



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



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# Master's degree

UNIKASSEL  
VERSITÄT

## Labour Policies and Globalisation

University of Kassel • Kassel

### Overview

Degree	Master of Arts in Labour Policies and Globalisation
In cooperation with	Joint degree offered by the University of Kassel and the Berlin School of Economics and Law (HWR)
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English</li></ul>
Languages	All courses are held in English.
Full-time / part-time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>full-time</li></ul>
Programme duration	2 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Additional information on beginning, duration and mode of study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Winter semester from October to mid February at the University of Kassel</li><li>Integrated six-week internship during the winter semester between February and March</li><li>Summer semester from April to September at the Berlin School of Economics and Law</li></ul>
Application deadline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Application with a degree earned in Germany:</b> 1 June until 1 September</li><li><b>Application with a degree earned outside Germany:</b> starts in December each year</li></ul> <p>For more information about the application procedure and deadlines, please have a look at the programme website: <a href="https://www.uni-kassel.de/uni/studium/labour-policies-and-globalisation-master">https://www.uni-kassel.de/uni/studium/labour-policies-and-globalisation-master</a>.</p>
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	Varied
Additional information on tuition fees	The programme uniquely supports global trade unionists, offering practical engagement beyond regular academic study. Close interaction such as guest lectures, workshops, and field trips incurs costs beyond the semester fee. For this reason, students are charged a one-time contribution of 1,500 EUR, which is typically covered by endorsing trade unions or supporting organisations.
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	Yes

**Description/content**

With its research-oriented profile, the programme qualifies students for independent scientific work. The central idea of the programme revolves around the development and communication of practical solutions to the social and labour policy challenges posed by globalisation. This objective is pursued within an international and interdisciplinary framework. The Labour Policies and Globalisation programme provides students with a critical understanding of theoretical approaches as well as key actors and processes in the global political economy. Special emphasis is placed on issues of representation of workers' interests and social movements. By conducting a theory-driven examination of these issues and integrating practice-based elements into the programme, students are enabled to apply their insights to both practical and academic contexts.

## Course Details

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**Course organisation**

The one-year Master's programme starts in the winter semester at the University of Kassel. During the winter semester, the students need to complete the following mandatory modules:

- Module 1: Process of Globalisation
  - One World Seminar
  - Trade Union Strategies in a Global Economy
  - Governance of Globalisation
  - The Role of Labour in the Global Political Economy
- Module 2: Research Methods
  - Lecture
  - Seminar

For the joint degree, second semester courses will take place at the Berlin School of Economics and Law. During the summer semester, the students are expected to complete the following modules:

- Module 3: Global Challenges to Labour
  - Global Workers' Rights
  - Decent Work in Global Value Chains
- Module 4: Economics and Legal Responses to Globalisation
  - Economic Policy and the Role of Trade Unions
  - Elective

Students are expected to write the Master's thesis during the summer semester.

Forms of teaching and studying include colloquium, workshops, internships, tutorials, excursions, and lectures.

**A Diploma supplement will be issued**

Yes

**International elements**

- International guest lecturers
- Training in intercultural skills
- Projects with partners in Germany and abroad
- International comparisons and thematic reference to the international context

**Description of other international elements**

The Master's programme in Labour Policies and Globalisation is part of the Global Labour University (GLU). In this academic network, trade unionists study, research and debate together in a global environment. The GLU is rooted in the partnership of trade unions, universities, the ILO and labour support organisations across the world. By building a network between workers' organisations and the scientific community, it contributes to the analytical and strategic capacities of labour in debating and acting for social justice.

**Integrated internships**

Following the first semester, students will have to complete a six-week internship. The internships

are an integrated and compulsory part of the Master's programme. They provide unique insights into the work and activities of the Global Union Federations, international trade unions, labour-related research foundations, German trade unions, or works councils of German-based transnational companies. During the internship, students will be working on specially assigned projects that are part of the global activities of the host organisations. At the end of the internship they will have to write a report on their activities. The programme provides substantial help in finding appropriate internship opportunities.

<b>Special promotion / funding of the programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DAAD development-related postgraduate course</li> <li>• Other (e.g. state level)</li> </ul>
<b>Course-specific, integrated German language courses</b>	No
<b>Course-specific, integrated English language courses</b>	Yes

