

JLU International

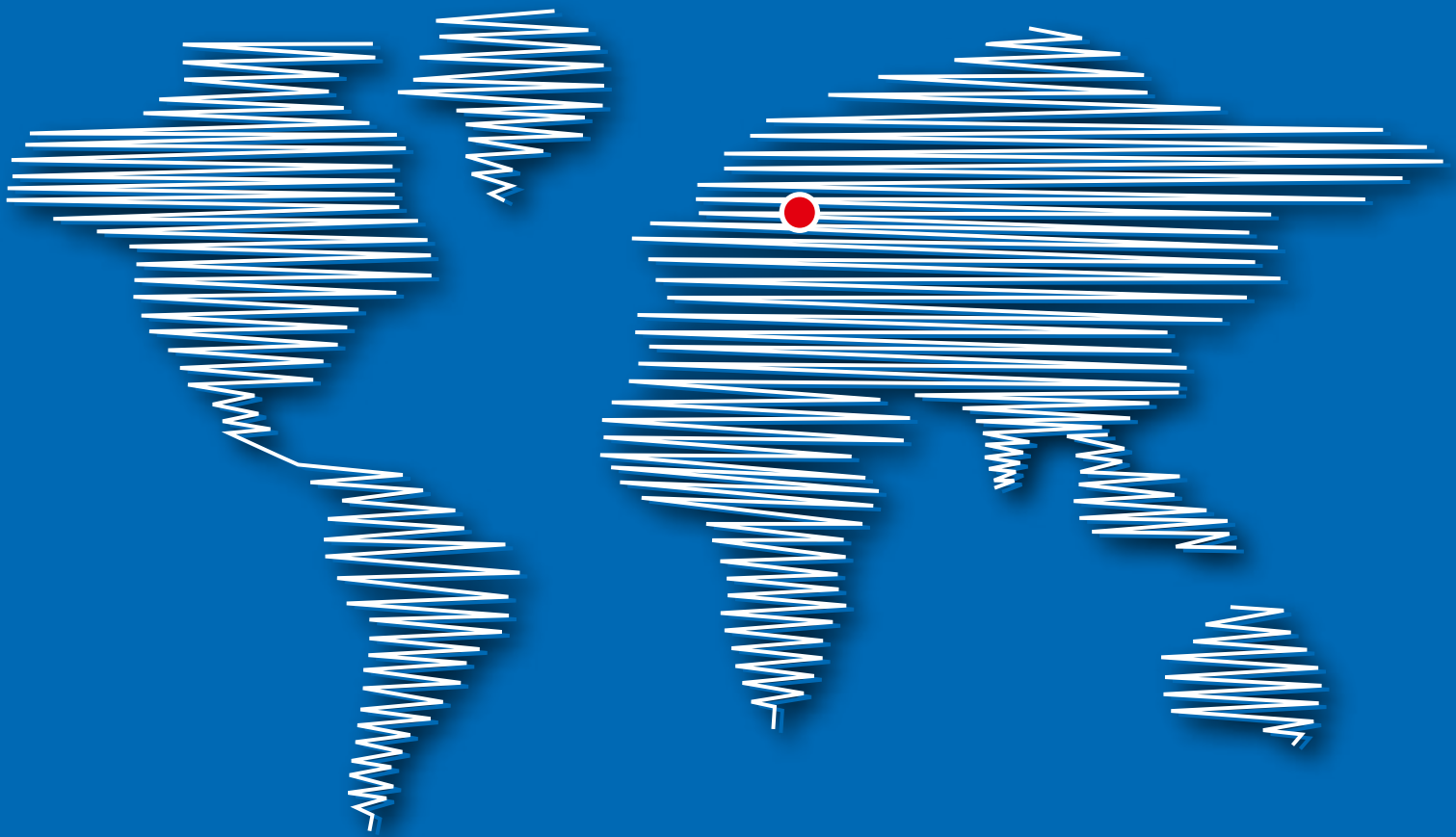
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1631 First 23 portraits of the
"Giessen Gallery of Professors" painted

1650 Rehabilitation of Giessen University
after temporary re-location to Marburg

Welcome to Justus Liebig University Giessen



Prof. Dr. Joybrato Mukherjee
President

Soon after opening its doors in 1607, JLU developed a distinct international profile in research and teaching. Long before our modern mobility programmes were established, it was an extraordinary 19th-century scientist who promoted international partnerships and research collaborations. Justus von Liebig established the research area of what is today known as organic chemistry and revolutionised higher education by systematically involving students in his research. In doing so, he set new standards in the natural sciences worldwide. A great number of outstanding international scholars have contributed to JLU's potential ever since; throughout the past decades and centuries, we have preserved and further developed the university's excellence. Today, Justus Liebig University ranks as one of the nation's top universities in the life sciences and cultural studies and has adopted an ambitious programme for its future development: "Translating Science". This programme activates the full creative potential of the university at large, offering its academics and international partners an ideal platform for wide-ranging collaboration. The Liebig tradition of interdisciplinary synergies, excellence in research training and broad international networking continues to figure very prominently.

