Liberal Arts and Sciences
Bachelor (B.A./B.Sc.)
We are not students of some subject matter, but students of problems. And problems may cut right across the borders of any subject matter or discipline.

Karl Popper
Welcome!

The Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) Bachelor program at the University of Freiburg is an exciting, groundbreaking venture. With our own perspective on a long tradition of Liberal Education in the United States and on recent successful models in the Netherlands, LAS in Freiburg offers academic breadth, depth, and interdisciplinary reflection on science and knowledge. The University of Freiburg is especially suited to host an LAS program: It is one of Germany’s leading research and higher education institutions and has a longstanding tradition in interdisciplinary research and teaching. Freiburg is also one of Germany’s most beautiful and enjoyable cities, situated at the heart of Europe.

LAS at University College Freiburg (UCF) is an approach to education, not just a program name. We understand LAS education as an exciting process of intellectual discovery and personal development within an interdisciplinary and international learning community. The LAS program provides a structured opportunity for students to learn broadly about the human and the non-human world, to systematically develop their capacity for high-level academic work in exchange with others, and to gradually unfold their own unique interests and abilities in ways suited to their aspirations.

The LAS students who started their studies in October 2012 graduated in summer 2016. They are the foundation of the program’s pioneer spirit, and the exciting academic explorations we have undertaken. It is also thanks to them and the following student cohorts that LAS has become a great success. Currently, 300 students from more than 40 countries are enrolled in the LAS program at UCF. About two thirds of each class spend at least one semester abroad. Together with its students, UCF has established an international and active learning community that goes beyond the classroom.

The following pages introduce you to the LAS program, its guiding ideas, and organizing principles. We hope to be able to raise and keep your interest and answer the questions you have about LAS at University College Freiburg.

Dr. Ursula Glunk
Academic Director

Prof. Dr. Sitta von Reden
Dean of Studies
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1. Liberal Arts and Sciences in Brief

Liberal Arts and Sciences is a specific approach to Bachelor level education. It reaches across academic fields while also offering discipline-oriented academic training in one particular Major. It encourages students to critically reflect on science and knowledge and to become skilled communicators and creative shapers of their environment. Focusing on the education of the whole person, it creates opportunities for personal development into motivated and responsible human beings.

The program consists of three study areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Electives</th>
<th>Major including B.A./B.Sc. Thesis (12 ECTS Credits)</th>
<th>Core</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students can take other university courses, attend language classes, undertake independent projects, and/or use these credits for courses taken on a semester/year abroad.</td>
<td>The Major constitutes the student’s training in a specific academic field; LAS offers four Majors: 1. Earth and Environmental Sciences 2. Life Sciences 3. Governance 4. Culture and History</td>
<td>The Core includes reflections on knowledge and sciences, courses in Responsibility and Leadership, Academic English, and more.</td>
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<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>66</td>
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4 Year Program = 240 ECTS Credits
Program Features

- Degree: B.A. or B.Sc. Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Sciences (depending on choice of Major)
- The language of instruction is English. As part of the LAS program, non-German speaking students must learn German up to the level of A2 (according to the Common European Framework of Reference – CEFR).
- Duration: LAS is a four-year program that includes breadth and depth. It has a progressive storyline covering academic competencies, skills training, academic specialization, and room for intellectual exploration.
- Bologna-compliant; total coursework amounts to 240 ECTS credits, i.e. 30 credits per semester. Most LAS courses carry a six ECTS credit workload. One ECTS credit corresponds to a workload of about 30 hours.
- Fees*: There is a registration fee of about €150 per semester for all students. UCF does not provide housing or scholarships. Living and accommodation costs amount to ca. €750 per month.
- LAS is a selective program with an annual intake of 80 students. Starting LAS is only possible in the winter semester. The application period is June 1 – July 15.

The **Core** (66 ECTS credits) is shared by all LAS students. It encompasses basic and advanced academic skills, reflections on knowledge and science, as well as a curriculum on Responsibility and Leadership.

The **Majors** (102 ECTS credits) provide an in-depth education in a specific academic field that is, in itself, interdisciplinary. After their first year of studies, students choose one of the following Majors:

1. Earth and Environmental Sciences
2. Life Sciences
3. Governance
4. Culture and History

In the **Electives** (72 ECTS credits), students can choose from a variety of courses and projects to further shape their educational profile.

