



COLLEGE OF
CHARLESTON

International Engineering & Management Bachelor's Degree

BACHELOR



**German American Co-op Program
with College of Charleston
and NORDAKADEMIE**

NORDAKADEMIE
GERMAN UNIVERSITY
OF APPLIED SCIENCES





KEY FACTS

Start	Courses start in October, an optional internship can be completed before the program begins
Duration	36 months as standard period of study (3 years)
Degree/Certificates 	Bachelor's degree with a German and European accreditation, fully recognized in the US Certificate of College of Charleston (for example Advanced Manufacturing)
Organization	An average of 15 weeks/half-year in the company, 10 weeks/half-year at College of Charleston (Charleston, South Carolina) / NORDAKADEMIE (Hamburg)
International	2.5 years courses in Charleston, South Carolina and 6-12 months in Hamburg, Germany

International Engineering & Management Bachelor's Degree

German American Co-op

Do you want to combine academic excellence with hands-on experience to set the foundation for a successful career? The German American Co-op study program, offered by NORDAKADEMIE and the College of Charleston, gives you the perfect opportunity to do just that!

This unique program provides international experience, financial support—including compensation and tuition coverage from your employer—and a comprehensive education in International Engineering & Management.

Take the next step toward a global career with the best of both worlds!

The program equally imparts engineering and business science content to enable students to develop cross-disciplinary problem-solving approaches. The engineering fundamentals integrate mechanical, electrical/electronic, and information technology knowledge in the spirit of mechatronics; these concepts are placed into a broader context in application-oriented subject areas. The business-related part of the program covers business administration, economics, and legal knowledge and skills. As a result, graduates are capable of preparing, implementing, and monitoring the success of decisions in all relevant areas of a company across various industries.

Recognized globally, this degree opens doors to worldwide career opportunities. The German American Co-op program at NORDAKADEMIE has earned top rankings in Germany, securing the best results nationwide. When are you planning to join?





International Engineering & Management Bachelor of Engineering



Semester	1	2	3	4	5	6
Economics, Law and Social Sciences						
Introduction to Business Administration	●					
Business Mathematics	●					
Financial Accounting		●				
Cost Accounting					●	
Managerial Accounting and Financial Management						●
Purchasing and Supply Chain Management					●	
Marketing and Sales					●	
Commercial Law and Ethics					●	
Business Application Systems						●
Mathematics, Computer Science, Natural Sciences, Technology						
Mathematics for Engineers	●					
Materials Technology			●			
Thermo- and Hydrodynamics			●			
Engineering Mechanics			●			
Electrical Engineering incl. Lab.			●			
Engines			●			
Technical Basics of Information and Communication Technology				●		
Control Engineering				●		
Manufacturing and Automation incl. Lab.				●		
Computer-aided Design (CAD)				●		
Introduction to Programming					●	
Integration						
Fundamentals of Engineering	●					
Systems Engineering: Life Cycle Design and Management		●				
Data-driven Decision Making		●				
Logistics, Operations Research		●				
Production Management incl. Lab.				●		
Soft Skills und Languages						
Intercultural Communication	●					
Foreign Language	●	●				
Final Thesis						
Bachelor's Thesis						●
Work Placement						
Theory-Practice Transfer Paper		●	●	●	●	●

Achieving B1 level in German after completing the studies.

Time structure between University and Company



* 1st year 145 days at company (mo-fr)

Timetable

The German American Co-op ensures a strongly application-oriented education based on scientific principles. The Bachelor's degree program is designed as a full-time course with a unique balance between academic learning and hands-on experience. The standout feature? The seamless integration of theory and practice.

You will first spend 10 weeks at the university, building a strong theoretical foundation. Then, you will transition into an average of 15 weeks at your partner company, where you can apply what you've learned in real-world settings.

At the end of each semester, the theory-practice transfer paper challenges you to tackle a real question posed by the company, allowing you to merge academic knowledge with practical insights. This structure ensures that you actively contribute to exciting projects within your partner company, gaining valuable professional experience from day one.

The third and fourth semesters take place in Germany (6 months). If your company has a location in Germany, the practical phase can also be in Germany. This means that the time in Germany can be extended from 6 months to a year.

2nd year				3rd year			
Oct. - Dec.	Jan. - March	April - June	July - Sept.	Oct. - Dec.	Jan. - March	April - June	July - Sept.
	10 weeks (Germany)	10 weeks (Germany)		10 weeks		5 weeks courses & Bachelor Thesis (8 weeks)	
13 weeks** US or Germany		16 weeks** US or Germany			17 weeks***		16 weeks***
Theory-Practice Transfer Paper	Theory-Practice Transfer Paper			Theory-Practice Transfer Paper		Theory-Practice Transfer Paper	

** 2nd year 141 days at company (mo-fr)

*** 3rd year 179 days at company (mo-fr)

Application Process

1st

Apply to University

Apply by submitting your application to the university.