As it enters its fifth century, JLU is involved in international networks far beyond the bounds of its excellent research areas, having over the past ten years successfully pressed ahead with the process of internationalisation. High-quality bilateral cooperation agreements and the university's membership in selected networks of higher education institutions provide the ba-

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sis for high-level international research and exchange. A wide range of initiatives have made JLU an internationally attractive university with a clear commitment to sustainability: at JLU, internationalisation is being pursued as a long-term process, a concept applied universally, across the fields of teaching, research and management.

In this process, one of JLU's remarkable strengths is the broad range of international study programmes at all degree levels. It is one of JLU's main goals to proceed with internationalisation particularly at undergraduate and postgraduate level, to develop further mobility options for all members of the university, and to keep a strong focus on quality in international education and research.

In 2010, JLU's internationalisation strategy was further encouraged by the German Rectors' Conference (HRK) as part of the HRK quality audit "Internationalisation of Higher Education Institutions". The audit report particularly praised the high standards in student support structures, the extensive range of language courses and intercultural training on offer as well as JLU's motivation to maintain a high level of transparency in all areas. The audit confirmed that Justus Liebig University is well on the way to setting standards in university internationalisation.



1720 Influenced by Enlightenment ideals, Landgrave Ernst Ludwig's "General and Main Decree" modernizes all areas of Giessen University

1738 Johann Caspar Goethe, father of Johann Wolfgang Goethe, receives doctorate in law from Giessen University

About Justus Liebig University Giessen

Facts and Figures:

- 11 faculties and 6 research centres
- 24,000 students
- 340 professors
- 1,700 teaching and research staff
- 2,390 administrative and technical staff

JLU is one of Germany's top research universities featuring an extraordinarily broad range of subjects. Both rich in tradition and highly innovative, JLU is host to a number of projects which are beacons of German research. What is more, its unique range of subjects and its high-profile international cooperation programmes in the areas of research, teaching and study ensure JLU's competitiveness at both national and international level. The university is dedicated to excellent research and teaching with a distinct profile in cultural studies and the life sciences. In keeping with Justus von Liebig's principle of "research training through research", JLU is highly committed to excellent interdisciplinary postgraduate education in all disciplines. The university's especially diverse climate, so fertile for interdisciplinary research and discussion, is further enriched by almost 30 percent international doctoral students.

JLU's remarkable achievements in the context of Germany's nationwide "Excellence Initiative" prove JLU's top-class university research in its profile areas. Since 2006, the university





has received funding of 25 million euros for two renowned international projects, the Excellence Cluster Cardio-Pulmonary System (ECCPS, in cooperation with the Max Planck Institute Bad Nauheim and Goethe University Frankfurt) as well as the International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture (GCSC) in the humanities.

Justus Liebig University is equally successful in corresponding programmes at federal state level and makes use of the Hessian excellence initiative LOEWE (Landes-Offensive zur Entwicklung Wissenschaftlich-ökonomischer Exzellenz) to enhance its clear-cut profile of scientific excellence, particularly in cultural studies and the life sciences.

A unique constellation of subject areas in the life sciences also provides the ideal basis for thriving collaborative research centres and research units supported by the German Research Foundation (DFG, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft).

After 400 years of innovative teaching and research, JLU is not only embedded in international partnerships and networks, it is also deeply interwoven with the city of Giessen, the city with the highest student ratio of all university towns in Germany. Their parallel dynamic development has not only shaped Giessen's cityscape with many traditional buildings, it has also spawned several state-of-the-art university research centres. Additionally, JLU profits from Giessen's ability to absorb students from all around the globe into a lively university town in the heart of Hesse, creating an ideal environment for students and researchers alike.

Faculties and Research Centres

Eleven faculties and six research centres provide the basis for JLU's exceptionally broad range of subjects. Encompassing almost all disciplines, it is a unique mix with a focus on the life sciences and cultural studies.

