OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

The Helmut-Schmidt-Programme is designed to academically qualify future leaders in the fields of social & political science, law, economics, public policy and administration according to the principles of Good Governance and to prepare them in a praxis-oriented course for their professional life. The programme offers highly qualified graduates with a first university degree the chance to obtain a master’s degree in disciplines that are of special relevance for the social, political and economic development of their home country. With the knowledge and experience acquired in Germany the scholarship holders should later contribute to the establishment of democratically oriented economic and social systems aimed at overcoming social tensions.

TARGET GROUP

Very well qualified graduates with a first university degree (bachelor or equivalent) who in the future want to actively contribute to the social and economic development of their home countries. The scholarships are offered both for young graduates without professional experience and for mid-career professionals. The scholarship scheme is open to candidates from developing countries.

WHAT IS FUNDABLE?

The scholarships are granted for selected master’s courses at German institutions of higher education in different cities in Germany. The selected master’s courses have a subject-specific focus on public policy, good governance, international relations, public management, public administration, civil society, geo-governance, peace and conflict studies, development and socio-economic policies. The courses have an international orientation and are taught in English and/or German. The scholarship holders will study in groups and be offered special tutoring at their host institutions. Furthermore, there is the possibility of networking events for participants in different courses and their attendance at tailor-made workshops. Before taking up their master studies the scholarship holders will be placed on German courses in Germany for normally 6 months (this also applies to scholarship holders in master’s courses taught in English).

CONTACT AND ADVICE

Further information can be obtained on our website www.daad.de/stipendien-helmut-schmidt-programm or at the 8 universities.
Helmut-Schmidt-Programme
(Master’s Scholarships for Public Policy and Good Governance)

Helmut-Schmidt-Programme Master’s courses

Hochschule Bonn-Rhein-Sieg Master of Analysis and Design of Social Protection Systems

University of Duisburg-Essen Master of Development and Governance

University of Erfurt Master of Public Policy (MPP)

Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS)

University of Applied Sciences Osnabrück Master of Management in Nonprofit-Organisationen

University of Passau Master of Governance and Public Policy

University of Passau Development Studies

University of Potsdam Master of Public Management (MPM)

This DAAD programme is funded by:

Federal Foreign Office
The Hochschule Bonn-Rhein-Sieg (H-BRS) is a young university of applied sciences located near the city of Bonn, which is known for its international flair. The university provides a modern, well-equipped technical infrastructure and an exceptional professor/student ratio for a dynamic learning environment. The department of Social Policy and Social Security Studies is interdisciplinary in nature and prioritizes practice-oriented and innovative learning as well as applied research. The MA collaborates with a wide-ranging network of experienced and internationally renowned practitioners and academics from high-ranking institutions.

**Master Programme**

The MA in Social Protection is a two-year programme, which offers an interdisciplinary and in-depth study of social protection systems. Social protection has been internationally recognized as an essential tool in poverty reduction, climate change adaptation as well as life-cycle risk management. Students learn technical as well as methodological skills to design, reform, analyse and manage social protection policy, skills that are equally relevant in other fields of social policy. Students spend the first semester (six months) in Germany where they interact with classmates and professors and have a chance to visit social protection actors in Germany and neighbouring countries. The second semester is followed online and students have the option of returning to their respective countries or staying in Germany. The online semester offers not only flexibility, but also a combination of different teaching methods that leave students with enhanced digital skills as well as self-organization and collaborative working skills. During the third semester students will apply their theoretical knowledge in an internship at an organization of their choice. The practical term can also be used to collect data for their master’s thesis, which will be written in the fourth and last semester.

**Network and Career**

Graduates of the degree programme will be able to design “smart” social protection systems, which are effective, affordable and flexible enough to meet future socio-economic challenges. The practical term offers students the opportunity to broaden their network and get hands-on experiences. Graduates will have career prospects in a wide variety of fields, e.g. as policy makers, managers and advisers in ministries and government agencies, social security institutions, NGOs, international organisations, bilateral development agencies, private (insurance) companies, etc.

**Student’s Profile**

The master’s programme is particularly designed for highly qualified students in business administration/economics, politics, law, administration, health, education, social science, psychology and international relations/development or related disciplines. Successful candidates must have acquired at least 5 months professional experiences in the field of social policy, possess a good command of the English language and pass an entry exam.

