



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



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# Master's degree

## Religion in the Public Sphere



Leibniz University Hannover • Hannover



## Overview

Degree	Master of Arts, optional: Double Degree
Course location	Hannover
In cooperation with	The universities of <a href="#">Södertörn</a> (Sweden) and <a href="#">Roma Tre</a> (Italy)
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English</li></ul>
Languages	As a rule, courses and examinations are conducted in English.
Programme duration	4 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Application deadline	<p><b>Application from students from non-EU countries (<a href="#">VPD from uni-assist is required</a>)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>15 April to 31 May of the year for the winter semester</li><li>15 October to 30 November of the previous year for the summer semester</li></ul> <p><b>Application from students from Germany and the EU</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 June to 15 July of the year for the winter semester</li><li>1 December to 15 January of the year for the summer semester</li></ul> <p>Prospective students applying from outside the EU must request a <b>Preliminary Examination Documentation (VPD)</b> from uni-assist before applying to the Master's programme. The processing time for the VPD takes <b>up to eight weeks</b>. Therefore, please allow enough time before applying for the programme. More information about applying for the VPD can be found on the <a href="#">central application pages</a>.</p>
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree	Yes

## programme

### Description/content

This Master's programme focuses on negotiations, practices and power relations concerning religion in various areas of the public sphere. In a broader sense, related categories and concepts such as identity, secularity, and modernity are major points of interest in this course of study. Geographically, the emphasis is initially on Europe, leading to subsequent international comparisons. This concerns the discourse on religion (e.g. exemptions for "religion" in social spheres) as well as discourses on individual religions (e.g. Christianity as "cultural heritage", Islam as a "challenge", and Buddhism as a "modern philosophy of life"). As such, this MA in Religion in the Public Sphere (RelPub) differs from many traditional religious studies programmes, which tend to focus on religious practice in religious communities.

Students will be prepared to work in a professional environment that addresses these processes and the dynamics of multicultural, democratic societies. They will learn to analyse different conflict constellations, to address these constellations confidently and constructively, and to develop sustainable, solution-oriented strategies.

The degree programme is offered by the Institute for the Study of Religion in cooperation with the Institute of Sociology. A special feature of the programme is the option of gaining a double degree instead of just the Master's degree in Hanover. This is made possible through cooperation with the universities of Södertörn (Sweden) and Roma Tre (Italy).

## Course Details

### Course organisation

The degree programme can be studied as a home track or double degree track. Both tracks focus on debates and negotiations concerning religion in a variety of social spheres. The debates are exemplified through three topic modules – "Education and Research", "Politics and Law" and "Society and Culture" – which mark different arenas of the public sphere. The underlying theoretical perspective on the thematic area is outlined in the "Introductory Module" and expanded on in the "Research and Debates" module. Students practice using and applying the theories and methods required to empirically research the object of investigation in the "Methods" module.

Students from both tracks take the same modules in the first, second and fourth semesters. Students on the double degree track spend their third semester at one of our two partner universities. Students on the home track use this semester to conduct their own research project under supervision or to complete a study-relevant internship.

[» PDF Download](#)

### A Diploma supplement will be issued

Yes

### International elements

- Specialist literature in other languages
- Training in intercultural skills
- International comparisons and thematic reference to the international context
- Content-related regional focus

### Integrated internships

No internship is required, but it may be useful. The field module in the third semester provides students who do not go abroad with the opportunity to do an internship.

### Course-specific, integrated German language courses

No

### Course-specific, integrated English language courses

No

## Costs / Funding

<b>Tuition fees per semester in EUR</b>	None
<b>Semester contribution</b>	<p>Approx. 400 EUR semester fee ("Semesterbeitrag") The semester fee includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contribution to the "Studentenwerk Hannover" (student services organisation)</li><li>• Contribution to the student government (Student Union, AStA)</li><li>• Semester ticket</li><li>• Contribution to administrative costs for the Federal State of Lower Saxony</li></ul> <p><a href="http://go.lu-h.de/study-costs">http://go.lu-h.de/study-costs</a></p>
<b>Costs of living</b>	<p>Compared with other European countries, the cost of living in Germany is quite reasonable. The prices for food, accommodation, clothing, cultural events, etc. are basically in line with the EU average. You will need around 850 EUR a month to cover your living expenses. The largest expense will be your monthly rent. In Hanover, the rent amounts to between 300 and 500 EUR per month.</p> <p>Cost of studying at Leibniz University Hannover: <a href="http://go.lu-h.de/study-costs">http://go.lu-h.de/study-costs</a></p> <p>General information on the cost of studying in Germany: <a href="https://www.study-in.de/en/plan-your-stay/money-and-costs/cost-of-living_28220.php">https://www.study-in.de/en/plan-your-stay/money-and-costs/cost-of-living_28220.php</a></p>
<b>Funding opportunities within the university</b>	Yes
<b>Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university</b>	<p>Although tuition fees no longer exist in Lower Saxony, costs are indeed incurred at university, such as the semester fee, accommodation and living costs, and costs for learning materials. Here you will find possibilities to help you finance your studies: <a href="http://www.uni-hannover.de/en/studium/finanzierung-foerderung">www.uni-hannover.de/en/studium/finanzierung-foerderung</a></p> <p>Deutschlandstipendium: <a href="http://go.lu-h.de/deutschlandstipendium">go.lu-h.de/deutschlandstipendium</a></p> <p>Niedersachsenstipendium: <a href="http://go.lu-h.de/niedersachsenstipendium">go.lu-h.de/niedersachsenstipendium</a></p>

