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# SHORT DISTANCES BROAD HORIZONS

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PHILIPPS-UNIVERSITÄT MARBURG

A wide-angle photograph of a university campus under a clear blue sky. On the left is a modern building with a glass facade reflecting the sky and trees. On the right is a historic stone building with arched windows. In the center, a paved walkway leads towards a large green tree and a white building in the distance. Several people are walking or sitting on the ground in the foreground.



In 1527, the Philipps-Universität Marburg was founded by Landgrave Philipp of Hesse. It was the first-ever Protestant university, and as such, it played an important role in the educational revolution brought about by the Reformation. Apart from law and medicine, students in Marburg had the opportunity to study theology according to the teachings of the Protestant Church as well as to attend general courses offered by the Department of Philosophy. Philipp promoted open-mindedness, which – despite a number of changes and upheavals in the nearly 500 years of the university's existence – is still one of its core features.

The subjects taught at Philipps-Universität Marburg at the time of its foundation continue to be part of its broad range of degree programs in the humanities and natural sciences. Thanks to the variety of disciplines represented at the university, students and researchers can broaden their horizons by branching out into other fields, which in turn facilitates interdisciplinary cooperation.

Marburg combines an open-minded mentality with short distances. Newcomers to the city will soon feel at home and recognize familiar faces everywhere. The city boasts a wide variety of recreational and cultural activities and is extremely family friendly. If you love nature, the beauty of the region has plenty to offer. And if you miss the hustle-bustle of a big city once in a while, Frankfurt am Main is just an hour away.

The city's picturesque historic center, with its timbered houses and the Landgrafenschloss, Marburg's castle, also attracts many international students and researchers. The Philipps-Universität has lots of partnerships with higher education institutions from around the world. These international networks influence the way people think and behave both in the city and at the university.



# STUDYING WHAT'S DEAR TO YOUR HEART

**T**he Philipps-Universität offers about 130 degree programs. Our portfolio includes a broad range of bachelor's programs and programs that conclude with a state examination in Medicine, Pharmacy, Law or Dentistry. In addition, students can also pursue a master's degree in one of our highly specialized programs in Peace and Conflict Studies, Providing Literature in the Media or Biodiversity and Conservation as well as in our interdisciplinary neuroscience programs, among others. Aspiring secondary school teachers can choose from a total of 22 subjects.



