

# THE DOUBLE DEGREE PROGRAM

One Course – Two Degrees



Business Administration – International Business and  
Administración de Empresas (Formación Dual)

## IMPRINT

Published by:  
**Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg**  
Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University

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Copyright:  
Photos: DHBW/Klaus Mellenthin (cover, p. 3, 7, 11, 13,  
14, 19, 30), UNAB (p. 9, 15, 17, 18, 29), Stadt Bad  
Mergentheim (p. 25), frolandr - fotolia.com (p. 27)

Design and Layout:  
Basic concept: [www.jungkommunikation.de](http://www.jungkommunikation.de)  
Overall design concept: Petra Kita

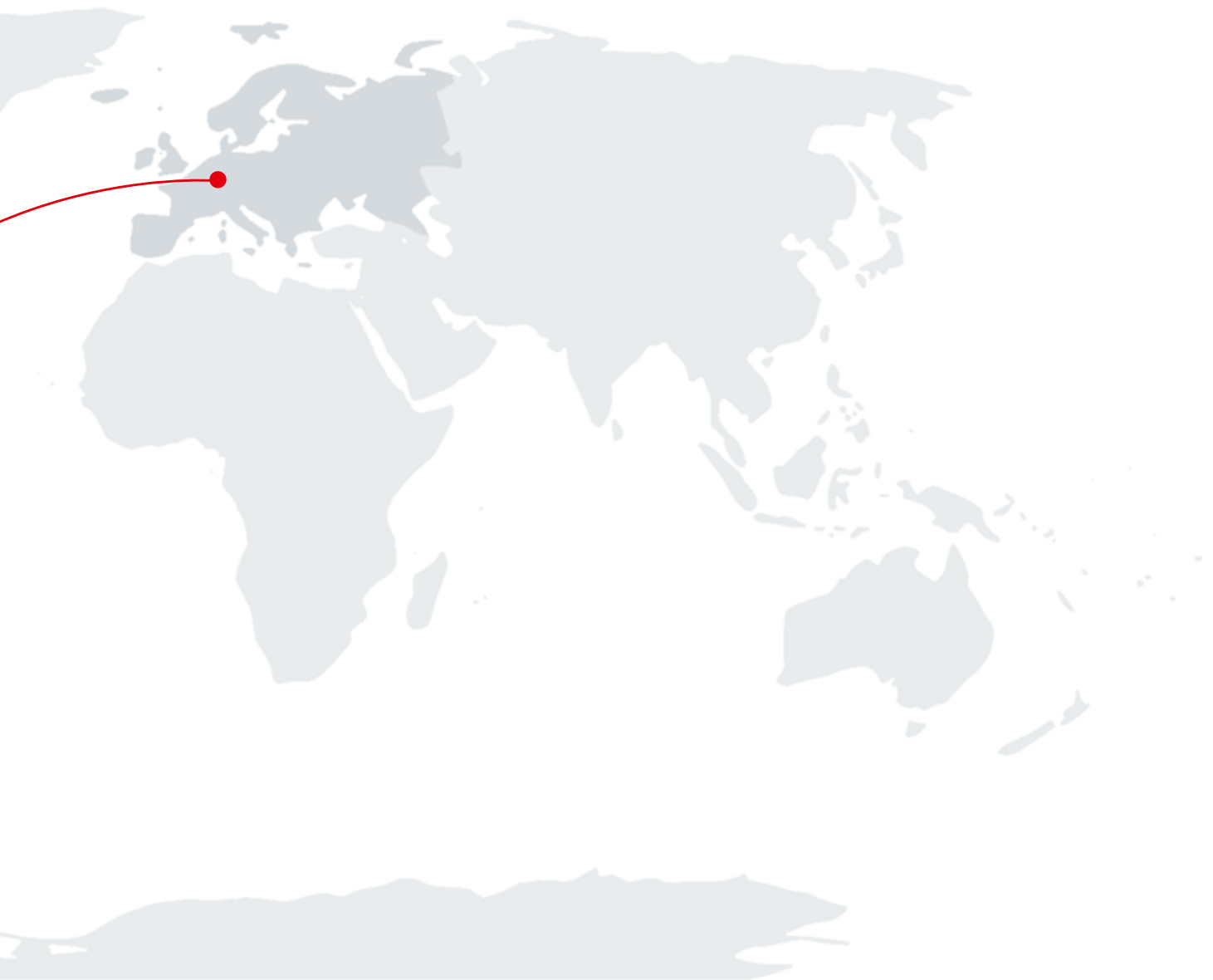
Printed in Germany by:  
Walter Digital GmbH, Korntal-Münchingen