* The State of Baden-Württemberg has implemented tuition fees for non-EU students (€1,500 / semester) and for all students seeking a 2nd Bachelor degree (€650 / semester). For more information, please see the University of Freiburg Student Service Center.
2. The Liberal Arts and Sciences Program

2.1. Foundational Year

During the first year – the so-called Foundational Year – of the Liberal Arts and Sciences program, students follow the same curriculum and establish a shared basis of knowledge and skills. From year two onwards, students have a significant amount of freedom in designing their own study program.

The Foundational Year consists mostly of Core courses, that focus mainly on methods of research and analysis as well as on techniques of writing and presenting. This framework makes up most of the first year’s classwork and ensures that students’ start into academic life with LAS is both stimulating and structured. Furthermore first-year students follow the introduction to three different Majors.

Depending on their choices with regard to the Major, Electives, and Study Abroad Opportunities, individual study programs will develop quite differently.
2.2. Core Program

The Core is a distinctive feature of the Freiburg LAS program and offers a foundation for knowledge and reflection in academic work and beyond. The Core Program consists of three parts:

1. Academic Key Skills: In the first year, students develop and sharpen their academic key skills (scientific methods, exchange formats, researching and working with academic literature and sources, academic presentation). This part of the Core Program ascertains that all LAS students, irrespective of their cultural background or intellectual interests, share a common base of resources for mastering academic challenges.

2. Reflections on Science and Knowledge: The LAS program places a strong emphasis on reflections on scientific knowledge and methods. This is represented by two Chairs at UCF: Epistemology and Theory of Science (ETS) and Science and Technology Studies (STS).

The four modules in this part of the Core form the inter- and metadisciplinary backbone of the LAS program, providing a coherent conceptual and methodological framework for the different areas of specialization in the Majors. Key topics in the courses offered by the ETS Chair are logic, the human epistemic condition, epistemic and social status of scientific theories, the progress of science, and the reality of scientific objects. The STS Chair offers courses that focus on comment on science, technology, and academia in history and present and their interdependence with society, as well as on mundane knowledge practices.

3. Responsibility and Leadership extends over the entire LAS program and is designed to inspire and equip students to effectively engage with the challenges they are going to face before and after graduation. It prompts students to consider their own position in the world, to think about their responsibility and personal vision in life, and to acquire the skills they need in order to reach their goals. Two sequential modules focus on the four main themes: social (in)equality, personalities and group processes, applied ethics, and characteristics of leadership. Courses combine rigorous academic input with personal reflection and training in more experiential formats.
The following chart provides an overview of the Core modules:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research and Presentations</td>
<td>Theory of Knowledge</td>
<td>Responsibility and Leadership I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Expressions</td>
<td>Knowledge in Context</td>
<td>Responsibility and Leadership II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English for Academic Purposes</td>
<td>Theory of Science</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dealing with Numerical Information</td>
<td>Science in Context</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Design across Disciplines</td>
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### 2.3. Electives

The Electives account for 72 out of the total 240 ECTS credits of LAS program.

In their Electives, students can choose from a wide range of courses at UCF, the University of Freiburg and EUCOR – The European Campus. The Elective section is also designed to accommodate studies abroad, internships, supervised independent projects, or further language studies. Electives allow students to supplement their Major and to shape their specific academic profile.

Depending on their intellectual interest and future plans, students use the Electives to either deepen or broaden their studies. Some students take Elective courses to gain additional insights in the field of their Major. Others purposefully select courses from different disciplines to broaden their perspective. It is also possible to choose courses from another LAS Major as Electives.

Academic advisors are ready to support students in making well-informed and meaningful choices regarding their Electives. Please note the regulations on the Electives as defined in the LAS Study and Exam Regulations.
The Major Earth and Environmental Sciences provides a holistic view of our planet Earth. In the basic courses students study the physical and living environment in order to acquire fundamental knowledge of the nature surrounding us and to explore questions about the history and evolution of the Earth. Observed trends can then be used to better predict the future of the Earth, which is also influenced by human activity. The Major gives students a strong research-oriented foundation in the natural sciences and enables them to relate this to many 21st century challenges and possible solutions. The advanced modules provide specialization opportunities, with a strong emphasis on Environmental Governance and on Sustainable Resources and Energy.

