

Academic Advice Service



Master of Arts in Development Studies

Information about the degree programme

Further information on this degree programme:
www.uni-passau.de/en/ma-devstudies/

Last revised in May 2017; the information contained in this document is subject to change.

Programme description	<p>This programme addresses the worldwide need for experts in the expanding field of development research as well as for project managers in international development cooperation.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The M.A. Development Studies enables students to develop the advanced knowledge, analytical skills, and conceptual frameworks required to understand and navigate the complexities of economic and social development.</p>
Programme starts in	October (winter semester)
Language of instruction	This degree programme is taught entirely in English.
Programme duration	Standard duration: four semesters' full-time study, not counting semesters out. Maximum duration: six semesters. The programme carries a total workload of 120 ECTS credits.
Degree awarded	Master of Arts (M.A.)
How to apply	<p>Different application procedures apply, depending on your background and qualifications. Visit www.uni-passau.de/en/apply/ for a detailed description of the application process and the documents you need to enclose.</p> <p>The application deadline for the programme, which commences in the winter semester (October) every year, is 30 June. We regret that we are unable to process any applications reaching us after this date. When submitting your application, please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your chronological curriculum vitae • The degree certificate for your first degree, obtained at the end of a degree programme with a minimum standard duration of three years' full-time study (e.g. a bachelor's, Magister, Diploma, state examination or equivalent degree) in social sciences, economics or business studies, i.e. in one of the following disciplines: anthropology, demography, empirical social or human geography, sociology, administrative science, economics, business studies/administration, or any other equivalent degree with a minimum of 60 ECTS credits in one or several of these disciplines. Of these, 10 ECTS credits must come from empirical research methods, such as data collection and survey design, qualitative or quantitative data analysis, mathematics or statistics. The overall average mark for your undergraduate degree should be equivalent to 2.5 or better according to the German marking scale or ranked among the best 50% of your cohort. • Unless English is your first language or the language of instruction for your undergraduate studies or secondary school education, you will need to prove that you have adequate English skills at level B2 CEFR or higher by means of a recognised language certificate. • Applicants should also have basic knowledge of German (level A1) to make sure that they can organise their everyday life. Applicants who do not yet have a basic knowledge of German are offered the possibility to take a language class either before the start of the programme or within the first two semesters.

How to apply (cont'd)

If you are unable to provide your degree and examination certificates for your first degree at the time of application, e.g. because it has not been issued yet, you may send us your list of marks received/academic record/transcript (of records) instead. This should show the modules and assessments completed as well as the marks/grades/results achieved and comply with the above requirement regarding the minimum average mark. If you apply using your transcript instead of the final certificates, you will be offered a place on condition that you submit your final certificates to the Student Registration Office by no later than the 10th week of lectures in the first semester of your degree programme at the University of Passau.

For more information, please contact Ms Regina Treipl:

Regina Treipl
Chair of Comparative Development and Cultural Studies
(Southeast Asia)
Room 303, HK 14b
Dr.-Hans-Kapfing Str. 14b, 94032 Passau, Germany
Phone: +49 851 509 2741
regina.treipl@uni-passau.de

Career prospects

Graduates have a wide range of potential career paths within the development field, such as: programme managers for local and international development organisations, including government agencies, non-governmental organisations, community groups and multinational firms. Possible career prospects are also as policy makers for bilateral and multilateral agencies, such as GIZ, the World Bank and the United Nations, as well as working for civil society advocacy groups or as researchers and doctoral students, leading to an academic career.

Coursework

This degree programme comprises a minimum of 120 ECTS credits, allotted as follows: 25 ECTS credits for the Master's thesis including field research; the taught modules account for 95 ECTS credits.

Modules and examinations

The degree programme is comprised of four module groups – Foundation Modules, Research Methods, Specialisation and Study Skills – and a thesis. The modules are explained in detail in the appendix. A list with all modules on offer can be downloaded from the programme webpage below.
www.uni-passau.de/en/ma-devstudies/

Thesis

Your thesis should demonstrate your ability to independently carry out academic research by applying scientific methods to a clearly defined subject matter. You will write your thesis in English.

Prior to commencing the thesis, you will have to accumulate a minimum of 80 ECTS credits in this degree programme.

You will be given four months to write the thesis, which should have a maximum length of 120,000 characters (including spaces).

