



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



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Master's degree



Master of Arts in Sociology

University of Mannheim • Mannheim



Overview

Degree	Master of Arts in Sociology
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">English
Languages	Courses are held entirely in English.
Full-time / part-time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">full-time
Programme duration	4 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Application deadline	1 April to 15 May for the following winter semester Additionally, please check the website of the admissions office regularly for the current application deadlines.
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	Varied
Additional information on tuition fees	International students from non-EU/EEA countries are required to pay a tuition fee of 1,500 EUR per semester. International students who fulfil certain exceptional criteria are not obliged to pay tuition fees: Tuition Fees for International Students
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	No
Description/content	The MA Sociology degree programme at the School of Social Sciences offers a two-year research-oriented education in an internationally renowned research university environment. The programme builds on the school's strength in empirical-analytical approaches, particularly in

quantitative methods and comparative research. The curriculum emphasises training in empirical analysis that is firmly grounded in both theory and rigorous methods. Substantive areas of concentration include Family, Education & Work, Migration & Integration, Economy & Social Welfare State, and Social Inequality. All classes are taught in English.

The programme is divided into seven modules: Sociological Research Fields, Foundations of Sociological Theory, Cross-Sectional Data Analysis, Longitudinal Data Analysis, Research Design, research project and the Master's thesis.

Course Details

Course organisation

The Master's degree programme is organised in modules. Within every module, students need to take a number of courses.

The programme contains seven modules in total: Sociological Research Fields, Foundations of Sociological Theory, Cross-Sectional Data Analysis, Longitudinal Data Analysis, Research Design, research project and the Master's thesis:

- Within the module "**Sociological Research Fields**", students may choose five elective seminars among different areas of concentration, such as Social Inequality & Stratification; Sociology of Migration; Comparative Welfare State Analysis, Labour Relations, Organisational Theory, Networks & Segregation, Economic Sociology, Fertility & Family Formation, Sociology of Education, Labour Markets & Occupations or Ethnic Inequality & Segregation and Social Psychology.
- The module "**Foundations of Sociological Theory**" covers central aspects of sociological theory development and its foundations based on scientific theory. It offers an overview of the methodology of sociological explanations and the central, general components of sociological theories in research.
- In "**Cross-Sectional Data Analysis**", processes for cross-sectional regression analysis (linear and categorical) are covered at an advanced level.
- In "**Longitudinal Data Analysis**", the analysis of event history data and panel data is taught during the lecture. Practical research methods are taught during the exercise course using secondary data and information from other sources.
- The module "**Research Design**" encourages students to develop a suitable research design for a concrete research question (particularly with regard to the Master's thesis), and to select and use the available information bases. A required **research internship** is designed to offer hands-on experience in empirical research. Students may attend a summer school programme or work as a student assistant as a substitute for the internship requirement. Our internship office will assist the students in finding internship positions and summer school programmes that fit their interests.
- During the "**Research Project**", the Seminar in Research Methods deepens and extends knowledge of advanced methods of empirical social research in preparation for the subsequent Research Project seminar. During the exercise course, Exemplary Empirical Studies, explanation approaches are evaluated using exemplary new publications, and formal and stylistic standards for academic texts are taught. In the final Research Project Seminar, students prepare an empirical-analytical study in a focus area of sociological research.
- Students complete the **Master's thesis** during their fourth semester. The expected format of the thesis is a research article suitable for submission in a professional journal in the social sciences. Research questions, research designs and initial empirical findings are presented during the Master's Forum Day. The colloquium accompanies the production of the Master's thesis. Our school is deeply committed to mentoring students as they take this important step toward a successful academic career.