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The University of Duisburg-Essen is located at the centre of a region with the largest number of educational institutions per square kilometre in Europe. About 40,000 students are enrolled at the university. The Institute of Political Science at the University of Duisburg-Essen is one of the largest in Germany. Since October 2010, the Institute of Political Science has been offering the Master’s degree programme in Development and Governance.

Master Programme

The Master of Development and Governance is a one-year fulltime degree programme taught in English. The programme combines teaching in several political science sub-disciplines with a practice-oriented methodology and an optional internship with a German (development) organisation. The main emphasis is on acquiring knowledge of the relevance of different tiers and forms of governance processes, both within industrialised societies and in the Global South. The curriculum consists of four modules (Development, Governance, Research Practice, and Area Studies), and the Master’s thesis. Students select two out of three related courses on Africa, Europe and East Asia and are thus able to specialise on regional issues even within a one-year Master programme.

Network and Career

The programme thus provides students with both policy- and region-specific expertise and serves as a building block for professional careers within the administrations, governments or development organisations of their home countries or for a career in international organisations whether governmental or not. To meet the requirements of the professional world and in order to be able to offer interesting internships and contacts, the institute continuously extends its network. The Institute of Political Science at the University of Duisburg-Essen has partnership programmes with the INEF (Institute for Development and Peace), the Institute of East Asian Studies, and the Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research and the Institute of Development Research and Development Policy at Ruhr-University Bochum. Researchers from the policy-oriented think tank German Development Institute contribute to the teaching. The ‘International Development Network’ at UDE brings together alumni from MA Development and Governance and a related German MA programme and serves as an ideal platform for networking after the completion of the programme.

Student’s Profile

The programme is designed for students with a Bachelor’s degree requiring four years of full time study in political science, social science, law, economics, or geography. Students have ideally already acquired some professional experiences in administration, government or development organisations of their home countries or international organisations in order to benefit most from the MA programme. Successful candidates for this programme possess a strong academic record and a very good English language proficiency. The programme includes a mentorship programme offered by both the Institute and the International Office of the University of Duisburg-Essen.

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The Willy Brandt School of Public Policy at the University of Erfurt is a professional school, providing a stimulating environment for those who strive for management and leadership positions in the public and non-profit sector. Established in 2002 as the Erfurt School of Public Policy, the Brandt School offers one of the first Master of Public Policy (MPP) degree programmes at a German university. At the same time, the Brandt School also functions as a research institution and is part of an active international cooperation network in the field of public policy.

**Master Programme**

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) is a two-year, interdisciplinary, practice-oriented degree programme taught in English. During the course of studies, students learn to understand the theoretical underpinnings of political processes and develop critical, analytical and practical abilities for policy-making. For this purpose, the core curriculum combines quantitative and qualitative approaches to public policy analysis, the foundations of public administration and public finance, and elements dedicated to the advancement of management and leadership skills. By choosing two out of four specialisation modules, students may develop their individual profiles. The MPP offers specialisation options in Non-Profit Management and Social Entrepreneurship, International and Global Public Policy, Development and Socio-Economic Policies, and Conflict Studies and Management. Students gain practical experience through project groups with external partners and a mandatory internship at a public policy institution. Additionally, they receive foreign language instruction. Students complete the programme with a Master thesis.

**Network and Career**

To meet the requirements of the professional world and in order to be able to offer interesting internships and professional contacts, the School continuously extends its network with alumni, project group partners and experts from the public and non-profit sectors. The Brandt School has partnerships with several European and non-European academic institutions and public policy organisations and is a member of the International Public Policy Association (IPPA), the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), the German Association of Postgraduate Programmes with Special Relevance to Developing Countries (AGEP), and the German-Colombian Peace Institute (CAPAZ).

**Student’s Profile**

The MPP is designed for highly talented and motivated graduates with professional work experience (minimum of one year) who wish to pursue a career in the public or non-profit sector and aim for executive positions in government agencies, international institutions or non-governmental/ non-profit organisations on the local, regional, national, or international level. Successful candidates for this programme possess strong analytical skills, curiosity and a probing mind, as well as a commitment to understanding and solving problems. English is the language of instruction of the MPP programme, therefore proficiency is an admission requirement.

