hhu Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf

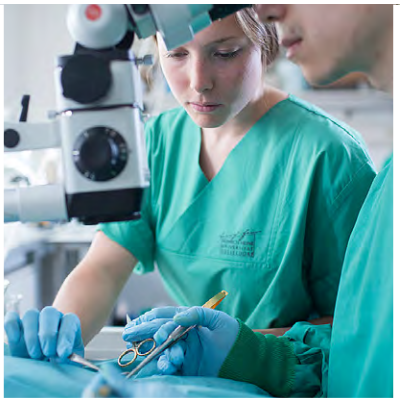
Creating knowledge.
Sharing knowledge.

5
faculties

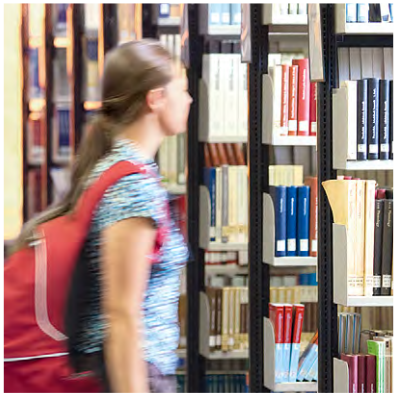
34,000
students

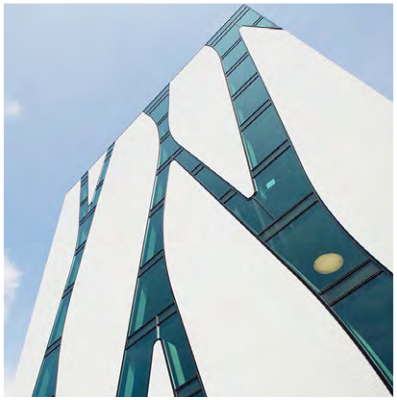
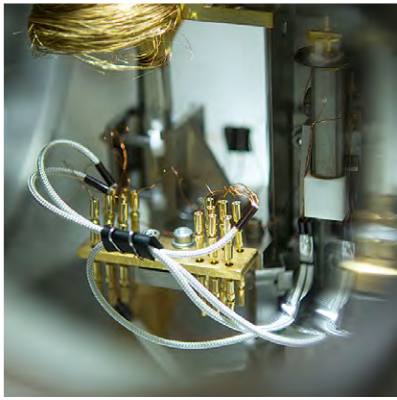
87
study programmes

500
international
partnerships



Lebenswissenschaften



350
Erasmus partnerships

150
international partners
at university, faculty and
institute level

Member of the UNIVERSEH
European University Alliance

Faculty of Law

Faculty of Mathematics and
Natural Sciences

Faculty of Medicine

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Faculty of Business
Administration and Economics

1,300,000 m²
campus area

8,000
rooms

1,100
laboratories

322
professors

2,259
other academic staff

1,415
further employees

8
canteens and cafés

3,008
places in halls of residence

University orchestra and choir

University sports

Campus radio

100
nationalities on campus

4,170
international students

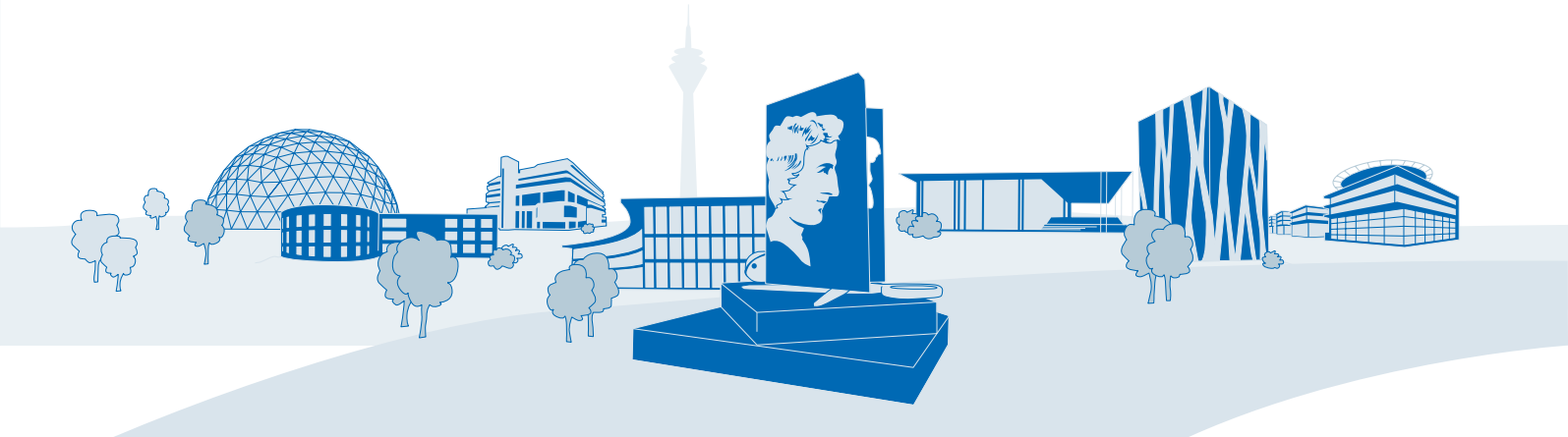
24
bilingual and English-language
study programmes

