Rottenburg University of Applied Forest Sciences (HFR, Germany)

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

International Summer Semester 2027

“Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in Germany”



SUMMER TERM 2027: 15 March – 30 July

Courses taught in English

InternationalOffice@hs-rottenburg.de

Real close. Far ahead.

Rottenburg University of Applied Forest Sciences (HFR, Germany)

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

Location in Germany by train

1 h from Stuttgart airport

3 h - Frankfurt

3 h - Zürich

3,5 h - Munich



1000 students

~ 100 intern. students

9 study programmes BSc/MSc

32 full professors

2,500 ha experimental forest

900 ha hunting- & fishing grounds

Virtual Campus Tour

Real close. Far ahead.

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

International Summer Semester 2027

B.Sc. & M.Sc.-level

Courses with sum of 36 ECTS offered

English-taught across forestry, economics, agriculture and timber construction.

Selection “best of” from 5 BSc & 3 MSc Programmes:

BSc Sustainable Forest Management

BSc Renewable Energie

BSc Water Ressource Management

BSc Sustainability Management in Spatial Development

BSc Wood Management and Technology

MSc [SENCE] Sustainable Energy Competence

MSc Sustainable Forest Management (+ Dual Degree with Lakehead University/Canada)

MSc Ressource-efficient Architecture with Wood

https://www.hs-rottenburg.net/en/

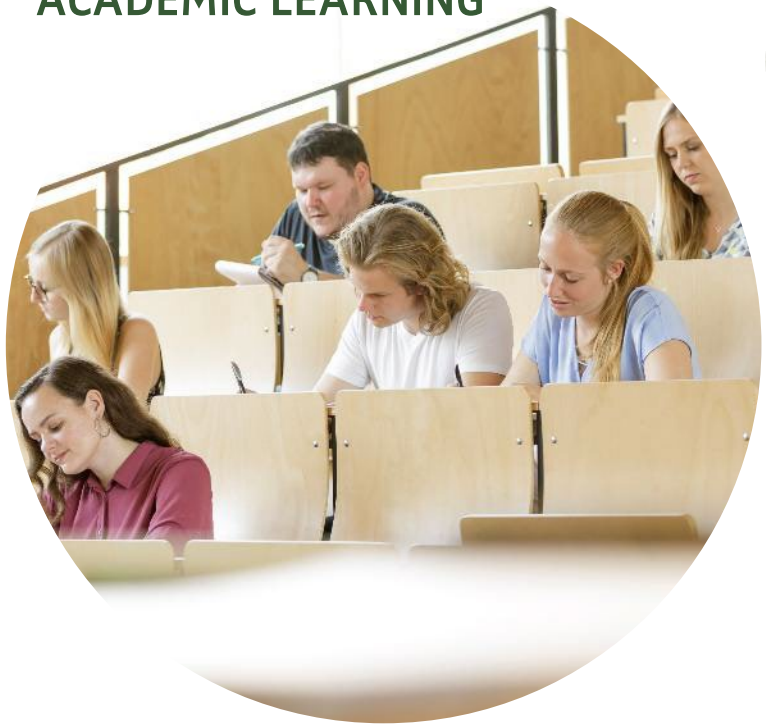
Real close. Far ahead.

What studying at HFR feels like

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

Academic learning, field experience and campus life go hand in hand.

LECTURES & ACADEMIC LEARNING





EXCURSIONS & FIELD EXPERIENCE

CAMPUS LIFE & COMMUNITY



Real close. Far ahead.

Finding your people

STUDYING AT HFR • SETTLING IN & CONNECTING

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

YOU ARE NOT ARRIVING ON YOUR OWN

HFR's International Office helps you get started and connect with others from the beginning.

Support comes through buddies, student peers and shared activities.



Source: International Office HFR

INTERNATIONAL BUDDY PROGRAMME	The International Office organises the Buddy Programme to help international students get started.
PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT	International students can connect with HFR peers for help navigating university life and everyday life in Rottenburg.
SHARED ACTIVITIES	Regional visits, hiking, cultural activities and excursions create time to connect.
STUDENT GROUPS	IFSA, Pro Silva and other student groups offer additional ways to become part of the HFR community.



Source: International Office HFR



Source: International Office HFR

Real close. Far ahead.