2. Edition: November 2016



## THE DOUBLE DEGREE PROGRAM

*as part of the undergraduate work-study programs in  
Business Administration – International Business  
and Administración de Empresas (Formación Dual)  
between Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg (DHBW) Mosbach  
Campus Bad Mergentheim, Germany and  
Universidad Autónoma de Bucaramanga (UNAB), Colombia*



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# Course Overview

**One course, two degrees** is what is on offer from the new Double Degree Program created by **Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg (DHBW) Mosbach Campus Bad Mergentheim** in cooperation with the **Universidad Autónoma de Bucaramanga (UNAB), Colombia**.

It is designed for anyone ...

- ... interested in a degree with a particularly international orientation
- ... wanting to spend an extended period of fully accredited study abroad
- ... with the motivation and power to complete a second academic degree in the same time-to-degree.

This integrated German and Colombian course in the subjects of **Business Administration – International Business / Administración de Empresas (Formación Dual)** offers these individuals what is thus far a unique opportunity.

**Standard time-to-degree despite study abroad** is one of the many benefits of the Double Degree Program. The course contents of the business course at UNAB match those offered at DHBW. All academic achievements completed abroad are reciprocally accredited. At the end of the standard time-to-degree, which is six semesters in Germany and seven in Colombia, students are left with two degrees: a German **Bachelor of Arts** and the Colombian equivalent, the **Pregrado Profesional**.



### Key Features of the Double Degree Program

Degrees	Bachelor of Arts from DHBW and Pregrado Profesional from UNAB
Study locations	Bad Mergentheim (DHBW – Germany) Bucaramanga (UNAB – Colombia)
Total time-to-degree	4 + 2 semesters (DHBW), 5 + 2 semesters (UNAB)
Stays abroad as part of the Double Degree Program	2 semesters (academic studies)
Beginning of course	Every winter semester
Teaching language	Spanish (in Colombia) English (in Germany)
Admission requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Enrollment at DHBW, Campus Bad Mergentheim on the course Business Administration – International Business, or at UNAB on the course Administración de Empresas (Formación Dual)</li> <li>– Good knowledge of Spanish and English (B2 for each)</li> <li>– Approval from the work placement officer</li> <li>– Depending on academic performance level</li> </ul>
Admission procedure	Selection based on application documents submitted
Financial support	By the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) using Federal Ministry of Education Research (BMBF) funds

Double Degree Program students are exempt from tuition fees at the guest university.

**The Double Degree Program is a mark of quality for students** and provides the best possible preparation for the German, Latin American and also international labor market:

- **They acquire** both professional and intercultural skills.
- **They demonstrate** a willingness to be flexible and mobile by completing the mandatory period abroad.
- **They strengthen** their capability for global thinking and action.
- **They intensify** their foreign language skills, both in terms of general conversation and in particular on a technical level.

In addition, the double qualification shows that graduates have met the requirements of two universities and their corporate partners. Experiences gained during the lengthy period spent abroad significantly contribute to participants' further personal development. This course therefore offers clear benefits in many respects, both for the students themselves and for workplace training providers.

*“I came to Bucaramanga and immediately made friends. I can only recommend that you take the leap and spend a year studying abroad in Colombia! It is a fantastic country with lovely people.”*

Dominic Wolf, DHBW student on his stay abroad at UNAB







# Study Program

## FIRST AT HOME, THEN ABROAD:

Business students undertaking the Double Degree Program will spend part of their time studying in Germany and part in Colombia.

### 1. Beginning Studies at Home University

During semesters one to four (for German students) or one to five (for Colombian students), students complete the basic portion of their **business studies** at their home university, followed by the relevant on-the-job training in a company in their native country.

### 2. Final Year at Partner University

Students spend the final two semesters of the Double Bachelor's Degree abroad.

**This stay abroad must be completed before either degree can be awarded.** (For more details on the on-the-job training during this period, see page 10.)

