Furtwangen University was the first university in Germany to set up a degree programme in Business Information Systems. For more than 45 years the hallmark of the faculty has been innovation and academic excellence. Over 650 students from more than 20 countries around the world are taking their bachelor’s, master’s or PhDs with us. We are proud of the friendly atmosphere in our faculty, and of the fact that we are the only one in Germany with equal numbers of male and female students.

The faculty make it to the top of the latest CHE Rankings (2017/2018), achieving excellent scores in the following categories:
- Quality of study environment and accredited degree programmes
- Choice of courses and completion of degree within standard timeframe
- Work-based learning and workplace relevance
- Personal support by professors
- Mentoring in personal career development and job applications

The faculty provides excellent study facilities:
- Laboratories for big data analytics, e-commerce, logistics and usability
- Our own SAP system for case studies and certification
- Laboratories for big data analytics, e-commerce, logistics and usability

Students benefit from an outstanding learning environment:
- Small classes of maximum 35 participants and interactive lecture style
- Individual personal development plans mentored by professors
- 18 professors with considerable management and research experience
- Practical tutorials enabling theory to be put into practice using case studies
- Software and business projects to develop project management skills

The faculty maintains a global network of partner universities:
- University entrance qualifications (ideally with above-average grades)
- Proficiency in written and spoken English (TOEFL ibt 79, IELTS 6.00, CIES 175)

In the International Student Barometer, Furtwangen University was ranked one of the best universities in Germany in the following areas:
- Study programme organisation (2nd place)
- Quality of lectures (3rd place)
- Class size and learning support by professors (3rd place)
- Support through buddy programme (3rd place)
- Internationally oriented lectures (3rd place) and
- Host culture (3rd place)

Furtwangen is a safe, friendly and peaceful town with 9,000 inhabitants and 3,500 students. The town benefits from a healthy climate being situated in the heart of the beautiful Black Forest. It also has the advantage of a low cost of living and a high level of employment thanks to the many successful companies located in the area. Both France and Switzerland are within driving distance. It is the ideal place to enjoy the great outdoors and to explore the culture that the nearby cities of Freiburg, Heidelberg, Baden-Baden, Stuttgart, Strasbourg, Basel or Zürich have to offer.

Furtwangen University is located in one of the most prosperous states in Germany – Baden-Württemberg – the state with the highest level of research and development, an employment rate of 97% (2018) and many well-known international companies such as Daimler, Porsche, Bosch, Siemens, Hugo Boss and SAP. This innovative, highly industrialised region is one of the „Four motors of Europe“. And it is the most popular destination for immigrants to Germany; in 2013, 28% of the population had a migrant background.

Benefit from the welcoming culture of Furtwangen University!
Faculty mission statement: “We provide the know-how and key qualifications required for digital business, computer and data science in the 21st century.” Our professors have the extensive management and research experience necessary for work-related teaching. The Business Information Systems degree programme prepares students for a career in business management and consulting. Students are taught the theory and practice of business administration in combination with computer science. In the first two semesters students take the following courses:

• basics of accounting, IT system architecture, statistics, programming
• business processes and the flow of goods, money and data

With these fundamentals, students in advanced semesters will learn to:

• collect, store and secure data for business strategy and decision-making
• analyse big data for business intelligence reports and controlling
• understand business processes to plan the efficient use of company resources
• configure and apply information technology (IT) to solve and optimise tasks in production, logistics, marketing and revenue management

Work-based learning right from the start: Close links with industry mean managers are invited to the faculty to work with students on case studies and hands-on exercises, providing first-hand insights into current topics. Students forge links with industry early on through the University’s bi-annual careers fairs, where they can meet representatives from more than 90 different companies. After only 1½ years of study, students have their first opportunity to carry out IT-related work during an internship.

More than 65% of our students have a part-time job during their studies. This means that students can attend classes during the day and work during the evening. After completing the bachelor’s degree and with a minimum of one year of work experience, graduates can qualify further by taking a master’s in Business Consulting which is also taught in English (3 additional semesters).

The Bachelor in International Business Information Systems (BSc) is designed for bright, curious and highly motivated students who wish to gain core knowledge of digital business and computer science in order to benefit from excellent job perspectives worldwide.

Professional know-how with an academic approach and work-related learning: Small classes, a supportive teaching staff with an interactive teaching style based on case studies and project work, and a curriculum with a strong methodological focus, all provide an outstanding learning environment where students can develop their analytical, problem-solving and communication skills. Teaching language: English

The study programme takes 7 semesters (3 ½ years):

• In the foundation courses of the first three semesters, students are taught the fundamentals of business management and computer science.
• Practical, workplace learning is the focus of the 4th semester. The paid, 6-month company internship enables students to gain experience while putting theory into practice.
• The advanced courses of the final three semesters require students to take five electives, deepening their knowledge in areas of special interest. Electives can be taken, for example, in marketing, e-commerce, data analytics or logistics.
• Electives can also be taken at a partner university abroad.

More than 65% of our graduates follow a career pathway as, for example: business analysts, project managers and consultants, online marketing managers, e-commerce managers, data scientists, IT managers, software developers and supply chain managers. Our graduates are employed in leading companies such as:

• Daimler, Audi, BMW, Porsche (automobile manufacturing)
• Lufthansa, HolidayCheck, Thomas Cook (tourism industry)
• eBay, FC Bayern München, Lidl, Adidas, Hugo Boss, Amazon, Springer Verlag, Deloitte (e-commerce, fashion)
• IBM, Hewlett Packard, Bosch (software development)
• Siemens, Bosch, Sick (engineering, industrial automation)
• Accenture, BCG, SAP (Digital Consulting, marketing)
• Deloitte, PriceWaterhouse, Ernst & Young (accounting)

Become a highly sought-after specialist with the know-how required for the trends of the future in the fields of digital business, computer and data science. Graduates of the Faculty of Business Information Systems are well-qualified for positions in a booming international job market and can expect to earn excellent, above-average starting salaries.

Digitalisation is the biggest growth market worldwide with smartphones and personal computers being used by billions of people around the globe. We surf, shop, play, chat and date online. There is no doubt that computer science and digital business are an integral part of our lives and our future.

Benefit from computer science and create digital business! Analyse markets, consumer demand and companies’ needs. Learn problem-solving skills. Implement business information systems in companies and create solutions and apps for use in everyday life.

IT and Business Information Systems specialists are in high demand in the industrial powerhouse of Germany, Baden-Württemberg, as well as in companies worldwide. Our graduates can follow a broad variety of career pathways as: for example, business analysts, project managers and consultants, online marketing managers, e-commerce managers, data scientists, IT managers, software developers and supply chain managers.