



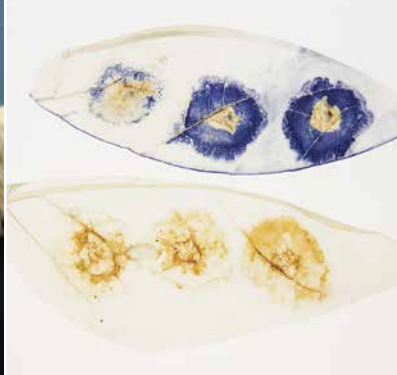
Science in Halle

Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina and Research Institutes

International Office

MARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITÄT
HALLE-WITTENBERG





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Foreword

Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, the oldest and largest university in Saxony-Anhalt, was created in 1817 when the University of Wittenberg (founded in 1502) merged with Friedrichs University Halle (founded in 1694). We are proud to look back on a tradition of excellence in teaching. Today the university has around 20,000 students and 340 professors. Students can choose between a wide range of academic subjects in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and medicine.

Remaining true to its rich academic history, the university decided to focus on four core research areas. These core research areas reflect the motto of Halle University: "Progress based on tradition". Interdisciplinary and international research teams work on innovative research topics and questions. The overall mission of their work and their activities is to contribute both to the advancement of science and the well-being of society.

Furthermore, the University laid the foundation for a successful and constantly increasing network of research institutions in the city and in the region. As a result of this constant progress, nowadays seven internation-

ally renowned research institutes are located in Halle, including two Max Planck Institutes, one Fraunhofer Institute, one Helmholtz Centre and three Leibniz Institutes. Research collaborations with these non-university research institutions, which are characterized by an excellent infrastructure, well-equipped research facilities and a high proportion of international staff, make Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg all the more attractive to scientists and researchers from all over the world.

What makes Halle truly unique in the German research landscape is the National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. This internationally acclaimed institution was established in 1652 and relocated to Halle in 1878, where it has been based ever since. In 2008 the Leopoldina was declared the German National Academy of Sciences under the patronage of the Federal President of Germany.

One important mission of Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg is to support international exchange and attract excellent students and junior and senior researchers from all corners of the world to Halle. We hope this

brochure inspires you to come to our University or to one of the research institutes linked with the university. The hometown of Georg Friedrich Händel has much to offer – it is easy to get around, has plenty of parks and charming Wilhelminian-era houses, and offers affordable cost of living. It is idyllically located along the Saale River, has a diverse cultural scene, and its people are friendly, too. The state of Saxony-Anhalt also has a rich cultural heritage that is well worth exploring, with several UNESCO World Heritage Sites located nearby.

We look very much forward to welcoming you soon in Halle.

Prof. Dr. Christian Tietje

Rector

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Paul

Vice Rector for Research

Teaching and Research at Halle University

The city of Halle and its surrounding area has a rich tradition as a center for science and research, and is an important driver of scientific and intellectual advancement throughout the region and beyond. The centerpiece of this science and research hub is Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU), founded as a union of the Halle and Wittenberg universities. The reformer Martin Luther, Friedrich Schleiermacher, a leader in the field of hermeneutics, the physician Emil Adolf von Behring and the physicist Gustav Hertz are among the great minds that have made their mark here.

Today, MLU is the oldest and largest university in the German state of Saxony-Anhalt. Since the German reunification in 1989/90, many of the university buildings have been rebuilt and the academic faculties and institutes have been refitted with state-of-the-art technology and equipment. The university library, which also serves as the state library, contains over 5.5 million media items and is the largest general library for science and research in Saxony-Anhalt.

MLU's research profile includes four core research areas in the natural sciences, humanities and social sciences as well as over 15 Interdisciplinary Scientific Centres (Interdisziplinäre Wissenschaftliche Zentren). These research networks bring together researchers from various faculties and work closely with research institutes (see pages 36-49).

THE CORE RESEARCH AREAS AT MLU

- ▶ Materials Science – Nanostructural Materials
- ▶ Biological Sciences – Structures and Mechanisms of Biological Information Processing
- ▶ Enlightenment – Religion – Knowledge
- ▶ Society and Culture in Motion.
Diffusion – Experiment – Institution

Scientific Centers (Wissenschaftliche Zentren)

These Interdisciplinary Scientific Centers (Interdisziplinäre Wissenschaftliche Zentren) provide ideal working conditions for researchers from around the world: scientific interaction and exchange and a top-notch technical infrastructure. They focus on interdisciplinary themes such as the European Enlightenment or issues at the interface of medicine, ethics and law. The centers bundle research activity in the life sciences, material sciences and agricultural sciences, and provide state-of-the-art research infrastructure as well as technical service.



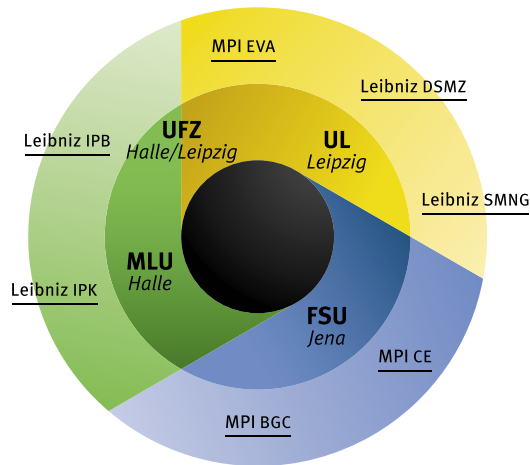
Connected – Regionally and Internationally

University Alliance Halle-Jena-Leipzig (Universitätsverbund Halle-Jena-Leipzig)

Since 1995, MLU has worked closely with the Friedrich Schiller University Jena and the Universität Leipzig, particularly in the natural sciences and medicine. The University Alliance (Universitätsverbund) conducts international-level research. Examples of this include protein and biodiversity research, physics of interfaces, and regenerative medicine.

In 2012 the three universities founded the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv), which is a hub for national and international biodiversity science. More than 350 employees and members are based primarily in Halle, Jena and Leipzig. Here, researchers from 30 nations establish the scientific basis for the sustainable management of our earth planet's biodiversity.