### 3. Return and Joint Final Oral Exam

Students must sit a **Joint Final Oral Exam** following their stay abroad in order to complete the Double Degree Program. This is completed **in English at the student's home university.** The examination committee will consist of a practical corporate representative and **an academic representative from each of the home and guest universities.** These oral examinations are held at the end of the study period (UNAB: from late January, DHBW: from late October).



Basic Studies at DHBW – International Business		Basic Studies at UNAB – Administración de Empresas	
		SEMESTER 1 (THEORY ONLY)	
PRACTICE	SEMESTER 1 THEORY	PRACTICE	SEMESTER 2 THEORY
PRACTICE	SEMESTER 2 THEORY	PRACTICE	SEMESTER 3 THEORY
PRACTICE	SEMESTER 3 THEORY	PRACTICE	SEMESTER 4 THEORY
PRACTICE	SEMESTER 4 THEORY	PRACTICE	SEMESTER 5 THEORY
Final year (semesters 5 and 6) at UNAB*		Final year (semesters 6 and 7) at DHBW*	
<b>Bachelor thesis/examinations</b>			
DHBW DEGREE: BACHELOR OF ARTS UNAB DEGREE: PREGRADO PROFESIONAL DE ADMINISTRACIÓN DE EMPRESAS			

\* Work placements in the final year are determined in coordination with the corporate partners.

### SCHEDULE FOR FINAL ACADEMIC YEAR

**Academic Studies and On-The-Job Training** do not correspond between Germany and Colombia, meaning that these two phases are shifted during the final academic year.

- **For DHBW students**, the alternation of theory and practice remains for the final academic year. However, the fifth period of on-the-job training follows on immediately from the previous one. This means that for Double Degree Program students, the fifth period of on-the-job training lasts from October to late December. The academic studies then begin at UNAB in Colombia in January for German students. German students may complete the sixth period of on-the-job training, which takes place between the two semesters abroad (May to July), in either Colombia or another country in coordination with the German work placement provider. Students also complete their Bachelor thesis during this period of on-the-job training. This is followed by a second period of academic studies at UNAB until October.
- **UNAB students** taking the Double Degree Program complete their fifth period of on-the-job training in Colombia from October to November. Students then travel to Germany to begin their sixth academic studies semester at the partner university in the same month, finishing in February. Over the eight weeks between the two periods of academic studies (mid-February to mid-April), UNAB students have the opportunity to further improve their foreign language skills. This is followed by the final academic studies semester at DHBW until early July. After this, UNAB students generally return to Colombia, where they complete their sixth and seventh periods of on-the-job training and write their Bachelor thesis.



### Alternation of Theory and Practice from Semester 5

OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
<b>UNAB ▶ DHBW</b>																
P 5	T 5 (6)		Language courses etc.			T 6 (7)		P 6 + P 7								Joint final exam
Corporate partner*	DHBW Mosbach Campus Bad Mergentheim (DHBW MGH)							Corporate partner*								
<b>DHBW ▶ UNAB</b>																
P 5			T 6 (5)			P 6		T 7 (6)			Joint final exam					
Corporate partner*			UNAB, Bucaramanga			Corporate partner*		UNAB, Bucaramanga			DHBW MGH					

\*Work placements are determined in coordination with corporate partners.

# Course Content and Examinations

**Students on the Double Degree Program attend the standard courses at both home and partner universities and are subject to the same standard procedures as all other students.** This means that Double Degree Program students attend the relevant courses in the partner country with local students. Teaching is therefore in **mixed study groups**, creating an international climate and boosting academic exchange between students from the two countries. This means that good language skills are important: courses in Colombia are currently held in **Spanish** and in Germany in **English** during the final year.

Since UNAB and DHBW have matching course content, all modules and subject-relevant coursework completed at the relevant partner university can be accredited. **This enables students to obtain all of the credit points they require for their degree.**

**In addition to the Joint Final Exam, students must complete a Bachelor thesis in English in order to be awarded the Double Degree.** This is reviewed by both universities. The topic selected must satisfy the guidelines of both institutions.



