

## Abstract

The "Staatliche Fachschule für Blumenkunst Weihenstephan" was founded in 1925 as a "höhere Lehranstalt für Gartenbau Weihenstephan" (faculty of the Weihenstephan College of Applied Gardening) offering students an advanced course in floral design. It became an independent school in 1971 and since 1978 has offered a two-year vocational technical master certification course for florists.

Prospective applicants must have successfully completed an apprenticeship as florists or an equivalent craft education, have accrued at least one year's work experience and have passed an entrance examination. The full time course deepens and improves the students' competence and skills in the field of floral art and design, botanical studies, business economics as well as in system psychology and marketing. Project work ensures co-operation with other businesses and trades. The course qualifies students to hold management positions, set up their own businesses and lecture in vocational training institutions.

## Educational aim (European Qualifications Framework level 6/ EQF 6)

You will receive an extended, practical vocational training. Creativity and the further development of your personality, as well as leadership and team cooperation are skills that you will acquire from us. From the following school timetable you can see that the advanced training course aims at a joint development of the creative - artistic, botanical, as well as the acquisition of commercial and communicative skills. The relationship structure "man - culture - plants" is the core focus of all educational considerations. In addition, you will acquire application-specific computer skills and sound marketing knowledge. Your English language skills will be expanded so that you will be prepared to accept leadership roles or to strengthen and ease your entry into independent, entrepreneurial activities in both the domestic and foreign labour markets.

Students are given opportunities to sharpen their professional profile at the European level. Each year the first-year students take part in a three-week study and work exchange as part of the international module of the "FLORNET Transnational Network for Vocational Education" (European network of horticultural and floristic vocational schools), with emphasis on English as the working language.

## Academic degree

After successfully passing the final exam at the end of the second year you will be awarded the professional title "**State-certified designer of floral art**" ("Staatlich geprüfter Gestalter/Gestalterin für Blumenkunst"). The Staatliche Fachschule für Blumenkunst Weihenstephan is the only advanced educational institution that can award this title!

Upon successful completion of compulsory education in vocational pedagogics and didactics (in accordance with the AEVO [Ausbildereignungsprüfung] stipulations), you will receive an instructor's license from the IHK (Industrie- und Handelskammer) that qualifies you to instruct apprentices.

The school also offers supplementary instruction including English, German and Mathematics resulting in the awarding of the Fachhochschulreife (advanced technical college entrance qualification). This entitles you to continue your education at a university in the Faculty of Applied Sciences (for example, Design and Interior Design).

## Training duration

The vocational training period encompasses two years of full-time education, beginning in mid-September and ending in July of the year after next. Lecture-free periods and vacation conforms with the Bavarian school system vacation calendar. The probationary period is six months.

## Terms of admission

Admission is limited to twenty students per year. Fundamental industrial arts skills and product design knowledge are required.

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of vocational training as a florist or an equivalent craft education, and subsequent relevant professional employment of a minimum of one year, or
- A vocational occupation of a minimum of five years relevant in scope to the direction of study
- Successful Berufsschule completion (vocational training school)
- After provisional application acceptance the candidate is required to take part in an obligatory practicum day
- Upon successful completion of the master craftsman training qualification you may enter the second year of training and be awarded the **“State-certified designer of floral art”** (Staatlich geprüfter Gestalter/Gestalterin für Blumenkunst) degree.
- Foreign applicants are subject to the same admission conditions as German applicants. The fluent application of the German language is required.

## Financial costs and fees

The Staatliche Fachschule für Blumenkunst Weihenstephan is a government institution. School fees are therefore not charged for the attendance of the school.

Tuition fees, examination fees and the state final examination fees are **not** incurred. We recommend to calculate with a yearly budget of approximately €1000 for study trips, entrance tickets and learning materials.

## Financial support

Individual student support:

Financing is possible in accordance with either the Federal Training Promotion Act (BAföG) or a low-interest loan from the Deutschen Ausgleichsbank, a venture capital fund of an agency of the German government. A comparison of these two alternatives and a subsequent application should be made well in advance. The responsible BAföG office will be happy to provide advice and guidance.

Housing benefits and support from the Mayor's office can be applied for under certain conditions.