→ www.idiv.de



MLU and the private sector

MLU cooperates with prestigious companies from around the region to foster its research, teaching and promotion of young researchers. Partners include SKW Piesteritz GmbH, Germany's most important ammonia and urea manufacturer, Dow Olefinverbund GmbH, subsidiary of the multinational Dow Chemical Company and largest employer in Central Germany, as well as Bayer Bitterfeld, a large pharmaceutical company. MLU is also partner with Central Germany's largest technology park, TGZ Halle Technology and Founders' Centre GmbH (TGZ Halle Technologie- und Gründerzentrum Halle GmbH) and the Bio-Centre Halle GmbH (Bio-Zentrum Halle GmbH). There, together with companies from the private sector, MLU works to develop new products in the areas of biotechnology, medical engineering and software.

Regional Research Networks – International visibility

Researchers and scientists from MLU's faculties and scientific centers unite with their colleagues from non-university research institutes to form Research Networks (Forschungsnetzwerke), thus increasing Halle's international visibility as a research center. One of these research networks is the ScienceCampus Plant-based Bioeconomy (WissenschaftsCampus Pflanzenbasierte Bioökonomie), established in 2011.

BIOECONOMY: FROM MOLECULE TO SOCIETY

At the ScienceCampus Plant-based Bioeconomy (WissenschaftsCampus Pflanzenbasierte Bioökonomie), agronomists, biologists, biochemists and biotechnologists come together with environmental scientists, social scientists and economists to collaborate on research and drive new developments in bioeconomy. They bring together the micro-level of biological processes (genes, proteins and metabolites) with the macro-level, i.e. the social and economic relevance of innovations and innovation potential of a plant-based bioeconomy.

→ www.sciencecampus-halle.de

1 Faculty of Theology

With Luther and Melanchthon among its first professors, the Faculty of Theology at Martin Luther University was the first Faculty of Protestant Theology world-wide, and it has a unique tradition. In 1817, with the unification of the universities of Wittenberg and Halle, the heritage of Luther's Wittenberg was enriched with Halle's spirit of pietism, enlightenment, and progressive thinking, represented among others by such famous theologians like August Hermann Francke, Friedrich Schleiermacher and Wilhelm Gesenius.

Today, the faculty with its ten chairs and an extensive teaching body, covers the different fields of theology. Situated in the unique environment of Francke Foundations (see page 33) the faculty offers modern conditions and close contact to the academic staff, lecturers and professors. It participates at the Interdisciplinary Centres for Pietism Research, European Enlightenment Studies, and Medicine – Ethics – Law. It also has a close collaboration with the Institute for Oriental studies, and the Faculty of Law.

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2 Faculty of Law, Economics and Business

MLU's law program has received merits both on national and international levels. The law school, with its long tradition since 1502, distinguishes itself in four specific fields being international business law, medicine, ethics and law, law and digitization, and principles of law and social cohesion.

The law school offers high ranking law courses as well as LL.M. programs in international business law and in medicine, ethics and law. A prize-winning library with convenient working hours, WLAN and database access provide ideal research conditions.

The School of Business and Economics includes 21 chairs in business administration, economics and business information systems. Research is centered around questions of governance and organized into three main areas:

- ▶ Economic Governance: Circle of theory, modelling, empirical evaluation, policy advice, evidence based inference; in cooperation with the Halle Institute for Economic Research (see page 40),
- ▶ Financial Governance: Continuous steering and control of enterprises and organizations, aiming at maximizing their financial performance, and
- ▶ Business & IT Governance: Steering and control processes within enterprises and organizations, incorporating external stakeholders.

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“ I came to Halle as Associate Professor two years ago. Before, I studied law in Baku, Heidelberg and Kiel, have been visiting researcher in Russia and in the USA and practiced law in Moscow.

I loved Halle from the very first day. In my honest opinion, Halle is one of the most underappreciated cities in Europe. The Campus of the Law School is located in the heart of the old city and is an amazing combination of traditional and modern architecture. This combination also perfectly describes the philosophy of our Law School: more than 500 years of history, top ranked among the Law Schools in Germany, excellent research possibilities and strong international focus.

The most impressive part of the University is however the people here. I have seen great support from my professor colleagues and everyone at Dean's Office, International Office and Family Office since the very first day at the MLU.

I am very glad to be part of the Law School of the Martin Luther University and enjoy the perfect research and teaching environment and very comfortable family life in Halle. ”

Jun.-Prof. Dr. Azar Aliyev, LL.M.

**Junior Professor for International Business Law and Comparative Law,
Faculty of Law, Economics and Business**



3 Faculty of Medicine

Along with the faculties of Theology, Law, Economics and Business, the Faculty of Medicine is among the original faculties from the universities of Wittenberg and Halle. It consists of 17 institutes, 29 clinics with supporting structures and offers human medicine, dentistry, health sciences and nursing sciences. The university clinic, which was expanded and fully renovated, offers state-of-the-art patient care in all specialties, and has special focuses on oncological diseases, vascular medicine and aging, resulting in several

interdisciplinary research consortia. Research within the Faculty of Medicine consists of two focus areas: Epidemiology and nursing research, as well as molecular medicine of signal transduction. Two Research Training Groups (RTG1591 and RTG2155) are funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) at the Medical Faculty.

Members of MLU's medical faculty cooperate with the Faculties of Natural Sciences I, II (e.g. in the collaborative RTG 2467) and non-university research facilities. Examples of this include the Interdisciplinary Centre for Medicine – Ethics – Law, the university's Interdisciplinary Centre on Aging in Halle (IZAH), as well as the Protein Research Center "Charles Tanford".

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4

Faculty of Philosophy I –

Social Sciences and Historical Cultural Studies

The Faculty of Philosophy I includes numerous academic disciplines distributed across eight institutes. The faculty covers the social sciences (Sociology, Political Science, Psychology) as well as historical and cultural studies (Classical Studies, History, Art History, Archaeology). It also includes Social Anthropology, Philosophy, Japanese Studies and Oriental Studies (including Arabic Studies, Islamic Studies, Jewish Studies, Armenien Studies or South Asian Studies).

Accordingly, the faculty includes a broad range of possible majors and research projects. Along with their respective areas of specialization, the social and cultural scientists of the Faculty of Philosophy I also participate in cross-disciplinary research projects and collaborate with colleagues from the university's other faculties. In this way, the Faculty of Philosophy I plays an important role in two out of MLU's four core research areas: "Society and Culture in Motion. Diffusion – Experiment – Institution" as well as "Enlightenment – Religion – Knowledge".