### FOR A SUCCESSFUL START AT UNIVERSITY

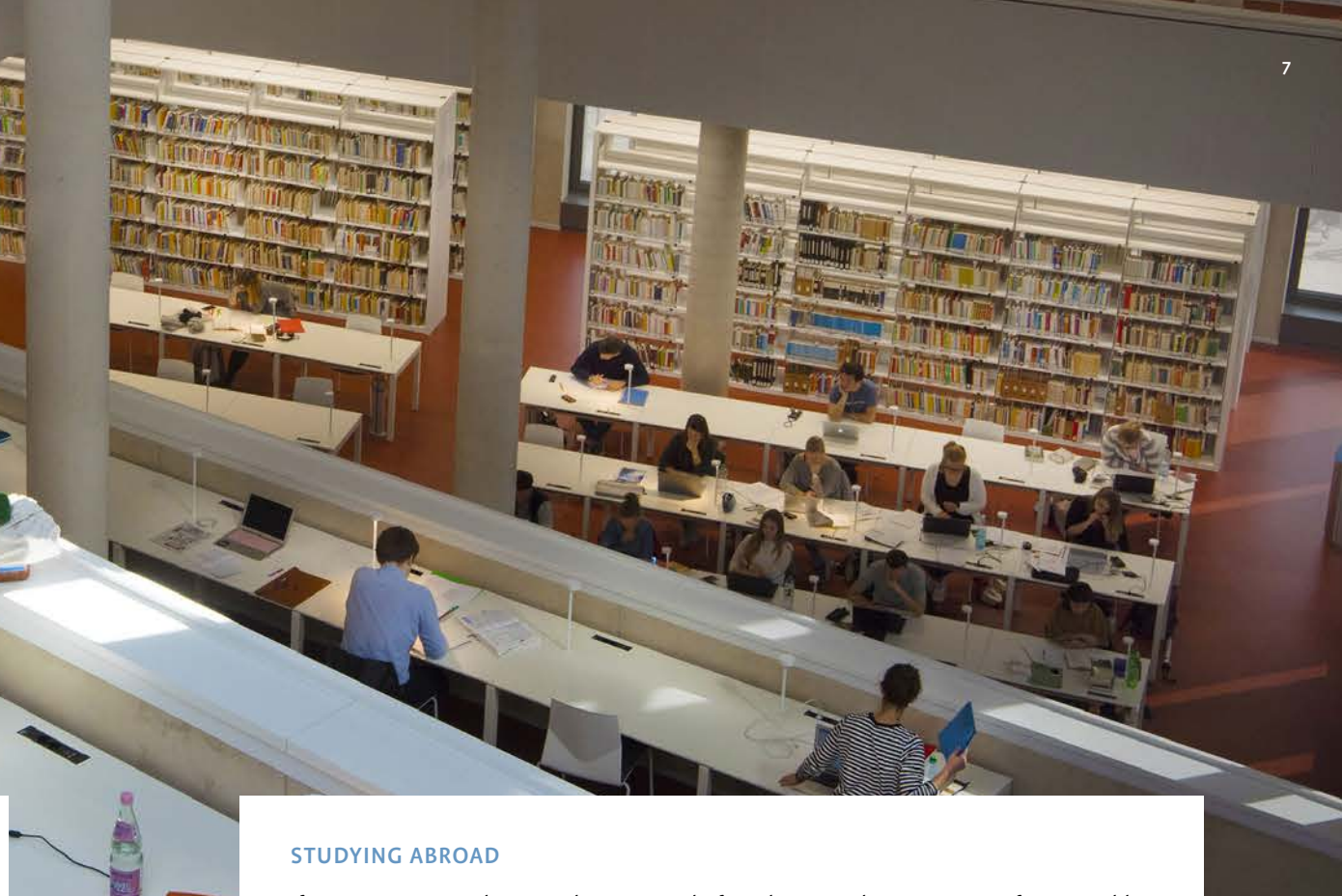
The university has put a great deal of effort into creating an excellent study environment so you can make the most of your studies with its »Für ein richtig gutes Studium« project. Among other things, it aims to help future students answer the question: which degree program is right for me? Prospective students can explore their personal strengths by taking several online tests on the university's website. The project also provides comprehensive information on available degree programs, offers personal advice and organizes events for high school students, who can also attend a taster course. If you are new to the Philipps-Universität, attending the orientation events (OE) will help you make friends in no time.

### EXCELLENT ADVICE

Students in need of information and advice can turn to the Central Student Advising Office (ZAS), which will help them choose a degree program or support them in periods of doubt or uncertainty. The Career Center accompanies students during their transition to the workplace. It offers personal support, organizes talks by practitioners and workshops on work-related key competences. In addition, it provides students with the opportunity to network with local companies.

### ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities or a chronic illness can turn to Student Disability Services (SBS) for advice on how to best organize their studies in order to meet their own special needs. The university also has a student residence that provides professional care for physically disabled students.



### STUDYING ABROAD

If you are interested in spending a period of study in another country or if you would like to come to Marburg from a foreign university, you can contact the International Office for qualified advice. The Philipps-Universität also offers programs with an international focus, such as the multidisciplinary master's program in Peace and Conflict Studies, which is taught exclusively in English. Graduates of this program are awarded a joint degree from the Philipps-Universität and the University of Kent. The international master's program in Functional Materials is designed for students from all over the world who are particularly interested in research.

### FIRST-RATE TEACHING

Several professors at the Philipps-Universität and their teams have been awarded the Ars Legendi Award for excellent teaching, which constitutes the highest honor a university teacher in Germany can receive. It was awarded to the university for its digital learning and teaching formats, for mathematics courses that illustrate mathematical problems in a very clear and succinct way, for medical training in outpatient treatment and for innovative examination methods. Furthermore, a student initiative at the Department of Law received an award from the Land of Hesse (Hessischer Lehrexzellenzpreis) for a project that trains observers of international criminal court proceedings.