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www.brandtschool.de/master-program
The Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg is one of the youngest universities in Germany, which attracts students from all over the world due to its excellent reputation and wide range of courses. However, the university and the city offer even more opportunities outside of teaching and learning, whether through a wide range of sports courses, university groups or other leisure activities such as theatre or choirs. The PACS programme is integrated into the Faculty of Humanities, Social Science and Education, where the human being, both as an individual and as a collective, is at the centre of research in the context of its social, cognitive, emotional and psychological relationships.

**Master Programme**

The two-year Master’s programme Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS) is characterized by its interdisciplinarity, critical research, internationality, diversity and a strong connection between theory and practice. Apart from the core areas of political science and sociology, the programme offers courses in various other disciplines such as philosophy, or journalism.

The PACS Master promotes the development of scientific research, soft skills and practical work experience. Upon completion of the programme, students will have acquired detailed knowledge of theories and methods of conflict research, will be familiar with the work of international organisations and the implementation of peaceful solutions to violent conflicts. Furthermore, students learn to develop constructive strategies to overcome stalemates in social conflicts by analysing their causes and discussing various options for solutions.

**Network and Career**

The PACS Master is characterized by a well-functioning alumni network, which enables an exchange between graduates and prospective PACS students. Scientists, practitioners and alumni from various fields are invited to the regularly held lecture series and report to the students about their professions. In this way, students have the opportunity to gain initial insights into future careers and start building their own network. The close and personal cooperation between students and lecturers enables an intensive exchange that prepares students to achieve excellence in their studies and on the job market. Optional language courses and mandatory internships further prepare them for their future professional life. PACS graduates of the Otto von Guericke University can be found in academia, the media, local and international think tanks, NGOs, consulting firms and multinational corporations worldwide.

**Student’s Profile**

Due to the interdisciplinary, international and diverse nature of the study programme, the personal background of PACS students is very heterogeneous. Thus, every year people from all over the world with different degrees and professional experience come together. Although the Master’s programme is primarily aimed at BA graduates in the social sciences and humanities, it is also open to applicants from other disciplines in individual cases. However, at least 30 ECTS of the degree must come from social science courses and knowledge of scientific research methods is required. Applicants must be able to prove that they have at least three months’ professional or study experience abroad and an excellent level of English.

**Contact**

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The University of Applied Sciences Osnabrück enjoys a high reputation in the region and far beyond. It is the largest and highest performing University of Applied Sciences in Lower Saxony. Our university has been a pioneer in many areas of academic training and has thus earned the reputation of being an innovative and progressive institution of higher education.

Master Programme

The Master of Management in Nonprofit-Organisationen is a two-year degree programme that concludes with a Master’s thesis in the 4th semester. The language of instruction is German and upon the successful completion of the programme the internationally recognised Master of Arts (MA) degree will be awarded.

An application-oriented study and research, small study groups, direct close contact with the professors and other teaching staff and intensive care of the students by departmental staff are central and crucial aspects of the programme self-image. The lecturers are highly qualified with thorough non-profit management experience in diverse sectors like development cooperation, education, culture, etc. The interdisciplinary composition of the curriculum of the Master’s degree corresponds to the profile required for the non-profit sector.

Network and Career

The rapidly growing non-profit sector is demanding a new type of executive leadership. It requires specialists who think in terms of social policies. They should have in-depth management skills and be familiar with the political/legal peculiarities of the non-profit sector in order to successfully compete for the scarce resources. Students of the master’s programme are successfully prepared for management tasks in various (inter) national non-profit organizations, as demonstrated by numerous graduates in important positions. The student association “Verein für Nonprofit Management e.V.” offers an opportunity to actively put the learned content into practice and promotes above that the network to former students and to various non-profit organizations in general.

Student’s Profile

The Master of Management in Nonprofit-Organisationen is designed for highly talented and motivated students who wish to pursue a career in a non-profit organization. Applicants should have an above-average degree in one of the following areas: Public or Administrative Management, Economics, Social Sciences or a related field of study with a keen and profound academic knowledge in Social Sciences or Economics. The language of instruction throughout the entire programme is German, which is why a good proficiency of German is a prerequisite for a successful degree. Above that basic knowledge of English is expected as well.