You will be awarded 25 ECTS credits for receiving a pass mark on your thesis.

Attaining a pass mark

In order to complete the programme successfully, you have to attain a pass mark in all examination modules, receive a minimum mark of 4.0 on your thesis, and accumulate at least 120 ECTS credits.

Examinations Office

The Examinations Office (*'Prüfungssekretariat'* in German) helps you with questions on credit transfers and all examination-related matters. The Examinations Office also issues – upon request – your degree certificate, your final examination certificate, the diploma supplement and your transcript of records.

Find the Examinations Officer for your degree programme at:

www.uni-passau.de/studium/waehrend-des-studiums/pruefungssekretariat/kontakt/

Credit transfers	<p>Coursework, examinations and other academic achievements completed elsewhere as part of a related programme of study may be counted towards your Master's degree. Credit transfer requests should be addressed to the Examinations Officer for your programme (see above).</p> <p>Please note that we cannot formally recognise any previous coursework/achievements until you are fully registered as an ordinary student of the University of Passau. Please discuss any questions relating to the curriculum with the relevant programme advisor.</p>
Regulations and module catalogue	<p>Please visit the programme webpage for the study and examination regulations and the module catalogue. www.uni-passau.de/en/ma-devstudies/</p>
Virtual Learning Environments	<p>Students should use Stud.IP, one of the University's virtual learning environment (VLE) systems, to register for the required modules. Moreover, Stud.IP gives you access to module-related content, timetable functions, updates on the module sessions and allows you to engage with lecturers and fellow students via the notice boards. Finally, Stud.IP is used for CampusCard (i.e. the student ID card) management functions. The username and password used for Stud.IP are identical to your campus computer network credentials. www.zim.uni-passau.de/en/systems-login/studip/</p> <p>HISQIS, another VLE system, is the platform students use to register for module and language examinations and to obtain student enrolment certificates and similar documents. The username and password used for HISQIS are identical to your campus computer network credentials. The Examinations Office has more details on HISQIS and how to use it: www.uni-passau.de/index.php?id=162</p>
International Students' Orientation Weeks	<p>During the last two weeks of the semester break, the International Office holds the International Students' Orientation Weeks. These are open to all international students starting out at the university and, like the 'Orientation Week' for all students (see below), are designed to help you settle in quickly. Being specially designed for international students, they include guided tours of the town, campus and university facilities in English as well as short-term German language and area studies courses – and usually one or two multi-day outings to interesting places in Germany. As the International Students' Orientation Weeks precedes the regular Orientation Week, new students coming to Passau will be able to take part in both. www.uni-passau.de/en/intl-orientation-weeks/</p>
Orientation Week ('O-Woche')	<p>At the beginning of each semester, the 'Fachschaften' (student committees) hold an Orientation Week (often abbreviated 'O-Woche') for all new students. In the case of this degree programme, the student committee that organises the Orientation Week for you is <i>Fachschaft Philo</i> (aka 'FS Philo'). During the O-Woche you will be given guided tours of the campus and of various key units of the University, including the University Library. You can also attend courses explaining how to use Stud.IP and there will be fellow students around to help you when it comes to preparing your timetable; naturally there will also be plenty of fun social activities on- and off-campus during this week.</p> <p>For more information on the O-Woche, visit: www.phil.uni-passau.de/fakultaetsorganisation/fachschaft/o-woche/ (this website is only available in German).</p>

Academic Advice Service The Academic Advice Service provides information on the master's programme and can help you if you have questions about changing your programme of study or are thinking of de-registering from the programme altogether.

Academic Advice Service, Innstr. 41, 94032 Passau
Phone: +49 851 509 ext. 1150, 1151, 1152, 1153 or 1154 (calls are accepted Mon to Fri 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon and Mon to Thurs 1 – 3 p.m.)
Please make an appointment for a consultation session.
Drop-in hours: Wed 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
E-mail: advice@uni-passau.de
www.uni-passau.de/en/academic-advice/

Programme Convenors If you have specific questions about the degree programme, please contact the Programme Convenors:

Professor Martina Padmanabhan
Chair of Comparative Development and Cultural Studies
(Southeast Asia)
Room 305, HK 14b
Dr.-Hans-Kapfing Str. 14b, 94032 Passau, Germany
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Professor Michael Grimm
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Innstrasse 29, 94032 Passau, Germany
Phone: +49 851 509 3311
michael.grimm@uni-passau.de

kuwi netzwerk international e.V. With a membership figure of more than 3,500 – comprised entirely of students and alumni of the degree programmes offered by the Department of Cultural Studies – *kuwi netzwerk international* provides assistance finding internships (and having them recognised for the programme) as well as other forms of employment; kuwi netzwerk also provides advice to students on writing up timetables and all other study-related questions.