The Faculty of Philosophy I is also involved in several of MLU's interdisciplinary centers, including the Centre for Interdisciplinary Area Studies – Middle East, Africa, Asia/ZIRS (Zentrum für Interdisziplinäre Regionalstudien – Vorderer Orient, Afrika, Asien), which bundles the research activities of the Regional Studies institutions. Historians, philosophers, political scientists and psychologists research learning processes and educational programs in collaboration with the internationally networked Center for School and Educational Research/ZSB (Zentrum für Schul- und Bildungsforschung).

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5 Faculty of Philosophy II – Languages & Literatures, Communication Studies and Musicology

The Faculty of Philosophy II includes primarily humanities and social science disciplines and consists of six institutes covering English Studies, American Studies, German Studies, Romance Studies, Slavic Studies and Speech Science and Phonetics (Seminar für Sprechwissenschaft und Phonetik), as well as Media and Communications Studies and Sports.

The largest institute is the Institute for Music (Institut für Musik) with the departments Music Education and Musicology. The oldest among them – the Institute for Speech Science and Phonetics, founded in 1905 – offers the only consecutive BA/MA program in speech science in all of Germany.

The faculty is focused primarily on teacher training, but also offers Master's programs such as Applied Sports Psychology (Angewandte Sportpsychologie) or Intercultural European and American Studies (Interkulturelle Europa- und Amerikastudien) as well as the doctoral program Language – Literature – Society (Sprache – Literatur – Gesellschaft).

Along with the research conducted within their own departments, members of the faculty also take part in numerous collaborative research projects, for example the Interdisciplinary Centre for European Enlightenment

Studies (Interdisziplinäres Zentrum für die Erforschung der Europäischen Aufklärung), which combines research conducted in this area by the three faculties Theology, Philosophy I and Philosophy II. The Center for United States Studies (Zentrum für USA-Studien), founded in 1995, conducts research on American history, culture, politics and society. As part of the faculty's own internal research projects, its specialists in language/literature and communication studies examine traditions of knowledge and transformation processes, socio-cultural processes, as well as the optimization and the mediality of modern mass phenomena.

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6 Faculty of Philosophy III – Educational Sciences

The Faculty of Philosophy III offers a full-fledge degree program in the educational sciences and is MLU's faculty responsible for teacher education/training. As such, research within the faculty covers both basic research in the educational sciences as well as application-oriented and development-oriented research. Its six areas of research focus are

- ▶ Childhood studies; youth studies
- ▶ Professions in education
- ▶ Educational and social welfare system institutions
- ▶ Educational interactions
- ▶ Cultural education research
- ▶ Prevention, rehabilitation and health

The interdisciplinary Research Unit on Mechanisms of Elite Formation in the German Educational System (Forscherguppe "Mechanismen der Elite-bildung im deutschen Bildungssystem") was established in 2011, together with the Center for School and Educational Research (Zentrum für Schul- und Bildungsforschung).

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“ My early studies in philosophy, theology, classical Mediterranean and Oriental Christian languages, and art and cultural history had taken me from Würzburg in southern Germany to Vaduz in Liechtenstein, then Austin, Texas, in the United States, Fribourg in Switzerland, and Washington DC, in the US. The fascination of unusual research questions has taken me further, to Australia, India, and numerous sites in the Middle East and the Caucasus.

I love discovery, best carried out through meeting people from all over history and reading about their manifold experiences. MLU's Oriental Institute with its rich resources for philological and historical work on the wider Near East and with its growing, inquisitive, well-connected, dynamic, and inspiring network of junior and senior scholars is absolutely unique. It is the only academic institution in all of Germany that gives students the chance to study the full spectrum of the Near Eastern, Oriental traditions and many of the relevant languages, with their cultures and history, from Jewish, Christian, and Islamic perspectives.

When I began teaching here in the Fall of 2016, I knew right from the start that my life's dream was about to become true. I feel very lucky, since I am still living that dream! ”

Prof. Dr. Cornelia Horn, Heisenberg Professor of Languages and Cultures of the Christian Orient, Chair of the Department of Oriental Christian and Byzantine Studies, Director of the Oriental Institute, Faculty of Philosophy I

7 Faculty of Natural Sciences I – Biological Sciences

The Faculty of Natural Sciences I comprises the Institute of Biochemistry and Biotechnology, the Institute of Biology and the Institute of Pharmacy. All three institutes are located on the all new science campus, together with the other natural science faculties. The campus' modern building facilities and outstanding infrastructure offer excellent research conditions and an environment that fosters scientific exchange and interdisciplinary collaboration. The close proximity of the Weinberg Campus Technology Park (Technologiepark Weinberg Campus) and its numerous non-university research institutes provides great opportunities for high-level, international research collaborations.

The Faculty of Natural Sciences I has two core research areas: Protein Biochemistry/Proteomics, which is being expanded to form the focus area "Biomedical Life Science Halle" together with the Faculty of Medicine, and Plant Research. Both research areas are strengthened by a strategic network that includes the Leibniz Institute of Plant Biochemistry Halle (Leibniz-Institut für Pflanzenbiochemie Halle), the Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research Gatersleben (Leibniz-Institut für Pflanzengenetik und Kulturpflanzenforschung Gatersleben), the Universities of Leipzig und Jena,

the Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies/ IAMO (Leibniz-Institut für Agrarentwicklung in Transformationsökonomien) the Julius Kühn-Institut (JKI), Federal Research Center for Cultivated Plants in Quedlinburg (Julius-Kühn-Institut (JKI), Bundesforschungsinstitut für Kulturpflanzen in Quedlinburg) and the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research Halle/Leipzig (Helmholtz-Zentrum für Umweltforschung UFZ Halle/Leipzig). Researchers from across disciplines work in close collaboration by way of DFG-funded Collaborative Research Centers (Sonderforschungsbereiche) and working groups and in the Interdisciplinary Centre for Crop Research/IZN (Interdisziplinäres Zentrum für Nutzpflanzenforschung) and the new ScienceCampus Halle (WissenschaftsCampus Halle; see page 9). Protein Chemistry/Proteomics is seated firmly in an application-based approach and is therefore linked to several companies in the region.

The Faculty of Natural Sciences I is involved in several large-scale projects within the university. In 2018, the Charles Tanford Protein Center was opened on the science campus. It unites various working groups of biology, biochemistry and biotechnology, pharmacy and medicine under one roof and offers state-of-the-art research conditions and opportunities for interdisciplinary coope-

ration. Faculty I scientists also belong to Central Germany's Leading Edge BioEconomy Cluster (Spitzencluster Bioökonomie), with MLU responsible for teaching and training within the cluster. The faculty also collaborates with the universities of Leipzig and Jena as well with non-university research institutions in Central Germany in Germany's one and only German Centre of Integrative Biodiversity Research – iDiv (see page 8).

