

# Students' exchange and recruiting school graduates from Ukraine: Existing programs and challenges

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## **International Summer School „Greifswalder Ukrainicum“, Germany**

- Two weeks, August, annual
- Ukrainian language courses, seminars and public lectures on science and culture of Ukraine
- For Ukrainian participants: German language courses at „Greifswald Summer“
- Travel scholarships (Alfried Krupp von Bohlen and Halbach-Stiftung)
- Application requirements are good knowledge of English and status of student or PhD candidate
- <https://slawistik.uni-greifswald.de/studium/angebot/ukrainicum/>

## **„Viadrinicum“ Summer School, Frankfurt (Oder)**

- Two weeks, August-September, annual
- summer school devoted to the countries of the Eastern Partnership region with a special focus on Ukraine
- Public lectures, seminars, workshops and excursions
- Students, PhD candidates, young NGO activists and artists (up to 35 years of age) from all fields
- The participation is free of charge, only the costs of the board (except from coffee breaks) and lodging (ca. 60 € for the whole period) have to be covered by the participant
- <https://www.europa-uni.de/de/struktur/unileitung/projekte/viadrinicum/index.html>

## Benefits

- Familiar topics for Ukrainian participants (for instance, actual political domestic issues) with international established methods and approaches
- For Ukrainian participants: Possibility to participate in German language courses
- Travel scholarships are provided by own foundations (oriented on participants with Ukrainian interest or participants from Ukraine, open for participants from all fields)

## Recruiting school graduates from Ukraine

- About 190 Ukrainian graduates per year take the DSD II (C1) exams (German language diploma) in order to verify the language knowledge required to apply for university entry in Germany.  
→ The DSD (Deutsches Sprachdiplom) is the only educational program certifying levels of knowledge of the German language in schools worldwide
- Plus occasionally graduates from courses offered by the „Goethe-Institut“

## **Recruiting school graduates from Ukraine**

However, only few graduates directly start their studies in Germany.  
Reasons are:

### **1. Differences in educational systems:**

- Ukraine: 11 years of school → therefore at least one year successfully completed at a Ukrainian university or a German Studienkolleg required for university admission in Germany.

! Many Ukrainians fail the Studienkolleg's acceptance tests despite the acquired DSD-II (C1) level, as the C-test and the math test require a 90% score in order to pass.

## **Recruiting school graduates from Ukraine**

### **2. Finances:**

- Ukrainians are obliged to deposit about 9.000 Euro (= sum of subsistence for 1 year) at a German blocked account before starting their studies in order to prove liquidity.
- Despite tuition free universities, life in Germany can be expensive

## Recruiting school graduates from Ukraine

### Special paths to Germany:

- Some few achieve DAAD full-study scholarships (2018: 3 Ukrainians)
- A small number of students receive a college place combined with a scholarship at the Viadrina „Short track“ (Their preparatory courses in the summer holidays substitute a year at a Studienkolleg).

Desired degree courses: economy, law, medicine