



German American Co-op

# Bachelor's Degree Program in International Engineering & Management

# Co-op comparison

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



COLLEGE OF  
**CHARLESTON**

NORDAKADEMIE  
**GERMAN UNIVERSITY**  
OF APPLIED SCIENCES



# Why now?

- **Companies**
  - **Shortage of skilled technical employees:** Business is at risk due to lack of employees and high turn over
  - **Increasing local and foreign investments in South Carolina:** German companies are currently investing more in the US than in Germany
- **Students and their families**
  - **Loss of faith in the value of traditional College education:** massive student debt, underemployed degree-holders, confidence in higher education fell from 57% to 36% [1]
  - **Less costs for students**

[1] The Wall Street Journal, [Why Americans Have Lost Faith in the Value of College](#), Douglas Belkin, January 19, 2024

# Benefits for the company

- **Work Performance from Day One** – students contribute to the company from the start of their studies rather than years after graduation.
- **Aligned Working and Studying** – 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.

# Learning & Practical Application

International Engineering & Management Bachelor of Engineering						
Semester	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Economics, Law and Social Sciences</b>						
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						●
<b>Mathematics, Computer Science, Natural Sciences, Technology</b>						
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					●	
<b>Integration</b>						
Fundamentals of Engineering	●					
Systems Engineering: Life Cycle Design and Management		●				
Data-driven Decision Making		●				
Logistics, Operations Research		●				
Production Management incl. Lab.				●		
<b>Soft Skills und Languages</b>						
Intercultural Communication	●					
Foreign Language	●	●				
<b>Final Thesis</b>						
Bachelor's Thesis						●
<b>Work Placement</b>						
Theory-Practice Transfer Paper		●	●	●	●	●
Achieving B1 level in German after completing the studies.						

- **6 Total Semesters over 3 years:** 1st and 3rd year at The College of Charleston, and 2<sup>nd</sup> year in Germany.
- **Cohort Learning:** Participants learning together in classrooms reserved exclusively for this program.
- **Department Rotations:** Companies design department rotations that align with recent classes taken, to reinforce learning, and provide participants an opportunity to write papers that reflect their learning and exposure to your departments and processes.

Departments for rotation (exemplary)*	Basic Level		Advanced Level
	1st year	2nd year	3rd year
<b>Technical training</b>			
Production	x		x
Technical Engineering	x		x
Laboratory	x	x	
<b>Business Management training</b>			
Purchasing / Procurement		x	x
Accounting / Controlling	x		x
HR / Personnel		x	
Marketing		x	
<b>Training in integration areas</b>			
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



# Program Timeline and Key Dates



April 13 to June 19: Onboarding + Classes at College of Charleston

June 22 to 26: Exams at College of Charleston

# Company Engagement so far...



*Powering Business Worldwide*



Mercedes-Benz Vans



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Savannah River  
**NUCLEAR SOLUTIONS<sup>SM</sup>**

# Recruit and hire qualified candidates

- **University entry requirements**

- High school diploma combined with an associate degree -> “2 + 3 Model”
- Graduation from a German school (Abitur)
- High school diploma and have passed Advanced Placement (AP) exams
- High school diploma and have successfully completed 2 years of study at an accredited college or university

