



COLLEGE OF  
**CHARLESTON**

# International Engineering & Management Bachelor's Degree

COMPANY



**German American  
Co-op**

NORDAKADEMIE  
**GERMAN UNIVERSITY  
OF APPLIED SCIENCES**







This new-style partnership program between College of Charleston, NORDAKADEMIE and the business community will provide companies with employees who are knowledgeable in the fields of technology, economy, law and IT.

# German American Co-op

The College of Charleston and the German University of Applied Sciences NORDAKADEMIE offer a unique German American Co-op program for International Engineering & Management designed to provide businesses with skilled, work-force ready experts. Through this program, students gain practical experience by working at their partner companies while completing their Bachelor of Engineering degree in International Engineering & Management jointly at College of Charleston and at NORDAKADEMIE in Hamburg, Germany.

The German American Co-op program is an exceptional fusion blend of academic studies and hands-on practical work experience. This practice-focused approach provides students with a well-rounded education, thoroughly preparing them for successful careers. Throughout this three-year program, students can gain valuable work experience while studying and earning a compensation by their employer who is also funding the program. Moreover, the program includes an international experience, enriching students' education and expanding their global perspectives.

	Traditional Co-op	German American Co-op
Duration	4-5 years	3 years
Location	Domestic	International (Germany & USA)
Learning	Alternate class and industry experience	Simultaneous pursuit of both class and industry experience
Studying	Individual Learning	Study in a Cohort
Intercultural skills	Experience in US	Experience in the US and Germany
Employability	No guarantee. Graduate could opt for another employer.	Job guarantee after graduation







International Engineering & Management Bachelor of Engineering						
Semester	1	2	3	4	5	6
Economics, Law and Social Sciences						
Introduction to Business Administration						
Business Mathematics						
Financial Accounting						
Cost Accounting						
Managerial Accounting and Financial Management						
Purchasing and Supply Chain Management						
Marketing and Sales						
Commercial Law and Ethics						
Business Application Systems						
Mathematics, Computer Science, Natural Sciences, Technology						
Mathematics for Engineers						
Materials Technology						
Thermo- and Hydrodynamics						
Engineering Mechanics						
Electrical Engineering incl. Lab.						
Engines						
Technical Basics of Information and Communication Technology						
Control Engineering						
Manufacturing and Automation incl. Lab.						
Computer-aided Design (CAD)						
Introduction to Programming						
Integration						
Fundamentals of Engineering						
Systems Engineering: Life Cycle Design and Management						
Data-driven Decision Making						
Logistics, Operations Research						
Production Management incl. Lab.						
Soft Skills und Languages						
Intercultural Communication						
Foreign Language						
Final Thesis						
Bachelor's Thesis						
Work Placement						
Theory-Practice Transfer						
Achieving B1 level in German after completing the studies.						



## Timetable

During the six-month credit accumulation period following their regular coursework at the College of Charleston and the NORDAKADEMIE, students are given ample time for reflection and practical application of their acquired knowledge at their partner company.

The timetable is designed to alternate between theoretical and practical phases:

## Time structure between University and Company

	Internship (if avail.)	1st year				2nd year				3rd year			
	June - Sept.	Oct. - Dec.	Jan. - March	April - June	July - Sept.	Oct. - Dec.	Jan. - March	April - June	July - Sept.	Oct. - Dec.	Jan. - March	April - June	July - Sept.
University (Study)		Onboarding + 10 weeks		10 weeks			10 weeks (Germany)	10 weeks (Germany)		10 weeks		Bachelor Thesis (8 weeks) 5 weeks	
Company (Work)	16 weeks		17 weeks*		13 weeks*	13 weeks** US or Germany		16 weeks** US or Germany			17 weeks***		16 weeks***
			Theory-Practice Transfer			Theory-Practice Transfer		Theory-Practice Transfer		Theory-Practice Transfer		Theory-Practice Transfer	

\* 1st year 145 days at company (mo-fr)

\*\* 2nd year 141 days at company (mo-fr)

\*\*\* 3rd year 179 days at company (mo-fr)



# University Entrance Requirements

Students are required to meet specific **academic standards** to ensure they are prepared for both academic and practical challenges.

- High school diploma in combination with an associate degree.
- High school diploma with proof of successful Advanced Placement (AP) exams.
- High school diploma with proof of 2 successful years of study at an accredited college or university at the college level.

Furthermore, all students participating in the program are required to have **health insurance**.