More information:

[www.uni-marburg.de/en/studying](http://www.uni-marburg.de/en/studying)



# RESEARCH – JOINT EFFORTS, INTERDISCIPLINARY PROJECTS

**R**esearchers rarely gain insights into important and complex research questions on their own. Instead, they usually join forces with scholars from other fields and cooperate with partners from Germany and abroad.

## ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE

The Philipps-Universität's research focus on security, order and conflict is in line with the basic principle that a link must be established between the analysis of current political, economic and social challenges and research on long-term historical trends.

The Research Center Deutscher Sprachatlas, one of the world's oldest centers for linguistic research, examines how German dialects change over time. Researchers at the center also specialize in language acquisition and language processing in the brain.

Projects in the area of interdisciplinary neuroscience analyze the complex ways in which we use our senses to perceive our surroundings and how the brain processes experiences and translates them into actions. Studies at both the molecular and systemic level are aimed at understanding neurological and mental disorders and developing therapeutic approaches.



Physicists and chemists from Marburg team up to conduct research in materials science. They cover a broad spectrum of topics ranging from semiconductor interfaces to the development of functional materials, laying the groundwork for the communication and energy technologies of the future.

In bioscience and medicine, basic research on cell biology, microbiology and virology as well as tumor research and immunology are combined with applied research on infectious diseases and cancer. Scientists also work with highly pathogenic viruses, such as Ebola, and develop vaccines, which has attracted international attention.

Biologists, geographers, computer scientists and economists work together on topics relating to biodiversity and the climate. Apart from traveling to the world's highest mountains for their research, they also conduct local studies. They focus on how nature develops in a changing climate and look at the repercussions this has for society and the economy.

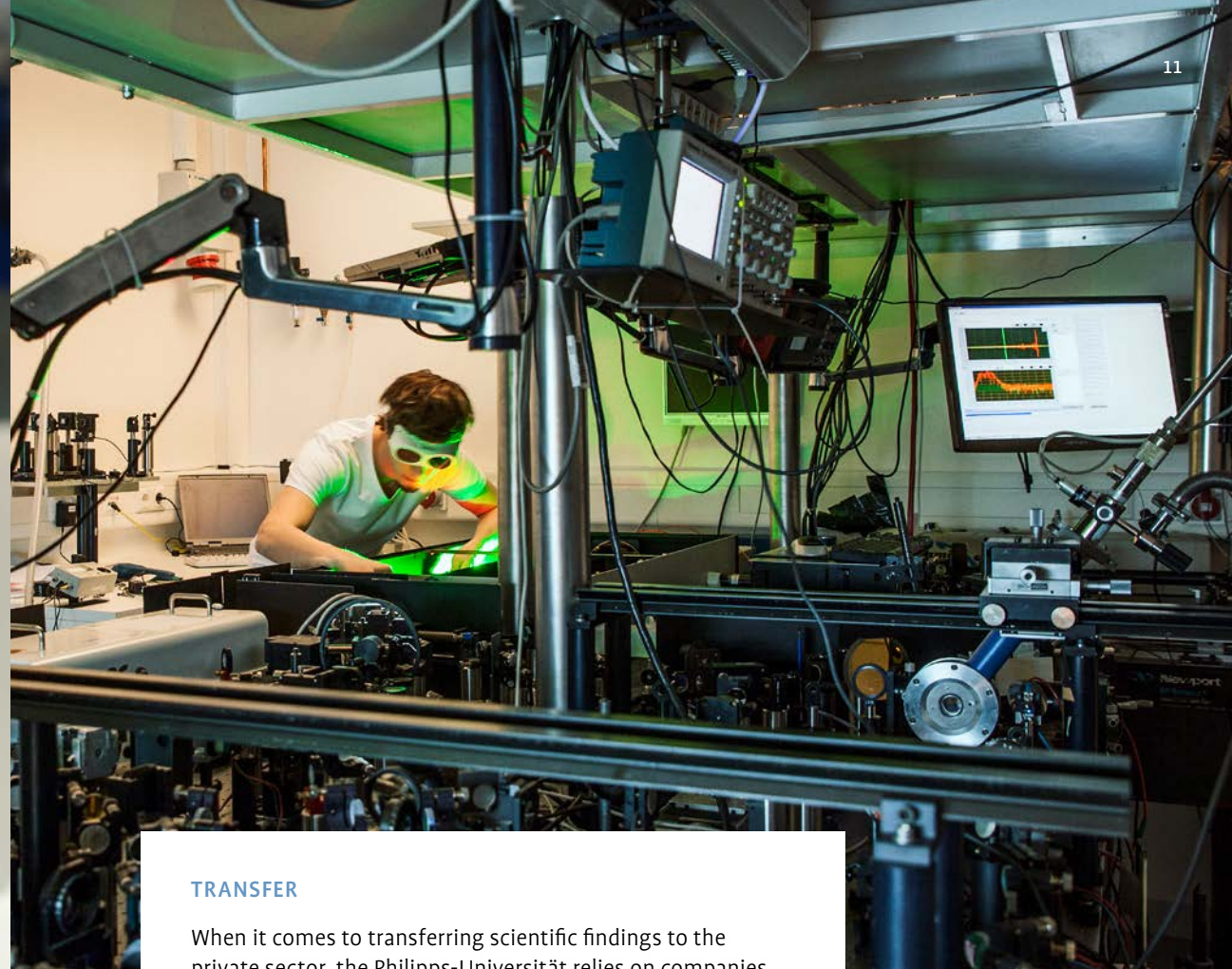
Using synthetic and analytical methods, the Center for Synthetic Microbiology (SYNMIKRO) analyzes the basic properties of cellular processes and develops procedures to enhance cells and their components with new functions. Along with the Philipps-Universität, the Max Planck Institute for Terrestrial Microbiology is one of the Center's stakeholders.



### REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS

Researchers based in Marburg are regionally and internationally connected. The partnership with the Justus Liebig University Giessen and the Technische Hochschule Mittelhessen is of particular importance. Together, the three universities have established the Research Campus of Central Hessen (FCMH). Numerous joint research activities have been incorporated into the nine Campus Research Foci, one of which is microbiology and virology.

The Philipps-Universität Marburg also cooperates with universities and research institutions from all over the world. The members of the university's departments are part of international research networks and engage in an active international exchange. Strategic partnerships are in place with universities in China and England.



### TRANSFER

When it comes to transferring scientific findings to the private sector, the Philipps-Universität relies on companies such as TransMIT GmbH. TransMIT, which is co-owned by the universities in Central Hesse, helps scholars and enterprises develop products and services based on their research. On behalf of the Philipps-Universität, it manages more than 500 patent applications. One of the many areas Marburg-based TransMIT projects focus on is radio-frequency engineering and laser technology.

The Marburg Centre for the Promotion of Entrepreneurs (MAFEX), which is incorporated in the Department of Business and Economics, supports start-ups and promotes innovation. In the past few years, MAFEX has helped launch about 500 start-up projects initiated by students and employees of the Philipps-Universität.



#### More information:

[www.uni-marburg.de/en/research](http://www.uni-marburg.de/en/research)

[www.fcmh.de/en](http://www.fcmh.de/en)

[www.uni-marburg.de/en/international](http://www.uni-marburg.de/en/international)

# PROMOTING TALENT

**D**octoral candidates and post-doctoral scholars make important contributions to research at the Philipps-Universität Marburg. Talented researchers from Germany and abroad will find themselves in a productive environment that promotes different academic career paths.

## ACADEMY FOR EARLY-STAGE RESEARCHERS

The MARburg University Research Academy (MARA) supports doctoral candidates and post-doctoral scholars throughout their academic training, helping them to acquire the qualifications they will need for their career and to establish themselves as professionals inside or outside of academia. MARA offers courses on research and teaching skills on the one hand and leadership and management skills on the other. Furthermore, it provides funding opportunities and consultation services and helps scholars establish valuable networks.



## INDIVIDUAL CAREER SUPPORT

In Marburg, you can choose from several doctoral programs in different areas, including business and economics, political science, psychology, pharmacy, mathematics and computer science. During your studies, you will be supported by a team of supervisors and attend courses on interdisciplinary topics. Doctoral candidates also work together in research training groups dedicated to specific fields of research.

Many top early-stage researchers decide to come to Marburg to pursue an academic career and eventually qualify for a professorship. Some of them have been accepted to the Emmy Noether or Heisenberg programs of the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG). In other cases, the Philipps-Universität has offered post-doctoral scholars with outstanding qualifications a tenure-track professorship.

