of a modern university campus to the north of the town. The architecture of the old university can still be seen in the Auditorium Maximum (1826) and the Great Hall (or Aula, 1835).

Göttingen University employs more than 2,500 professors and other post-doctoral scientists, as well as about 8,000 technical and administrative staff members.

It is interesting to note that forty-three Nobel Prize winners have studied or taught in Göttingen. Scientists such as Gauß, Heisenberg, Weber, Nernst and von Haller to name but a few were all at the Georg-August University, Göttingen.

1.4 Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

The origins of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences go back to the 19th century. Based on the first lectures on agro-chemistry given by Karl Sprengel between 1784 and 1830, the new scientific fields of agronomy, animal production and farm management were developed. These early agricultural fields were initially part of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. Eventually, the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences was founded as a separate institution in 1952, as the seventh faculty of the Georg-August University.

Today’s Faculty of Agricultural Sciences is comprised of four Departments: the Department of Crop Sciences with its thirteen sections and the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development with eight sections and the Department of Animal Sciences with eleven sections. The Faculty of Agricultural Sciences hosts a number of centres that co-ordinate teaching and research between the different faculties and departments on interdisciplinary topics. On the homepage of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences you find information on the three main departments and the research centres which belongs to the faculty.

http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/15338.html

More than 30 renowned professors and scientists with a world-wide reputation teach at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences.

Currently, about 1,050 B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. students are enrolled at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences 23% are international students. Both the university and the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences are seeking to further increase the number of international students.
1.5 The Library

The State and University Library of Lower Saxony (SUB) is one of the most modern and largest libraries in Germany, with about 3.5 million books and an extensive access to leading journals. There are also 143 independent divisional libraries at institutes and departments across the University. A digital library competence centre of worldwide renown, the SUB directs or participates in numerous research and development projects in this domain.

http://www.sub.uni-goettingen.de/index-e.html

1.6 The Campus

A number of university buildings and institutes are located in and around the town centre among others the main administration, student secretariat, and the Aula of the university.

The main campus with the main library (SUB) is located a few meters away from the historic town centre. This campus consists of the Faculties of Law, Economics and Management Science, Theology and Linguistics. In addition, the Medical Faculty with its teaching hospitals is within walking distance. Many of the institutes of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences (such as Agronomy, Animal Sciences, Rural Development, and Agricultural Economics) are in close proximity to the main campus.

A new scientific campus is located about two kilometres north of the medieval town centre. This campus is called the ‘North Campus’ and hosts most of the natural science institutes: Physics, Chemistry, Forestry, Geosciences, Microbiology, and also Plant Pathology, Plant Production in the Tropics..

1.7 Transport

Matriculated students who travel between Göttingen and Witzenhausen can travel free of charge with the local train. It takes about 20 minutes. In Kassel you can walk from the train station to the lecture halls in 15 minutes. It takes a bit longer to walk back because it is uphill. In Göttingen busses are available but all the university facilities can be reached by bicycle, the major means of transport in Göttingen. Students normally buy either cheaper new bikes of 250 to 350 € or a used bike for 75€ and up. If you cannot ride bikes at your arrival students from the “Students partnerships” offer training and soon you will move as free as everybody else.

1.8 Student partnerships

The student partnerships are a “students for students” movement where German students offer foreign students help to accommodate and integrate in the new surrounding. During the orientation phase you can register for a partnership and you will be allocated a German partner. You can find more information about the student partnerships on the webpage: http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/108752.html
1.9 Food

The university owns five cafeterias (in German language: Mensa), all of which offer affordable lunches to students and university staff. Each of them offers two or more choices of meals a day. There is always one vegetarian dish and one dish without pork. There is also normally a choice of potatoes, rice or noodles. Prices vary according to the dishes served but are in a student friendly range. Most Mensas are closed at week ends. You find more information on the web-page: http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/50489.html

1.10 Accommodation

The university also owns a number of halls of residence that are distributed all over town, and where single rooms as well as family apartments are available for students and visiting scientists. A major problem is that waiting lists are rather long which makes it difficult for foreign students to secure a place in the halls of residence. You can find more information on student accommodation on the web page: http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/50488.html

1.11 Cost of living

Students will have to finance their own cost of living, which usually ranges from €600 to €700 per month.

