

# GRADE AND CREDIT CONVERSION – MSU Office of Study Abroad

**PROGRAM:** Psychology Studies at the Justus Liebig University Giessen, Germany

**SPONSOR:** Department of Psychology in the College of Social Science

Giessen Scale	MSU Grade Equivalent <sup>*</sup>	JLU Units (ECTS)**	MSU Equivalent Credits
1	4.0	2	1
1-, 2	3.5	3	1.5***
2	3.0	4	2
2-, 3+	2.5	6	3
3	2.0	8	4
3-, 4+	1.5	10	5
4	1.0		
4-, 5, 6 (Fail)	0.0	12	6

\*\* ECTS credits x 1/2 = MSU credits.

\*\*\*The credits are rounded up if there is a single course with a decimal number of credits (i.e., 3 JLU credits = 2 MSU credits).

However, if there is an even number of courses, the actual amount of credits is given for each course (i.e., two 3 credit JLU courses = 3 MSU credits). If there is an odd number of courses, the "extra" course earns the rounded up credits (i.e., three 3 credit JLU courses = 5 MSU credits).

## Other academic information:

In the German educational system, the equivalent of the U.S. system's first and second year of college is covered in the upper levels of high school. Upon admittance to a public university, students immediately begin taking major-specific courses and are enrolled in degree programs equivalent to the U.S. Master's level. These degree programs are about 4 years (8 semesters) in length. After 2 years, students take intermediate exams which are technically comparable to a Bachelor's degree but do not lead to a terminal degree. Course levels are not labeled numerically, but rather are designated by the actual course title:

- "Grundkurs", "Grundlagen" and "Einführung" indicate introduction or foundation courses.
- Grundkurs I, II, and III would be suitable for the sophomore, junior and senior years, respectively.
- "Seminar" courses are for seniors and more advanced students.
- "Hauptstudium" indicates graduate level courses.

Students will be required to enroll for a minimum of twelve (12) credits. A variety of survey courses in psychology will be taught in English, translating into MSU credit in psychology: Organizational Psychology, Experimental Psychology: Perception and Cognition, Social Psychology, and Seminar in Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Other courses are available, but will usually be taught in German. Interested students can examine the availability of various courses and other information on the JLU Web site (<http://www.uni-giessen.de/uni/english/>). This site is in English.

## Useful Web Sites:

(general information)

(course and credits)

<http://www.wes.org/gradeconversionguide/germany.htm> (grade conversion)

(Updated September 2007)