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“ I am Fidele Ntie Kang from University of Buea (Cameroon). My first visit to Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg was in May 2011 as a visiting DAAD-funded Ph.D. student. This period of 7 months left a strong impression of the German rigour, quest for excellence, and work ethic in my mind. I did meet friendly colleagues and enjoyed the international community in my research group at the Institute of Pharmacy. English was generally spoken at the workplace, so I could easily “fit it”. Besides, colleagues willingly assisted me in the administrative routines that required a working knowledge of German. It turned out that this initial visit was quite rewarding and the continuous collaboration with my host professor led to several joint publications, even when I returned to Cameroon. I later got the PhD in Cameroon and was supported by my host professor to apply for the prestigious Georg Forster postdoctoral fellowship funded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. During this extended period of 3 years of postdoctoral research, I was able to get the required results for the German Habilitation. ”

**Dr. Fidele Ntie Kang, Alexander von Humboldt Visiting Return Scholar,
Institute of Pharmacy, Faculty of Natural Sciences I**

“ Before I came to Halle in 2009, I had been at the University of Birmingham as a postdoc, and it was quite a change to go from a big Mathematics department to a rather small institute. But this size has its advantages: we know each other well within the research groups and there is a lot of direct contact with the students, particularly the postgraduate students. The classes in advanced courses are small, which gives room for discussion. At the same time the institute is lively in the sense that we host conferences and we frequently have international guests for collaboration. ”

**Prof. Dr. Rebecca Waldecker, Institute for Mathematics,
Faculty of Natural Sciences II**



Faculty of Natural Sciences II – Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics

The Faculty of Natural Sciences II comprises the Institute of Chemistry, the Institute of Physics, and the Institute of Mathematics. Research and teaching within and between the three disciplines are strongly linked. With Materials Science being one of Martin Luther University's main research fields, the faculty's primary focus is research related to Nanostructured Materials, pursued in four different topical areas:

- ▶ Functional Solid Interfaces
- ▶ Nanostructured Polymers and Soft Matter
- ▶ Photovoltaics/Renewable Energies
- ▶ Biorelevant Materials and Molecules

These research activities have many links to Molecular Biosciences, MLU's other main research field in the sciences. While the Institute of Chemistry focuses on the synthesis and characterization of complex materials and on the chemistry of bio-relevant substances, the Institute of Physics is specialized in hard and soft condensed matter physics research. The Institute of Mathematics focuses on modeling, analysis and simulation of complex systems.

In each area, individual research is complemented by large-scale collaborative projects funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), the Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and programs of the European Union. A significant part of the faculty's research is performed in collaboration with external partner institutions located on Halle's Weinberg Campus. These include the Max Planck Institute of Microstructure Physics, the Interdisciplinary Center of Materials Science, the Fraunhofer Institute for Mechanics of Materials, the Fraunhofer Center for Silicon Photovoltaics, the Fraunhofer Pilot Plant Center for Polymer Synthesis and Processing, the Leibniz Institute of Plant Biochemistry and the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (see pages 36-49).

The faculty's dedication to educating young scientists and school teachers is reflected in a variety of undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate study programs. These are providing a broad education in their respective fields in the undergraduate studies, and become increasingly more focused on the local research areas within the graduate and postgraduate studies.

Contact:

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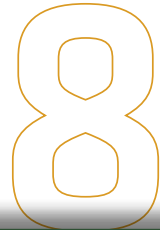
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9 Faculty of Natural Sciences III – Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences, Geosciences and Computer Science

The Faculty of Natural Sciences III is home to three institutes and a total of 35 professors: the long-standing and tradition-rich Institute of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences, the oldest of its kind in Germany, the Institute of Geosciences and Geography and the Institute of Computer Science. All three institutes collaborate with non-university research institutes in Central Germany, for example the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research – iDiv (see page 8).

The Institute of Agricultural Studies collaborates with cross-disciplinary partners both within MLU and outside the university in projects on agronomy and as well as basic research in molecular and physiological processes. Like the Faculty of Natural Sciences I, the Faculty of Natural Sciences III is involved in the ScienceCampus (WissenschaftsCampus Halle) research network, which was established in 2011 (see page 9). This network also includes the Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies/ IAMO (see page 42) and the Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research in Gatersleben (Leibniz-Institut für Pflanzengenetik und Kulturpflanzenforschung Gatersleben).

The application-focused Institute of Geosciences and Geography works with local enterprises, engineering firms, construction, mining and minerals companies as well as companies from the environmental sector. Several joint professors are appointed in the field of water, soil and environment in cooperation with the UFZ Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (Leipzig).

The Institute of Computer Science specializes in Applied Computer Science and Bioinformatics. MLU was one of the very first universities in Germany to offer a course of study in Bioinformatics. The institute works in close collaboration with the Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research in Gatersleben (Leibniz-Institut für Pflanzengenetik und Kulturpflanzenforschung Gatersleben).

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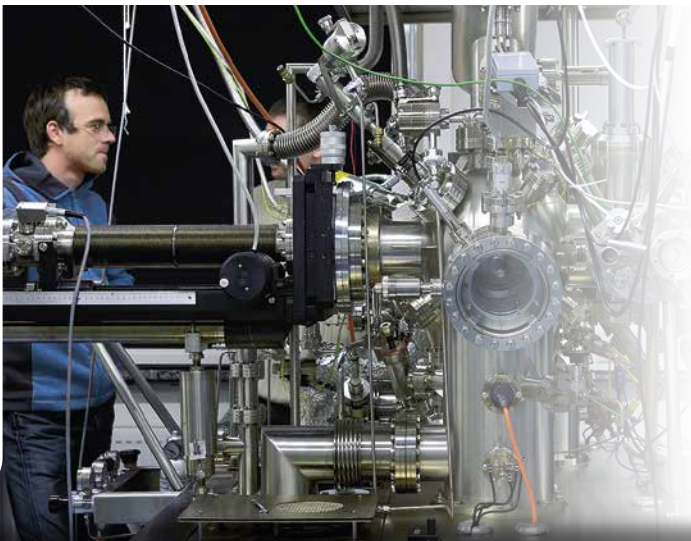
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Center of Engineering Sciences



The Center of Engineering Sciences has three departments: Mechanical and Thermal Process Engineering and Polymer Materials Engineering. The center collaborates with various research institutions both on and off campus in the areas of polymer materials engineering and process technology solutions in the food and nutrition sciences. The center also operates the Plastics Competence Centre (Kunststoffkompetenzzentrum) in cooperation with the Hochschule Merseburg – University of Applied Sciences and conducts research together with the Faculty of Natural Sciences II in the “Nanostructural Materials” core research area.