*“What was great (about studying in Colombia) was that my group only contained eleven people, enabling a congenial study environment and allowing us to get into much greater detail. The professors try to make their teaching very varied and use lots of group work and activities.”*

Lars Breuninger, DHBW student on his stay abroad at UNAB



DHBW Campus Bad Mergentheim

### Modules to attend during the final year at DHBW

GERMAN TITLE	ENGLISH TITLE
Integriertes Management (Mitarbeiterführung, Unternehmensführung)	Management (Leadership, Corporate Management)
Integrationsseminar zu ausgewählten Managementthemen	Seminar in Management (Selected Topics)
Wahlmodul International Marketing	Elective International Marketing
Wahlmodul International Operations Management & Logistics	Elective International Operations Management & Logistics
Wirtschaftspolitik, Umweltpolitik, Sozialpolitik	Economic Policy
Wissenschaftliches Arbeiten	Bachelor Thesis Seminar
Schlüsselqualifikationen	Methodological Skills
Ordnungsrahmen und Fallstudien internationaler Geschäftstätigkeit	Case Studies in International Business





UNAB Campus Bucaramanga

### Courses to attend during the final year at UNAB

SPANISH TITLE	ENGLISH TITLE
Controlling en la Empresa	Controlling in the Company
Profundización en Mercadotecnia	Marketing
Profundización en Producción / Operaciones / Logística	Logistics
Profundización en Contabilidad de Costos, Contabilidad Financiera y Financiamiento	Finance
Derecho Internacional	International Law
Informática Redes Programación	Computer Science and Networking
Proyecto en Profundización	Project Work
Proyecto Núcleo Integrador: Juego de Negocios	Project: Integrating core – Simulation; The Business Game
Seminario de Trabajo de Grado	Seminar: Degree Work I
Investigación para el Trabajo de Grado	Seminar: Degree Work II
Buen Gobierno II	Good Governance II
Construyendo Paz II	Building Peace II
Conyuntura y Crecimiento	Business Cycle and Economic Growth

# Application and Selection Procedure

Application for the Double Degree Program is open to students already enrolled at DHBW on the **International Business course at Campus Bad Mergentheim**, or at UNAB on the **Administración de Empresas (Formación Dual) course**, whose workplace training providers are happy for them to take part in the program. Another admission requirement for German students is excellent academic performance and **good Spanish language skills** (at least B2 level). Colombian students must be able to demonstrate a **grade point average of 3.8** and **English skills** at B2 level as a minimum. As a general rule, proof of language proficiency must be no more than six months old at the time of admission. There is an application form which also asks for a declaration of consent from the workplace training provider and the Head of Department. Other documents which must be submitted are:

- **Letter of motivation:** written in English, at least 1.5 pages of text
- **CV in table form:** also in English
- **Grade report**

The application process is completed in English.

Applicants should submit their full application documentation directly to their home university. The program is begun once a year in the winter semester. The exact application deadlines will be communicated to students locally. A selection committee containing representatives of both partner universities decides whom to admit to the limited number of study places.



**DHBW prospective students should post or e-mail their documentation to:**



Anna-Magdalena Bröckl  
DHBW Mosbach, Campus Bad Mergentheim  
International Office

Schloss 2  
97980 Bad Mergentheim

Email: [anna-magdalena.broeckl\(at\)mosbach.dhbw.de](mailto:anna-magdalena.broeckl(at)mosbach.dhbw.de)

**UNAB prospective students should post or e-mail their documentation to:**



Yina Alexandra Flórez Parra  
Directora de Programa de Administración  
de Empresas Formación Dual Universitaria

Campus Terrazas 2do Piso

Email: [yflorez\(at\)unab.edu.co](mailto:yflorez(at)unab.edu.co)

*“In my opinion, the Double Degree Program complemented my learning process to face the current market needs, giving me a holistic view of how trading is impacting the Latin American and European market, and also the global one. As a personal experience, it was awesome.”*

David Beleño Guerrero, UNAB student on his stay abroad at DHBW





# DAAD Funding

As a joint university institution, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) uses Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) funds to support foreign mobility for students at German universities, in order to enable further internationalization at universities in Germany.

