

### About UROP

The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program at RWTH Aachen University fosters research partnerships between qualified undergraduates from top US and Canadian universities and research faculty at our university.

The program is specifically designed for students who wish to attain hands-on experience in fundamental research at one of the top universities of science and technology worldwide.

UROP offers undergraduate students the unique chance to conduct their own research project, thus actively experiencing what research is like at an early stage of their academic career. While pursuing their projects, students are mentored and supervised by a member of the excellent research staff of the host institute at RWTH Aachen University.

Besides obtaining research experience, the students participate in German language training, and workshops on intercultural and research-related issues. Leisure activities complete their international experience in Germany.

With UROP, students strengthen their (extra-)curricular and intercultural skills and competences, while building up their own network with professional researchers and learning about future career perspectives.

### About RWTH Aachen University

RWTH Aachen University is among the top academic institutions of science and engineering in Germany and worldwide. It offers research opportunities in all different fields, e.g. science, engineering, information technology, economics, medicine or humanities. Because of its more than 30,000 enrolled students, Aachen is a real "student" city with a lot of charm and a truly international atmosphere.

### Program Overview

The program's duration is ten weeks. The first two weeks are dedicated to an intensive German language course and an introduction to research and culture. Weeks 3 to 10 are settled around the research internship at one of the faculties of RWTH Aachen University. Leisure activities will be offered to ensure the students' integration and exposure to German culture and the international community on campus.

All communication will be in English. Upon successful completion of the program, students will receive a certificate for both their research project and the language class.

The entire program is coordinated by the International Office of RWTH Aachen University, which will assist the students in all administrative matters.

### German Language Course

Prior knowledge of German is not required for program admission. However, the language class is an integral part of the program and every student is obliged to take part in the German course. Students are only admitted to their research projects after successful participation in the intensive course during the first two weeks (20 hrs / week).

Students will continue to learn German while carrying out their project, though with a reduced number of hours (6 hrs / week). Students with prior German knowledge will be placed in classes according to their language skills.

### Research Project

Projects are offered in all different kinds of research fields. The current list of projects that are open for application can be found on the program's website at: [www.rwth-aachen.de/urop](http://www.rwth-aachen.de/urop).

A UROP project is an independent research project and usually constitutes one part within a larger research project. Students will therefore become part of an established research team. The workload comprises eight weeks of full-time project work.

### Fees

Students will have to cover their travel and accommodation costs as well as insurance fees and living expenses. No extra program fees will be charged.

### Scholarships

There are 30 scholarships available which will be awarded to students with an outstanding academic record (subject to a GPA of 3.2 or higher and a letter of recommendation). Scholarships are primarily reserved for students from part-



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ner universities. The scholarships will amount to € 1,850,- covering the basic living expenses during their stay abroad. Students will be notified whether they have been considered for a scholarship by the end of February 2010.

### Insurance

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Students will have to submit proof of insurance confirming coverage including:

- Private liability
- Health
- Accident

Students will participate in the program at their own risk.

### Academic Credits

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The program awards 5 European credits (ECTS). Students should confirm the academic recognition of the program and ECTS with their university before applying.

### Program Admission Requirements

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- 2nd and 3rd year undergraduate student
- Student of a US or Canadian university
- Submission of letter of recommendation from supervisor at home university, resume, letter of motivation, academic transcript and a document confirming current and future enrolment
- Health certificate

### Program Dates and Application Procedure

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Program dates for 2010

- May 24th through July 30th, 2010

Application deadline

- January 31st, 2010

Registration via online database: students choose their project of interest from a list of projects published on the program's website. Students may also post their own project proposal for which they would like to find a supervisor from RWTH Aachen University.

### Buddy Program

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The International Office runs a parallel "buddy program". Every UROP participant will be assigned a student from RWTH Aachen University as a "buddy", being the student's direct person of contact for questions concerning student life in Aachen and everyday matters.

### Workshop „Fit for UROP“

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This workshop will be held at the beginning of the stay and is specifically designed for young (student) researchers. It will familiarize them with research processes in general (best practices) and in Germany in particular in order to prepare the students in an optimal manner for their research internship.

*„I would absolutely recommend this program. It is a great way to learn about a new culture, language and develop excellent research skills.“* Jaimie Sarrault, University of Michigan



### Extending Your Time at RWTH Aachen University

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If you are interested in extending your stay at RWTH Aachen University, you have several options. First, you may enrol as a regular student and stay for one semester. If that does not work for you, you may try to extend your research project or do an internship with the International Office. You also have the possibility to teach summer language classes. Please contact us if you are interested in spending more time at our University and we will discuss the options with you.

### RWTH Aachen University – Facts and Figures

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- Among top universities of engineering and science worldwide
- In 2007, nominated by federal and state governments as one of Germany's top ten academic institutions
- More than 30,000 enrolled students
- More than 100 degree programs
- More than 16 percent of international students from 120 different nations
- 45 percent of students in engineering, 25 percent in natural sciences
- More than 400 employed professors
- Located in the city of Aachen, situated in the heart of Europe

### Contact

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#### RWTH Aachen University

International Office

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