As the Philipps-Universität Marburg is particularly devoted to promoting junior female researchers, it has joined the Mentoring Hessen program. Whether you are still a student or already on your way to becoming a professor, the program offers different lines of tailor-made support for any stage of your academic career.

### More information:

[www.uni-marburg.de/en/research/young-academics](http://www.uni-marburg.de/en/research/young-academics)  
[www.uni-marburg.de/en/mara](http://www.uni-marburg.de/en/mara)



# CAMPUS AND LIFE

**T**he Philipps-Universität has around 110 buildings scattered around town, many of which are protected historic buildings with their own special atmosphere, for example the Old University with its magnificent Aula.



## MODERN LEARNING FACILITIES

Not far from the Old University, you will also find a variety of brand-new buildings. The Campus Firmani, located in Lahn River Valley, incorporates many institutes belonging to the humanities and social sciences departments. The new University Library, which was inaugurated in 2018, is at the heart of the campus. With 1,250 study places, a media center and group study rooms, the library is a truly modern place of learning. There are also multiple new buildings on Campus Lahnberge, located in the near-by hills. The new chemistry building, the Center for Tumor Biology and Immunology (ZTI), the biosafety lab of the Institute of Virology and the Center for Synthetic Microbiology provide for an excellent work and study environment for natural and life science scholars.

## A VAST ARRAY OF INITIATIVES

Students who would like to engage in extracurricular activities can volunteer as student representatives or become members of one of over 40 student initiatives. Do you play an instrument? Why not join the student big band or an orchestra, such as the Studenten-Sinfonie-Orchester or the Junge Marburger Philharmonie? The university choir welcomes singers who are up for a challenge. For those interested in theater and film, there are several student groups worth checking out. The international theater project, Dramarasmus, for instance, is an integral part of Marburg's lively cultural scene. Students in Marburg also demonstrate a high level of social commitment: among the many organizations devoted to a good cause, one has developed a mentoring project for adolescents and several others support development cooperation projects or publish student magazines. A student management consultancy allows students from a variety of disciplines to gain practical experience. Each year, students from the Philipps-Universität Marburg also take part in the international iGEM (International Genetically Engineered Machine) competition, which provides student teams from different universities with the opportunity to compete in the field of synthetic biology.