Rottenburg, hometown of HFR

STUDYING AT HFR • CAMPUS LIFE & COMMUNITY

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

A SMALL UNIVERSITY TOWN	Everyday essentials, student accommodation options* and a manageable daily rhythm.
REGIONAL CONNECTIONS	Stuttgart, Frankfurt, Basel, Zurich and Munich are roughly 1–3 hours from Rottenburg by train.
OUTDOOR LIFE	The Neckar, hiking routes, nearby swimming lakes, the Black Forest National Park and more.
TÜBINGEN NEARBY	More cafés, culture, student life and activities within the wider region.

*Accommodation is not guaranteed, but the HFR International Office supports your search.







Source: Annalena Taller / Marie Schweikardt

Real close. Far ahead.

Eight modules for an interdisciplinary summer semester

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER • COURSES TAUGHT IN ENGLISH

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

Priority: B.Sc.-level students

IN.1

Landmarks of Silviculture & Forest Growth and Yield – Field Trips

IN.2

Strict Forest Reserves – History, Aims and Research

IN.3

Microeconomics: Agricultural and Forestry Market Analysis

IN.4

Impact Assessment in Public Forestry Projects' Planning and Evaluation

IN.5

Investment and Financial Validation of Agro-/Forestry Systems

IN.6

Business and Administration (Human Resources, Finance and Investment, Operations Research)

IN.7

Resilient Agriculture – Recent Advances

IN.8

Contemporary Timber Construction in Germany

not in summer semester 2027

Real close. Far ahead.

Seven advanced courses across forestry and natural resource management

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL COURSES • FORESTRY & NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Priority: M.Sc.-level students + advanced B.Sc.-level

DF.2

Forests and Environmental Politics

not in summer semester 2027

DF.3

Assessment of Cultural, Social and Economic Values of Forest Ecosystem Services

DF.4

Remote Sensing, Inventories and GIS for Strategic Forest Planning

DF.5

Closer-to-nature Silviculture & Wildlife Management

DF.6

Nature Conservation and Biodiversity in Forests

DF.7

Strategic Forest Business Management

not in summer semester 2027

DF.8

Capita Selecta of Sustainable Land Use Management

Topics vary by year

Changing interdisciplinary topics in sustainable land use

Real close. Far ahead.

Why spend your International Semester at HFR?

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

WHAT YOU CAN GAIN FROM AN INTERNATIONAL SEMESTER

01	BROADEN YOUR ACADEMIC PERSPECTIVE	Explore natural-resource questions through different disciplines and approaches.
02	LEARN THROUGH APPLICATION	Connect academic study with case studies, practical perspectives and field-based learning.
03	THINK COMPARATIVELY	Compare different systems and approaches – and gain a broader perspective on familiar topics.
04	STUDY IN AN INTERNATIONAL SETTING	Take English-taught courses and learn alongside students with different academic and cultural backgrounds.
05	PERSONAL & INTERCULTURAL GROWTH	Experience another university system and culture while developing independence, confidence and intercultural skills.
06	BUILD NEW CONNECTIONS	Meet HFR students, international peers, lecturers and professionals and become part of the HFR community.





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Your central contact: HFR International Office

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

BEFORE YOU APPLY

Application & course information

Get guidance on application information, available courses and general preparation for your stay.

PREPARING & ARRIVING

Accommodation, enrolment & buddies

Receive information on accommodation, enrolment and the International Buddy Programme.



Please check current requirements with the HFR International Office:

Internationaloffice@hs-rottenburg.de

FOR MORE DETAILS ASK:

hs-rottenburg.net/en/international/mobility-incomings

International Office
Anja Hoh +49 7472 951-208
Tanja Münch +49 7472 951-285
internationaloffice@hs-rottenburg.de

Real close. Far ahead.

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

Ready for Rottenburg?

Study at HFR. Experience Germany.

Take a new perspective home.



HFR International Office

InternationalOffice@hs-rottenburg.de

For current application, accommodation and administrative details, contact the HFR International Office.

Real close. Far ahead.

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

International Summer Semester Courses

Details

Real close. Far ahead.

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

International Summer Semester Courses

Priority: BSc-level students

English-taught courses across forestry, economics, agriculture and timber construction.

