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The University of Regensburg
Facts and figures

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General information about the University of Regensburg

The [University of Regensburg](#) was founded in 1962 and is the largest and most successful university in Eastern Bavaria. Situated in the heart of the UNESCO world heritage city of Regensburg and in the center of Europe, it comprises 11 faculties with ca. 21 000 students. The 11 faculties are:

- Faculty of Catholic Theology
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Business, Economics and Management Information Systems
- Faculty of Medicine
- Faculty of Philosophy, Art History, History, and Humanities
- Faculty of Human Sciences
- Faculty of Languages, Literature and Cultures
- Faculty of Mathematics
- Faculty of Physics
- Faculty of Biology and Pre-Clinical Medicine
- Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy

The university builds a living bridge between Eastern and Western Europe. It has a special teaching and research focus on Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe and offers excellent research opportunities in this domain thanks to the [Leibniz-Institute for East and Southeast European Studies](#) situated off-campus in the Old Town of Regensburg. This research institute is a member of one of the most important scientific associations in Germany, the [Leibniz-Association](#), and possesses one of Germany's largest libraries on East and Southeast Europe with over 330 000 items. This research focus is further promoted by the [Institute for East European Law](#), the [Hungarian Institute](#) and the [Research Center for German in Central, East and Southeast Europe](#) at the University of Regensburg.

Other institutions at the university that actively promote the cultural exchange of knowledge and experience between Eastern Europe and Bavaria are:

- the East-West-Center [Europaeum](#)
- [Bayhost](#), the Bavarian Academic Center for Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe
- the [Bavarian Czech Academic Agency](#)
- [Bohemicum](#) – Center for Czech Studies



The life sciences and natural sciences at the university also offer remarkable teaching and research opportunities: a Fraunhofer Project Group ITEM is established that cooperates with the Chair of Experimental Medicine and Therapy Research. Additionally, the Regensburg Center for Interventional immunology is a member of the [Leibniz-Research Alliance „Healthy Ageing“](#).

Other important teaching and research areas from the university's agenda are Artificial Intelligence and Digitalization. For this areas, the university receives considerable financial and infrastructural support from the State of Bavaria. The State aims at international competitiveness on the technology market.

Selected study and research programmes

Currently, the students can choose from around 150 study subjects offered by the university in the fields of medicine, law, theology, economics, social sciences, information and humanities, biology, chemistry and pharmacy, physics and mathematics. As of the summer semester 2020, the university teaches roughly 60 bachelor and 60 master programmes (with the degrees B.A., B.Sc., B. Ed.; M.A., M. Sc., M.Ed., Magister Theologiae). From them, the following are specialized in the area of East and Southeast Europe: [Southeast European Studies](#) (B.A.); [East-West-Studies](#) (M.A.) and the elite study programme [East European Studies](#) (M.A., offered by the Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich together with the University of Regensburg.)

A main focus of the university's study programmes are trainings for jobs as a teacher. Almost a third of all the university's students aspire to work as teachers in high schools, vocational high schools, junior high schools, elementary schools or other educational institutions.

Internationalization is another important aspect of the university's life. Of the 21 000 students enrolled at the University of Regensburg as of the winter semester 2019/20, over 1 600 come from abroad.

A special career opportunity for young researchers is offered by the [Graduate School for East and Southeast European Studies](#), a graduate programme founded in collaboration with the Ludwig-Maximilians University of Munich. From November 2012 to October 2019, the Graduate School has received funding from the [German Research Association](#) (DFG) as a part of the German Federal and State Excellence Initiative (as DFG-GSC 1046). The Graduate School for East and Southeast European Studies provides an excellent framework for innovative research projects investigating history, politics, law, language, culture, and the arts in Eastern and Southeastern Europe.



Another outstanding research programme in the domain of area studies is the Leibniz Science Campus „[Europe and America in the Modern World](#). Transformations and Frictions of Globality in Past and Present“. This Science Campus is the first one in Bavaria to receive support by a Grant from the prestigious Leibniz Association.

About the infrastructure for Study, Teaching and Research

Numerous institutions offer a welcoming infrastructure for study, teaching and research at the University of Regensburg. Among them are:

- the University Library of Regensburg, which offers the possibility to borrow books from every library in Germany
- the International Office for incoming and outgoing students, teachers and researchers
- the Career Center helps students to find internships and graduates to orientate themselves on the job market
- the Counseling Group for Academic Writing supports students, researchers and scientific staff with finding the right format for writing and expressing their thoughts (for study assignments, papers, essays, scientific articles etc.)
- a Computer Center and a Multimedia Center offer continuous trainings for students, university staff, and researchers and help with issues about digital-related issues.
- the Center for Chance Equality and Diversity supports creating and sustaining a good life-work balance, promotes having a safe life in the family and at the same time encourages women to pursue scientific careers and becoming professors in their respective fields.
- The Support Center for Young Scientists offers assistance for the young generation of researchers, counseling them about pursuing a scientific career and helping with their applications for national and international funding.
- **The Center for University and Scientific Didactics (ZHW)** is a central scientific facility of the University of Regensburg. As a *teaching hub*, it supports and connects all of the university members that look for evidence-based ideas for study and teaching. On the Center's website the university staff can:
 - register for workshops and counseling sessions for further developing their teaching expertise;
 - gather information about obtaining an official certificate of their teaching competencies;



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- establish training concepts for tutors
 - ask for support when developing new study programmes
 - learn about news, research and projects of the ZHW
 - access resources for developing digital teaching offers
 - to inform about new research results and new development trends with a focus on study and teaching
 - sharing experience and ideas with other teachers.

