



COLLEGE OF
CHARLESTON

Bachelor's Degree in International Engineering & Management

COMPANY



**German American
Co-op Program**

NORDAKADEMIE
GERMAN UNIVERSITY
OF APPLIED SCIENCES





Co-op Comparison

	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

Bachelor's Degree in International Engineering & Management

German American Co-op

Key facts of the program:

- ✓ **Any company in the US can join this program**, no matter in which state it is located
- ✓ Study Program: **International Engineering & Management**, aligned with the German Qualification Framework
- ✓ **Two 10-week blocks per year at college**, either in Charleston, South Carolina or in Germany
- ✓ **32 weeks per year at company**, conducted within the training company in the USA, with the option to supplement in Germany
- ✓ The program includes **at least six months in Germany**; students completing their practical phase in Germany may stay for up to a year
- ✓ Duration: **3 years**
- ✓ Degree: **Bachelor of Engineering** (B.Eng.) and Certificates from the College of Charleston
- ✓ **Study start: April**



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	●	●	●	●	●	●

Achieving B1 level in German after completing the studies.

Curriculum

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.

Timeline

The German American Co-op provides companies with highly skilled, job-ready talent by combining academic excellence with hands-on experience.

- **Immediate Value & Productivity:** Students spend an average of 30 weeks per year at your company, applying their university knowledge directly to real-world projects. Instead of waiting years for graduates, you gain skilled support right away.
- **Customized Knowledge & Skills:** The program aligns academic learning with your company's needs. At the end of each semester, students complete a theory-practice transfer paper - solving a real business challenge for your company and developing valuable, practical solutions.
- **Intercultural Business Insights:** In semesters three and four, students study in Germany for six months. If your company has a location in Germany, the practical phase can also take place there - extending their stay to a full year. This experience enhances their intercultural competence and gives your company globally minded professionals.

By investing in German American Co-op students, your company secures future leaders who are trained in both scientific principles and hands-on application, ensuring longterm business SUCCESS.

Time structure between University and Company



* 1st year 151 days at company (mo-fr)

** 2nd year 155 days at company (mo-fr)

*** 3rd year 147 days at company (mo-fr)



University Entrance Requirements

Students are required to meet specific **academic standards** to ensure they are prepared for both academic and practical challenges.

High school diploma in combination with an associate degree.

High school diploma with proof of successful Advanced Placement (AP) exams.

High school diploma with proof of 2 successful years of study at an accredited college or university at the college level.

Graduation from a German school (Abitur).

Furthermore, all students participating in the program are required to have **health insurance**. For any questions regarding the requirements, feel free to reach out to us.



Preparing future employees

- ✓ **Work performance from day one** – students contribute to the company from the start of their studies rather than years after graduation.
- ✓ **Aligned Working and Studying** – instead of completing education in separate phases, students combine theoretical knowledge with practical experience.
- ✓ **Reaching New Target Groups** – through close collaboration with companies, students not only receive a high-quality education, but this new program also provides financial relief for parents
- ✓ **Workforce Retention** – graduates are required to work for the company for at least two years after graduation.

Investing in your future employees

Three cost categories must be taken into account and agreed upon in advance. Each company can define its own framework:

- **Costs for coursework:** they depend on state funding in the respective federal state and individual agreements with partner companies.
- **Costs for compensation:** since students work within the company, financial compensation is recommended.
- **Costs for travel, housing, dining and parking:** it's the company's decision whether support is available.

Department Rotation

Procedure within the partner company

- During the time at the company, students pass through technical and commercial departments (such as sales, production or laboratory), gaining a broad product knowledge and a broad network.
- They are entrusted with small and large projects, which they have to manage independently.
- Practical phases are completed with a theory-practice transfer paper.

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

Departments for rotation (exemplary)*	Basic Level		Advanced Level
	1st year	2nd year	3rd year
Technical training			
Production		x	x
Technical Engineering	x	x	x
Laboratory		x	x
Business Management training			
Purchasing / Procurement			x
Accounting / Finance	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		x

* on average, 4-5 week per department

A selection of our Partner Companies in Germany



Testimonial

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





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.



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100% Your future!
Bachelor. Master. Career.

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Status January 2026, subject to changes



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