**The International Business course receives project funds as part of the DAAD's "Integrated International Double Degree Programs" designed to promote double degree programs. UNAB and DHBW students can therefore obtain financial support under this funding.**

GEFÖRDERT VOM



**Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung**

gefördert vom DAAD aus Mitteln des  
Bundesministeriums für Bildung und  
Forschung (BMBF)

*“The Double Degree Program allowed me to have new abroad perspectives on the Business Operation Management and in the same time to have intercultural experiences with German and European culture. Furthermore, having a Double Degree in International Business becomes an advantage when applying for international job positions in the future.”*

Eliana Marcela Quiroga Berdugo, UNAB student on her stay abroad at DHBW

# Know Where You're Going

## Welcome... ...to the Federal Republic of Germany:

**The most populous country in Europe with 82.2 million inhabitants**

- ... is located in central Europe.
- ... has the largest economy in Europe and the fourth largest in the world.
- ... is a founding member of the European Union (EU) and one of the most politically influential member states.

**Germany has around 240 state and nearly 100 private universities.** Students from all countries can enroll at Germany's universities. Statistics show that this opportunity is being taken up: Germany has around 2.5 million students at its universities, of which 300,000 are international students. This accounts for more than 10 %, making Germany one of the most popular study locations in the world for international students.

*An overview of key information about the country, region, and partner university*