Module descriptions available:



Source: Marie Schweikardt

https://www.hs-rottenburg.net/en/international/studierende-aus-dem-ausland/study-programmes/

Landmarks of Silviculture & Forest Growth and Yield – Field Trips

IN.1 • INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER • 2 ECTS

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

COURSE 1 OF 8

2 ECTS

Priority: B.Sc.-level students



Source: Marie Schweikardt

Professor: Hein

CORE FOCUS	Visit selected forest stands in Germany to explore European silviculture, forest growth and yield, and responses to climate change.
HOW IT CONNECTS	Work with long-term experimental plots and data analysis while examining management for high-value timber in a field-trip setting.

Strict Forest Reserves – History, Aims and Research

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

IN.2 • INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER • 3 ECTS

COURSE 2 OF 8

3 ECTS

Priority: B.Sc.-level students



Source: Marie Schweikardt

Professor: Heinrichs

CORE FOCUS	Examine how unmanaged forests and strict forest reserves develop, including old-growth structures and biodiversity.
HOW IT CONNECTS	Connect forest monitoring and research with biodiversity conservation and the transfer of insights to close-to-nature silviculture.

Microeconomics: Agricultural and Forestry Market Analysis

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

IN.3 • INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER • 2 ECTS

COURSE 3 OF 8

2 ECTS

Priority: B.Sc.-level students



Source: Marie Schweikardt

Professor: Abele

CORE FOCUS	Use microeconomic theory to understand demand, supply and market behaviour in agriculture, forestry, forest products and timber.
HOW IT CONNECTS	Analyse sustainability, markets and trade from national and global perspectives, linking economic concepts to natural-resource sectors.

Impact Assessment in Public Forestry Projects' Planning and Evaluation

IN.4 • INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER • 1 ECTS

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

COURSE 4 OF 8

1 ECTS

Priority: B.Sc.-level students



Source: Marie Schweikardt

Professor: Abele

CORE FOCUS	Assess ecological and social impacts in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of forestry projects.
HOW IT CONNECTS	Apply impact-assessment thinking to public and private investment projects, sustainable economics and development cooperation.

Investment and Financial Validation of Agro-/Forestry Systems

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

IN.5 • INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER • 1 ECTS

COURSE 5 OF 8

1 ECTS

Priority: B.Sc.-level students



Source: Marie Schweikardt

Professor: Abele

CORE FOCUS	Evaluate investments and long-term profitability in forestry, timber production, agroforestry and bioenergy systems.
HOW IT CONNECTS	Use financial valuation and investment-appraisal approaches to support informed decisions in agro-/forestry systems.

Business and Administration

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

IN.6 • INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER • 2 ECTS

COURSE 6 OF 8

2 ECTS

Priority: B.Sc.-level students



Source: Marie Schweikardt

Professor: Abele

CORE FOCUS	Explore human resources, finance and investment, operations research, and the foundations of management and administration.
HOW IT CONNECTS	Connect capital and financial markets, cost accounting and management tools with organisational decision-making.

Resilient Agriculture – Recent Advances

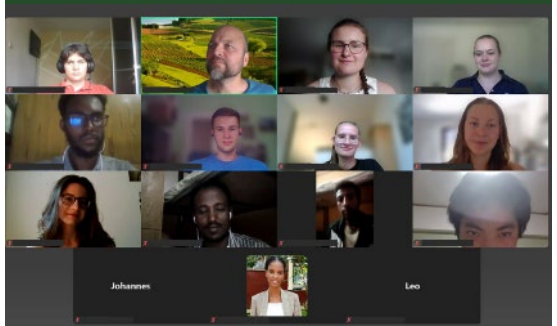
Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

IN.7 • INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER • 3 ECTS

COURSE 7 OF 8

3 ECTS

Priority: B.Sc.-level students



Source: Prof. Dr. sc. agr. Jens Poetsch

Professor: Poetsch

CORE FOCUS	Examine how climate change, drought, biodiversity loss and soil degradation challenge agriculture.
RECENT APPROACHES	Compare resilient and sustainable approaches, including regenerative agriculture, agroforestry and other resource-oriented systems.
LEARNING CONTEXT	Use case studies and an excursion to connect recent advances with practice.

Contemporary Timber Construction in Germany

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

IN.8 • INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER • 4 ECTS

COURSE 8 OF 8

4 ECTS

Priority: B.Sc.-level students



Source: Prof. Ludger Dederich

Professor: Dederich

CORE FOCUS

Explore traditional and modern timber construction in Germany and timber's role as a sustainable building material.

