Entry requirements and how to apply

Please visit www.uni-passau.de/en/apply for details on the application process and required documents.

You should have a first degree in a field related to linguistics, literary studies, art history or media semiotics, ranked among the best 35% of your cohort, or with a mark of, or equivalent to, 2.0 in accordance with the German marking system.

International applicants with foreign university qualifications should provide TestDaF TDN4 or an equivalent German language certificate.

Need to learn German first? We have the language programmes you need: www.uni-passau.de/en/learn-german

The application deadline for the summer semester intake is 15 January, for the winter semester intake 30 June.

Further information and contact details

Programme profile on the web
www.uni-passau.de/en/ma-semiotics

Academic Advice Service
Primary contact for prospective international students seeking advice on study options and entry requirements
Innstr. 41, 94032 Passau, Germany
Phone: +49 851 509 ext. 1154, 1153, 1152, 1151 or 1150
E-mail: advice@uni-passau.de
www.uni-passau.de/en/academic-advice

International Office
Assists international students with the immigration formalities and with getting settled in Passau
www.uni-passau.de/en/international

Student Registration Office
Contact for enquiries related to your application
www.uni-passau.de/en/student-registration-office

Language Centre
Offers a wide range of language courses
www.sprachenzentrum.uni-passau.de/en

Centre for Careers and Competencies
Helps students seeking internships or career entry positions and offers transferable skills courses
www.uni-passau.de/en/zkk

iStudi Coach for job market induction
Provides job market orientation and advice on internship and job search to international students
www.uni-passau.de/en/iStudi

German Courses Passau
German language courses for international students
www.uni-passau.de/en/learn-german

Master of Arts in Semiotics of Texts and Culture
**About the programme**

The master’s programme in Semiotics of Texts and Culture imparts knowledge, skills and methodological expertise from the disciplines of linguistics, literary studies and visual culture as well as media semiotics; it also includes aspects from communication studies and intercultural subjects. The programme places the focus on the overarching aspect of semiotics of texts and culture — the study of systems of signs both as singular phenomena and in terms of their complex interrelationships — which is shared by the above disciplines.

**Features**

- A research-oriented programme
- Core subjects: linguistics, literature and visual culture in their semiotic form, as well as media semiotics
- Individual focus combinations in German, English, Romance or Slavic studies; linguistics or literary studies; or visual culture and media semiotics

**Career prospects**

This master’s programme prepares you for a large number of scientific and knowledge-based occupations, in which symbols and symbolic processes based on linguistic, visual and communicative acts are subjected to semiotic analysis and the results made available to potential users.

This degree is relevant to areas concerned with inventory, documentation, archiving, processing and publication of texts of all kinds, including images and films. Potential employers are higher education institutions; non-university research centres; archives; museums; libraries and media libraries; intermediaries between academia and the public, such as publishing houses and online editorial offices; cultural institutions and administrations; as well as associations and companies, particularly in the area of internal communications and PR; advertising; customer relationship management and cultural sponsorships.

Once you have graduated from this degree programme you may follow up with doctoral study, laying the foundations for a career in academia.

**Programme syllabus**

The degree programme consists of three module groups and a thesis:

A) Core modules
B) Competence modules
C) Extension modules

A) The core modules build on the competences previously gained in linguistics, literary studies, visual culture and media semiotics during your related bachelor’s degree studies, while at the same time providing a framework for advanced scientific analysis of the research subjects of semiotics of texts and culture. In addition, these modules impart the necessary methodological and theoretical skills for scholarly research.

B) The skills modules give you the opportunity to specialise in two freely chosen subjects from: Language and Signs (linguistics), Texts and Signs (literary studies), Signs and Symbols (visual culture/art history and media semiotics).

C) The extension modules allow you to develop practical skills in the area of communication studies, intercultural communication and computer science with a view to your envisaged future occupational field.

At the end of the programme, students write a master’s thesis on a subject derived from module group B.