



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



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# Master's degree



## MA Development Management

Ruhr-Universität Bochum • Bochum

### Overview

Degree	MA in Development Management
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English</li></ul>
Languages	English 100%
Full-time / part-time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>full-time</li></ul>
Programme duration	3 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Application deadline	Applicants for DAAD EPOS scholarships (young professionals from developing countries only): 30 September 2025 at the university, other applicants: 31 December 2025
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	Varied
Additional information on tuition fees	In principle, there are no tuition fees at RUB. However, there are a few exceptions. Therefore, please inform yourself in advance about any additional costs for the degree programme you are interested in.
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	No
Description/content	<p>The aim of the 18-month MA in Development Management is the training of professionals to meet the increasing need for experts in programme and project management that has emerged in international development cooperation.</p> <p>The course gives the student a solid theoretical background and introduces the necessary tools for dealing with the practical problems of managing development programmes and projects. Elements of the curriculum are an introduction to relevant theories in social science and economics, methods of empirical social research, project cycle management, and the application of theoretical and methodological knowledge.</p> <p>During the first semester, an interdisciplinary introduction to relevant theories and strategies of development, mainly from the economic and social science perspective, is given. Attention is also given to methods of empirical research.</p>

The second semester further substantiates the knowledge about developmental topics, focusing in particular on different methods of programme and project planning, implementation, and evaluation.

During the third semester, students concentrate on finalising their Master's thesis.

For their Master's thesis projects, students, in consultation with their mentor, identify a research problem related to a development programme or project as a starting point during the first semester. During the second semester, the topic is addressed from a theoretical perspective in a seminar paper which is also aimed at preparing the student for the empirical research carried out after that semester. The final thesis is designed to demonstrate the student's ability to embed their research in the scientific debate and to communicate it in a clear and coherent way.

## Course Details

### Course organisation

The programme is organised as a mixture of coursework and research work.

During their first semester, students are given a multidisciplinary introduction to relevant theories and strategies of development. They learn about actors in international development cooperation and the role of institutions for development and are faced with relevant case studies. Furthermore, students select a research problem related to a development programme or project as the starting point for their own research project (Master's thesis). This project is preferably related to their home country.

After the first semester, students can undertake a three-month internship in Germany in a development organisation or a corporation in the private sector.

Based on acquired knowledge of relevant theories and tendencies in international development cooperation, the second semester is taken up with learning about the variety of methods of programme and project planning, implementation, and evaluation. Students are required to apply their knowledge to case studies related to the programme or project chosen in the first semester and to present the results in a seminar paper.

After the second semester, students undertake field research on projects and programmes in international development cooperation in developing countries. This will form the empirical basis of their Master's thesis project.

In the third semester, students concentrate on writing their thesis which has to contain theory, methodology, and the results of the fieldwork. The thesis is designed to demonstrate the student's ability to embed the research in the scientific debate and to communicate it in a clear and coherent way.

### A Diploma supplement will be issued

Yes

### International elements

- Language training provided
- Training in intercultural skills
- International guest lecturers
- Specialist literature in other languages
- International comparisons and thematic reference to the international context

### Description of other international elements

Field research for Master's thesis abroad (mainly in home countries of participants)

### Diverse intercultural background of students

The group of students is comprised mostly of participants from more than 15 countries.

<b>Integrated internships</b>	After the first semester, students will have the opportunity of a three-month internship in a German development agency or private sector corporation involved in fields relevant to the programme.
<b>Special promotion / funding of the programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DAAD development-related postgraduate course</li> </ul>
<b>Course-specific, integrated German language courses</b>	Yes
<b>Course-specific, integrated English language courses</b>	No

## Costs / Funding

<b>Tuition fees per semester in EUR</b>	Varied
<b>Additional information on tuition fees</b>	In principle, there are no tuition fees at RUB. However, there are a few exceptions. Therefore, please inform yourself in advance about any additional costs for the degree programme you are interested in.
<b>Semester contribution</b>	Students have to pay a social contribution fee of approx. 325 EUR per semester, including a semester ticket covering public transport in Germany ( <a href="https://studium.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/en/registration-and-social-contribution">https://studium.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/en/registration-and-social-contribution</a> ).
<b>Costs of living</b>	Minimum of 950 EUR per month to cover personal and living expenses in Germany
<b>Funding opportunities within the university</b>	Yes
<b>Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university</b>	<p>Students with outstanding academic performance who are involved in special social activities can receive 300 EUR per month for a year from the Ruhr-Universität Bochum's (RUB) Scholarship Fund "Deutschlandstipendium": <a href="http://www.rub.de/bildungsfonds/info-studierende/en/index_en.html">http://www.rub.de/bildungsfonds/info-studierende/en/index_en.html</a>.</p> <p>International students with good to very good academic performance who need financial support during the final phase of study can receive a graduation grant of 500 EUR per month for six months from the International Office at RUB: <a href="https://international.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/en/graduation-grant-international-students">https://international.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/en/graduation-grant-international-students</a>. Students can apply for a PROMOS scholarship at RUB for the Master's thesis field research abroad: <a href="https://international.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/en/promos-thesis">https://international.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/en/promos-thesis</a>.</p>

## Requirements / Registration

<b>Academic admission requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Above-average (upper second or equivalent) BA or relevant degree in political science, social science, law, economics, human geography, or in other subjects related to planning and evaluation of development programmes and projects</li> <li>• Practical experience related to the management of development programmes and projects</li> </ul>
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<b>Language requirements</b>	English minimum requirements: TOEFL: 79-80 points internet-based (equivalent to 213 points computer-based or 550 paper-based) or IELTS: band 6
<b>Application deadline</b>	Applicants for DAAD EPOS scholarships (young professionals from developing countries only): 30 September 2025 at the university, other applicants: 31 December 2025
<b>Submit application to</b>	The online application form for the 2026 intake is accessible via our <a href="#">homepage</a> .

## Services

<b>Accommodation</b>	<p>In the city of Bochum, you can find different types of accommodation. On average, students in Bochum pay approximately 350 to 600 EUR per month for a single apartment, which is below the average rent in Germany. A room in a shared apartment is usually less expensive.</p> <p>About 5,000 students in Bochum live in multiple student halls close to the campus, which are run by the Akademisches Förderungswerk (AKAFÖ). In the halls, students have their own single room and share a kitchen and bathroom with other students, they rent an apartment with a private bathroom and kitchen, or they share an apartment with one or several flatmates.</p> <p>More information on the student halls can be found at <a href="https://studium.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/de/wohnen">https://studium.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/de/wohnen</a>.</p> <p>In addition, private and church-affiliated student halls accommodate up to 1,000 students: <a href="http://www.stuwo.de/wohnheim-region/bochum/">http://www.stuwo.de/wohnheim-region/bochum/</a>.</p>
<b>Support for international students and doctoral candidates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome event</li> <li>• Specialist counselling</li> <li>• Visa matters</li> </ul>
<b>Supervisor-student ratio</b>	1:4-5

## Contact

### Ruhr-Universität Bochum

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🌐 Course website: <https://www.development-research.org/studies/ma-in-development-management-madm>

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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)

## Editor

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German Academic Exchange Service

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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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