Cosmopolitan, collaborative and modern – at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (HHU), established in 1965 following conversion of the preceding Medical Academy, we conduct interdisciplinary research together in a spirit of trust. Our green campus, much of which enjoys listed status, is home to disciplines from the fields of natural sciences, law, medicine, economics, social sciences and humanities.

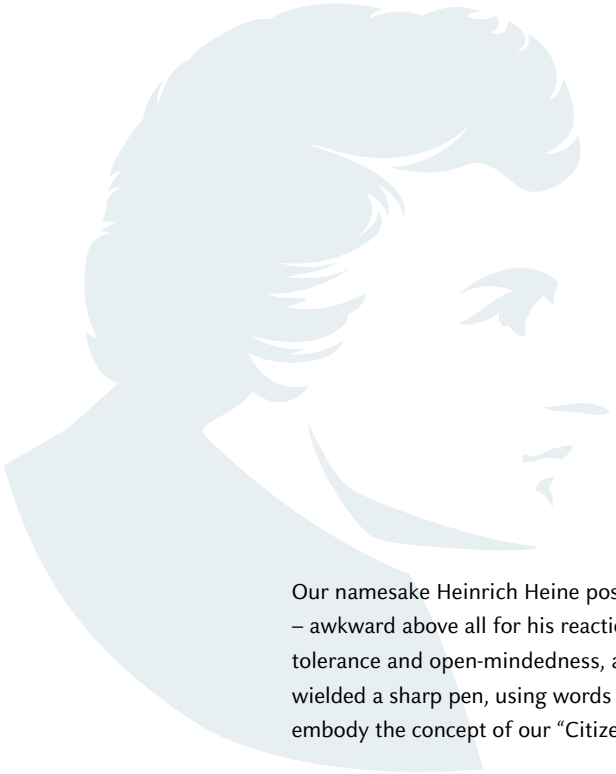
Around 34,000 inquisitive and enthusiastic students from over 100 countries are enrolled in more than 80 study programmes. They value the outstanding education and inspiring environment of the state capital of North Rhine-Westphalia.

In the spirit of Heinrich Heine, namesake of our young University, researchers and students constantly challenge established assumptions and beliefs together with external partners and beyond cultural and national borders. True to the motto "Creating knowledge. Sharing knowledge" and as a "Citizens' University", HHU communicates its knowledge to various areas of society and in turn integrates impulses from society into research and teaching.

- 1907
  The "Academy of Practical Medicine" opens in Düsseldorf
- 1965
  The State of NRW decides to convert the Academy into the "University of Düsseldorf"
- 1966
  The University is expanded to include a combined Faculty of Natural Sciences and Humanities
- 1988
  The University is renamed "Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf"
- 1990
  Foundation of the Faculty of Business Administration and Economics
- 1992
  Foundation of the Faculty of Law
- 2012
  Success in the Excellence Strategy
- 2013
  Inauguration of the *"Haus der Universität"* ("University House") in the heart of the city
- 2015
  HHU celebrates its 50th birthday
- 2019
  HHU establishes itself as a *"Bürgeruniversität"* ("Citizens' University")



ie Dummen manchmal sehr gescheit.
Schlage die Trommel und fürchte Dich ni
berdenken, so stecken wir doch alle nackt in unseren Kleidern.