For any questions regarding the requirements, feel free to reach out to us.



## Study Structure

Start	Lectures start in April or October, an optional internship can be completed before the program begins
Duration	36 months as standard period of study (3 years)
Degree / Certificates	Bachelor of Engineering with a German and European accreditation, fully recognized in the US Certificate of College of Charleston (for example Advanced Manufacturing)
Organization	An average of 15 weeks/half-year in the company, 10 weeks/half-year at College of Charleston (Charleston, South Carolina) / NORDAKADEMIE (Hamburg)
International	2.5 years courses in Charleston, South Carolina and 6-12 months in Hamburg, Germany

## Program Content

The program is designed according to the specifications of the “Qualifications Framework Engineering and Management” of the International Council of Academic Departments in Engineering and Management (FFBT WI e.V.) and the German Association for Engineering Management (VWI e.V.)

- STEM fundamentals
- Integrative courses of engineering and management (not additive)
- Business, law and other social sciences
- Intercultural skills, soft skills, and foreign language skills





# College of Charleston



**Founded:** 1770

**Location:** Charleston, South Carolina

**Enrollment:** 10,667 students

**Academic Programs:**

- 67 majors | • 81 minors | • 4 undergraduate certificates
- 20 master's programs | • 9 graduate certificates | • 1 doctoral program

**History:** Oldest educational institution south of Virginia, 13th oldest in the U.S.

## Main Advantages

- ✓ **Work performance from day one** – students contribute to the company from the start of their studies rather than years after graduation.
- ✓ **Working and studying simultaneously** – instead of completing education in separate phases, students combine theoretical knowledge with practical experience.
- ✓ **Reaching New Target Groups** – through close collaboration with companies, students not only receive a high-quality education, but this new program also provides financial relief for parents
- ✓ **Workforce Retention** – graduates are required to work for the company for at least two years after graduation.

## NORDAKADEMIE



**Founded:** 1992

**Location:** Region of Hamburg, Germany

**Enrollment:** More than 2,500 students

**Academic Programs:**

- Dual full-time | Co-op (Bachelor) and part-time study programs (Master Degree)
- 3 faculties: Computer Science, Engineering, Business Administration

**History:** Founded through the initiative of the business and industry community, the university maintains a strong, lasting connection to about 900 contacts to companies actively involved in training students.

## Company Investment

A company investing in a student takes on significant commitments in finances and resources. These include tuition fees, compensation, mentoring, and training. Companies can also apply for funding from foundations that support students.

- ✓ **Tuition fee breakdown:** \$ 22,000 per year / \$ 66,000 in total for study courses in the US and Germany.
- ✓ **Compensation proposal:** Compensation can be paid by the company, but it requires individual agreements.

A small investment that will pay off. This investment will bring future business leaders with expertise and innovative approaches into your company.

# Internal Partner Company Process

Procedure within the partner company

- During the time at the company, students pass through technical and commercial departments (such as sales, production or laboratory), gaining a broad product knowledge and a broad network.
- They are entrusted with small and large projects, which they have to manage independently.
- Practical phases are completed with a theory-practice transfer paper.

Departments, which are usually run through within the partner company (exemplary):

Departments for rotation (exemplary)*	Basic Level		Advanced Level
	1st year	2nd year	3rd year
Technical training			
Production	x		x
Technical Engineering	x		x
Laboratory	x	x	
Business Management training			
Purchasing / Procurement		x	x
Accounting / Controlling	x		x
HR / Personnel		x	
Marketing		x	
Training in integration areas			
Production Management (e.g. stock / dispatch, logistic)		x	x
Research & Development			x
Customer Centre / Technical Service Center	x		

\* on average, 4-5 week per department



“The best way to attract competent and, above all, well-suited young professionals and future leaders has always been to nurture talent from within our own ranks. With NORDAKADEMIE as our trusted partner in the dual study program for E&M, we make this a reality.”

Stefanie Schmalz-Côté,  
HR Manager, Mankiewicz Gebr. & Co. (GmbH & Co. KG)

# A selection of our Partner Companies in Germany



## Discover the Full Program

[nordakademie.eu](http://nordakademie.eu)



## Contact

There are still some individual questions? Feel free to contact us.



## Testimonial

Check out the testimonials from participating companies and learn more about the German American Co-op program.





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**100%** **Your future!**  
Bachelor. Master. Career.

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Status March 2025, subject to changes · The study program is currently in accreditation.



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