The following chart gives you an overview of all basic and advanced modules in the EES Major:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Modules</th>
<th>Advanced Modules</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Earth and Environmental Sciences</td>
<td>Maths &amp; Physics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of Observing Nature</td>
<td>Chemistry and the Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecology: Urban and Rural Environment</td>
<td>Earth Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Processing &amp; Modelling</td>
<td>Global Cycles of Matter and Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human and the Environment</td>
<td>Analytical Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evolution and Dynamics of the Planetary System</td>
<td>Specialization Option I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialization Option II</td>
<td>B.Sc. Thesis</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Students choose a Major after completing the Foundational Year. In the major Earth and Environmental Sciences Major, students explore the human being and its interactions with the environment. In order to do so, they first acquire basic knowledge in the field of Earth and Environmental Sciences and then apply this knowledge and deepen their understanding in the Advanced Courses, Specialization Options, and Electives.

The Major includes a variety of interrelated disciplines with a strong focus on Environmental Governance and Sustainability as well as Natural Resources. Within the context of the LAS program, this approach provides the opportunity to participate in joint interdisciplinary courses and projects together with students from the other Majors.

The Major’s epistemological approach emphasizes the scientific method as the dominant form of knowledge acquisition in the sciences. The curriculum thus includes courses that familiarize students with observational and experimental methods and enable them to conduct a first research project in the sciences.

Graduates of the Liberal Arts and Sciences program who have completed a Major in Earth and Environmental Sciences finish the program with a bachelor thesis and are awarded the degree Bachelor of Science. This degree enables them to apply to a wide range of Master’s programs in various natural and some social science fields in Germany and abroad.

Depending on their research interests and the subject-specific requirements of the Master’s programs that they are interested in, students are encouraged to choose courses in Advanced Modules and the LAS Electives area that fit with their academic and career aspirations. Students are ultimately responsible for the choices they make, but they are supported and advised concerning their course selection by the course coordinator.
The Major Life Sciences is focused on human beings and the conditions under which they interact with their physical environment and other human beings. Specifically, the Life Sciences Major explores questions about the structures and functions of the human body and the human mind, the interaction with the environment, and also the interface between biological and technical systems.

We consider the human being as a researching subject as well as a subject of research. The Major in Life Sciences will give you a strong research-oriented foundation in the natural sciences and relate this foundation to 21st century challenges.

The following chart gives you an overview of all basic and advanced modules in the Life Sciences Major:
Students choose their Major after the completion of the Foundational Year. The Life Sciences Major comprises a variety of disciplines including biochemistry, cell biology, physiology, immunology, neurosciences, the behavioral and cognitive sciences, as well as biotechnology and bioengineering. This variety requires a focus for the Life Sciences curriculum; at University College Freiburg this is the human being.

The Major’s epistemological approach emphasizes the scientific method as the currently dominant way of knowledge acquisition in the sciences. The curriculum thus includes courses that familiarize students with observational and experimental methods and enables them to conduct a first research project in the sciences. The Major also purposes to provide a broader perspective on the Life Sciences themselves and their role in society, politics, and culture. Within the context of the LAS program, this approach provides the opportunity for joint, interdisciplinary courses and projects with the other Majors.

Students successfully graduating from the Liberal Arts and Sciences program in the Major Life Sciences finish the program with a bachelor thesis and are awarded the degree Bachelor of Science. This formally enables them to apply to a variety of Master’s programs in the natural and behavioral sciences in Germany and abroad.

Depending on their research interests and additional requirements set by the aspired Master’s program, students are encouraged to choose courses in the modules Advanced Life Sciences, Specialization Option, and the LAS Electives area that fit with their academic career plans. Students are expected to personally take responsibility for these plans; however they are supported and advised in their course selection by the course coordinator.
Major Governance

Governance studies what happens when many people live together and depend on each other. It is about the negotiation and achievement of common goals, such as peace, prosperity, and happiness. The Major Governance is different from a program in political science or in law because it covers a broader range of social science disciplines. It is oriented around three central areas of inquiry: communities, states, and markets.

The following chart gives you an overview of all basic and advanced modules in the Governance Major:
Students choose their Major after the completion of the Foundational Year. The Governance Major draws mainly on social and political sciences in answering the complex questions about communities, states, and markets: political science, including political philosophy, political theory as well as comparative politics; international relations, in their political, economic, and cultural dimensions; economics, including international, globalized economics; law, national and international, including the workings of international organizations and courts; as well as sociology, with the focus on political sociology and social theory.

The main building blocks of the Major Governance are courses on the theoretical bases and methods of social and political sciences, and introductory courses in law, economics, and government. With this background, students will be able, from their second year of studies, to choose courses of their liking to specialize in one of these areas. Many of the courses offered will combine several social science disciplines as well as insights from the humanities, life sciences, and environmental sciences. Thus, students may study the governance perspective on environmental changes, or combine insights from history, international relations and sociology in studying diplomacy or the dynamics of peace and conflict.