“Every age has its problem, by solving which humanity is helped forward.”

Heinrich Heine

Our namesake Heinrich Heine possessed a shrewd and critical mind, and spoke awkward truths – awkward above all for his reactionary contemporaries. Heine championed freedom, equality, tolerance and open-mindedness, as well as the emancipation and enlightenment of citizens. He wielded a sharp pen, using words to fight subservience and opposition to progress. Who could embody the concept of our “Citizens’ University” better than Heine?

In his spirit, we constantly challenge established assumptions together with students. We investigate matters thoroughly and seek to grasp the complexity of the world. We also encourage our students to form their own opinions and look beyond their own subject. This enables them to see how important it is to stand up for democracy, society and the environment.

As a “Citizens’ University”, we foster constant exchange with different areas of society. Whether in citizen science projects, at events such as the “Night of Science” or in dialogue with government and business, we bring our motto “Creating knowledge. Sharing knowledge” to life.

Endlessly curious

**How can we achieve progress that benefits people?
Just like that: with an excellent question.**

At Children's University events, young scientists can gain first-hand experience of research at HHU.

Enough food for everyone – despite climate change? How can we prevent and cure serious illnesses? What protects and strengthens democracy? We are seeking answers to many current issues, consistently offering both aspiring and established researchers scope for new and unconventional ideas in the process.

Research with relevance

The various disciplines in the five faculties are asking fundamental and highly topical research questions. They are all united by the goal of advancing society through our scientific findings. To this end, we are also training the next generation of researchers, providing them with intensive support in the form of extensive qualification and mentoring programmes.

excellent, innovative,

And we ensure outstanding regional and international connections through strategic partnerships and networks.

Findings for life

In the plant sciences, researchers from all over the world are investigating how plants adapt to climate change. Their objective: crop plants that need less water and nutrients, yet still deliver stable yields.

responsible

Our medical research focuses on cardiovascular conditions, diabetes and liver damage, resulting in new and better therapies. To ensure patients can benefit from them as quickly as possible, we cooperate closely with Düsseldorf University Hospital.

Answers for day-to-day life

How can price fixing in business be prevented? What challenges does the market power of platforms such as Amazon, Google, Facebook & Co. present for our society? How can political participation succeed online? And how is digitalisation changing the way we communicate and obtain information?

HHU researchers are contributing their findings to public debates and advising government and business – here in the region, at national and at European level.

Interdisciplinary discovery

Scientific progress occurs in particular at the boundaries of disciplines. For example, experts from linguistics, philosophy, cognitive psychology, neurology and computer science are analysing how we think about our world. How are the terms we use created and composed?

Our goal is to advance society through our scientific findings.

A long history, yet still highly topical – scholars are researching how colonialism and migration influence art and literature, as well as how perceptions of “us” and “them” develop.

Writer and champion of human rights – the statue of Heinrich Heine is just one of the many artworks on the HHU campus.

Close to the wide horizon

**We are focused on academic excellence.
But keep our eye on much more besides.**

Time spent studying for a degree is a truly special period in life. What do students expect from their university? An outstanding education of course. Yet, periods of study involve so much more.

Making science inspiring

Every year we look forward to seeing many new faces. When students start their first semester, they are full of motivation and curiosity. To ensure that remains the case, we create ideal study conditions by providing committed teaching staff, a motivating learning environment and extensive service offers.

We don't lecture – we fire enthusiasm. We don't just pass on knowledge – we inspire...

We don't lecture – we fire enthusiasm. We don't just pass on knowledge – we inspire. On an equal footing and with educational expertise, instructors support our students and impart excellent theoretical and methodological knowledge. Our teaching staff encourage students to follow the example set by Heinrich Heine and critically examine research questions, discover connections, take responsibility for others, society and nature, and work in diverse teams – all good training for their subsequent careers and life in general.

committed, diverse,

forward-looking

Networked and varied learning

From digital literacy to entrepreneurial thinking: Interdisciplinary skills round out the academic training provided by HHU. We discover trends and invite partners from business, culture and politics to the campus. In this way, we provide what is particularly important when starting a career: a wide range of contacts and experience. Whether the University and State Library, the Centre for Information and Media Technology or the Botanical Garden – important locations for learning are brought together on our campus.