The living costs, for example, include:
- Rental fee for a single room, approximately €125 - 250 per month
- Premium for health insurance, about €50 - 150 depending on the age of the student
- Premium for disability insurance (*Pflegeversicherung*), about €5 per month
- Food and meals in the university restaurants, about €150 - 300 per month
- Matriculation and tuition fees for the university: about €700 per semester
- Budget for books, photocopying and course materials; about €250 - 400 per semester
- Administrative fees for a medical examination and a residence permit (€50, charged once)
- Investment expenses for a private computer, which is strongly recommended (around €900)
- Other living expenses depend on personal lifestyle or for miscellaneous

1.12 Scholarship
The University offers no scholarship on its own. There are a number of German as well as international scholarship foundations that offer financial support for studying in Germany. The requirements for awarding scholarships vary according to the country of origin, subject, and length of period of support, academic merits, and so forth.

Information about German scholarship programmes can be initially obtained from the Embassies of the Federal Republic of Germany or via the Internet. Students may also visit the website:

http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/107387.html

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- Premium for disability insurance (Pflegeversicherung), about €5 per month
- Food and meals in the university restaurants, about €150 - 300 per month
- Matriculation and tuition fees for the university: about €450 per semester
- Budget for books, photocopying and course materials; about €250 - 400 per semester
- Administrative fees for a medical examination and a residence permit (€50, charged once)
- Investment expenses for a private computer, which is strongly recommended (around €900)
- Other living expenses depend on personal lifestyle or for miscellaneous
2. Preparations for the studies in Göttingen/Witzenhausen

2.1 Letter of Admission

When you fulfil all requirements for a study at the University you will receive a letter of admission. With this letter you get a “Letter of acceptance”. If you are still interested to take up studies in Göttingen and have secured finances for the study you should sign and send back the letter of acceptance as soon as possible. A scanned copy of the letter per mail to the study advisor Ms. Grete Thinggaard on the email address: gthingg@gwdg.de is sufficient.

2.2 Visa

Applicants who have received a “letter of admission” should apply for a student visa not later than 6 weeks before they want to arrive in Göttingen. In some countries it takes even longer to obtain visa for Germany. You apply for visa at the German embassy in your home country. It is the sole right of the German embassy in the student's home country to issue the visa. If you have a valid letter of admission and experience problems to obtain a visa you are welcome to write to your study advisor.

It is important to note that a tourist visa cannot be changed into a student visa in Germany. Normally you will get a visa for three months which is extended in Göttingen after your matriculation.

In order to obtain a student visa, foreign students (from non-EU countries) need to show proof that they will be able to support themselves financially during the M.Sc. course. If they receive a scholarship from a German foundation, this requirement is waived.

2.3 Search for a place to live

For students of “Sustainable International Agriculture” we suggest as follows:

Students of the profile “International Organic Agriculture” have more than half the lectures in Witzenhausen and we suggest that they should live there in Witzenhausen. On the following web page there is information to how to register for a room.

Students of the profiles: “International Agribusiness and Rural Development Economics” and “Tropical Agriculture” will have more than half the lectures and we suggest that they live in Göttingen.

In the halls of residence the waiting lists are rather long. You might try to get on a waiting list:

Fellow students of your own country might help you. If you cannot manage yourself, you should contact your study advisor: Ms. Grete Thinggaard (gthingg@uni-goettingen.de) as soon as possible and ask her to help.
2.4 Travel arrangements and pick up service in Göttingen

Students are requested to send information on their expected arrival to the study advisor. This helps the planning in Göttingen.