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Network and Career

The University of Passau is one of the most international institutions of higher learning in Germany and enjoys a vibrant international community. Another chance of getting access to an international network is provided by taking part in the annual World Model United Nations conferences as member of the Passau delegation or by joining our various summer schools with students from all over the world. The study programme opens up career paths in administrative structures in both the private and public sector, or as an independent political consultant, e.g. for advocacy groups or political parties. Alternatively, you could pursue an academic career, e.g. at a think tank, research institute or university, as this programme provides you with a solid grounding in scientific research methods.

Student’s Profile

Studying at the interface of various disciplines requires a high level of academic commitment. Thus, the programme especially addresses highly qualified graduates with a bachelor degree in the social sciences. Moreover, we expect our students to possess an excellent command of the English language.

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Situated in southeast Germany at the heart of Europe, the picturesque city of Passau straddles the three rivers Danube, Inn and Ilz. Opened in 1978, the University has grown into a first address in German academia, offering some 13,000 students an education of the highest academic standard and an excellent environment for research. The University has been ranked among the 20% best universities worldwide in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, and most recently attained 16th place in the 2020 THE ‘Young Universities’ global ranking.

**Master Programme**

The programme addresses the worldwide need for experts in the expanding field of development research as well as for project managers in international development cooperation.

Students enrolled in the programme gain insights into the economic, social, ethical, and cultural contexts and constraints of development. The programme provides outstanding opportunities to put theory into practice through international field research, with a strong focus on integrating quantitative and qualitative methods.

The M.A. Development Studies programme enables students to develop the advanced knowledge, analytical skills and conceptual frameworks required to understand and navigate the complexities of economic and social development.

**Network and Career**

Those graduating from this degree programme can look forward to a wide range of potential career paths within the development field, for instance working as programme managers for local and international development organisations, including government agencies, non-governmental organisations and community groups and multinational firms. Over time, they may become policymakers for bilateral and multilateral organisations, such as GIZ, the World Bank and the United Nations, or for civil-society advocacy groups. Naturally, this master’s degree gives graduates the right to progress to doctoral study, thereby laying the foundations for a career in academia.

**Students’ Profile**

The programme seeks highly qualified and motivated students with a strong interest in international development and development politics. Successful applicants must have a first degree with a minimum standard duration of three years (e.g. a bachelor’s degree) in social sciences, i.e. economics, anthropology, demography, empirical social or human geography, sociology, political science, administrative science or any other equivalent degree with a minimum of 60 ECTS credits in one or several of these disciplines.

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The University of Potsdam was founded in 1991 and as Brandenburg’s largest University it took fourth place for young universities in Germany and 24th place worldwide in the Times Higher Education (THE) – Ranking in 2020. It was recently declared one of the three most important German universities and research institutions in the area of Politics, Administration and Management by the German Association for Political Sciences and the Center for Higher Education Development considers the Master’s and Ph.D. programmes offered to be among the best in Europe.

**Master Programme**

In order to meet the requirements of a public sector that is facing increasingly complex organizational problems and policy changes, the fully accredited programme equips its participants with solid theoretical knowledge, a broad range of practical skills and particular training in one of three specialization areas: Public Policy and Administration, Global Public Policy or GeoGovernance. Within one year, MPM students then acquire foundational knowledge in Public Management and Applied Policy Analysis, complemented by practical skills-trainings as well as foundational courses depending on their specialization area. These modules are complemented by elective courses and a number of extracurricular events and a study tour. At the end of their studies, students write and defend a master thesis of around 15,000 words. The entire programme is conducted in English and brings together a selected group of students from all over the world.

**Network and Career**

The MPM has a significant impact upon its graduates by enhancing their capacity to manage complex projects, tackle problems and apply theoretical knowledge – that is what the Alumni surveys indicate. Throughout the programme, students have the chance to create a professional network with German and international experts and organizations through site visits and a study tour. The most valuable network of experts is however the alumni network of the programme: To date, more than 400 students from 89 different countries graduated from the Master of Public Management. The majority of students hold civil servant, executive and leadership positions in the public or non-profit sector after their studies. MPM alumni indicate further, that the knowledge and skills acquired during the MPM can be applied to a high degree in the professional life.

**Student’s Profile**

The MPM programme is particularly designed for young professionals who have a first academic degree in social sciences, economics, business management, law or natural sciences. Applicants should have professional work experience in the public sector, non-governmental organizations or development agencies. Previous students have been young to mid-career professionals from developing and transition countries in their mid-twenties to mid-forties.

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