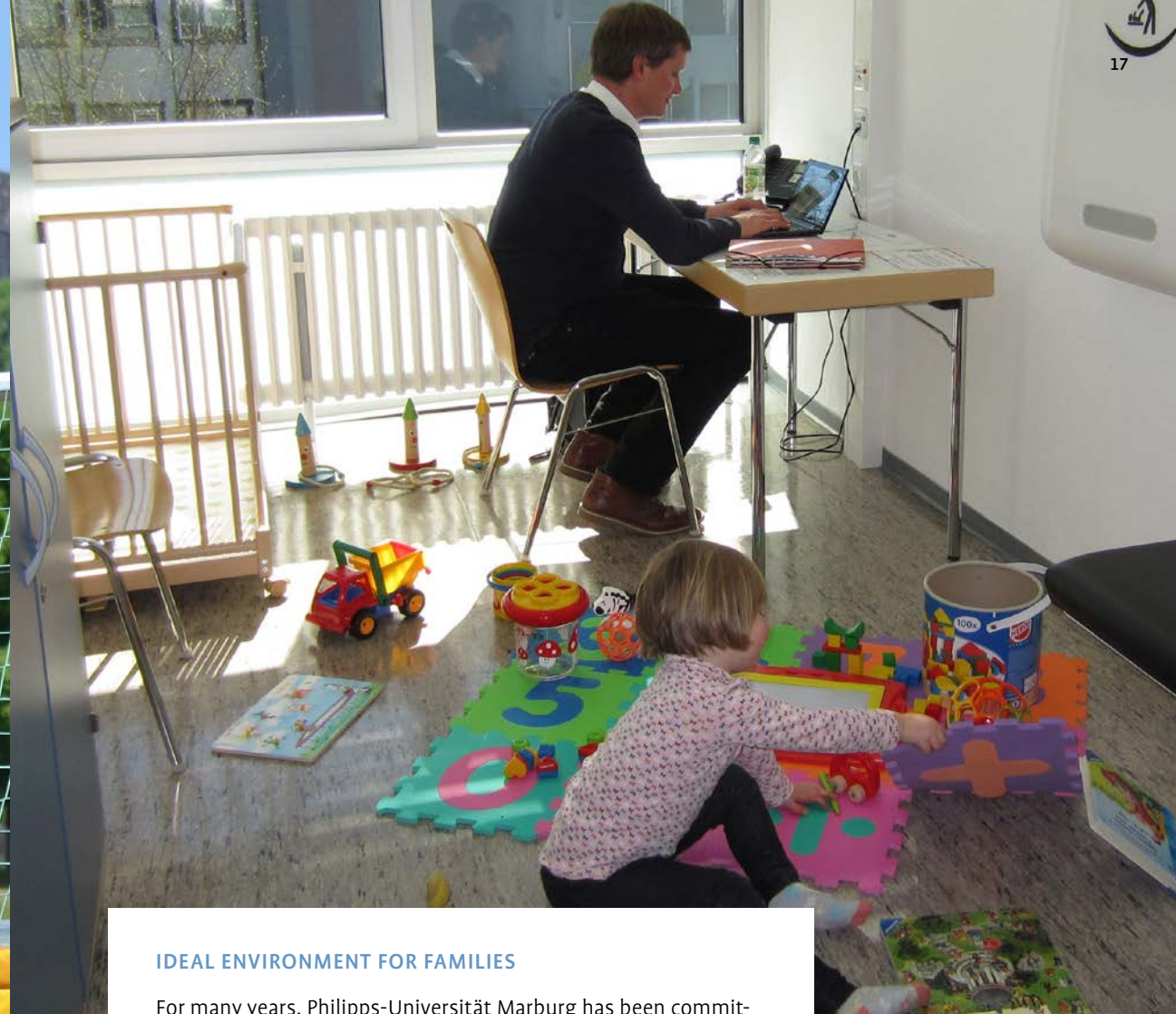
### ATHLETIC

If you like sports, you can choose from over 200 courses offered by the University Sports Center each semester. You can also try out new activities at the sports day. University teams participate in national and international university championships in soccer, basketball, tennis, horseback riding, rowing or mountain biking, to name but a few. Competitive athletes can count on the university for support, so they can focus on their studies while remaining fully committed to their athletic careers.

The Philipps-Universität owns a house at the Edersee reservoir which provides ideal conditions for all those practicing water sports. The house with a lake view can also be used for other events or as the starting point for hiking or bike tours.

**More information:**

[www.uni-marburg.de/en/studying/life-at-umr/activities/recreation](http://www.uni-marburg.de/en/studying/life-at-umr/activities/recreation)



### IDEAL ENVIRONMENT FOR FAMILIES

For many years, Philipps-Universität Marburg has been committed to creating an environment where maintaining a family and studying are compatible with each other. In 2015, these efforts were rewarded when it was certified as a family-friendly university in the Land of Hesse. The university offers parents assistance and advice on all questions relating to studying with children. Among other things, it has day cares and offers child care during semester breaks, a babysitter exchange and parent and child rooms as well as financial support for parents during the period of their final examinations or the final stages of their doctorate or habilitation. If you care for a relative, the university can refer you to a specialist on this topic. Members of the university can turn to our special counselor for all care-related issues who will advise them on how to strike a balance between their duties as a caring relative on the one hand and those as a student or employee on the other.

# CITY AND UNIVERSITY

**O**ne third of Marburg's approximately 75,000 inhabitants are students. It is therefore no surprise that many of the city's events revolve around the university.

With five museums and 29 scientific collections, among other aspects, the university forms an important part of Marburg's cultural landscape. The university's art museum is the only museum of fine arts in Central Hesse. It displays valuable pieces on the history of European art, spanning the period from the early modern era to the present day, as well as pieces on the history of Hesse.