Some students have contacts to other students of their home countries in Göttingen. These students might meet the new students at the train station and bring them to their residence. In case you have no contacts and want to be met at the train station and helped to the student room, please contact the Gretel service: http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/49307.html

Please note, that the Gretel service need your registration form 14 days before you arrive. The staff of the Gretel service will then organize that one of the volunteer students pick up the room key and bring the new student to their rooms.

Please check the temperature and weather forecast for Germany on the internet before travelling. Some of you come from hot countries and it might be rather cold in Germany in October. You should bring warm clothes with you on the plane and change clothes/ put on a sweater and jacket before you leave the plane. Otherwise you might get a cold welcome in Germany.

Don’t forget to change some cash to Euro. You need money in for the train from the airport to Göttingen for the busses in Göttingen and for food the first one to two days till you have had time to open a bank account.

2.5 Travel to Göttingen

Students either arrive in Germany by flight or by train. If you arrive by flight the nearest airports are Hannover (about 100 km from Göttingen) or Frankfurt (about 200 km from Göttingen).

Arrival in Frankfurt: After you have collected your luggage you move to the train station which is on a lower floor in the airport building. You can see a plan of the Frankfurt airport on the following webpage:

http://www.frankfurt-airport.de/cms/default/rubrik/26/26413.lageplaene.html

There are two floors with trains: One with the regional trains: “Regionalbahnhof” and one with the long distance trains: “Fernbahnhof”. From the Fernbahnhof you can take a fast train “ICE” to Göttingen. There will be a train around every hour. You should notice that not all trains are direct trains. For some trains you have to change train one time at the Frankfurt main station. The price for a one way ticket is 60 €. Regional trains take much longer time and we don’t recommend them for your first arrival in Germany.
3. After arrival in Göttingen

3.1 What happens first?
After your arrival in Göttingen it is a good idea to take up contact to the Study advisor as early as possible. The study advisor will guide you through registration and matriculation procedures. Main important points are:

1. Obtain a health insurance
2. Open a bank account
3. Register and acquire a residence permit at the town hall (Neues Rathaus)
4. Enrol in the university

3.2 Open bank account
There are several banks in Göttingen. We have smaller banks such as the Sparkasse Göttingen, which has a big German network of ATMs (you can find their ATMs even in smaller towns or villages). Here you pay a monthly account fee of ca. 3-9 €/month.

Deutsche Bank offers free accounts for students up to the age of 30 years, however have less ATMs. Commerz Bank offers free accounts for students of any age but also only have few ATMs. They have ATMs only in bigger towns such as Göttingen. They work together with other big banks so that you can obtain money from their ATMs for free. If you use any banks other than these, there will be a fee for withdrawals. These banks offer free accounts for students, and they are better at dealing with transfers from and to foreign countries.

Each bank offers visa cards after regular payment (three times). In Germany bank transfer is the preferred method of payment for bills. In stores bankcards are mainly used when not paying by cash.

When opening an account, you should take your passport with you and you will be requested to present your letter of admission from the Georg-August University Göttingen.

The opening hours differ from bank to bank, but usually they are open from 9:30 till 16:00 o’clock.

There are different banks in Göttingen and students can choose which bank they want. Different banks offer different services at different cost.

3.3 Obtain a health insurance
In Germany, health insurance is seen as the most important insurance and is mandatory by federal law for all students and employees in Germany. There are two types of health insurances: social health insurance and private health insurance.

Students under 30 years of age may sign up with a student health insurance with various German social health insurances. Currently fees amount to approximately 60 Euro/month. During your first semester in Göttingen, note that the health insurance becomes valid only with the beginning of the semester (April 1 or October 1). For
matriculation you need proof of insurance. You may obtain such a document by asking your insurance to issue one.

Students **older than 30 years** cannot sign up with a social health insurance. They have to sign up with a private insurance. Again, for matriculation you need proof of insurance from the private insurance, freeing you from the social insurance obligation.