HOW IT CONNECTS

Examine construction systems, structural solutions, digital design and fabrication, practical applications and reference projects.

not in summer semester 2027

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

Advanced International Summer Semester Courses

Priority: MSc-level students (also advanced BSc students admitted)

Advanced English-taught courses across forestry and natural resource management.

Module descriptions available:



Source: Marie Schweikardt

https://www.hs-rottenburg.net/en/international/studierende-aus-dem-ausland/study-programmes/

Forests and Environmental Politics

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

DF.2 • HFR SUMMER TERM COURSE • 5 ECTS

COURSE 1 OF 7

5 ECTS

Priority: M.Sc.-level students



Source: Marie Schweikardt

Professor: Schurr

CORE FOCUS

Explore how forests and environmental questions are addressed through politics and policy.

HOW IT CONNECTS

Adds a governance perspective to scientific and management questions across the programme.

not in summer semester 2027

Real close. Far ahead.

Assessment of Cultural, Social and Economic Values of Forest Ecosystem Services

DF.3 • HFR SUMMER TERM COURSE • 5 ECTS

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

COURSE 2 OF 7

5 ECTS

Priority: M.Sc.-level students



Source: Marie Schweikardt

Professors: Bachinger / Abele

CORE FOCUS	Assess the cultural, social and economic values connected with forest ecosystem services.
HOW IT CONNECTS	Broadens forest assessment beyond biophysical measures and links ecosystem services with people and society.

Real close. Far ahead.

Remote Sensing, Inventories and GIS for Strategic Forest Planning

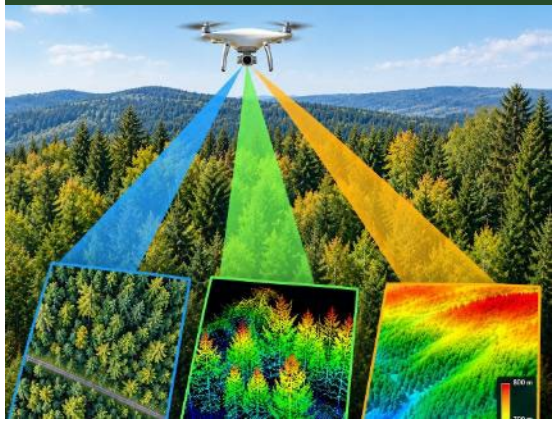
DF.4 • HFR SUMMER TERM COURSE • 4 ECTS

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

COURSE 3 OF 7

4 ECTS

Priority: M.Sc.-level students



Source: Markus Weber

Professors: Jäckle / Scheuber

CORE FOCUS	Connect remote sensing, forest inventories and geographic information systems with strategic forest planning.
HOW IT CONNECTS	Shows how spatial information and inventory evidence can support long-term decisions in forestry.

Real close. Far ahead.

Closer-to-nature Silviculture & Wildlife Management

DF.5 • HFR SUMMER TERM COURSE • 4 ECTS

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

COURSE 4 OF 7

4 ECTS

Priority: M.Sc.-level students



Source: Prof. Dr. Thorsten Beimgraben

Professors: Hein / Beimgraben

CORE FOCUS	Bring closer-to-nature silvicultural approaches together with wildlife management.
HOW IT CONNECTS	Links forest development, management choices and wildlife considerations within one course.

Nature Conservation and Biodiversity in Forests

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

DF.6 • HFR SUMMER TERM COURSE • 4 ECTS

COURSE 5 OF 7

4 ECTS

Priority: M.Sc.-level students



Source: Marie Schweikardt

Professors: Heinrichs / Rupp

CORE FOCUS	Examine nature conservation and biodiversity specifically in forest environments.
HOW IT CONNECTS	Places conservation priorities alongside the planning, policy and management perspectives in the programme.

Strategic Forest Business Management

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

DF.7 • HFR SUMMER TERM COURSE • 3 ECTS

COURSE 6 OF 7

3 ECTS

Priority: M.Sc.-level students



Source: Annalena Taller / Marie Schweikardt

Professor: Petkau

CORE FOCUS

Focus on strategic management questions in forest enterprises and forest-related business contexts.

not in summer semester 2027

HOW IT CONNECTS

Adds organisational and business decision-making to the ecological, technical and policy course mix.

