

International Summer Semester at HFR (Germany)

Sustainable Management
of Natural Resources

SUMMERTERM 2027 March 15th – July 2nd

Courses taught in English

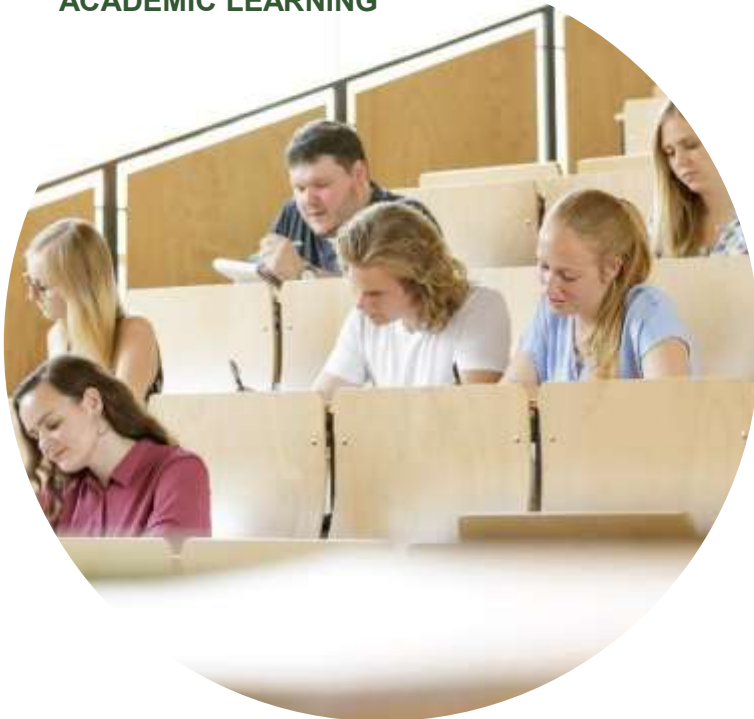


Real close. Far ahead.

What studying at HFR feels like

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

**LECTURES &
ACADEMIC LEARNING**



**EXCURSIONS &
FIELD EXPERIENCE**

**CAMPUS LIFE &
COMMUNITY**



Real close. Far ahead.

Personal, practical and academically grounded

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.

Real close. Far ahead.

Excursions make the landscape part of the classroom

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

Real close. Far ahead.

HFR campus is your everyday study base

STUDYING AT HFR • CAMPUS LIFE & COMMUNITY



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.

Real close. Far ahead.

Campus life extends beyond the classroom

STUDYING AT HFR • CAMPUS LIFE & STUDENT GROUPS

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.

Finding your people

STUDYING AT HFR • SETTLING IN & CONNECTING

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

A SMALL UNIVERSITY TOWN

Everyday essentials, student accommodation options and a manageable daily rhythm.

REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

From Rottenburg, Stuttgart, Frankfurt, Basel, Zurich and Munich are roughly 1–3 hours away by train.

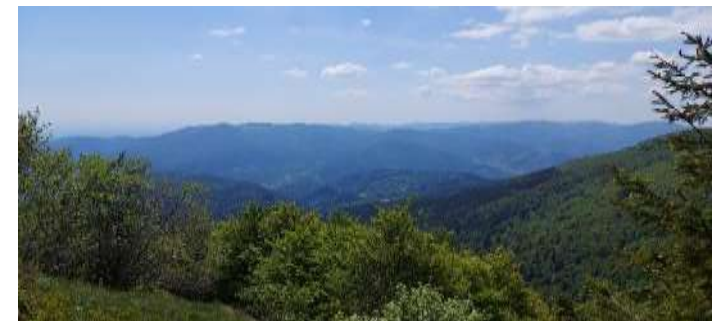
OUTDOOR LIFE

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. The HFR International Office supports your search.



Source: Annalena Taller / Marie Schweikardt

Real close. Far ahead.

Your International Summer Semester at HFR

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER



Hochschule für Forstwirtschaft
Rottenburg

University of Applied Sciences



STUDY IN ENGLISH

English-taught courses

Choose from the
International Summer
Semester modules.



LEARN ACROSS DISCIPLINES

Forestry, timber, agriculture

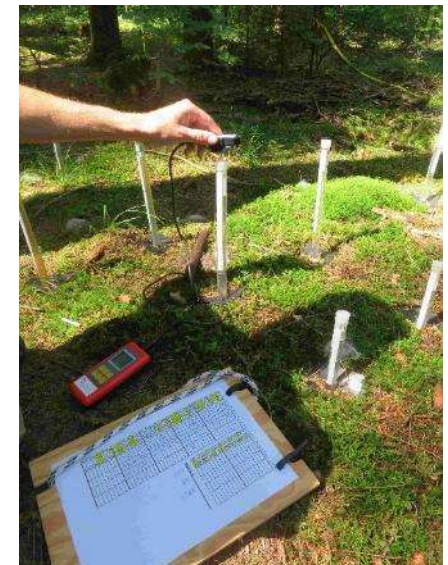
**Explore forestry,
biodiversity, economics,
resilient agriculture and
timber construction.**



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.

Real close. Far ahead.

International Semester Courses

Priority: B.Sc.-level students

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



Source: Marie Schweikardt

Eight modules for an interdisciplinary summer semester

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER • COURSES TAUGHT IN ENGLISH

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

Landmarks of Silviculture & Forest Growth and Yield – Field Trips

IN.1 • INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER • 2 ECTS

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

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

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

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

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

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.

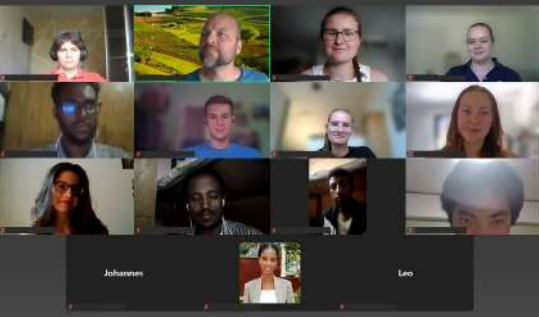
Resilient Agriculture – Recent Advances

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

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.

Advanced International Courses

Priority: M.Sc.-level students

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



Source: Marie Schweikardt

Seven Advanced Courses Across Forestry and Natural Resource Management

ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL COURSES • FORESTRY & NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Priority: M.Sc.-level students

DF.2

Forests and Environmental Politics

DF.3

Assessment of Cultural,
Social and Economical 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

DF.8

Capita Selecta of Sustainable Land Use Management

Topics vary by year
Changing interdisciplinary topics in
sustainable land use

Real close. Far ahead.

Forests and Environmental Politics

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.

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

DF.3 • HFR SUMMER TERM COURSE • 5 ECTS

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.

Remote Sensing, Inventories and GIS for Strategic Forest Planning

DF.4 • HFR SUMMER TERM COURSE • 4 ECTS

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 longterm decisions in forestry.

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.

Real close. Far ahead.

Nature Conservation and Biodiversity in Forests

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

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.

HOW IT CONNECTS

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

Capita Selecta of Sustainable Land Use Management

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: varying professors

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.

Your central contact: HFR International Office

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER

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



Real close. Far ahead.

Getting Ready for HFR

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.

Why spend your International Semester at HFR?

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.



Real close. Far ahead.

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.