Faculties:

- 01 Law
- 02 Business Administration and Economics
- 03 Social Sciences and Cultural Studies
- 04 History and Cultural Studies
- 05 Language, Literature, Culture
- 06 Psychology and Sports Science
- 07 Mathematics and Computer Science, Physics, Geography
- 08 Biology and Chemistry
- 09 Agricultural Sciences, Nutritional Sciences and Environmental Management
- 10 Veterinary Medicine
- 11 Medicine

The **Giessen Centre for Eastern European Studies (GiZo)** concentrates research and teaching on Eastern Europe in the humanities. It integrates JLU's strong traditions of Eastern European research in cultural studies, political and social sciences as well as economics, law and agricultural sciences.

Securing biological resources is the vision of the **Research Centre for Biosystems, Land Use and Nutrition (IFZ)**. As a result of JLU's outstanding ability in the life sciences, it encourages pioneering research at the frontiers of agricultural science, ecology, nutritional sciences and biotechnology.

JLU's **Centre for International Development and Environmental Research (ZEU)** is committed to applied interdisciplinary developmental and environmental research, focusing on climate change, resource protection, food security and water scarcity, for example.

The **Centre for Competence Development (ZfbK)** prepares JLU's students for the global job market. It offers seminars for the development of professional, social and intercultural skills, foreign language classes as well as a career service.

JLU's Centre for Philosophy and the Fundamentals of Science (ZFP) is unique within Germany as it unites the fundamental disciplines for the study of philosophy: biophilosophy, metaphysics, aesthetics and science theory.



Interdisciplinary Research Centres:

- GiZo: Giessen Centre for Eastern European Studies
- IFZ: Research Centre for Biosystems, Land Use and Nutrition
- ZEU: Centre for International Development and Environmental Research
- ZfbK: Centre for Competence Development
- ZfPh: Centre for Philosophy and the Fundamentals of Science
- ZMI: Centre for Media and Interactivity



Centre for Media and Interactivity (ZMI): The complex interactions of digital media with society, politics, economics, culture and science is the focus of this centre's research activities. The centre functions as a network for all related disciplines at JLU and provides a platform for workshops, conferences and publications.

Graduate Centres: GCSC/GGK: International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture/
Giessen Graduate School for the Humanities

GGL: International Giessen Graduate School for the Life Sciences

The **International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture (GCSC)** establishes optimal conditions for doctoral candidates focusing on the study of culture. It is deeply integrated in international networks and fosters high-profile interdisciplinary research in clearly defined areas. It offers a doctoral programme which is tailored to the needs of PhD students, with an excellent research environment and the support needed to excel in academic as well as non-academic careers. First of its kind in Germany, the GCSC is funded in the context of the German "Excellence Initiative".

The **International Giessen Graduate School for the Life Sciences (GGL)** provides an interdisciplinary, concisely structured graduate programme for all life science disciplines at Justus Liebig University: it integrates the fields of psychology, physical education, mathematics, information sciences, physics, geography, biology, chemistry, geophysics, agricultural sciences, nutritional science, environmental management, medicine and veterinary medicine.

www.uni-giessen.de/cms/fbz

Study Programmes

Justus Liebig University offers an exceptionally wide range of degree courses in the fields of law, business and economics, the natural sciences, the social sciences and the humanities. Very few universities, for example, offer the combination of agricultural sciences, food science and nutrition, and veterinary medicine. Along with medicine and biology, these subjects constitute one of JLU's profile areas – the life sciences. With a highly renowned graduate school and a large number of undergraduate and graduate programmes in the social sciences and cultural studies as well as languages, literature and the arts, JLU's second profile area lies in the humanities. JLU Giessen has established its unique profile as a combination of these two areas, and dedicates its excellent research and teaching capacities to breaking new ground in the sciences. With a choice of over 150 subject combinations within highly interdisciplinary degree courses, high-quality education at all levels is one of JLU's major objectives.

Teaching is highly successful at JLU: two out of five of the very first Hessian awards for excellent teaching in higher education, the most valuable awards of their kind in Germany, were granted to Giessen professors, thus making JLU the most successful university in Hesse. The following year's Hessian awards for excellent teaching also favoured JLU with prizes granted to teachers of English, biology, chemistry, law and medicine.

All courses at JLU Giessen take the form of modularised Bachelor's (3 years) and Master's (2 years) degrees, with the exception of the state examination qualification for all teaching degrees and the professional degrees in law, medicine and veterinary medicine. Particularly at Master's level, there is a range of classes offered in English.



> **Study Programmes**



The workload of a full academic year corresponds to 1800 hours, the equivalent of 900 hours per semester or 40 hours per week. Credit points awarded conform to the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS): a workload of 30 hours in a module corresponds to 1 credit point. A Bachelor's course of study therefore comprises at least 180 credit points (CP) within 3 years of study, a Master's course of study 120 CP within 2 years.

