Technische Universität München

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Technische Universität München (TUM)

- Founded in 1868 by Kind Ludwig II of Bavaria, TUM has always focused on technology.
- TUM is the top-ranked university in Germany, the EU and #25 in the QS World University Rankings.
- Adolf Hurwitz studied Mathematics at TUM in 1877 and later went on to develop the Routh-Hurwitz criteria for polynomial stability.
- 45% of the students at TUM are international students, including exchange.
- TUM has several campuses, the two largest being the centre of Munich and Garching. The Garching campus is for the Natural Sciences and Engineering, including Mathematics. It is around 45 mins North of the city centre using public transport.

My studies

- My degree programme is MMath Mathematics with study year abroad. I took courses in Generalised Linear Models, Financial Mathematics, Applications of Mathematical Biology, Insurance Mathematics and others.
- I particularly enjoyed the insurance aspect of my study year abroad and being able to explore this area in great depth. The experience has further enabled me to decide on a future career path, as I now hope to become an Actuary.
- Courses belonging to the first two years of study are in German; courses beyond that including Masters are in either English or German.
- Some differences I encountered included more content per module due to the longer semesters, however, shorter exams. I also had an oral exam, which actually turned out to be one of my best results!
- The teaching was very similar to Bath, with lectures (1hr 30mins), exercise classes, problem sheets, and a final exam at the end of the semester usually worth the full grade.
- The university also offers language courses; I enjoyed being able to further develop my German skills.
- It is also possible to take some courses outside of your subject area.

Useful information

- The student Deutschlandticket (€43 per month) enables unlimited transport on all public transport in Germany, excluding high-speed trains. This made travel really accessible and easy throughout the year within Munich and beyond!
- The semester dates vary significantly from Bath. Exams can take place at any time outside of the lecture period. For Mathematics, the exams were typically within the first 3 weeks, however, for other degree programmes it can extend beyond this.
- Semester 1: 01.10.2025-31.03.2026 (Lecture period: 13.10.2025-06.02.2026)
- Semester 2: 01.04.2026-31.09.2026 (Lecture period: 13.04.2026-17.07.2026)
- ZHS is the University Sports Centre for all universities in Munich. I found it very competitive to obtain places on sports courses, therefore, it is important to check the sign-up dates and apply early, as they are usually before the semester starts.
- Bavaria has the most public holidays in all of Germany.
- In Bavaria, Sunday is known as Ruhetag; all shops are closed and people are expected to be quieter.
- It is really important to obtain a visa several months before going to Germany. The alternative is a residence permit obtained once you are in Germany; however, the waitlist for this is around a year and you cannot re-enter Germany without it!

My experience

- I applied for and was grateful to receive university accommodation for the duration of the year, living in the converted 1972 Olympic accommodation! It was affordable, unique and in an optimal location.
- The ESN TUMi events for Erasmus students were great, particularly at the beginning of the year. I was able to make amazing friends through this programme, as well as through ballet classes offered by ZHS.
- I was able to see so many incredible places throughout my study year abroad. Some locations I would recommend include: Schloss Neuschwanstein, Partnachtklamm Gorge, Dachau, Olympiadorf, The Englischer Garten (and swimming down the Eisbach), Garmisch Partenkirchen (for skiing) and the Allianz Arena.

Overall, I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to experience, live and study in Munich. Although some aspects of my year were challenging, I feel that I have benefitted in so many ways. I have become more confident, independent, and I look forward to visiting my friends there in the future. I also feel that my experience with Mathematics has been enhanced, as I am now more capable of problem-solving on my own. I would highly recommend Munich as a study year abroad destination. The city is very safe and there are so many historic and incredible locations to explore.

I am more than happy to answer any further questions. Email me at: **zo252@bath.ac.uk**

The parabolic slides in the maths building are based on the curve: $z = y = \frac{h}{d^2} \cdot x^2$