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MLU International

About 90 partner universities

Martin Luther University (MLU) is both international and diverse, two very important and long-standing aspects of the institution best exemplified by two of its graduates Anton Wilhelm Amo and Dorothea Erxleben. The philosopher Amo, who studied and taught at the University of Halle between 1730 and 1740, was the first African to have attended a German university. Dorothea Erxleben made history in 1754 when she became the first woman to earn a university degree in Germany – in medicine at the University of Halle.

Today MLU is an active member of the international university and research community, with about 90 partner universities worldwide and about 200 ERASMUS partner universities. It also offers several study programs taught in English and other languages, including double-degree programs with universities in Milan (Italy), Nanterre (France), Bratislava (Slovakia), Rome (Italy) and Ekaterinburg (Russia).

International University Community

Over the years, MLU's community of researchers, professors and students has grown increasingly international. Approximately ten percent of its student body of 20,000 comes from abroad, and nearly 20 percent of its 2,000 PhD candidates comes from a country other than Germany.

And each year, hundreds of the university's students and scientists leave Halle to pursue studies and research abroad.



Support for international junior and senior researchers

The International Office supports the university's international scholars and researchers in all aspects of their research stay in Halle to make them feel at home, from general advice, counseling on funding possibilities to checking previously completed university degrees, renting apartments in the international guesthouse Georg-Förster-Haus and administering third-party funds.

Furthermore, the International Office is home to the PhD Network. This network aims at welcoming and integrating international PhD students and postdocs and connecting them with those who have been living and doing research in Halle for a while through a wide range of activities, including German classes, a monthly roundtable and excursions in Halle and the surrounding area.

Prospective international doctoral candidates and those who have already found a supervisor at Halle university will get advice and support concerning administrative tasks such as registration with the city and the foreign registration office, matriculation at the university and finding suitable health insurance. Our service is rounded off by providing financial support through Teaching and Research Assistantships as well as PhD Finalization Grants.



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A house for academics and researchers

The Georg-Forster-Haus, the international guesthouse of Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina (Internationales Begegnungszentrum der Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg und der Leopoldina – Nationale Akademie der Wissenschaften/IBZ), named after the scientist and world traveler Georg Forster (1754–1794), is open to international scholars and researchers who have journeyed to Halle for a research stay. The guesthouse offers accommodation – apartments of various sizes for rent – to the university's guests. The Georg-Forster-Haus also serves as a venue for meetings and seminars.

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Doing a doctorate at Halle University

Martin Luther University is highly dedicated to attracting qualified young PhD students from all over the world, offering them excellent scientific and social conditions for gaining additional qualifications, and giving them the opportunity to contribute to the scientific community at Halle University.

Almost 2,200 PhD students, of which more than 20 percent have an international background, are researching here in order to get one of the twelve PhD degrees awarded by the faculties in approximately 70 research areas.

The International Graduate Academy InGrA acts as a central coordination and service institution for all doctoral candidates at Halle University, regardless of whether they are pursuing an individual doctorate or enrolled in one of the university's structured PhD programs.

One of the key tasks of InGrA includes the organization of complementary skills training courses tailored to the needs of doctoral students, such as workshops on presentation skills, scientific writing and getting published. It also offers courses on soft skills, such as time and self-management.

As joint project between the International Office and InGrA, the PhD Network strives to integrate international junior scientists into German culture and everyday life of the city of Halle by organizing German language courses and monthly cultural and social events (see page 28).

Moreover, some of the complementary skills training courses are offered in cooperation with the PhD Network.

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Four campuses

University Square – Where tradition and modernity come together

In the heart of Halle's historic center lies one of the city's most beautiful spots: The University square, a unique architectural ensemble of both historic and modern buildings. At the center of the square is the Lion Building (Löwengebäude), which dates back to the first half of the 19th century and houses the university museum, lecture halls, the matriculation office and student guidance counseling services. Other Universitätsplatz buildings include the Rector's Office, the Melanchthonianum (named after the reformer Philipp Melanchthon), including the offices of the three Vice Rectors and 16 lecture halls, as well as the Juridicum with its seminar rooms and library for legal studies. Just a few buildings away is the Robertinum, which is home to the university's archaeological museum and the Institute of Classical Studies (Institut für Klassische Altertumswissenschaften). The Auditorium Maximum (AudiMax), whose completion coincided with the university's 500 year anniversary celebration, provides a contrast to the square's historical buildings. Within the AudiMax are three lecture halls, the largest of which can accommodate over 500 visitors.





While it's easy to spend time and enjoy the charm of the Universitätsplatz, it is also within walking distance to many other university departments and facilities. Just a few hundred meters from Universitätsplatz are the Faculty of Business Economics, the "Harz" dining hall with adjacent student dormitories, as well as numerous institutes and seminars within the Faculties of Philosophy I and II, including the Institute for Music. The University and State Library (ULB) and the theoretical institutes within the Faculty of Medicine are also located in immediate vicinity.

Steintor Campus – Halle University's newest campus

In 2015 many institutes of the Faculty of Philosophy I and II, which were spread out at various locations across Halle, got a new centralised home, the Steintor Campus. Some of the old buildings show traces of the campus'

history, for example the building of the Museum of Livestock Sciences which used to be an animal shelter at the time when the area was still used by the departments for agricultural and veterinary science. The open design of the campus promotes a communicative atmosphere among students and lecturers. The Coffee Bar Steintor-Campus and countless benches provide further space for conversation.

Weinberg Campus and Heide Süd – Connecting city and countryside

Research, learning and living also co-exist happily on the Weinberg campus and Heide South Campus. Located at the edge of the city forest but still only fifteen minutes from the center of Halle, Weinberg Campus was established in the early 1950s. Named after the Weinbergweg (vineyard road), the name recalls the vineyards that dominated the landscape here up until the 18th century.