A mix of study programmes from traditional to innovative

In addition to traditional subjects such as Medicine, Business Administration and Law, our 87 study programmes also include practical courses such as Industrial Pharmacy and Actuarial Mathematics. You can also study interdisciplinary subjects such as Politics, Philosophy and Economics, Molecular Biomedicine or Art Mediation and Cultural Management. Some of these study programmes – like Quantitative Biology – are rare in Germany. We are taking the lead here because we see it as an opportunity to play a role in shaping the future.

Citizens are actively involved in research at HHU.

We welcome collaboration

There are no easy solutions to complexity. But dialogue is a good start.

Facts or fake news? It's not always easy to tell at first glance. We contribute our findings to ongoing debates to aid evidence-based decision-making.

communicative,

Independent thinking

In the tradition of Heinrich Heine, we have brought the concept of the "Citizens' University" to life. Our namesake called upon enlightened citizens to get involved and play an active role in shaping the environment in which they lived. Empowerment, tolerance, freedom and knowledge are the optimum foundations for such engagement. In an age where untruths are declared to be "alternative facts" and scientific findings are dismissed as "fake news", these values cannot be taken for granted. As a university, we want to help empower people to form their own independent and unprejudiced opinions about research and social developments.

Knowledge for all

How can we achieve that? By entering into dialogue with government, business, culture and society. In online presentations, discussions, BarCamps and events like the "Night of Science", we provide insights into our research. On campus, at the *Haus der Universität* and at many other places in the city, we reflect on current scientific topics and discuss even polemical issues with citizens.

Top:
We have awarded the Heinrich Heine Guest Professorship to prominent public figures for more than 30 years.

Right:
The *Haus der Universität* in the centre of Düsseldorf.
HHU researchers are involved in the *"Wahl-O-Mat"* online voting advice application.

Benefits for everyone

We are keen to listen to other points of view as different perspectives drive new ideas. We conduct research in collaboration with citizens, collect data, evaluate documents and observe animals or plants. This also generates new knowledge and – just as valuable – trust in science.

Different perspectives drive new ideas.

Better decision-making

Whether genetic engineering in food, equal opportunities on the labour market, innovations in healthcare or new forms of citizen participation in politics, scientific expertise is critical for many decisions. We advise stakeholders from companies, politics and administration, organise forums and provide evidence-based knowledge.

interested, open

Shaping tomorrow

Creativity + drive = innovation. With an impact that reaches far beyond the campus.

Werft01 encourages HHU members to work in a flexible, agile and creative way. An optimum workspace for creating new solutions by taking a playful approach.

The future doesn't just happen – it's what we make of it. We develop ideas, concepts and technologies that benefit everyone. Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence (AI) play a key role, as does sustainable and altruistic behaviour, which is indispensable for us all.

Skills for tomorrow

An entire library and much more besides on a smartphone: The world in which we live and work is becoming increasingly digitalised, making it necessary to learn new skills. We utilise the technical opportunities available to provide teaching that gets students fit for the future.

Thanks to digital offerings, our students can learn when and where they choose, meaning that even those who cannot always be on campus for personal reasons can still achieve success. With offers such as "AI for all" we are going further and asking questions such as: What AI methods exist, how can I handle data appropriately and where do the legal and ethical boundaries lie?

open-minded, inspir

Focus on AI in research

Artificial Intelligence has fundamentally changed the way we work and how we live together as a community. This transformation has given rise to many interesting questions: Can AI support therapy decisions? How do algorithms influence political opinion forming? Will AI improve corporate compliance? Where do the legal boundaries for AI-controlled decision-making processes lie? Researchers from all five faculties are working together on an interdisciplinary basis to answer questions like these.

ing, pioneering

Integrated and sustainable

Sustainability in teaching, research and on campus is a key topic for everyone at HHU. The number of initiatives relating to diversity, environment and health aspects – for example eliminating discrimination, creating healthy work/study conditions and ensuring climate-friendly university operations – has been growing for years. At the beginning of 2021, we integrated all our sustainability management activities in the Heine-Center for Sustainable Development. As the central point of contact, it supports, manages and integrates all activities relating to our sustainability strategy, making it a good basis for achieving more together more quickly.

