Conclusion

We highly recommend taking advantage of and actively using our existing services, formats & events! The more you will take part and use our services, the higher the chance you learn to understand the German Culture & the German Language. This will – for sure – make it easier for you to get in contact with Germans and ultimately form lasting friendships.

More TUK-offers

Apart from the ISGS services, the TUK offers many possibilities for increasing your contact with Germans. Get involved in international teams or groups with German colleagues:

For those who love sports:
- Unisport: www.unisport.uni-kl.de

For those who love culture:
- CampusKultur: www.uni-kl.de/campuskultur/
  - offers a diversity of cultural & artistic events such as expositions, lectures, courses etc.
  - supports all artistic groups at TUK:
    • Theater Group
    • Classical Choir
    • Modern Choir
    • Classical Orchestra
    • Big Band
    • Jazzbühne
    • Jazzbremer
    • Irish Folk AG
    • CampusTV
    • Foto und Labor AG
    • DebatING.

For more information about all artistic groups of TUK please check the QR-Code:

And don’t forget about:
- Student Groups of TUK: www.uni-kl.de/studium/vor-dem-studium/leben-an-der-tuk/studentische-gruppen/
- Student Associations of the Departments: https://www.asta.uni-kl.de/fachschaften

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ISGS-HINTS:
HOW TO MAKE GERMAN FRIENDS & settle down in the German Culture

Intention

You are an international student at TUK?
You survived the first “cultural shock” when you arrived in Germany?
By now you are doing quite well in mastering your studies?

But still – while getting more and more familiar with the German way of (academic) life – you wonder how to get in closer contact with Germans? Not to mention how to make German friends?

Based on the findings of the International Student Barometer (2016), you are in a very common situation regarding the study life of international students. While facing the challenge of organizing your new life & your studies abroad, for many of you the biggest hurdle remains to integrate successfully in the German Culture!

At the Department of International Affairs: ISGS we care for your concerns as international students here at our university! That is why we also want to help you out with the challenge to settle down in the German Culture and to form lasting friendships with German fellow students!

This special guide is designed to give you an overview of our existing offers, formats & services that can concretely support you in your wish to make German friends!

Our first advice

Keep in mind the special character & cultural background of Germans! We might seem (or act) “closed” and “cold” at the beginning compared to people from other nations. Once the ice broken, Germans will become close and sincere friends!

Main Ice-Breakers

• Try to actively use the new cultural context where you are living in! This means: try to actively search for contact with Germans instead of remaining in the “comfort zone” with students from your home country!

• Try to learn the German Language! Even with basic knowledge it will be possible to break the ice! Germans will be happy to see and appreciate your efforts to learn their language!

ISGS Workshop: German Culture: How to make German friends

This interactive, one-day-workshop organized by ISGS & a certified trainer offers concrete help (strategies & tips) how to form friendship with Germans

Deutscher Länderabend (IntClub)

An entire evening in the International Club that presents to you the German Culture with all its components (food, music, etc.)!

ISGS Info-Session: New in Kaiserslautern

An information session organized each semester for ISGS newcomer students which clarifies initial problems related to your new life in KL (household, city, rights & responsibilities etc.)

ISGS Orientation Course

An introduction to the German Culture & Language before the start of your studies which combines intensive German Language Training with integrative networking-events as well as administrative support (registration, visa etc.)

ISGS Welcome Party & Welcome Day

A Welcome Service for all new international students organized by ISGS, which aims at making your start at TUK & in the German study culture as successful as possible!

ISGS Christmas Party & Workshop: German Culture: Christmas Carols

Two special events during the Christmas season that give international students exclusive insight into the German (Christmas) Culture

German Language Courses (offered by VKB)

In our TUK German Language Courses you can learn the German language or improve your existing language skills during your whole study time. This will make it easier for you to come into contact with Germans!

IntClub -Events

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2 Helping you to:
GET IN CONTACT with your German fellow students:

Tandem-Program

At our Tandem-Meetings in IntClub you can find your (German) language partner. As teammates & native speakers you help your partner to learn your mother tongue & vice versa.

ErasmuScout-Program

Within this social support program international students who come together to be part of the intercultural event-offering (Country Evenings, Excursions etc.)

Become a student assistant (Hiwi) at ISGS/TUK

By working in a mostly German speaking environment, you will be able to improve your German Language skills & you will get in contact with German colleagues during your daily work! Check out the TUK-Hiwi-job portal!

Stay updated!

About all upcoming ISGS events by regularly checking the ISGS Event Calendar or by subscribing to the ISGS Mailing-List: doktoranden@isgs.uni-kl.de