A center for science and research for several decades, the campus has been further developed and expanded since the German Reunification in 1989. Along with the main facilities such as the computer center, the gymnasium and dining hall, the Weinberg Campus and the university's Heide Süd site are also home to eight departments within the Natural Sciences Faculties as well as numerous non-university research institutes, including the Max Planck Institute of Microstructure Physics (Max-Planck-Institut für Mikrostrukturphysik). Companies from growth industries such as biotechnology, environmental technology and computer technology have established offices here, making the area one of the largest research and technology parks in eastern Germany. Immediately adjacent to the Weinberg Campus and Heide Süd site is Halle's Kröllwitz district, home of the University Hospital (Universitätsklinikum Halle) and one of the city's most beautiful residential areas featuring villas from the turn of the 20th century.

Francke Foundations in Halle

The Faculty of Philosophy III and the Faculty of Theology are housed in the Francke Foundations in Halle, the historic group of buildings established in 1695 by the theologian and educator August Hermann Francke. Originally an orphanage and school for the poor, the Francke Foundations today comprise a unique educational facility that spans all educational levels, from nursery school through to university. The Francke House, the German Federal Cultural Foundation (Kulturstiftung des Bundes) and the German Youth Institute (Deutsches Jugendinstitut) are also a part of the Francke Foundations, which is on the German proposal list as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina

The Leopoldina has been the German National Academy of Sciences since 2008. It addresses key issues of particular significance for the future of society from a scientific perspective. The Leopoldina shares its findings with policymakers and the public, and puts these issues up for discussion on a national and international level. It works independently and is committed to acting in the public interest.

With a membership consisting of around 1,500 scientists in more than 30 countries, the Leopoldina is both the largest academy in Germany and a supranational association.

Founded in Schweinfurt in 1652, the Leopoldina is the world's oldest continuously existing academy for medicine and the natural sciences. The Academy elects distinguished academics and scientists to become members. The ranks of its members – over 7,500 in all since the Academy was founded – include such eminent scholars and scientists as Marie Curie, Charles Darwin, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Alexander von Humboldt, Justus von Liebig and Max Planck.

Since 1878, the Leopoldina has been based in Halle an der Saale in central Germany. Before then, the Academy always moved its seat to the town or city where its current president resided. At the beginning of 2012, the Academy moved into its new headquarters on the Jägerberg in Halle, a location that provides enough room for it to grow into its new role as the German National Academy of Sciences.

In addition to its headquarters in Halle, the Leopoldina has had an office in the government quarter of Berlin since 2009, which offers convenient proximity to policymakers, the media and international delegations and firmly anchors the Academy close to the heart of political action in Germany.





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Leopoldina
Nationale Akademie
der Wissenschaften

Fraunhofer Institute for Microstructure of Materials and Systems IMWS

By 2050, it is expected that the world's population will have grown to 9 billion people. If economic activity continues as it has, humans around the world will then consume 140 billion tons of minerals, ores, fossil fuels, and biomass every year – three times as much as today. But the earth's resources are limited. Utilizing them efficiently and sustainably is therefore the key challenge of humanity in the 21st century. That especially applies to the industrial location of Germany with its high share of material costs in production and its dependency on the export policies of other nations.

With the goal of increasing both material and economic efficiency, as well as conserving resources, Fraunhofer IMWS is a renowned partner for industry and public authorities. Fraunhofer IMWS addresses any questions associated with the efficient use of materials and systems at the smallest of dimensions, at the microstructural level, and thereby contributes to solutions to global challenges.



Microstructure Diagnostics – We understand Materials

Even dating back to the 1960s, excellent microstructural analysis was pursued in Fraunhofer IMWS's predecessor institutions in Halle (Saale). Our institute possesses exceptional know-how and offers the most comprehensive equipment for microstructural diagnostics within the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft. Down to the atomic level, we determine the microstructural material and component characteristics and the resulting properties in the application case. We make statements on material composition, framework and crystal structures, error and defect formation, as well as reaction and wear processes. We put the microstructure in correlation to local mechanical, electrical, and thermophysical characteristics and thus make performance reservoirs usable. Our main focus is on semiconductors, polymers, and biological materials.

Microstructure Design – We master Materials

The understanding and mastery of the microstructure allows us to meddle in the fundamental material characteristics. With the help of microstructure design, we incorporate our material know-how already during the

developmental phase and support our customers at the beginning of the value-creation chain with tailor-made materials for the particular application. Fraunhofer IMWS contributes decisively to the efficiency of resources and competitiveness of its customers.

Fraunhofer IMWS possesses highly modern devices for all questions pertaining to microstructure analysis, from electron microscopes to climate chambers, all the way to pilot facilities. In this way, tailor-made solutions for customers' concerns can always be found.

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Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research

As an international competence centre for the environmental sciences, the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) explores how global change impacts the complex interactions between man and nature. In close cooperation with decision-makers and social stakeholders, scientists at the UFZ develop system solutions to improve the management of complex environmental systems and to tackle environmental issues.

The work of the UFZ addresses issues of water resource management, the impacts of changing land use on human environments and biodiversity, the effects of chemicals on the environment and on human health, as well as strategies for adapting to climate change. But successful solutions require more than a solid scientific foundation. Environmental research, which is usually dominated by the natural sciences, must also be more closely connected with the humanities, social sciences and law.

From delivering excellent solutions-oriented results in the natural and social sciences, to its participation in international steering committees, the UFZ is an active player along the science-policy interface on both the national and international level. The UFZ also coordinates cross-institutional platforms on water and biodiversity issues and is a driving force behind large-scale national and international climate and biodiversity risk assessments. Several UFZ scientists contributed to the IPCC 5th Assessment Report on Climate Change published in 2014, and several of our scientists have also been asked by the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services (IPBES) to collaborate on its first series of focus reports scheduled to appear in 2015.

Founded in 1991, the UFZ currently has a staff of more than 1,100 employees from more than 40 countries at its Leipzig, Halle and Magdeburg sites. It is also home to some 250 PhD candidates involved in international collaborative research. The UFZ also offers vocational training for 55 apprentices in eleven different trades and cooperative education (Berufsakademie) programs.

With a staff of approximately 120, the work of the UFZ in Halle focuses primarily on Community Ecology, Soil Physics, Soil Ecology and Hydrology. The environmental experimental facility in Bad Lauchstädt also belongs to the UFZ in Halle. It is the site of one of the world's most extensive long-term experiments on the impacts of land use and climate change on biodiversity, which was launched in 2013 together with the Global Change Experimental Facility (GCEF). Other long-term field studies, such as the 112-year-old static fertilization experiment, are also carried out at the Bad Lauchstädt site.