For your travel before you arrive in Göttingen until your matriculate or until October 1\textsuperscript{st} if you arrive earlier we advise that you sign up with a private health insurance (e.g. a travel insurance) since your student health insurance begins to be valid only at the beginning of the semester. Providers of health care services are for example: the ADAC or the Würzburger Versicherungs AG as well as many other private health insurers. Don’t take a chance and think you are healthy and don’t need insurance. We had a student who fell down the stairs of the airplane upon arrival in Frankfurt and needed a knee operation. Luckily he was insured. Such an operation cost more than €2000 in Germany.

On the following webpage you can read more about health insurance: http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/53692.html

Upon your arrival in Göttingen you will get a list of possible insurance companies.

### 3.4 Register and acquire residence permit at the town hall

First of all, you have to go to the town hall (Neues Rathaus) which is located close to the town centre at Hiroshimaplatz 1-4, 37083 Göttingen.

On the ground floor of the building, you will find the Registration Office (Einwohnermeldeamt) and the Foreign Office (Ausländeramt) on the right-hand side. For the registration at the town hall, you will need: the filled-in form (obtainable there), your passport and a copy of your tenancy agreement.

The Opening hours for the registration office are:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mo</td>
<td>08:00 - 15:00</td>
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<td>Tu</td>
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<td>We</td>
<td>08:00 - 12:00</td>
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<td>Th</td>
<td>08:00 - 17:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fr</td>
<td>08:00 - 12:00</td>
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For the Foreign Office, you will have to fill out one of their application forms. You should take with you two photographs (there is a automatic photo booth in the town hall), your passport, the admission letter from the university, a copy of your scholarship award (if applicable) or how you are being financed, a copy of your health insurance contract, your tenancy agreement or a copy of your registration confirmation from the Göttingen Registration Office (seen above), and €20.

The opening hours for the Foreign Office are:
3.5 Pay matriculation fee

The matriculation fee is for students of Sustainable international agriculture will be around € 450 the WS2009/10. This includes a semester ticket which allows students to use the train (only “Regionalbahn”) within Lower Saxony and also to some other cities outside of Lower Saxony for free.

The matriculation fee can be paid directly at the Sparkasse Göttingen or via bank transfer to:

**Account no. 199953704 at the Nord/LB, bank code: 250 500 00.**

*Please do not forget to use the reference field which should contain:*

- Semester and year, for which you are paying
- Matriculation number
- Your entire name

For transfers from foreign countries you should use the IBAN code:

- **BIC NOLA DE 2HXXX**

Enroll at the university

Like for the online application for a study place you have again to do two similar steps for the enrollment:

- **Online registration for the university**
  The application is initiated by calling up [www.uni-goettingen.de - Studium – Online-Bewerbung/ Immatrikulation – Ausländische Studierende (keine EU-Angehörige oder Bildungsinländer) – Formular zur Online-Bewerbung](https://immatrikulation.zvw.uni-goettingen.de/immatrikulation_ib.html) (these steps are only in German on the homepage of the Georg-August University Göttingen) or go directly to: [https://immatrikulation.zvw.uni-goettingen.de/immatrikulation_ib.html](https://immatrikulation.zvw.uni-goettingen.de/immatrikulation_ib.html). After the data has been typed in, a registration number (Registriernummer / later on your matriculation number) is issued. The detailed instructions are available at the above URL (only in German).

- **Sending the registration form to the International Student Services**
  After filling in the registration form, please print it out. Make sure that your registration number is on the front page and add any other necessary documents. Send the completed form to the above-mentioned address.

Your documents must include the following:

- printed registration form (see above)
- copy of your school-leaving certificate
• copy of your B.Sc. and/or M.Sc. certificate and the transcripts of each (these and your school-leaving certificate must be officially certified either by the issuing office or by a lawyer),
• copy of your passport,
• copy of your health insurance,
• copy of the matriculation fee payment.