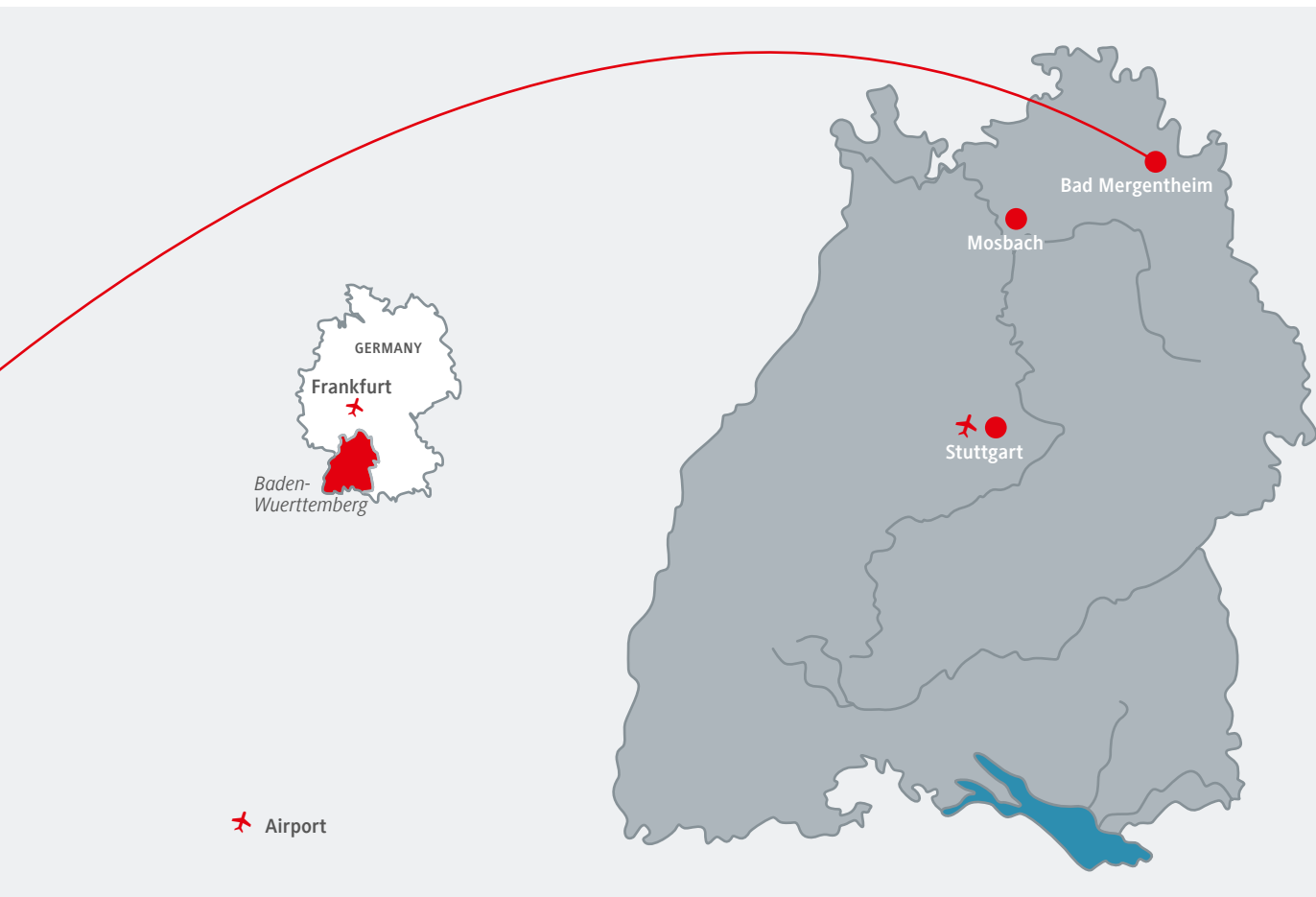


## Welcome ... ... to the federal state of Baden-Wuerttemberg (BW):

The third largest of the 16 federal states  
with 10.9 million inhabitants

- ... is located in southern Germany.
- ... has highly developed industry, located in the capital of Stuttgart as well as towns such as Mannheim or Heilbronn.

- ... has the second largest economy in Germany.
- ... is one of the regions offering the highest quality of life in the country.





### ... to Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg (DHBW):

**Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg (DHBW) is a state university with multiple sites and campuses spread across the whole of the federal state of Baden-Wuerttemberg. This university, which was founded in 2009, offers exclusively double and work-study courses.** More than 10,000 selected companies and social institutions work with DHBW as corporate partners, including small and medium enterprises as well as large-scale firms. DHBW is therefore

able to offer a wide range of courses: students can choose from a variety of nationally and internationally accredited undergraduate study programs in the subjects of Business, Engineering and Social Work Studies, as well as work-study postgraduate courses since 2011. DHBW also cooperates with more than 200 international universities worldwide to promote the internationalization of studies. With currently more than 34,000 students and over 141,000 alumni, DHBW is the largest university in Baden-Wuerttemberg.

### ... to Campus Bad Mergentheim:

**Bad Mergentheim is in the northernmost part of Baden-Wuerttemberg,** around 100 kilometers north of the state capital of Stuttgart. This town on the Tauber River has 23,000 inhabitants. Bad Mergentheim is particularly well known for its mineral springs, and is one of Germany's most popular spa resorts. The DHBW

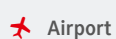
campus, where Colombian students spend their final year, was established in 2002 and offers courses in business and engineering. The DHBW campus is located in Bad Mergentheim's medieval Castle of the Teutonic Order, and currently hosts around 500 students.

## Welcome ... ... to the Republic of Colombia:

### **The second most populous country in South America with around 48 million inhabitants**

- ... is located in the northern part of South America.
- ... offers all climate and vegetation zones found on the planet.
- ... is one of Latin America's largest economies.

Colombian higher education, with nearly 2,000,000 students, is split into three different kinds of institution: universities, technological institutes, and vocational technical colleges. Of the country's 286 universities, 206 are private and 80 are state institutions. There is also a military university. Colombia has a very prestigious higher education system.





### ... to the Departamento de Santander:

**This Departamento with its 1,957,789 inhabitants**

... is located around 400 km north of the capital Bogotá in northeastern Colombia.

... is the province containing Colombia's prettiest village, Barichara.

... has the second largest canyon in the world: the Chicamocha Canyon.

### ... to the Universidad Autónoma de Bucaramanga (UNAB):

**With around 500,000 inhabitants, Bucaramanga is the fifth largest city in Colombia** and is located in the northeastern part of the country, around 400 kilometers from the capital Bogotá. The city's many parks have given it the nickname "la ciudad bonita de Colombia" ("Colombia's beautiful city"), and it is the capital of the province of Santander. UNAB was founded in 1952 and now has around 12.000 students. **The private university is one of nine member universities of the DHLA (Cooperative Universities in Latin America). The universities in**

**the DHLA network offer their students course models integrating practical experience, modelled on DHBW.** The DHLA works with more than 1,000 companies and currently has a presence in Peru, Mexico and Ecuador as well as Colombia. In Colombia, DHLA graduates demonstrate particularly outstanding results in mandatory national tests, and their employment rate is way above average. Numerous DHLA degree programs in Colombia have been awarded excellence status, including the Business course at the DHLA Bucaramanga site, where it has been offered since 2005.