Kuwi netzwerk members have access to:

- weekly e-mail newsletters with a list of vacancies and upcoming events
- the virtual kuwi.community
- the kuwi.mentoring programme

Furthermore, kuwi netzwerk is a co-organiser of the Orientation Week and holds various events throughout the year for students and alumni, such as the kuwi.karrieretag (careers day) and the kuwi.symposium.

kuwi netzwerk international e. V.
Room NK213, Nikolakloster building, Innstrasse 40
Phone: +49 851 509 2894
Web: www.kuwi.de (please note that the website is only available in German)

AIESEC Worldwide internship exchange is a core aspect of AIESEC, the world's largest international student organisation. Please contact your local AIESEC committee for further details (<http://www.aiesec.de/passau/>).

- Careers Service** The Careers Service is the University's bridge between students and employers. For you as a student, it is a valuable informational resource when it comes to organising an internship or other work placement in Germany or abroad, a temporary job or even your first rung on the career ladder after you graduate. Visit www.uni-passau.de/en/careerservice/ for more details.
- The Careers Service also has a dedicated adviser for international students who wish to stay in Germany and start a career here after graduating: the iStudi Coach will help you to make the most of your studies and gain a foothold in the German labour market: www.uni-passau.de/en/iStudi.
- Study abroad** If you need help planning your stay abroad, get in touch with:
- The International Office
Innstrasse 41, 94032 Passau, Germany
Telephone: +49 0851 509 ext. 1160, 1162, 1163, 1165 or 1167
www.uni-passau.de/en/international/
- Centre for Key Competencies (ZfS)** Every semester, the Centre for Key Competencies offers seminars on social skills, self-competence, intercultural skills and methodologies, as well as computer courses. These are free of charge to students and are usually held on weekends as block seminars.
- For more information, visit www.zfs.uni-passau.de (information in German).
- Accommodation** The Student Services Association manages the refectory, cafeterias and halls of residence, administers student loans and grants and provides welfare advice, among other things: www.stwno.de/en/.
- If you are an international student and wish to **arrange accommodation for the first semester** through the University, get in touch with Ms Alexandra Winterkorn of the International Office:
- International Office
Room 106, Administration building
Innstr. 41
94032 Passau
E-mail: alexandra.winterkorn@uni-passau.de
Phone: +49 851 509 1161
Fax: +49 851 509 1164
- For information about **hotels, B&Bs and guest houses**, contact:
- Tourist Information Passau
Rathausplatz 3
94032 Passau
Phone: +49 851 955980
E-mail: tourist-info@passau.de
www.passau.de
- More information: www.uni-passau.de/en/accommodation.

Module Group: Foundation Modules

Appendix 1

This module group is comprised of *Methods and Theories of Development Research* and the *Interdisciplinary Development Seminar*. Both are examination modules and must be completed by all students on the degree programme.

<i>Module title</i>	<i>Module type*</i>	<i>Contact hours per week (WCH*)</i>	<i>ECTS* credits</i>
Methods and Theories of Development Research	(L)	2	5
Interdisciplinary Development Seminar	(S)	2	10
Total for 2 modules		4	15

Module group: Research Methods

The Research Modules group consists of modules about research methods as well as a research seminar and two research colloquia. Students must earn a minimum of **25 ECTS credits** in this module group to proceed. Completion of the *Research Seminar* and the *colloquia* is compulsory for all students on the programme. Apart from the colloquia, all modules in this group are examination modules.