2nd

Successful completion of the selection process

After your university application, you will receive access to the online test by e-mail. Complete the online assessment that covers your academic knowledge, math skills personality, and motivation. Passing the online test is a prerequisite for admission to the study program. After passing the online test, you can apply to the companies.

3rd

Apply to partner companies and participate in the company's individual application process

Apply to one of our partner companies for a place on this study program. We are happy to assist you with this. Send your individual application and test results to the company.



4th

Contract & Enrollment

Once selected and approved, you'll sign a contract outlining the terms and conditions of the study program. You will then be enrolled at NORDAKADEMIE.





University Entrance Requirements

To participate in the program, you'll need to meet specific academic criteria to ensure you're ready for both the academic and practical challenges:

- High school diploma combined with an **associate degree**.
- High school diploma and have passed **Advanced Placement (AP)** exams.
- High school diploma and have successfully completed **2 years** of study at an accredited college or university.
- Graduation from a **German school** (Abitur).

Furthermore, make sure to obtain and submit proof of **health insurance**.

Internal Partner Company Process

Hands-on Experience in the Company

During your time at the company, you will rotate through various technical and commercial departments such as sales, production, or the laboratory. This gives you in-depth product knowledge and allows you to build a strong professional network.

You will take on responsibility for both small and large projects, managing them independently – an ideal preparation for your future career.

Each practical phase concludes with a **theory-practice transfer paper**, where you connect your academic knowledge with hands-on experience in the company.

Departments, which are usually run through within the partner company (exemplary):

Departments for rotation (exemplary)*	Basic Level		Advanced Level
	1st year	2nd year	3rd year
Technical training			
Production	x		x
Technical Engineering	x		x
Laboratory	x	x	
Business Management training			
Purchasing / Procurement		x	x
Accounting / Controlling	x		x
HR / Personnel		x	
Marketing		x	
Training in integration areas			
Production Management (e.g. stock / dispatch, logistic)		x	x
Research & Development			x
Customer Centre / Technical Service Center	x		

* on average, 4-5 week per department

Unique aspects of the German American Co-op Program

	Traditional Co-op	German American Co-op
Duration	4-5 years	3 years
Location	Domestic	International (Germany & USA)
Learning	Alternate class and industry experience	Aligned pursuit of both class and industry experience
Studying	Individual Learning	Study in a Cohort
Intercultural skills	Experience in US	Experience in the US and Germany
Employability	No guarantee. Graduate could opt for another employer.	Job guarantee after graduation
Fees	Fees are rarely paid	No Fees: training company covers tuition fees and compensation

Discover the Full Program

nordakademie.eu



Contact

There are still some individual questions? Feel free to contact us.



Testimonial

Check out the testimonials from participating companies and learn more about the German American Co-op program.



“The study program equips students for their professional careers through a highly practice-oriented curriculum that seamlessly integrates theoretical knowledge with real-world applications. On top of that, the training company supports students not only by covering tuition fees but also by providing a compensation to ease their learning journey.”

Sarah Liebold,
Dual Student Business Administration



College of Charleston – A Historic and Prestigious Institution

The **College of Charleston (CofC)**, located in **Charleston, South Carolina**, is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the United States. Founded in **1770**, it combines a rich history with modern academic excellence. The campus, nestled in the heart of Charleston's charming historic district, offers a unique blend of Southern tradition and innovative education.

CofC is known for its **strong programs in business, sciences, international studies, and the arts**, attracting students from around the world. Small class sizes and dedicated faculty ensure a **personalized learning experience**, while state-of-the-art facilities support research and hands-on learning.

Beyond academics, the university provides a **vibrant student life** with numerous clubs, athletics, and cultural events. The **coastal location** offers students access to beautiful beaches, outdoor activities, and a thriving business community.

With its **historic charm, academic excellence, and global outlook**, the CofC is an exceptional place to study, grow, and prepare for a successful career.



NORDAKADEMIE - Leading in Dual Education

NORDAKADEMIE is a private, state-recognized university of applied sciences in **Hamburg, northern part of Germany**, specializing in **dual and part-time degree programs**. Founded in **1992**, it has established itself as a leading institution for combining **academic excellence with practical experience**.

The university offers **business, engineering, and IT programs**, allowing students to alternate between theoretical studies at the Campus and hands-on training at their partner companies. This dual study model ensures **strong industry connections** and excellent career prospects.

NORDAKADEMIE maintains **close partnerships with more than 400 companies**, enabling students to gain **valuable work experience** while earning their degree. Small class sizes, modern facilities, and a focus on **innovation and sustainability** create an optimal learning environment.

With its **practical approach, industry integration, and commitment to quality education**, NORDAKADEMIE prepares students for successful careers in a rapidly evolving job market.



COLLEGE OF
CHARLESTON

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100% Your future!
Bachelor. Master. Career.

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Status April 2025, subject to changes · The study program is accredited.



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