## Costs / Funding

<b>Tuition fees per semester in EUR</b>	Varied
<b>Additional information on tuition fees</b>	The programme uniquely supports global trade unionists, offering practical engagement beyond regular academic study. Close interaction such as guest lectures, workshops, and field trips incurs costs beyond the semester fee. For this reason, students are charged a one-time contribution of 1,500 EUR, which is typically covered by endorsing trade unions or supporting organisations.
<b>Semester contribution</b>	<p>Semester fees range from 300 EUR to 350 EUR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University of Kassel: <a href="https://goto.uni-kassel.de/go/UKSsemesterfees">https://goto.uni-kassel.de/go/UKSsemesterfees</a></li> <li>• Berlin School of Economics and Law: <a href="https://www.hwr-berlin.de/en/study/studying-at-the-hwr-berlin/organizing-your-degree/semester-fee/">https://www.hwr-berlin.de/en/study/studying-at-the-hwr-berlin/organizing-your-degree/semester-fee/</a></li> </ul>
<b>Costs of living</b>	In order to cover personal expenses while studying in Kassel, it is recommended that students budget around 750 to 900 EUR per month for accommodation, food, health insurance, books, and miscellaneous expenses.
<b>Funding opportunities within the university</b>	Yes
<b>Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university</b>	<p>A limited number of scholarships is available to students from the Global South with a strong trade union background.</p> <p>Applicants who wish to be considered for a scholarship should inform the programme coordinator at <a href="mailto:glu.germany@uni-kassel.de">glu.germany@uni-kassel.de</a> during the application period.</p>

## Requirements / Registration

## Academic admission requirements

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent in economics, law, pedagogy or social sciences
- A total of 240 acquired ECTS credits are required. In case you have earned less than 240 credits during your BA studies, it is still possible to be admitted to our programme. The admission will then be conditional, contingent upon your completing the missing credits during your MA studies by completing more courses or extending your studies by one or two semesters.
- Advanced knowledge on issues of labour relations and at least one year of practical experience in the representation of workers' interests are required. Proof is provided by submitting references and/or letters of recommendation issued by the organisation where the experience was obtained.
- A letter of motivation (maximum three pages long) covering the following questions:
  - How are your previous qualifications and your prospective professional aims and aspirations related to the Labour Policies and Globalisation programme?
  - What is your experience and knowledge in the field of labour relations?
  - Which challenges can you identify for trade union work in the context of a globalised economy and how can these challenges be researched (research proposal)?

Exceptions to the eligibility criteria are decided by the Audit Committee.

## Language requirements

Knowledge of English language – equivalent to level B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEF)

## Application deadline

- **Application with a degree earned in Germany:** 1 June until 1 September
- **Application with a degree earned outside Germany:** starts in December each year

For more information about the application procedure and deadlines, please have a look at the programme website: <https://www.uni-kassel.de/uni/studium/labour-policies-and-globalisation-master>.

## Submit application to

- **BA degree earned in Germany:** <https://goto.uni-kassel.de/go/germancertificate>
- **BA degree earned outside Germany:** <https://goto.uni-kassel.de/go/foreigncertificate>

# Services

## Possibility of finding part-time employment

Students can apply for various part-time jobs or work as student assistants on campus. Please have a look at [www.uni-kassel.de](http://www.uni-kassel.de). Some departments also provide positions as tutors or working students.

## Accommodation

International students enrolled at the University of Kassel can choose between staying at a student residence hall ("Wohnheim") or private accommodation. There are about 1,000 rooms available in the student residencies around the campus. Please have a look at <https://www.studierendenwerk-kassel.de/en/wohnen/>. Rent for a room varies between 200 and 350 EUR per month depending on the location and facilities. Students can choose single apartments with en-suite facilities or a shared flat with fellow students. Private furnished or unfurnished accommodation in Kassel is also available and can be found in the local paper, on flyers on campus, or on the Internet (e.g. social media).

## Support for international students and doctoral candidates

- Welcome event
- Tutors
- Accompanying programme
- Specialist counselling
- Visa matters

- Help with finding accommodation
- Support with registration procedures

#### General services and support for international students and doctoral candidates

Both partner universities have coordination offices that provide students with administrative support throughout their studies. In addition, international students can benefit from comprehensive information provided by the universities on a range of topics, including guidance on preparing for arrival in Germany, assistance with visa matters, and support for students with children.

## Contact

### University of Kassel

Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Political Science, Section Global Political Economy of Labour under the Consideration of Gender Relations

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🌐 Course website: <https://global-labour-university.org/studying/master-courses/kassel-university/>

📘 <https://www.facebook.com/GlobalLabourUniversity/>

🐦 [https://twitter.com/GLU\\_Network?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor](https://twitter.com/GLU_Network?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor)

🌐 <https://www.linkedin.com/company/global-labour-university/mycompany/>

📷 [https://www.instagram.com/glu\\_network/](https://www.instagram.com/glu_network/)

📺 <https://www.youtube.com/user/GLUNetwork/featured>

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# International Programmes in Germany - Database

[www.daad.de/international-programmes](http://www.daad.de/international-programmes)  
[www.daad.de/sommerkurse](http://www.daad.de/sommerkurse)

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## GATE-Germany

Consortium for International Higher Education Marketing  
[www.gate-germany.de](http://www.gate-germany.de)

## Disclaimer

The data used for this database was collected and analysed in good faith and with due diligence. The DAAD and the Content5 AG accept no liability for the correctness of the data contained in the "International Programmes in Germany" and "Language and Short Courses in Germany".

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