» [PDF Download](#)

A Diploma supplement will be issued

Yes

International elements

- International guest lecturers
- Projects with partners in Germany and abroad

- International comparisons and thematic reference to the international context

Integrated internships	<p>A six-week research internship is an integral part of the Master's degree programme. To gain the required 6 ECTS, students must either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a six-week internship at a social science research institution (academic or non-academic) or • attend a two-week summer school with an empirical focus in the social sciences. <p>In case you work as a research assistant to one of the professors at the Department of Sociology or a related field, your work may receive credit as an internship as well. For more information on this and general questions about the internship or summer schools, please contact our Internship Office.</p>
Course-specific, integrated German language courses	No
Course-specific, integrated English language courses	No

Costs / Funding

Tuition fees per semester in EUR	Varied
Additional information on tuition fees	<p>International students from non-EU/EEA countries are required to pay a tuition fee of 1,500 EUR per semester.</p> <p>International students who fulfil certain exceptional criteria are not obliged to pay tuition fees: Tuition Fees for International Students</p>
Semester contribution	The semester contribution amounts to approx. 200 EUR per semester. There are several ticket options for public transport available in the Mannheim-Heidelberg metropolitan area. Each will incur different additional costs.
Costs of living	Approx. 750 to 850 EUR per month to cover all personal expenses
Funding opportunities within the university	Yes
Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university	The University of Mannheim has one of the most differentiated scholarship systems among public higher education institutions in Germany, and it cooperates with a large network of partners and sponsors.

Requirements / Registration

Academic admission requirements	Entry requirements:
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1. Academic admission requirements include a Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences or a subject-related degree, which was completed with a grade of at least "good" (German Grade equivalent 2.5). For international students, international guidelines for grading standards will be applied. If a Bachelor's degree has not been completed by the time of the application, a current transcript of records of at least 130 ECTS-Points (or the equivalent) has to be submitted. This document will be the basis for admission. The latest deadline for submitting the Bachelor's degree is mid-October.
2. Good English language skills (see below)
3. You must submit a certificate (or transcript of records) with at least one course in statistical analysis and/or social research methods, which was completed with a grade of at least "good" (German Grade equivalent 2.5).

Language requirements

Applicants have to provide proof of sufficient English proficiency. The successful completion of a programme of study with English as the language of instruction and examination or a University Entrance Qualification (HZB) from a school based in a school system in which the official language is English serve as proof. If an applicant has obtained neither of the above, the following test results can serve as proof of English proficiency:

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL iBT) with at least 90 points or equivalent
- International English Language Testing System - Academic Test (IELTS) with a band score of 6.5 or better
- Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) with level C or better
- Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) with level C or better
- The European Language Certificate (telc) - English University with level C or better
- Continuous attendance of English classes throughout the German secondary school education with a minimum average of 11 points, the proof must not be older than five years
- Certificate of the language test offered by the "Universität Mannheim Service and Marketing GmbH" with a minimum level of C1 in listening comprehension, written language, spoken language, and reading comprehension

Application deadline

1 April to 15 May for the following winter semester

Additionally, please check the website of the admissions office regularly for the current application deadlines.

Submit application to

[Admissions Office](#)

Universität Mannheim
Zulassungsstelle (Admissions Office)
L1,1
68161 Mannheim
Germany

Services

Possibility of finding part-time employment

Various student research assistant positions are available to MA students at the university and the research institutions that are situated on our campus.

Accommodation

The International Office offers support in finding dorm rooms and private accommodation. Student halls of residence are the ideal place to get to know not only German students but also fellow students from all over the world. Depending on the hall, you will live with two to eight fellow students in a shared apartment. Every student has his or her own room, but the kitchen, bathroom, and toilet are communal. Additionally, the International Office offers a very limited number of one-bedroom apartments with a small in-room kitchen and bathroom. The kitchens are fully equipped with cooking facilities and a refrigerator.

Career advisory service

The university strives to provide international degree-seeking students with the same opportunities as their fellow German students.

There are a number of institutions within the university which offer support in job and career issues. The school's own Internship Office offers career support as well as the Career Network, the central information platform of the University of Mannheim that focuses on work and career and accompanies students and graduates on their way to start their career with a diverse range of services.