Degrees awarded:

- Bachelor of Arts (BA)
- Bachelor of Science (BSc)
- Master of Arts (MA)
- Master of Science (MSc)
- State Examination (in the fields of law, all teaching degrees, veterinary and human medicine, dentistry), Magister Legum (LLM)
- Doctorate (Dr) and PhD

The academic year at JLU starts in mid-October with the winter semester and lasts until mid-February. After an eight-week break, the summer semester usually runs from mid-April to mid-July.

www.uni-giessen.de/cms/study/courses

International Study Programmes

JLU offers a broad range of international Bachelor's, Master's and PhD programmes. Even study programmes taught in German increasingly include courses held in English, particularly at Master's level. For a summary of all courses taught in English at JLU, please see www.uni-giessen.de/cms/ce.

Degree Programmes in English:

Germany's first international **Master's programme in Agrobiotechnology** attracts students from across the globe. Students experience a combination of professional training and scientific studies in the fields of agriculture and nutrition. The course of study combines cutting-edge study and research from a theoretical and practical perspective, preparing graduates for the global market. www.agrobiotechnology.de

The **Master's programme in Transition Studies** is directed at students who want to work in interdisciplinary and international teams contributing to the improvement of the situation of transition countries. Again, Justus Liebig University is the first university in Germany to address the specific problems of transition countries in an international, interdisciplinary course of study combining both theory and practice. www.uni-giessen.de/zeu/TS

The **Master's degree course in Comparative Child Law** is run jointly by Justus Liebig University Giessen and North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa. This challenging programme enables students to gain in-depth knowledge in the field of child law through comparative experience. The first semester is taught at Potchefstroom/South Africa; the obligatory internship enables students to put theory into practice. www.recht.uni-giessen.de/wps/fb01/home/childlaw



Further International Study Programmes:

- German as a Foreign Language (in the context of the Master's programme "Language, Literature, Culture")
- Master's in Language Technology and Foreign Language Learning and Teaching (in German/English/French)
- The Magister Juris Internationalis ("International European and Comparative Law")
- Magister Legum (Master's in German Law for Jurists with a Foreign Degree)
- Master's degree course in "Interdisciplinary Studies on Eastern Europe"



Selected Summer Programmes:

The **International University Summer Course** at Justus Liebig University has an established reputation as the ideal launching-pad for entry into courses of study in Germany. The



programme covers intensive German language courses along with stimulating workshops and excursions. www.uni-giessen.de/cms/hsk

Giessen University's **International Summer University (ISU)** offers an interdisciplinary and practically oriented programme of study focussing on topics related to law, business and biotechnology. It includes special seminars and German language courses (all offering ECTS certification) as well as a range of cultural excursions and activities. www.uni-giessen.de/isu

The **US-German Summer Session in International and Comparative Law** brings together students from all over the world to study comparative and international law for a one-month session in July and August. The programme is organised jointly by Marquette University, the University of Wisconsin, and the University of Giessen at JLU Giessen's campus. www.uni-giessen.de/summerlaw

International Study Programmes Leading to a Doctorate

Students can always work individually on a doctorate in all areas of study as long as they have an academic supervisor. JLU Giessen also offers a wide range of international postgraduate study programmes leading to a doctorate/PhD, examples of which you can read about here: www.uni-giessen.de/cms/intstudien

Applications and Admissions

Whether you would like to take your whole first degree, complement your Bachelor's degree with a German Master's degree, complete your PhD studies or just come for the ultimate ERASMUS experience – international students are welcome at Justus Liebig University!

Full degree

Most applications for whole degree courses must be submitted to uni-assist, Germany's quality network for international academic applications. Uni-assist conducts a preliminary check of the documents and forwards international applications directly to us. Germans who have received secondary education outside Germany will also have to apply via uni-assist. Please check www.uni-giessen.de/cms/applydegree for details.

Non-graduating

Visiting international students ("free movers") who would like to spend only one or two semesters at JLU and who do not come as part of an exchange agreement apply directly to the university's Admissions Office. They have to contact a professor from the department they will be studying in and arrange for supervision during the period of their stay. Please check www.uni-giessen.de/cms/applynodeg for details.





Exchange students

With an open-minded and lively international atmosphere, JLU is the perfect host university for international exchange students. Students who come within an exchange agreement apply via the programme coordinator of their respective home university. Please check www.uni-giessen.de/cms/applyex for details.

Doctoral and PhD Students

International students with a Master's degree or equivalent can enter a doctoral or PhD programme at JLU Giessen. In order to be admitted at doctoral level, international PhD candidates must arrange for a Giessen University professor to act as their supervisor. Please check www.uni-giessen.de/cms/applydoc for details.