## Requirements / Registration

<b>Academic admission requirements</b>	<p>A prerequisite for a successful application is a Bachelor's degree (or comparable degree) in the study of religion or a social science degree programme or subject. Alternatively, a Bachelor's degree or equivalent degree in any other cultural or social studies programme with proof of in-depth knowledge relevant to the study of religion is also possible.</p>
<b>Language requirements</b>	<p>Language regulations for international applicants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• For the "Home Track": <a href="#">English B2</a></li><li>• For the "Double Degree Track": <a href="#">English C1</a></li></ul>

## Application deadline

### Application from students from non-EU countries (**VPD from uni-assist is required**)

- 15 April to 31 May of the year for the winter semester
- 15 October to 30 November of the previous year for the summer semester

### Application from students from Germany and the EU

- 1 June to 15 July of the year for the winter semester
- 1 December to 15 January of the year for the summer semester

Prospective students applying from outside the EU must request a **Preliminary Examination Documentation (VPD)** from uni-assist before applying to the Master's programme. The processing time for the VPD takes **up to eight weeks**. Therefore, please allow enough time before applying for the programme. More information about applying for the VPD can be found on the [central application pages](#).

## Submit application to

Applications need be submitted to the LUH Application Portal. Non-EU applicants first have to apply for a preliminary examination (VPD) from uni-assist.

Please see: <https://www.irw.uni-hannover.de/en/studium/studiengaenge-und-studienfaecher/international-master-programme-religion-in-the-public-sphere/application>

## Services

### Possibility of finding part-time employment

There are many job opportunities for students on campus (in the different departments, the central administration, etc.) and off campus. About two-thirds of our students work at part-time jobs while pursuing their studies.

Internal job postings:

<https://www.uni-hannover.de/en/universitaet/stellenangebote-arbeit-an-der-uni/jobboerse>

Student jobs outside of the university:

[jobbico Uni Hannover](#)

### Accommodation

[Links on housing in Hanover](#) (including a video about housing in Hanover for international students)



©ZSB/LUH

**Julia Oppermann**  
MA student

The programme is primarily constructed in an interdisciplinary way; the wide spectrum of seminars allows you to pursue your academic interests precisely. In rather small seminars, you will develop close contact with the other students as well as with the supportive instructors in Hanover. Furthermore, the programme's unique composition has many advantages: it has a strong practical focus, and the double degree programme with Södertörn and Rome offers an exceptional opportunity for all students!

## Our Partners



## Religion in the Public Sphere (& Double Degree) MA at Leibniz University Hannover

The Master's programme focuses on the negotiation of religion and secularity in current European societies. On the basis of a discursive approach, different areas of culture and society, politics and law, and education are studied. The programme may either be studied fully in Hanover (home track) or both in Hanover and at one of our partner universities as a double degree programme.

» more:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qP97zpldeLE>

# Leibniz University Hannover



The Welfenschloss (main building)

© Christian Schröder, LUH

**Leibniz University Hannover: Shaping the future with knowledge**

As one of the nine leading institutes of technology in Germany, Leibniz University Hannover is aware of its responsibility in seeking

sustainable, peaceful, and responsible solutions to the key issues of tomorrow. Our expertise for this stems from the broad spectrum of subjects, ranging from engineering and natural sciences to architecture and environmental planning, and from law and economics to social sciences and humanities.

The main building of the university is the Royal Welfenschloss (Palace of the Guelphs) at Welfengarten Park. In 1879, the Higher Vocational School, originally founded in 1831, moved into the palace. Later, it became the Königliche Technische Hochschule (Royal College of Technology). Only 64 pupils attended the vocational school at first, **but now there are almost 30,000 students enrolled in the nine faculties of Leibniz University Hannover and some 3,100 researchers are working in more than 180 institutes.**

### Our key research areas

Leibniz University Hannover is among the world's leading institutions in its **key research areas: biomedical research and engineering, quantum optics and gravitational physics, production engineering, and interdisciplinary studies of science and academia.** These give us our innovative strength in developing precision measurement methods, optical technologies, novel materials, intelligent implants, and innovations in information technology or in the field of Industry 4.0.

The broad range of subjects at Leibniz University Hannover is entirely compatible with the overall university strategy of raising its profile, in particular in teaching and research, including the establishment and enhancement of research priority areas originating in the humanities and social sciences. Cooperation agreements with national and international partners strengthen our scientific expertise – our most important partner is Hannover Medical School.

By adopting the name of the polymath **Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz** in 2006, the university committed itself to unity in diversity.



## University location

Leibniz University Hannover is very influential in shaping the image of the state capital of Lower Saxony. Not only structures like the “Welfenschloss”, the university's main building, but especially people contribute to this: approximately 30,000 students are currently enrolled. They have chosen one of the largest universities in Germany that is known for its international excellence in teaching and research. With nine faculties and a comprehensive range of study programmes, Leibniz University Hannover virtually covers the entire academic spectrum.

Find us [here](#) on Google Maps.

## Contact

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🌐 Course website: <https://www.irw.uni-hannover.de/en/studium/studiengaenge-und-studienfaecher/international-master-programme-religion-in-the-public-sphere/>

📘 <https://www.facebook.com/Religionswissenschaft.Hannover>

🌐 <https://www.linkedin.com/school/leibniz-universit-t-hannover-germany/?originalSubdomain=de>

📷 <https://www.instagram.com/repubhannover/>

📺 <https://www.youtube.com/c/LeibnizUniversit%C3%A4tHannover>

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# International Programmes in Germany - Database

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