## INSTRUCTIONAL OASES ALL OVER THE CITY

The Philipps-Universität Marburg has two botanical gardens, an old one (Alter Botanischer Garten) and a new one (Neuer Botanischer Garten). The old botanical garden, which was created at the end of the 18th century, is located right next to the new University Library. It covers an area of 3.6 hectares and is a popular retreat for Marburg's inhabitants. With an area of 20 hectares, the new botanical garden in the Lahnberge hills is a haven for nature lovers. It features a rhododendron forest and a collection of ferns planted along a ravine as well as alpine plants and rocks. Plants from all over the world – e.g. from the Canary Islands or tropical rainforests – grow in the garden's greenhouses, among them impressive giant water lilies. The new garden also hosts the Grüne Schule, where children and adolescents are introduced to the wonderful world of plants and flowers.

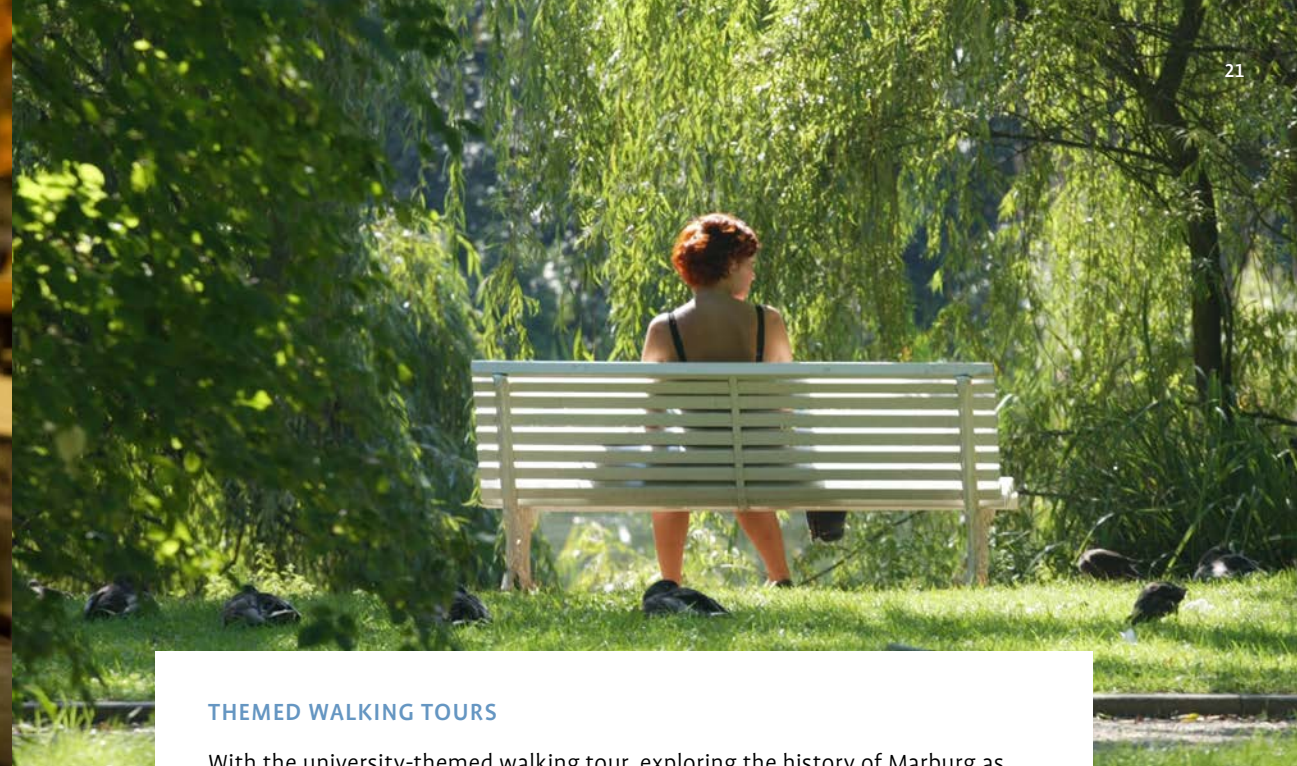


### SCIENCE IN ACTION

The hands-on laboratory, Chemikum, familiarizes children, adolescents and adults with the diverse phenomena of chemistry and, more generally, with the methods used in natural sciences – for example in its Crime Lab. The experiments, which are both fascinating and educational, are jointly developed by the departments of Chemistry, Biology, Physics and Pharmacy.