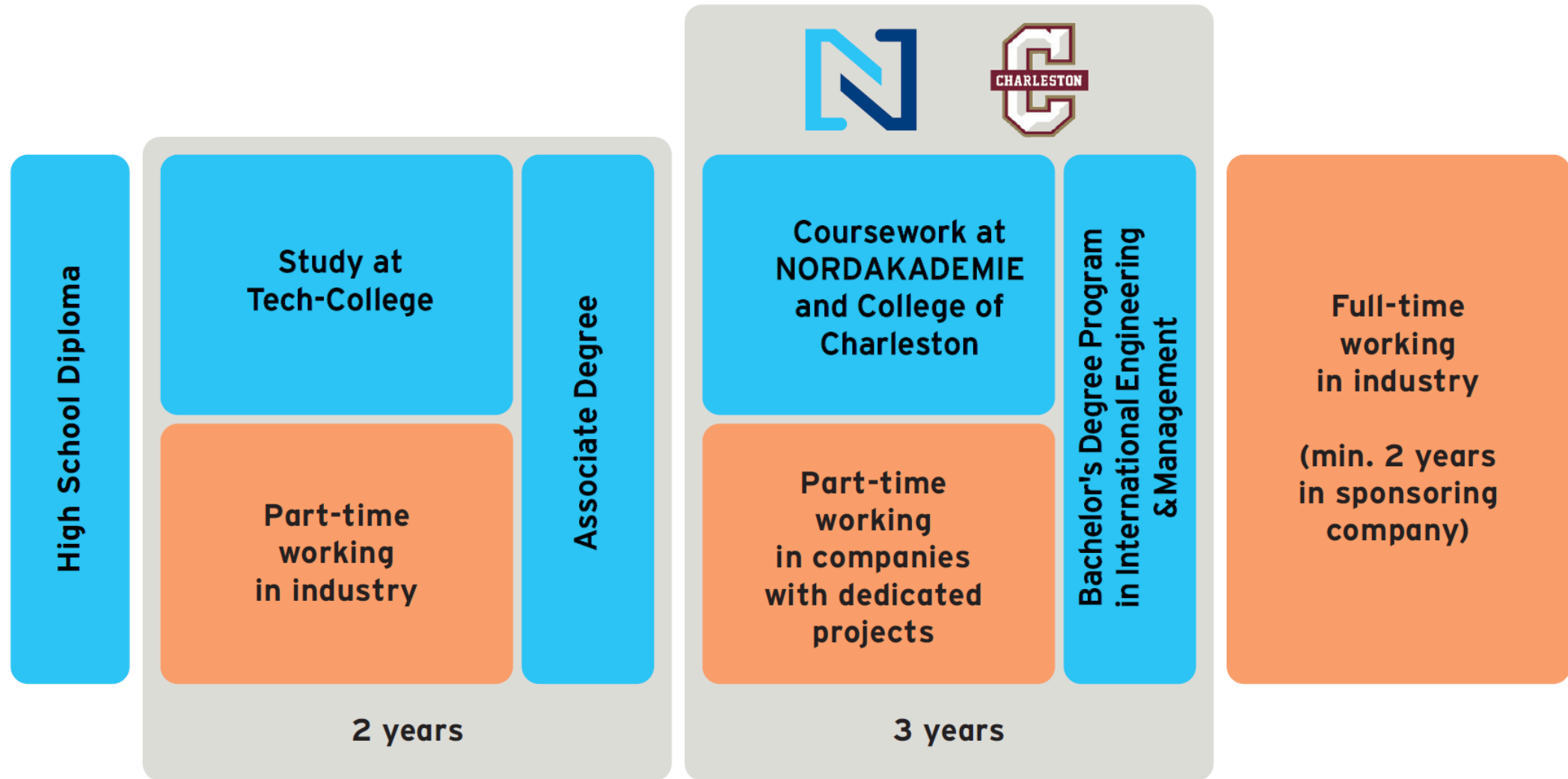
- **Target Groups**

- American students
- German students
- Internal employees

Interested students will take an online selection test through NORDAKADEMIE.