Furthermore, the project "Step by Step", which is offered by the University's International Office, aims especially to facilitate the integration of international graduates in the (German) labour market. The project seeks to increase students' career opportunities and strengthen their intention to stay in Germany.

Support for international students and doctoral candidates

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

Supervisor-student ratio

1:15



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Sophie Horneber
MA

Pursuing the Master's programme in Sociology at the University of Mannheim was the best choice I could have ever made with regard to both my personal and professional development. The proximity to the important social research institutes in Mannheim, GESIS and MZES, creates an ideal research atmosphere, while the focus on empirical methods and the Mannheim research network provide great opportunities both in research and economy.

Our Partners



School of Social Sciences / Sociology in Mannheim

Studying Sociology at the University of Mannheim

» more:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RgCMB_uBrOo



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For generations, the University of Mannheim has been preparing students to take on leadership roles in business, academia, and society. One of the university's strengths in this task is its profile, which is characterised by the economic and social sciences. It is in these fields that the University of Mannheim has repeatedly been ranked as one of the top 20 European research institutions.

Staff members at six schools and departments teach and carry out research in business administration, economics, the humanities, social sciences, law, business informatics, and mathematics.

Global Network

Researchers at the university collaborate with numerous national and international partners. The university has a particularly close relationship with the ZEW – Leibniz Centre for European Economic Research, one of the leading economic research institutes in Germany, the GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, and the Leibniz-Institut für Deutsche Sprache (IDS). The Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES) is the largest research institution for social sciences at a university in Germany, and it is one of the leading institutions of its kind on the international stage.

International Campus

The campus surrounding Mannheim's baroque palace is a place where bright minds from across the globe come together to learn, discuss, research, and prepare to make their mark on the world. Every fifth student at the university comes from abroad to pursue a Bachelor's, Master's, or doctoral degree in Mannheim. Students of the Mannheim Business School also come from overseas to obtain a management qualification at one of the top 25 MBA providers in the world.

Research that Benefits Society

The University of Mannheim is known for its practical orientation and its knowledge transfer with society. Numerous researchers are members of national or international bodies, or they work at institutes or associations that have an advisory role in business, society, and politics. Students are also active in society. The many organisations and associations on campus give them the chance to help make the world a better place.



University location

Mannheim has more than 300,000 residents and is located in Baden-Württemberg at the confluence of the rivers Rhine and Neckar. The city impresses with its diversity: a successful mixture of shopping districts, industrial and service centres, places of cultural interest, art nouveau buildings, the large baroque palace which houses the university, and several extensive recreational areas. The beautiful regions of Odenwald and Palatinate, both of which are very popular for walking and cycling, are close to Mannheim. The symbol of Mannheim is its water tower, a 60-metre-high sandstone colossus next to the city centre, which is characterised by its chessboard-style street grid that is unique in Germany.

Thanks to Mannheim's central location and extensive transport connections, a variety of charming towns are within easy reach, and

France and Switzerland are only a relatively short journey away. Frankfurt airport can be reached by train within 30 minutes.

Contact

University of Mannheim
School of Social Sciences
Dean's Office

A5 6
68131 Mannheim

Tel. +49 6211812188

✉ sociology@uni-mannheim.de

🌐 Course website: https://www.sowi.uni-mannheim.de/studium/studieninteressierte/ma-sociology/?mtm_campaign=DAAD-Sociology&mtm_kwd=Steckbrief-Sociology&mtm_source=DAAD&mtm_medium=Hyperlink

🌐 <https://www.linkedin.com/school/university-of-mannheim/>

📷 https://www.instagram.com/uni_mannheim/?hl=de

📺 <https://www.youtube.com/@unimannheim>

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International Programmes in Germany - Database

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Editor

DAAD - Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst e.V.
German Academic Exchange Service
Section K23 – Information on Studying in Germany
Kennedyallee 50
D-53175 Bonn
www.daad.de

GATE-Germany

Consortium for International Higher Education Marketing
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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of Education
and Research