GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT
GÖTTINGEN

Tuition Waiver Program
Guidelines for the letter of motivation

What should I include in my motivation letter?

In your letter of motivation, you have to explain to what extent you qualify for spending a semester abroad. It should provide information about your reasons for participating in the Tuition Waver Program and your motivation for studying abroad. The letter should include, above all, at which university you would like to study and your reasons why you have chosen this university (thematic focus, course program, etc.) and, if applicable, two other universities. In addition, the language skills and your professional and personal goals, which you associate with your desired country, should be mentioned. Moreover, your letter should reflect your expectations and ideas regarding the desired university and country. The motivation letter serves to convince the selection committee why it should pick you. Overall, the letter of motivation should establish a clear connection between your studies up until this point and your desired studies abroad. You should definitely mention if a stay abroad is prescribed in the study regulations of your subject.

The motivation letter should be 1 to 2 pages long and written in English. Font, font size and line spacing should be based as far as possible on the usual standard (Times New Roman, 12, 1.5-line spacing). You do not have to address the letter to a specific addressee.

Checklist:

The following questions should be answered in the letter:

− Why are you interested in the destination country?

− What type of university, language and cultural knowledge/experience do you have?

− Does the syllabus or courses at the desired university fit in with your Göttingen curriculum or does it offer suitable additions and topics that cannot be studied in Göttingen?

− Are there specific courses you would like to attend?

− What are your professional and personal goals regarding the semester abroad?

− Is it mandatory for you to study abroad?