In general, the Major is structured in the way to enable students to understand crucial current problems and, on this basis, to make relevant and insightful contributions to dealing with them. On the basis of a student’s personalized Governance curriculum, carved out with the help of an academic advisor, the student will be prepared for a wide range of Master’s programs within the social sciences, particularly for interdisciplinary programs.
Major Culture and History

The Major Culture and History focuses on the academic study of the cultures and histories of people from around the world and across time. The Major has no temporal or geographic concentration. Instead, students sample an exciting range of topics while developing their ability to analyze all kinds of cultural objects, frame strong questions about cultural-historical problems, and produce coherent interpretive arguments – classic humanistic skills that remain relevant to individual reflection, academic research, and global public life. Culture and History’s interdisciplinary approach to the humanities combines history, philosophy, anthropology, and the study of art, music, and literature.

The following chart gives you an overview of the modules in the Culture and History Major:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introduction to Culture and History</th>
<th>Culture and History up to the Early Modern Period</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culture and History since the Early Modern Period</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociocultural Anthropology, Ethnography, or Area Studies</td>
<td>Art, Literature, Aesthetics, or Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Culture and History I</td>
<td>Advanced Culture and History II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Culture and History III</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History as a Topic of Academic Inquiry</td>
<td>Culture as a Topic of Academic Inquiry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialization Option I</td>
<td>Specialization Option II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B.A. Thesis</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

6 Basic Modules

7 Advanced Modules + B.A. Thesis
In Culture and History, students explore an array of topics in courses that change from year to year. This is because we do not ask students to amass a body of knowledge about some particular culture or history. Rather, we want students to practices the academic methods that will allow them to understand whatever culture or history they are most interested in. We also want students to develop a sophisticated theoretical background in the humanities. So the intellectual coherence of Culture and History comes from the fact that students are gradually building up their humanities skill set.

For instance, in one year, students might cover the Module Culture and History Up to the Early Modern Period with a course called “Empires in the Ancient World.” In the next year, the same Module might be covered by a course called “Medieval Japan.” In both cases, students are learning about how to research pre-modern societies. What are the typical source materials left by such societies? What kinds of questions can these sources answer?

Two very important Modules are focused on theoretical problems in the study of culture and history. Students explore questions that cannot be simply answered or resolved, but rather provide continuous stimulus to thinking in the humanities. If history is a kind of story-telling, then is it also at least partly fictional? What are the limits of understanding another culture or another time?

In their 3rd and 4th years, students take two courses with a research orientation, building skills in a specific discipline and preparing for the BA Thesis. This is the point at which students are expected to have developed an intellectual focus that will lead them to further studies and career opportunities. Culture and History is designed to provide a strong foundation in humanistic academic disciplines while allowing students to pursue their own intellectual passions in a context of critical reflection. The Major prepares students for a range of MA programs in the humanities and related social sciences, particularly those with an interdisciplinary character.
3. Questions and Answers

Q: What is the Liberal Arts and Sciences program in Freiburg about?
A: LAS is the first four-year, English-taught Bachelor program of its kind at a German university. It was established in 2012 at the University of Freiburg and is hosted by University College Freiburg, an interfaculty center for international, interdisciplinary teaching and learning. What makes LAS special is that it reaches across academic fields while also offering discipline-oriented academic training in one particular Major. It encourages students to critically reflect on science and knowledge and to become skilled communicators and creative shapers of their environment. Focusing on the education of the whole person, it creates opportunities for personal development into engaged and responsible human beings.

Q: What type of student is LAS aimed at?
A: The LAS program is aimed at students with broad academic curiosity. We are looking for applicants who value academic rigor and in-depth study, intellectual creativity and exchange, and would like to give their studies an individual emphasis. If, on top of that, you enjoy an international, hard-working and inspiring environment, LAS is probably for you.

Q: I have many interests and do not really know what I want to study. Is LAS right for me?
A: Be careful. LAS offers choices, but also requires that you progressively focus your studies. This means you will have to make decisions and let some things go. While the program offers guidance in this process, if you are easily paralyzed by indecision, LAS is not the right program for you.