If you intend to register in person, you have to go to the International Student Services, which is located downtown at Wilhelmsplatz 4, 37073 Göttingen,

Tel. +49-(0)551 / 39-113,
Email: international.office@zvw.uni-goettingen.de.

Opening hours: Mo - Fr: 10:00 – 13:00; telephone hours: 09:00 and 10:00 and 14:00 - 16:00.

3.6 Student ID Card

After the matriculation fee has arrived, you can pick up your student ID (Chipkarte) and print your proof of matriculation.

The student ID is a Smart Card for students at the Georg-August University Göttingen.

All the university's students are issued with a student ID chipcard. Cards already issued will continue to be valid. Students can update their cards at the venues listed below and, at the same time, receive PIN and TAN numbers to use the card's self-service functions.

Two steps have to be undertaken:
1. Use one of the automatic photo booths to take a photo of yourself
2. Go to the service centre and pick up your card.

Where you can pick up a card and when:

In the Zentrales Hörsaal Gebäude (ZHG) between lecture halls HS 010 and HS 011, Monday and Friday 11:00 – 15:00, Wednesday 13:00 – 17:00

Yours student ID now opens up many possibilities.

- Photo ID
- Library card for the SUB/University Library
- An access card for the Faculties of Physics, Medicine and Biology
- Semester ticket (train) (see 3.8)
If your permanent address is in Göttingen, you are eligible for many perks in the town's life
- Access to the sports program offered by the Institute of Sports Sciences

When getting your Smart Card, you will also receive a PIN and five TANs for its self-service functions. You can access your account from home or from the self-service terminals at the University via the internet. You can, for example:

- *print out a proof of matriculation status, a basic data sheet, BAFöG and pension certificates, as well as a study time status document*
- *change your own address*
- *re-matriculate by Smart Card if your account is debited automatically for fees*

This self service function can be accessed via the internet at:

[https://sb.zvw.uni-goettingen.de/](https://sb.zvw.uni-goettingen.de/)

### 3.7 Registration at the Examination office of Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

After you have matriculated you fill in the form: Application for MSc and hand this form in to the examination office. They will then activate your account so that you can register for exams online.

### 3.8 Re-matriculation for the next semester

For re-matriculation, you must pay the matriculation fee two months before the semester actually starts. After payment you can renew your student ID (Chipkarte) quite easily automatically at the place where you got it.

### 3.9 Semester ticket
3.10 Student Internet Account

The cost for the student internet account is €12 per semester and should be paid via bank transfer to the GWDG: Account no.: 483 010 63 at the Sparkasse Göttingen, bank code 260 500 01

The reference field should contain: your USER ID and your matriculation number

3.11 The student internet account offers:

- 300 freely accessible internet PCs at different locations in the university
- access to the internet from home via the telephone line (Modem or ISDN) with the cheap city tariff
- access via high speed internet line from the student dormitories and via WLAN
- 40 MB free data space, e.g. for your own webpage
- your own Email address "first.lastname@stud.uni-goettingen.de"
- free support through the Internet-Hotline
- additional free offers such as free computer classes, access to scanner, newsletter, etc.

**Application for Student Internet account**
You get your account at the *Lehrbuchsammlung* of the SUB (Staats- und Universität-Bibliothek) or directly from the information center of the Internet-Hotline together with further information. All you need is your Student ID card or the confirmation of enrollment and a valid identity card/passport.

**Address**
The Internet-Hotline is on the ground floor of the "Blauer Turm" (Blue Tower)
Platz der Göttinger Sieben 5, 37073 Göttingen
Tel. +49 (0)551 / 39-8392
Fax +49 (0)551 / 5314509

**3.12 Ready to start**

Now you are through all formalities and ready to begin the studies. German language courses and the orientation phase will help you to get a good start.
4. Orientation phase

4.1 When is the right time to arrive

Many students are having a job in their home countries and might have difficulties to leave well in time of the courses. Others might think visa and travel arrangements don’t take as long time as they actually do. Therefore students tend to arrive late. Students who arrive after the beginning of lectures tend to get a difficult start as compared to students who takes part in the pre lecture orientation week. Students should arrive well in time so that they can take part in an Introduction week end and have finished the administrative processes before the orientation week. Before the orientation week we offer practical help, advice and assistance with setting up a bank account, obtaining health insurance, a residence permit, housing, and actually enrolling in the university.