<i>Module title</i>	<i>Module type</i>	<i>Contact hours per week (WCH)</i>	<i>ECTS credits</i>
Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods	(S); (L) or (T)	2/4	5
Advanced Quantitative Research Methods	(S); (L) or (T)	2/4	5
Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods	(S); (L) or (T)	2/4	5
Advanced Qualitative Research Methods	(S); (L) or (T)	2/4	5
Research Seminar	(S)	2	5
Development Studies Colloquium I	(C) [extends over two semesters]	2	3
Development Studies Colloquium II	(C) [extends over two semesters]	2	2
Total for 6 modules		12–18	25

* ECTS = European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System; WCH = contact hours per week; (C) = Colloquium; (L) = Lecture; (S) = Seminar; (T) = Tutorial

Module group: Specialisation

A minimum of 40 ECTS credits must be gained in this module group; you are required to complete at least one module from three of the four core subject areas (see below). You will specialise in a field or further consolidate your knowledge by completing additional modules; the modules corresponding to each core subject area are listed in the module catalogue and marked as eligible for this module group. All modules in this group are examination modules.

The core subject areas are:

- *Economics*
- *Southeast Asian Studies*
- *Sociology and Politics*
- *Sustainability and Resources*

Module group: Study Skills

A total of 15 ECTS credits must be earned in this module group. These credits can be earned in foreign language courses, particularly in Asian languages. Students whose native language is not German may choose German as a foreign language. Additional ECTS credits may be gained by completing elective modules offered in the *Specialisation* module group or modules from other Master's programmes offered by the University of Passau.

The modules that can be included in this group are listed in the module catalogue and marked as eligible for this module group; additionally, the chairperson of the Board of Examiners may approve other modules for recognition in this group upon request. The modules in this group are not examination modules.

Module group: Master's thesis

<i>Module title</i>	<i>ECTS credits</i>
Independent fieldwork, research report and presentation of the research findings	25
Total for 1 module	25

Key of abbreviations:

ECTS	=	European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System
WCH	=	Contact hours per week
(C)	=	Colloquium
(L)	=	Lecture
(S)	=	Seminar
(T)	=	Tutorial

Programme syllabus

(see also appendix 1 of the study and examination regulations)

1st semester (winter semester)

Module Group: Foundation Modules	WCH* / ECTS credits
Methods and Theories of Development Research	2 / 5
Interdisciplinary Development Seminar	2 / 10
Module Group: Research Methods	
Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods and/or Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods	2–4 / 5 and/or 2–4 / 5
Development Studies Colloquium I (the ECTS credits for attending the <i>Research Colloquia</i> are awarded in the second semester)	1 / 0
Module Group: Specialisation	
Students who have completed <i>Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods</i> or <i>Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods</i> <u>but not both</u> must choose one additional module from the following core subjects:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economics • Southeast Asia • Sociology and Politics • Sustainability and Resources 	0 / 0 or 2–4 / 5–7
Module Group: Study Skills	
Choose one seminar, language course or lecture from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign language course • Master's modules offered by the University of Passau • Modules from the Specialisation module group 	2–4 / 5–10
Total ECTS credits for the semester	30–37

2nd semester (summer semester)

Module Group: Research Methods	WCH* / ECTS credits
Advanced Qualitative Research Methods and/or Advanced Quantitative Research Methods	2–4 / 5 and/or 2–4 / 5
Development Studies Colloquium I	1 / 3
Module Group: Specialisation	
Choose modules from the core subject areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economics• Southeast Asia• Sociology and Politics• Sustainability and Resources	8–16 / 15–20
Module Group: Study Skills	
Choose one seminar, language course or lecture from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Foreign language course• Master's modules offered by the University of Passau• Modules from the <i>Specialisation</i> module group	2–4 / 5–10
Total ECTS credits for the semester	28–43

3rd semester

Module Group: Research Methods	WCH / ECTS credits
Research Seminar	2 / 5
Development Studies Colloquium II (the ECTS credits for attending the research colloquia are awarded in the final semester)	1 / 0
Module Group: Specialisation	
Choose modules from the core subject areas:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economics• Southeast Asia• Sociology and Politics• Sustainability and Resources	10–16 / 20
Module Group: Study Skills	
Choose one seminar, language course or lecture from:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Foreign language course• Master's modules offered by the University of Passau• Modules from the <i>Specialisation</i> module group	2–4 / 5–10
Total ECTS credits for the semester	30–35

4th semester

Module Group: Research Methods	WCH / ECTS credits
Development Studies Colloquium II	1 / 2
Master's thesis	0 / 25
Total ECTS credits for the semester	27
Total ECTS credits for the degree programme	120

A list of all modules offered is available for download from the programme profile page: www.uni-passau.de/en/ma-devstudies/