Boosting start-ups

Innovative research results and visionary developments generated at HHU deserve to find their way into society, so we do everything in our power to support promising business ideas. Our Center for Entrepreneurship provides advice and brings ideas to life. We have already helped many teams successfully establish their own businesses.

We develop ideas, concepts and technologies that will benefit us in the future.

Located on the river Rhine, Düsseldorf is lively, sociable and diverse. As the state capital, it is the political heart of North Rhine-Westphalia and one of the top-ranked business locations nationwide: an outstanding commercial hub, an internationally renowned trade fair location and an important financial centre. Around 38,000 companies here – and as many as 100,000 in the Rhine-Ruhr region as a whole – compete for skilled workers.

Düsseldorf has surprises in store for even the most seasoned travellers – with a renowned arts and cultural scene that includes numerous internationally respected institutions such as the Art Academy, outstanding culinary experiences and extensive leisure activities. With attractive parks and green spaces along the Rhine, Düsseldorf offers many oases for rest and relaxation. The city is tolerant and cosmopolitan, has a lively party scene and is a key location for the Rhineland Carnival celebrations – there's always something going on here.

Above all, however, Düsseldorf is home to more than 600,000 people from 184 countries. And here at Heinrich Heine University we contribute to that diversity. The University is firmly anchored in the city. The people here care about "their" HHU and support us in a variety of ways – which is a source of delight and pride for us.

Around 640,000
residents

184
nations

Up to 5 million
visitors a year

12
cinemas

11
concert and theatre stages

31
museums and collections

38,000
companies

22
universities and colleges

1
"Wissensregion"
("Knowledge Region")
initiative

364
sports clubs

More than 2,400
restaurants, cafés, bars
and clubs

KUNST BEFREIT!
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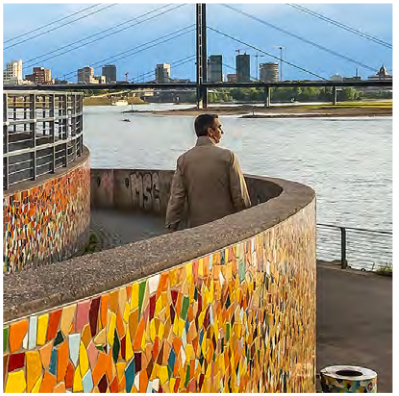
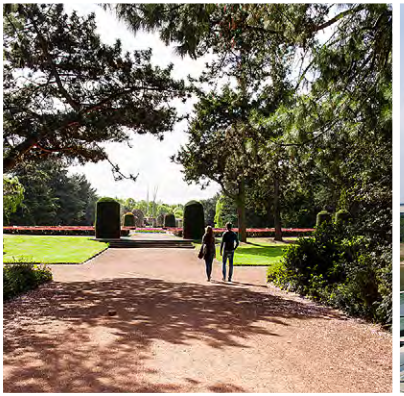
HEINE HAUS
LITERATURHAUS DÜSSELDORF
MÜLLER & BÖHM LITERATURHANDLUNG · LITERATURCAFÉ





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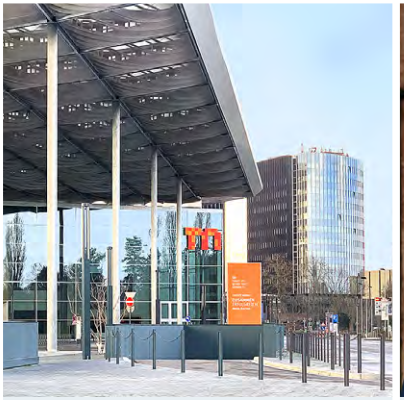

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Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf
Universitätsstraße 1
40225 Düsseldorf, Germany
www.hhu.de

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Contact

Events, Marketing and Fundraising Unit
kommunikation@hhu.de

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Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf
Universitätsstraße 1
40225 Düsseldorf, Germany

hhu.de