Five goals in study and teaching

The university set 5 overarching goals in study and teaching. Departing from them, each faculty developed faculty specific operative goals for study and teaching. The 5 goals are:

- science-oriented and research-connected teaching
- developing the academic horizon of the students
- study-ability of the approached topics
- sustainability and future-orientation of the students
- national and international mobility

The leading principles of the University of Regensburg

Self-positioning

The University of Regensburg (UR) respects and guarantees the unity of research and teaching. Through this approach, science examines itself critically and renews itself. Scientific work has to be free from external constraints and ideological influences. This framework assures the researcher's freedom to choose the object and methods of their work, the teacher's freedom to decide on what to teach, and the student's freedom to choose what to study.

The UR assumes its social and ethical responsibility in research and teaching. It is committed to human dignity, the just and peaceful coexistence of people, cultures, and states, and the need for protecting the environment. Science is essential for the development of all areas of society. The university, therefore, addresses social issues and contributes to their solution. Academic education



shapes the whole person. The university, therefore, sees its task in the training of qualified and responsible young academics.

The UR understands itself as a university community; women and men have equal rights. The university members actively work together to fulfilling their tasks. In addition to technical excellence and creativity, the university promotes the strengthening of personalities, characterized by motivation, scientific curiosity, critical thinking, reliability, and willingness to take responsibility. The UR members are encouraged to take responsibility.

Key objectives

Research

Research, especially basic research, is the central task of the university and the basis of lively teaching. The UR strives to expand and deepen scientific knowledge. It ensures freedom of research, is committed to compliance with ethical standards, and takes its responsibility for the effects of its research on the development of society seriously.

The UR expects and promotes research activities of its members and gains outstanding personalities for research and teaching. Its young scientists should be able to develop freely.

Teaching

The UR has the task of scientifically educating its students at a high level. Scientific education aims at further developing the ability to grasp problems, gain knowledge methodically, critically assess them, and convey them to others. Therefore, teaching has to grow out of research and based on research experience.

The university provides its students with the following key qualifications:

- Ability to recognize and grasp complex problems
- critical handling of well-established and new knowledge
- Ability for lifelong learning
- responsible action in society
- Courage to try new things
- Willingness to perform and resilience
- Communication and cooperation skills
- Intercultural Competence



The UR encourages the teachers to further expand their technical and didactical knowledge. It aims for the orientation of the teaching content to the state of research. The university promotes the transition of its graduates from study to work through early internships, practical orientation, and maintaining contact with research institutions and businesses. Regular evaluation and extensive support for students are a prerequisite for the quality of teaching.

The UR sees the further training of its members as an important task and is constantly adapting to new requirements. Possibilities for scientific, professional, and artistic further education are intended to accelerate the transfer of knowledge and technology between university and practice, opening up the possibility of lifelong learning and offering new ideas for teaching and research.

Performance

The university promotes performance, creativity, responsibility, and comprehensive education. Scientific excellence should find the preconditions necessary for its development.

The UR ensures the quality of research, teaching, and study. A continuous discussion about performance standards raises awareness of the academic competition. The university allocates resources primarily according to performance criteria. The qualification of the staff is assured through basic, advanced, and further training. The university offers its young scientists the opportunity to gain further qualifications in research and teaching and prepares them for management tasks. For its above-average talented members that are willing to work, it offers special opportunities and challenges.

Interdisciplinarity

The UR promotes interdisciplinarity and uses its broad range of subjects as a competitive advantage. Interdisciplinarity in research, teaching and learning offers special opportunities for scientific innovation. The university identifies future-oriented teaching and research fields and creates structures to work on these focal points with combined strength.

Regional and international

The civic engagement of the former Free Imperial City of Regensburg and its region has contributed significantly to the foundation of the university and is still an engine of its further development. The university is an indispensable element of the intellectual vitality, cultural diversity and quality of life of the city and region.

The UR's anchoring in the region goes hand in hand with traditionally strong connections to universities in Eastern and Western Europe and North America. The university contributes to the



exchange of knowledge and culture between these cultural and geographic areas and accompanies this process scientifically.

The university culture is cosmopolitan and hospitable. The UR strives to attract professors and students worldwide. It aims to expand long-term international relationships in research, teaching and study. The university focuses its courses on opportunities and requirements in an international environment.

Research transfer

The UR aims to transfer its research results into practice. To this end, it strengthens its links to the economy and other areas of society. The university opens up new fields of development between science, business and society.

Organization

The university is committed to a participatory management style. All members of the university are involved in decision-making through their representatives. At the same time, the UR meets the requirements of a modern university and creates modern organizational structures with low administrative hurdles for research, teaching and studying.

Fair opportunities

The university guarantees equal opportunities for women and men. It takes into account their different life situations and is committed to the compatibility of family and work.

Publicity

The University of Regensburg maintains a dialogue with society. The scientists approach currently discussed topics and take well-argued positions. The university helps to make important subject areas understandable by the large audience with help of public relations that are target group-oriented and active.