# Going to the Partner Country

**Initial preparations** for the trip should be made at an early stage:

- A **student visa** will be required for studies in the partner country. This must be applied for from the relevant diplomatic mission before travelling. A visa will only be issued once proof of financing has been submitted.
- A **passport** valid for the duration of the stay is also essential.
- A **credit card** could be very helpful as a means of payment in both Latin America and Europe.

## FIRST STEPS FOR DHBW STUDENTS

For extended stays in Colombia, it is important to ensure that you have sufficient **insurance coverage abroad**:

- German students must take out private **foreign health insurance** with repatriation cover, as international students are not insured under Colombia's national health system.
- We also recommend **liability insurance** and **accident insurance** with foreign cover.

You should request relevant evidence of this insurance coverage in English or Spanish.

**Upon arrival**, you should register on the **foreigners' register** within a few days. You should arrange an appointment to do this with the local Foreign Residents Department (Dirección de Extranjería) of the Administrative Security Department (Departamento Administrativo de Seguridad). You will then receive a Colombian ID card (Cédula de Extranjería). UNAB is the best place for Double Degree Program students to seek help with formalities of this kind.







## FIRST STEPS FOR UNAB STUDENTS

### Health insurance is mandatory in Germany:

- Students with statutory health insurance in Colombia can have this coverage accredited in Germany by a statutory health insurance provider. It is important that you bring relevant evidence in English for this purpose.
- Students who do not have statutory health insurance in their home country must take out insurance in Germany. Health insurance can be obtained at reasonable student rates from many German health insurance providers.

In addition to Germany's mandatory health insurance, UNAB students must also have insurance coverage for **emergency repatriation**. We also recommend taking out **liability** and **travel insurance**.

### Formal procedures in Germany:

Once you have found accommodation, you must register with the residents' registration office within one week and you will then be given a **registration card**. You will need to present a valid passport and your rental agreement to complete this mandatory registration.

Students must also apply to the foreigners' registration office for a **residence permit**. This also requires presenting documentation including proof of financing and evidence of health insurance.

# Student Life in the Partner Country

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR DHBW STUDENTS

**The cost of living in Colombia** is generally lower than in Germany. You should allow around € 250 per month for food, learning materials, and leisure activities. Another plus is the fact that you are not required to pay any tuition fees to the guest university as part of the Double Degree Program.

**Room rental prices in Colombia are also significantly lower than in Germany.** The UNAB International Office helps international students to find accommodation.

**In addition to teaching, UNAB offers numerous other activities** which are also available to students on the Double Degree Program. These range from sporting activities to music groups to literature and debate clubs, offering something for everyone. German students on the Double Degree Program will be particularly interested in UNAB's **Spanish courses at the language center** (Instituto de Lenguas). This offers students an opportunity to go over elements of grammar and make targeted improvements to their Spanish language skills. There are also courses in Latin American literature, music, and dance, as well as Bucaramanga city tours, organized specially for exchange students. These provide a comprehensive insight into Colombian culture.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR UNAB STUDENTS

**The cost of living in Germany** is reasonable compared to the rest of Europe. Students on the Double Degree Program are also not required to pay any tuition fees to the guest university. You should allow for living costs of around € 600 per month. The majority of this monthly expenditure will be accommodation rental. Students in Germany generally live in **shared apartments**, where the inhabitants have a common bathroom, toilet, and kitchen but their own separate bedrooms. Rental costs are currently € 220 – € 400. Bad Mergentheim currently has hostels offering rooms specifically to DHBW students at reasonable prices. DHBW helps Double Degree Program students to find accommodation.

**There is a range of services available to international students at Campus Bad Mergentheim.**

*Both universities ensure that students receive academic and social support via program coordinators and mentors.*

*Interested?*

*The relevant contacts will help students on their way to their partner country, and are happy to answer questions about the Double Degree Program from both students and companies.*

## Contact Details

### FOR BADEN-WUERTEMBERG COOPERATIVE STATE UNIVERSITY

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For more information, please visit our website:  
[https://www.mosbach.dhbw.de/studium/  
studienangebot-bachelor/bwl-international-business/  
gelebte-internationalitaet/#anchor-main-content](https://www.mosbach.dhbw.de/studium/studienangebot-bachelor/bwl-international-business/gelebte-internationalitaet/#anchor-main-content)

### FOR UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA DE BUCARAMANGA

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gefördert vom DAAD aus Mitteln des  
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