Q: Does LAS allow me to study anything I want?
A: No and for a good reason. While range and choice are important for the Liberal Arts and Sciences program, choice without structure can be arbitrary. Therefore, our Core includes courses all LAS students must take. Also, every student must choose one of the following Majors after their first year of studies: Earth and Environmental Sciences, Life Sciences, Governance, or Culture & History. The Major combines structure and choice. In your Electives you have a wide range of opportunities and topics to choose from.
Q: The standard German Bachelor’s degree takes three years. Why does LAS take four?
A: LAS at UCF is a coherent, four-year program that includes breadth and depth as well as reflection on science and knowledge. It has a progressive storyline that covers academic competencies and skills training (e.g. academic and professional communication or intercultural and language skills). On top of that, we want you to build a sound academic specialization in your Major, have time to develop personally and academically, and have room for your own intellectual exploration.

Q: Will I have the opportunity to study abroad during the LAS program in Freiburg?
A: About 80% of our students spend one or two semesters abroad. The University of Freiburg has a broad range of exchange programs with partners all over the world open to LAS students. Furthermore, UCF has established structured exchanges with several partner institutions, e.g. University College Maastricht, Yale at the National University of Singapore, School of International Liberal Studies at Waseda University (JP), and University of Adelaide (AUS). We also have Erasmus partnerships with universities in England, France, the Netherlands, and Spain. Your third LAS year is especially suited for studying abroad. UCF will provide support in organizing a semester or a year abroad, especially concerning integration into your LAS curriculum and credit recognition. It is the students’ responsibility to inform themselves and apply for the most appropriate programs and destinations. In addition to studying abroad, it is possible for all LAS students to study at any of the EUCOR (The European Campus) universities in this region during their time in Freiburg.

Q: LAS programs are well established in North America and currently emerging in Europe. Where does the Freiburg LAS program fit in?
A: With LAS programs in North America and around the world we share an emphasis on a broad curriculum, mandatory skills training, and the education of the whole person. At the same time, the LAS program in Freiburg has specific characteristics: (1) We go directly into academic training, while many US programs spend considerable time on the general education most Europeans are expected to get in high school. (2) We follow the conviction that understanding how science works is the key to an interdisciplinary education and place a strong focus on the reflection on science and knowledge. In comparison to other programs we place less emphasis on individual choice in this area. (3) Finally, LAS in Freiburg is a small, non-residential program that offers students the chance to fully integrate themselves into the city and the
University of Freiburg – one of the leading research universities in Germany with 11 faculties and 25,000 students. LAS in Freiburg thus has a very different atmosphere from the larger, residential colleges elsewhere.

Q: What role do the natural sciences play in the LAS program? What are the benefits of majoring in a natural science at UCF?
A: The Freiburg LAS program has two natural sciences Majors: Life Sciences and Earth and Environmental Sciences. Studying natural sciences in an LAS context of course provides you with knowledge and skills that are important for working in the sciences in general and the Life Sciences and the Earth and Environmental Sciences in particular. Beyond that, we draw connections to the Social Sciences and Humanities. This broader, interdisciplinary framework is usually not covered in a regular sciences program. For example, when majoring in Earth and Environmental Sciences or Life Sciences you are also able to attend courses in the area of Governance to better understand, articulate, and make decisions concerning our Environment and Health. Thanks to this academic cross training you can better develop your ability to acquire and organize facts and opinions, to analyze and present them, and to synthesize information and ideas. You will thereby improve your critical and independent thinking and be in a position to bridge disciplines and cultures.

Q: What is the University of Freiburg like? How are UCF and LAS integrated into it?
A: The University of Freiburg was founded in 1457, UCF was founded in 2012 as a central university institution. The University of Freiburg is a research university with 11 faculties, covering the whole spectrum of subjects from Philosophy and Theology to Engineering and Computer Science. It has repeatedly achieved highest ranks in nationwide competitions in research, teaching, and continuing education. You could hardly find a better institutional context for the first University College in Germany and for the LAS program at UCF that depends on research and teaching expertise from a broad range of academic fields. The majority of LAS courses are specifically created for and administered by UCF. At the same time, you will, as a regular student of the university, be able to attend other courses, talks, and lectures, use central facilities like the university library, participate in the university sports program or join any number of student societies and activities.

Q: Sounds great – but is Freiburg also a good place to live, beyond the university?
A: Yes! Freiburg is widely considered one of the most attractive mid-size cities in
Germany. It has a charming historical setting, a pleasantly mild climate, and the Black Forest is in easy reach for hiking in summer and skiing in winter. Freiburg has an open-minded atmosphere and a lively cultural scene. A lot of students choose Freiburg for its close-knit university community. As a “Green City”, it is especially noted for its focus on ecology and sustainability. European cities like Zurich, Frankfurt, or Strasbourg are all within a two-hour train ride, while Paris, Milan, and the Mediterranean make for convenient weekend destinations. France is just a twenty minute drive away, Switzerland only a little more, so we are truly at the heart of Europe.