### WELCOME TO MARBURG!

Each year at the beginning of the winter semester, the Philipps-Universität, Student Services and the municipality of Marburg co-host a welcome dinner to greet all newly arrived students. It is held in the university canteen (Mensa), which is transformed into a banquet hall by Student Services for this special occasion. The evening, with its good food and abundant opportunities to mingle with other guests, is meant to help students feel at home from day one. The city also organizes welcome receptions specifically for international students and visiting scholars.



### THEMED WALKING TOURS

With the university-themed walking tour, exploring the history of Marburg as a university town takes about 90 minutes. The route, which was developed by the municipal Department of Cultural Affairs, starts at the Old University and leads you to 18 landmarks. If you want to learn more about Emil von Behring and his influence on Marburg, you can embark on the Behring-themed walking tour, which was created by the city in cooperation with the university and includes 12 stops. Behring, a future laureate of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, came to Marburg in 1895 and initially worked as a professor of hygienics. Later, he became an entrepreneur and city councilor.

### STUDIUM GENERALE AND MORE

The Philipps-Universität Marburg organizes numerous lectures and events for the wider public. One of the most well-known is the Studium Generale lecture series, which is hosted by a different department each semester.

Since 2001, the city and the university have presented the Marburg Camera Award for nationally and internationally outstanding visuals in cinema and TV every March. Cinema enthusiasts can take part in discussions in the run-up to the awards ceremony, the Marburg Camera Talks, and attend screenings of the award winners' films, thereby receiving intriguing insights into the art of cinematography.

Members of the university regularly organize a summer party at the Landgrafenschloss with a varied program, including entertainment performances and science demonstrations, for everyone living in Marburg.

## Philipps-Universität Marburg in Figures

### ACADEMICS

26,355 students in the 2017/18 winter semester, 55% of whom were women, and 6,035 students in the first semester of their degree program

14% international students from 132 countries

132 degree programs

3,276 graduates in the 2016 academic year

504 doctorates awarded in 2016

### RESEARCH

12 winners of the Leibniz Prize (awarded by the German Research Foundation, DFG)

8 collaborative research centers (5 as host university), 8 research units (host university) and 4 research training groups, all of them funded by the DFG

6 LOEWE Research Centers and Research Clusters funded by the Land of Hesse (LOEWE stands for »Landes-Offensive zur Entwicklung Wissenschaftlich-ökonomischer Exzellenz« and translates into English as State Campaign for Developing Scientific and Economic Excellence)

12 collaborative projects funded by the European Union (EU)

7 other types of research funding provided by the EU, including 2 ERC Grants, 2 Marie Curie Individual Fellowships and 3 Marie Curie Innovative Training Networks (EU research training groups)

(As of May 2018)

### FINANCES

351.2 million euros available in 2017 (official budget), 69.9 million euros of which from third-party funds

### INTERNATIONAL

300 collaborations with foreign universities

3 strategic partnerships with universities in England and China

6 master's programs taught in English

### STAFF

363 professors (including those at the University Hospital of Giessen and Marburg, UKGM)

1,890 academic staff members (excluding UKGM)

1,818 staff members with administrative and technical functions (excluding UKGM)

565 academic staff members engaged in secondary employment at the university

4,636 staff members in total

(Number of people: as of December 2017)

### ORGANIZATION

16 departments

9 research centers

### BUILDINGS

110 buildings for teaching and research, 59 of which are protected historic buildings

436,334 sqm in floor space

## Important Addresses

### Philipps-Universität Marburg

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[www.twitter.com/Uni\\_MR](https://www.twitter.com/Uni_MR)  
[www.instagram.com/philippsunimarburg/](https://www.instagram.com/philippsunimarburg/)

### Zentrale Allgemeine Studienberatung

(Central Student Advising Office)  
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[www.facebook.com/StudierenInMarburg/](https://www.facebook.com/StudierenInMarburg/)

### Internationale Angelegenheiten und Familienservice

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### MARburg University Research Academy (MARA)

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### Studentenwerk Marburg

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### Allgemeiner Student/innen-Ausschuss (ASTA)

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[www.uni-marburg.de/de/studium/service/sbs](http://www.uni-marburg.de/de/studium/service/sbs)

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