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HELMHOLTZ
CENTRE FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL
RESEARCH – UFZ



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Halle Institute for Economic Research
Member of the Leibniz Association

Halle Institute for Economic Research (IWH) – Member of the Leibniz Association

The Halle Institute for Economic Research (IWH) – Member of the Leibniz Association was founded in 1992. IWH's tasks are economic research and research-based advising of economic policy. With its three research departments – Macroeconomics, Financial Markets as well as Structural Change and Productivity –, IWH conducts evidence-based research by combining theoretical and empirical methods.

In the focus of its research, IWH investigates processes of economic convergence, the role of the financial system regarding the (re-)allocation of production factors as well as the facilitation of productivity and innovation.

IWH is a member of the Joint Economic Forecast project group commissioned by the German Federal Government to publish a semi-annual report ("Gemeinschaftsdiagnose") on the current status and future outlook of both the German and the world economy. IWH is leading a group of nine European partners as coordinator of a project entitled MICROPROD ("Raising EU Productivity: Lessons from Improved Micro Data"), funded by the European Union as part of the EU Research Programme Horizon 2020.

The IWH Research Network in Economics (IWH-ReNEc) enables IWH scientists to collaborate with colleagues from other research institutions. More than 30 research professors and research affiliates come to the institute for research stays and co-publish their work with IWH scientists.

Within the IWH Doctoral Programme in Economics (IWH-DPE), PhD students attend courses, present their work regularly as part of the IWH Doctoral Research Seminar and receive support from PhD supervisors within IWH. The IWH-DPE collaborates with the universities of Dresden, Halle, Jena, Leipzig and Magdeburg as part of the Central-German Doctoral Program Economics (CGDE).

IWH has a staff of 90 employees, 60 of which are scientists and researchers. The institute observes the DFG Research-Oriented Standards on Gender Equality and offers family-friendly working conditions, which include measures such as the honor system for working hours, family work spaces and health promotion programmes.

Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO)

The Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO) pursues basic and applied research in the field of agricultural economics, analyzing economic, social and political developments in the agricultural and food sector as well as in rural areas. The geographic focus covers the enlarging EU, transition countries of Eastern Europe and Central and Eastern Asia.

With its thematic and geographical focus, IAMO is a unique global research institution. Since its founding in 1994, it has been a part of the Leibniz Association, a German community of 95 independent research institutes. Close scientific collaboration with national and international partners is an essential element of IAMO's work. The institute also shares its research outcomes to the international academic community as well as to decision-makers in politics and business, international organizations and the broad public.

A particular focus within the institute lies on the promotion of scientists from study regions. IAMO supports PhD and postdoctoral studies and hands out thesis topics for Master's and Bachelor's degrees. IAMO Graduate School provides PhD students with systematic support and training.

IAMO employs about 170 staff members from 26 different countries around the world. The institute is known for its inquisitive scientific minds and a culture of mutual respect and open, friendly exchange. IAMO actively takes an equal opportunities approach and has various measures and offers in place to ensure the compatibility of work and family life, creating a family-friendly working environment for its employees.

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Leibniz Institute of Plant Biochemistry

Due to their fixed lifestyles, plants and fungi have developed a variety of mechanisms that allow them to communicate with their environment and to defend themselves. The vast diversity of chemical compounds they produce significantly contributes to these communication and defense strategies.

The Leibniz Institute of Plant Biochemistry (IPB) brings together international researchers from the chemical and biological sciences to decipher the complex processes underlying the interplay between organisms and their biotic and abiotic environment. They analyze plant and fungal natural compounds and study the molecular mechanisms mediating these interactions. With application potential in areas such as biotechnology to develop novel bioactive substances, and agro-technology to guide sustainable crop and food production, the findings play an important role in enhancing human, animal and plant health.

All research groups at the IPB regularly offer opportunities for exciting dissertation research in plant-related biochemistry and natural products chemistry. Doctoral candidates at the IPB benefit from competent mentoring and a structured doctoral training program as well as an excellent research infrastructure, which well prepares the candidates for positions in academia, industry, or the public sector.

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**Leibniz Institute of
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Max Planck Institute of Microstructure Physics

The Max Planck Institute of Microstructure Physics, founded in 1992 and located in Halle (Saale), was the first Max Planck Institute established in the eastern part of Germany. Researchers from more than 35 countries work in the Departments and Research Groups of the Institute.

Experimental and theoretical research carried out at the Institute is primarily focused on solid-state phenomena that are determined by small dimensions, surfaces and interfaces. The relations between magnetic, electronic, optical and mechanical properties of materials and their microstructure are investigated. The results provide the necessary information for creating novel topological, functional or structural materials for spintronic, neuromorphic and nano-photonic devices, thus paving the way to future information technologies.

The Departments of the Institute: Nano-Systems from Ions, Spins and Electrons (Stuart Parkin), Nanophotonics, Integration, and Neural Technology (Joyce Poon), Theory Department (Eberhard Gross/Bogdan Andrei Bernevig) are involved in collaborative National and International research projects.

An essential part of the efforts of the Max Planck Society is to promote international PhD students. In close cooperation with universities talented junior scientists are offered the opportunity to earn a doctorate under excellent research conditions. The International Max Planck Research School for Science and Technology of Nano-Systems (IMPRS-STNS) exploits the successful research network between the Institute, the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and the Fraunhofer Institute for Microstructure of Materials and Systems Halle, to carry out research into novel atomically engineered materials for nano-systems. The IMPRS-STNS aims to support excellent young scientists on their way towards a PhD degree.

Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology

The Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology is one of the leading centres in Europe for research in socio-cultural anthropology. More than 200 researchers from over 20 countries work at the Institute in one of its three departments: Law & Anthropology (Marie-Claire Foblets), Resilience and Transformation in Eurasia (Chris Hann) and Integration and Conflict (Günther Schlee). The Institute is home to numerous research groups and two International Max Planck Research Schools, where talented junior scientists are offered the opportunity to work towards a doctorate or, at the postdoctoral level, to prepare themselves for academic careers. A shared feature of the graduate programmes run by the Institute is the close co-operation with local universities.

The topics that are studied in diverse settings worldwide cover a wide range of issues that are often at the centre of public debate. These include ethnicity, identity politics, cultural heritage, postsocialist transformations, the changing roles of the state and the family in systems of social security, conflict and conflict resolution mechanisms, the relevance of religion as well as non-faith based beliefs, transnational migration, mechanisms of inclusion and exclusion, environmental issues, and, in the broad field of economic anthropology, topics such as property relations, industrial labour, family businesses and financialization.