4.2 Introduction week ends

An invitation to the introduction week ends by Study International follows by separate mail.

4.3 Language courses

From the end of September and until the beginning of the orientation week language courses both beginner and an English language refresher course is offered in Göttingen and/or Witzenhausen. The language courses are free but please remember, that the free semester tickets are only available after you have enrolled and at the earliest by the beginning of the winter semester on the 1.10.2009. A One-way ticket between Göttingen and Witzenhausen is around € 5. Separate Programme is sent to you by email.

4.4 Orientation week

The orientation week takes place from October 11th to 17th 2009. You have received a separate programme per e-mail. During the orientation week comprehensive student services and guidance are offered. Special emphasis is placed on an all-round advisory service in both academic and extracurricular activities. Furthermore, the orientation programme informs students about computing and library facilities, Göttingen itself and the Georg-August University Göttingen, sports facilities and cultural events. In addition, students are given the opportunity to meet faculty members and visit participating institutions. A small course in International competence and how to prepare a good presentation makes all students fit for the studies.

4.5 Student advisory service

We look forward to see you all in Göttingen.

Assistance will be available:
Faculty of Agricultural Sciences
Study Advisory Service
Grete Thinggaard ter Meulen,  
Am Vogelsang 6,  
37075 Göttingen  
Phone: 49 (0) 551-3913661  
**e-mail**: gthingg@uni.goettingen.de
5. Contacts in Göttingen

5.1. How to find courses and persons

All courses offered at the University of Göttingen (all faculties) are listed in the online course catalogue “UniVZ” with ECTS, rooms, university lecturers, lecture times and lecture contents. The information on lectures for the winter semester is updated in September, and the information on lectures for the summer semester in March/April each year. Hence all the information before the update is preliminary.

Address in the Internet:

http://univis.uni-goettingen.de

How to find Agricultural Sciences:

- Choose the semester in the scroll down menu <Semester> on the top right-hand section of the web site
- Click on <Vorlesungsverzeichnis> to be found in the left-hand box named "Lehre".
- Search "Fakultät für Agrarwissenschaften" (at the bottom of the list of faculties).
- Choose the small left-hand box called "Extras"; click on <Überschriftenbaum>
- The lectures appear in a vertical list beginning with “Grundstudium” (Basic studies), and after that are sorted under six different disciplines:
  - Agribusiness = Agribusiness
  - Ressourcenmanagement = Resource Management
  - Pflanzenproduktion = Agronomy
  - Nutztierwissenschaften = Animal Sciences
  - Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaften des Landbaus = Economics and Social Sciences in Agriculture
  - Tropical and International Agriculture = Tropical and International Agriculture
- Choose a lecture and click on its title. All the information about the lecture will then appear on your screen.

Create your own time table

- Choose a lecture as described above
- Click on the small white box on the left hand of the lecture title.
- Click on <Auswahl zur Sammlung hinzufügen> below the lecture.
- Click on <Sammlung> at the top of the website (in a black bar). All chosen lectures will appear together.
- Click on <Stundenplan> in the left-hand box. The timetable appears in the form of a chart.
- Tick the small white box <Zeitangaben> above the chart and all the chosen lecture times will appear.
Looking for a person who works in the University
On the start page of “UniVZ”, there is a pull-down menu in the middle of the top of the page, which enables you to search for a particular person. Click on the button <Personenverzeichnis> in the middle of the page and type the name of the person you are looking for in the white bar. Click on <suchen>; all the information regarding the named person will then appear.