Q: What does studying LAS in Freiburg cost?
A: There is a registration fee of appr. 150 per semester for all students. The State of Baden-Württemberg has implemented tuition fees for non-EU students (€1,500 per semester) and for all students seeking a second Bachelor (or Master’s) degree (€650 per semester) For more information, including an overview of exemptions from tuition fees, please see the University of Freiburg Student Service Center.

University College Freiburg and its LAS program are part of the University of Freiburg. This means that UCF does not provide housing or scholarships for its students. Living and accommodation costs amount to approximately €750 per month. For more information on finances, housing, and scholarships, please see the university’s Student Service Center and our website.

Q: How do you select students?
A: Selection is competitive and based on academic merit (grade of your higher education entrance qualification) as well as on personal motivation. The program is English-taught, meaning you must provide proof of adequate English proficiency. Please consult the Application & Admissions section of our website for full details concerning the application, selection, and admissions requirements and processes.

Q: What do I have to take into consideration as a non-German applicant?
A: First of all, you do not need to know German in order to apply. We want to attract students from all over the world who are interested in LAS regardless of their language and cultural background. In the course of your LAS studies you are expected to study German and to pass an exam equivalent to at least A2 on the CEFR scale after your second year. Concerning the application process itself, there are some differences as compared to the English-speaking world. Most importantly, international applicants as well as German applicants with non-German qualifications need to make sure that their qualifications are recognized as equivalent to the
German “Abitur”. Here, nationwide legal regulations apply. Only once you meet these requirements will you be allowed to enter the LAS selection process itself. Please refer to our website for more information and enquire at the university department for International Admissions and Services (IAS) for questions concerning diploma recognition.

Q: I am currently enrolled in another study program. Can I join the LAS program in a higher semester?
A: LAS has a limited number of places and transfer from other study programs into a higher LAS semester is currently not possible. Furthermore, LAS is a coherent program with a Foundational First Year of studies. If you are already studying at another university and are interested in starting LAS, please apply for the first year of the LAS program. Courses and achievements from your previous program can be considered for credit recognition once you have started the LAS program.

Q: I am interested in studying at UCF for one or two semesters as an exchange student. How can I apply?
A: Unfortunately, it is only possible to study at UCF as an exchange student if you are an incoming student on one of UCF’s exchange programs.

Q: Finally, what can I do with a LAS degree later on? What academic and professional options will I have?
A: While we do not know what you will do with your LAS degree, we can give you information on what others are doing. In summer 2016, the first LAS students graduated from UCF, the second cohort followed in 2017, the third in 2018. Based on these first experiences, we can proudly say that UCF graduates are doing meaningful and interesting things.

Many UCF graduates pursue further academic training in Master and PhD programs in fields such as Philosophy (FU Berlin), Comparative Social Policy (University of Oxford), Molecular Medicine (Charité Berlin), or Translational Medical Research (Heidelberg). Several are enrolled in fast track PhD programs, e.g. Biorenewable Systems (Penn State) or Neurosciences (Freiburg). An extended list (but not complete) of such programs is available on our website. Some have already graduated from 1-year Master programs and are now fully employed. Other graduates engage themselves in intern- and traineeships in NGOs and Think Tanks, cultural organizations, or in businesses and social entrepreneurships.
These first findings from the LAS program at UCF coincide with experiences at UCs in the Netherlands, e.g. at our partner institution University College Maastricht. Concerning career paths, surveys and research e.g. by the Association of American Colleges and Universities, the OECD, or the Confederation of German Employers’ Associations (BDA) show a clear demand for internationally oriented graduates trained in interdisciplinary thought and action.

LAS students are prepared for responsibilities and careers in international environments that demand fast and efficient adaptation to varying and complex challenges on a day to day basis. And the Freiburg LAS curriculum is structured in such a way as to enable entrance into Master’s programs. However, admission into every M.A. or M.Sc. program is not guaranteed, and it is the students’ responsibility to – with our guidance – look into appropriate programs and their admission criteria early on. The most important ingredient is you: LAS gives you the opportunity to shape your own education. It also challenges you to use that opportunity to set out towards career goals that, ultimately, only you yourself can define.

Q: Do you have more questions?
A: Contact us!

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