Instructional support:

Support of individual teaching projects is made possible through the Weihenstephan Alumni Association (Berufsverband Weihenstephaner Blumenkunst e.V.).

## Subject overview

Pflichtfächer / compulsory subjects	Wochenstunden/ hours per week	
	1. Schuljahr 1st year students	2. Schuljahr 2nd year
Deutsch/ German	2	
Englisch/ English	2	2
Wirtschafts- und Sozialkunde / Civics	2	
Berufs- und Arbeitspädagogik/ Vocational Pedagogics and didactics	2	
Kommunikation und Präsentationstechniken/ Communication and presentation	2	
Betriebspsychologie / Occupational psychology		2
Betriebswirtschaft und Rechnungswesen /Economic studies and accounting	4	
Marketing / Marketing		2
Datenverarbeitung / Data processing	2	
Kommunikations- u Mediendesign / Communication and media design		2
Pflanzenkunde und Naturstudien / Botany and nature studies	4	
Pflanzenverwendung / Plant use		2
Gestaltungs- und Farbenlehre / Design and colour studies	4	
Architektur und Design / Architecture and design		2
Kulturgeschichte der Blume /Cultural history of flowers	2	
Werkformen der Blumenkunst / Forms of floral art	8	4
Entwurfs- und Darstellungstechniken / Practical drawing and design	4	
Visualisierungskonzepte, Konstruktion und Modell / Visualisation concepts, construction and model		4
	<b>38</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Wahlpflichtfächer / optional subjects</b>		<b>+ 16</b>
Projektmanagement und Projektarbeit / project management and project work		4
Naturstudien und experimentelles Gestalten / Nature studies and experimental design		4
Farb- und Formgestaltung / Colour and shape design		2
Designorientiertes Gestalten / Design-oriented design		4
Geschichte der Gartenkunst / History of garden design/landscaping		2
Unternehmensgründung, -organisation und -führung / Business start up, organisation and management		2
Finanzbuchhaltung / Accounting		2
Visuelle Kommunikation / Visual communication		2
Marketingorientiertes Gestalten / Marketing-oriented design		4
Gestaltungskonzepte - Lebendes Grün / Design concept – living green: internally and externally		4
Pflanzenschutz und Pflanzenpflege / Plant protection and plant care		2
Kulturpädagogik und Therapie / Pedagogics of culture and therapy		2
Fotografie und Reproduktionstechnik / Photography and reproduction		2
	<b>38</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Zusatzfächer zum Erwerb der Fachhochschulreife / Additional advanced technical college entrance qualification subjects</b>		
Englisch / English		2
Mathematik / Mathematics		3
Naturwissenschaftliche Grundlagen / Natural sciences	3	

## Special activities

- The “Weihenstephaner Werkformen” exhibition in December – Development of experimental forms of design presented by both first and second-year students
- The “Weihenstephaner Projektstage” exhibition presents the second-year students degree theses. At the same time, the first-year students present their own work on alternating themes. The goals are interdisciplinary cooperation with other branches and professional practice innovations
- The students participate in at least four comprehensive exhibition projects over the course of the two year program
- Educational projects for the development and practical implementation of interior design, indoor greenery, corporate and marketing concepts
- Study trips and educational courses related to historical and contemporary design
- Excursions sensitize the perception, the understanding of nature and offer insights into the basic features of design in art
- Discussions with industry experts on aspects of start-ups, corporate concepts and the organization of work within a company
- Participation in public events and lectures hosted by the Hochschule Weihenstephan-Triesdorf with emphasis on pedagogical topics
- International studies abroad as part of the European Education Program (Europäischen Bildungsprogrammes) ERASMUS+
- The Staatliche Fachschule für Blumenkunst Weihenstephan is a member of the FLORNET transnational network (EEIG)

## Registration, advice, information

We will gladly send you the application documents without obligation. For telephone enquiries please contact the registry office between 8:00 am and 1:00 pm.

In addition, you have the opportunity of a personal conversation with the school director as well as the teachers and both the first and second year students. To ensure a complete school experience we also offer the possibility of taking part in both theory and practical lessons.

All application documents must be submitted to the school management no later than March 31st of each year.

## Address

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## Responsible Institution

The Bavarian Ministry of Education and Culture is directly responsible for the school.

Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Unterricht und Kultus  
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