Capita Selecta of Sustainable Land Use Management

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

DF.8 • HFR SUMMER TERM COURSE • 5 ECTS

COURSE 7 OF 7

5 ECTS

Priority: M.Sc.-level students



Source: Annalena Taller / Marie Schweikardt

Professors: various

CORE FOCUS	A flexible course whose selected sustainable land-use topics may change from year to year.
POSSIBLE THEMES	Sustainable energy and circular economy; agroforestry; timber markets; forest management and climate change; forest and water management; carbon storage and LULUCF.
PROGRAMME NOTE	Field-trip components may be included. Confirm the current themes with HFR.

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

Do you speak German? - Yes? Then do not forget in summer or winter term:

Join our regular German-taught classes

across all study programmes and gain ECTS!

Original module handbooks available (in German):



Source: Marie Schweikardt

BSc Sustainable Forest Management

BSc Renewable Energie

BSc Water Ressource Management

BSc Sustainability Management in Spatial Development

BSc Wood Management and Technology

MSc [SENCE] Sustainable Energy Competence

MSc Sustainable Forest Management

MSc Ressource-efficient Architecture with Wood

https://www.hs-rottenburg.net

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University of Applied Sciences

Additional Information on Rottenburg University

Details on academic life and application procedure

Real close. Far ahead.

HFR campus is your everyday study base

STUDYING AT HFR • CAMPUS LIFE & COMMUNITY

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences





A place to study, eat, meet people and build a routine.

LIBRARY & STUDY	Books, electronic resources, study spaces, computers and research support.
CANTEEN	Hot lunches, coffee and snacks during the semester.
STUDENT ID & SERVICES	Use your HFR student ID for library borrowing, campus access and other student services.

Personal, practical and academically grounded

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

STUDYING AT HFR • LECTURES & ACADEMIC LEARNING

ACADEMIC FOUNDATIONS	Courses combine academic and scientific foundations with practical relevance.
VARIED FORMATS	Formats include lectures, seminars, exercises and practical components, depending on the course.
ACTIVE & SUPPORTED	Students take an active role, supported by approachable lecturers and programme coordinators.
THEORY INTO PRACTICE	Course ideas are connected to real-world issues and practical application.



Academic excellence, practical relevance and personal exchange shape learning at HFR.

Excursions make the landscape part of the classroom

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

STUDYING AT HFR • EXCURSIONS & FIELD EXPERIENCE

LEARN ON LOCATION	Apply course ideas in nature, organisations and regional settings.
EXPECT VARIETY	Excursions and study tours can change the timetable from week to week.
CONNECT THEORY & PRACTICE	Field-based components add practical perspectives to academic study.
LEARN TOGETHER	Time outside the lecture hall creates space for discussion with lecturers and fellow students.









Source: Marie Schweikardt

Campus life extends beyond the classroom

STUDYING AT HFR • CAMPUS LIFE & STUDENT GROUPS

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

STUDENT-LED COMMUNITY

Join forestry groups, cultural traditions and activities alongside your academic studies.

The apple harvest is one example of shared, student-led campus life.



HFR IFSA	Connect with students interested in forestry and international exchange.
PRO SILVA AT HFR	Engage with students and professionals interested in close-to-nature forestry.
TRADITION & COMMUNITY	Traditional hunting horn groups are part of HFR's forestry culture and student life.
SPORTS & ACTIVITIES	University sports, Campus Cinema and other student-led events offer more ways to meet people.





Source: Marie Schweikardt

Real close. Far ahead.

Your International Summer Semester at HFR

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER

STUDY IN ENGLISH

English-taught courses

Choose from the International Summer Semester modules.

LEARN ACROSS DISCIPLINES

Forestry, timber, agriculture

Explore forestry, biodiversity, economics, resilient agriculture and timber construction.

THEORY & PRACTICE

Course-dependent formats

Lectures, case studies, practical work and field components vary by module.





Course formats and current requirements vary. Please confirm details with the HFR International Office:

InternationalOffice@hs-rottenburg.de

Real close. Far ahead.

Getting ready for HFR

Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft Rottenburg
University of Applied Sciences

INCOMING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

1 NOMINATION & APPLICATION

Your home university nominates you, and the HFR International Office provides the application information.

2 COURSE SELECTION

Review the English-taught courses and coordinate your planned studies with your home university and HFR where necessary.

3 PREPARE YOUR STAY

Plan accommodation and review current insurance, immigration and other administrative requirements.

4 ARRIVE & GET STARTED

Complete enrolment, access HFR systems and connect with the International Buddy Programme.

Requirements can change. Please check current application, accommodation and administrative details with the HFR International Office.



Real close. Far ahead.