Common to all research programmes at the Max Planck Institute is the comparative analysis of social transformation. It is primarily in this domain that the Institute's researchers make an original contribution not only to anthropological theory, but also to knowledge that is of relevance to the broader public.

International academic events

Numerous lectures and conferences with internationally renowned guests take place at the Institute throughout the year. For details and dates please visit our website at

→ www.eth.mpg.de

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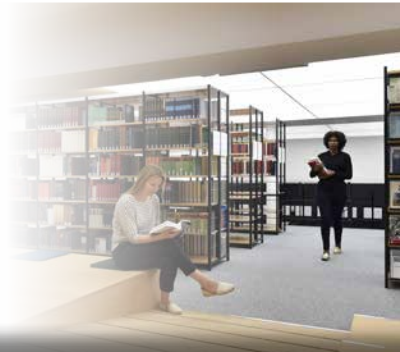
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Max-Planck-Institut für
ethnologische Forschung





City of Halle

Halle – Small city, big feel

With a population of 240,000, Halle is comparatively small among Germany's major cities. But with the historic university, numerous additional research and educational institutions, numerous museums, its vibrant arts and cultural scene, and its role as an important business location and transportation hub, Halle's impact and reach extends far beyond the region. Halle can look back on over 1,200 years of illustrious history, as many poets and philosophers have left their mark on Halle over the centuries.

The city's most famous son is the composer Georg Friedrich Handel (1685–1759). His birthplace, the Handel House, is today a music museum and a Handel memorial. The Handel House hosts the annual Handel Festival. Each summer, internationally renowned singers, instrumentalists and conductors come to Halle to bring Handel's legendary work to the stage and to celebrate his music together with audiences from around the world.

Worth living city

The diversity of Halle, which combines a lively and diverse cultural scene with a delightful landscape and natural beauty, makes it hard to describe in just one word. And then there are the open-minded, good-natured people that give this colorful city its flavor – somewhere between cosmopolitan and cozy.

Music and theater lovers can enjoy concerts, drama or cabaret theater on one of Halle's many stages. The Staatskapelle orchestra and the opera house offer a world-class musical program. Among Halle's most important museums are the Moritzburg Castle art gallery (Gemäldegalerie) and the State Museum of Prehistory (Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte), home of the famous Nebra Sky Disc.

Out on the town, the many pubs and restaurants packed into the old city's narrow alleyways make for lively and convivial evening hours. And there is plenty for nature lovers, too. The Saale River winds its way through the city forming several attractive islands. The Peißnitzinsel landscape park is perfect for relaxing and taking long walks, as are the meadows on the banks of the Saale or the Heide city forest. For those looking for more than just leisure activity, Halle's many sport clubs offer something for every kind of sports enthusiast.

Halle – The affordable city

Compared to other big cities in Germany, Halle has a lot to offer – and usually at lower prices. The cost of living in Halle is moderate; even in one of Halle's attractive Jugendstil quarters, affordable housing is not hard to find. And from there, the city is very easy to navigate. Whether it's the Universitätsplatz, Halle's historic city center, the opera house or city park – just about everything is but a few minutes away, either on foot, by bicycle or with Halle's public transport system. And Halle itself is centrally located in Germany. Many attractive cities such as Berlin, Leipzig, Dresden, Jena, Erfurt and Weimar are less than two hours away by car or train.



Support Centre for Business, Science and Digitalisation (City of Halle)

Support Centre for Business, Science and Digitalisation is the central service point for international scholars at Martin Luther University and all other research facilities in town. Its team offers all-around guidance and support for international researchers and scholars (doctoral students, postdocs, professors and visiting scholars), as well as support for the hosting institutions and supervisors in the faculties.

The Support team for Science and Digitalisation is there to help international scientists prepare for their stays in Halle. We'll gladly provide you with important information about living in and around Halle and offer individual support to assist in getting you settled.

Halle's Support Centre for Business, Science and Digitalisation also plays a central role in the network of investors, entrepreneurs and founders of start-ups, who can rely on individual support for realizing their entrepreneurial visions.

Contact:

Support Centre for Business, Science and Digitalisation

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hallesaale
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→ **For more details visit: www.halle.de/Wissenschaft/**



Links

Information for international doctoral candidates at MLU

→ www.international.uni-halle.de/phd

Information for international researchers at MLU

→ www.international.uni-halle.de/academic-staff

Guide for international doctoral students and scientists at MLU

→ http://www2.uzu.uni-halle.de/Ingra/Leitfaden_en.pdf

German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

→ www.daad.de/en

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH)

→ www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/home.html

German Research Foundation (DFG)

→ www.dfg.de/en/index.jsp

EURAXESS: Germany for Researchers –
information and assistance to mobile researchers

→ <https://www.euraxess.de/>

“Research in Germany” portal

→ www.research-in-germany.de

Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF):
Scholarship database (in German)

→ www.stipendienlotse.de

HRK Higher Education Compass

→ www.hochschulkompass.de/en.html

The European Liaison Office of the German Research Organisations (KOWI)

→ www.kowi.de/en

THESIS – Interdisciplinary Network for PhD students and postdocs (in German)

→ www.thesis.de

Portal for research and teaching run by the weekly DIE ZEIT (in German)

→ www.academics.de

KISSWIN – Information and consulting for academic careers

→ www.kisswin.de

Imprint:

Published by

Martin-Luther-Universität
Halle-Wittenberg
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Project Coordination

Dr. Manja Hussner, Esther Smykalla

Editor

Jörn Bensch
www.triagonale.de

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Kristina Vaillant

Translation

en:comms, Bonn

Conception and Layout

Bosse und Meinhard, Bonn

Printed by

print24.de

Photo Credits

Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg;
Maike Glöckner; Antje Hellmuth, IPB;
konzeptundform; M.Kuehn; Thomas Ziegler;
Jessen Mordhorst; Nikolaus Brade; IWM,
Hans-Joachim Krumnow; André Künzelmann;
Jens Frayer; Max Planck Institute for Social
Anthropology; Thomas Meinicke; Dr. Fidele
Ntie-Kang; Markus Scholz/IAMO; Michael
Deutsch; IWH; Stadt Halle; MPI for Social
Anthropology; MPI of Microstructure Physics;
Markus Scholz/Leopoldina; private

June 2019



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