# 2 + 3 Model



# Student Application Process

1<sup>st</sup>

Apply to University

2<sup>nd</sup>

Successful completion of the selection process at the University  
(online assessment test)

3<sup>rd</sup>

Apply to partner companies and participate in the company's  
individual application process

4<sup>th</sup>

Contract & Enrollment

- Compensation
- Travel and living expenses

Application Form:



# Financials

Cost Breakdown	1 Student	2 Students
Tuition Fee	\$22K x 3 yrs = \$66K	\$44K x 3 yrs = \$132K
Federal Funding - offer 2026	---	-\$22K x 3 yrs = -\$66K
State / Apprenticeship Carolina	-\$6K x 3 yrs = -\$18K -\$1K x 3 yrs = -\$3K Total = -\$21K	-\$12K x 3 yrs = -\$36K -\$2K x 3 yrs = -\$6K Total = -\$42K
Sub-Total	\$45K (\$15K x 3 yrs)	\$24K (\$8K x 3 yrs)
Student Compensation	Company Decision	Company Decision
Travel and living expenses	Company Decision	Company Decision
Student Cost-Participation	Company Decision	Company Decision

in negotiation

# Thoughts to annual Compensation / Student Sponsoring

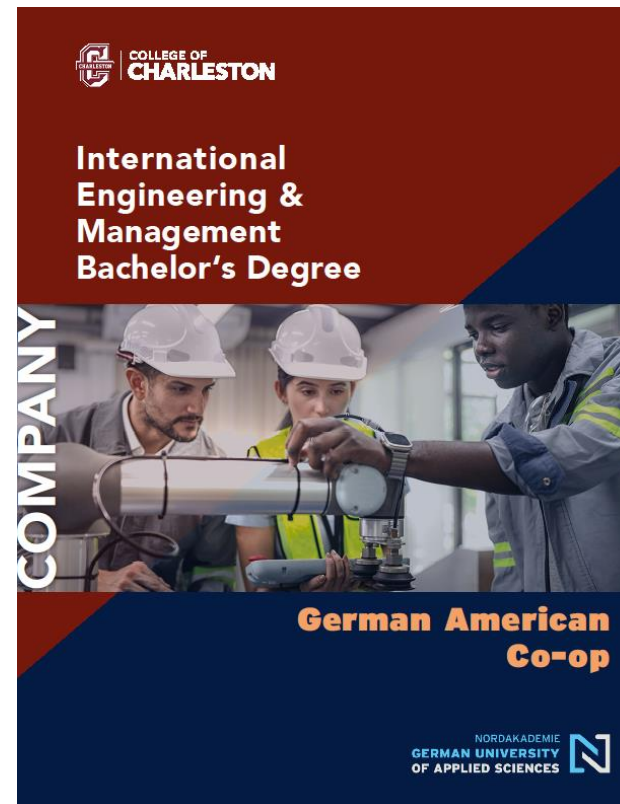
Annual Cost-Suggestion	Company	University	
		Charleston South Carolina	Hamburg Germany
Stay in weeks	32	20	
Student Compensation	\$25 per hour average (\$23 in 1st year, \$27 in 3rd)	No Compensation	
Travel and housing expenses	No	No	Yes (app. \$6K)
Health Insurance	Company Contract		
Tuition Fee	\$22,000		

# For more information...

Website:

[charleston.edu/nordakademie](http://charleston.edu/nordakademie)

Rack-cards and brochures:



## Address

College of Charleston  
65 George Street  
Charleston, South Carolina  
USA  
[charleston.edu](http://charleston.edu)

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# College of Charleston

- College of Charleston (CofC), located in Charleston, South Carolina is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the United States
- The campus offers a unique blend of Southern tradition and innovative education
- CofC is known for its strong programs in business, sciences, international studies, and the arts
- Small class sizes and dedicated faculty ensure a personalized learning experience
- The university provides a vibrant student life





# NORDAKADEMIE – facts and figures



## Leading in Dual Education

- NORDAKADEMIE is a private, non-profit, state-recognized university of applied sciences in **Hamburg, northern part of Germany**, specializing in dual and part-time degree programs
- **University offers** business, engineering, and IT programs
- Dual study model with its practical approach, industry integration, and commitment to quality education ensures **strong industry connections** and excellent career prospects
- Close partnerships with **more than 400 companies**
- Small class sizes, modern facilities, and a focus on **innovation and sustainability**