International Student Support

JLU welcomes international students from the start: the **orientation week** is directed at domestic and international students doing a full degree at JLU as well as international exchange students. All international students will be guided through the admissions and registration process by the team at the **International Office**: it offers assistance with administrative procedures, helps students to find their way around Giessen and the university. The International Office also offers a regular drop-in service for international students giving **information and advice** on all matters relating to course choice, registration, visas, accommodation, language learning, as well as social and personal issues.

JLU Giessen's renowned German language programme offers certified **German language courses** for all levels. Evening classes during the semester are free for students in exchange programmes. Additionally, JLU offers a highly flexible system for international students to reach university-entry level in German: six stages allow students to proceed from beginners' level up to DSH level (the prerequisite for taking up a course of academic study) within one academic year. Furthermore, courses both before and during the semester allow students, PhD candidates and visiting scholars to learn German according to their individual needs. ECTS credit points are awarded to participants.

The **international spring and summer courses** are the ideal launching-pad for international students who would like to prepare for their stay in Giessen. They get to know Giessen and its surroundings, find out about living and studying here in three or four exciting weeks of intensive language courses, individual mentoring, excursions, workshops and much more. The courses start in March and September respectively, four weeks before the start of lectures.





Student accommodation in JLU's halls of residence is guaranteed for international exchange students. Accommodation is reasonably priced and fully furnished.

The **JLU Student ID Card** also serves as the "Semester Ticket" and affords students unlimited use of regional **public transport** in nearly the whole federal state of Hesse.

Excursions allow international students both to discover the close vicinity of Giessen and to travel beyond Hesse. From boat trips on the River Rhine to a typical German Christmas Market, students have a wide choice of easily affordable one-day and overnight tours – the perfect way to get to know Germany.

International students can also join one of JLU's various **student organisations and societies**. This can make for the real study abroad experience as it allows students to immerse themselves in German culture while playing an active role in the student body at the same time. For those who prefer an even more active role, JLU's sports facilities have it all: a broad choice of 40 individual and team sports ranging from football, martial arts and rock-climbing to underwater rugby, chess and capoeira invites students to have fun while staying fit. For the politically active, the International Student Representation within the university's General Student Committee (ASTA) offers plenty of options even to change the fate of JLU in some respects.

www.uni-giessen.de/cms/intsupport

Giessen and Environs

The university town of Giessen benefits from its central location in Middle Hesse, only a 40-minute drive away from Frankfurt am Main and its international airport. Over 30,000 students in relation to a population of 75,000 inhabitants turn Giessen into the city with the highest ratio of students in all of Germany – a young and welcoming city. Its location in the Lahn River valley amidst a picturesque landscape of rolling hills makes for high-quality leisure and recreational possibilities. In Giessen, international visitors can enjoy both the unspoiled regional landscape around the city and the cosmopolitan attractions of Frankfurt and the Rhine-Main area.

Unique science museums like the Mathematikum or the Liebig Museum, the 100-year-old municipal theatre, excellent shopping facilities for the entire area and Giessen's wide range of cultural activities and open air events add to the city's attractions.

Municipal Theatre Giessen

The Giessen Municipal Theatre offers a broad repertoire of opera, musical, operetta, classical and modern drama, and modern dance theatre on two stages. Check the website for the on-line season brochure and calendar as well as tickets.

Mathematikum - Hands-On Mathematical Museum

The world's first hands-on mathematical museum was conceived by Albrecht Beutelspacher, professor for mathematics at Justus Liebig University, and inaugurated in 2002. More than





120 interactive exhibits attract over 150,000 visitors each year. Visitors are encouraged to handle the exhibits in order to discover painlessly the laws of mathematics – to grasp them in every sense. Come along and experience stunning phenomena yourself!

Liebig Museum

The Liebig Museum in Giessen is located in what was once Justus von Liebig's famous laboratory. The father of modern experimental chemistry taught at Justus Liebig University from 1824-1852 and gave the world baking powder, fertilisers, chloroform and meat extract (among other important things).

Botanical Garden Giessen

One of our special gems is the university's Botanical Garden. It was established in 1609 as a 'hortus medicus' or medicinal herb garden. Besides being of considerable value for scientific research, it also serves the visitor as a quiet oasis in the centre of Giessen.

The University Orchestra

The University Orchestra of JLU Giessen can be counted on for excellence both at home and abroad. A full-size symphony orchestra, it is made up of students and university staff. The orchestra is always open to musicians who are interested in joining.



JLU
International

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