

Entry requirements

Academic requirements

A first (bachelor's or equivalent) university degree in a social science, 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. Any past achievements and qualifications gained in 'Wirtschaftswissenschaften' (combined business and economics programmes) must be derived specifically from economics ('Volkswirtschaftslehre') modules. This first degree must have been obtained as part of a programme of study with a minimum standard duration of three years' full-time study.

Out of the 60 ECTS credits referenced above, 10 ECTS credits (or a minimum of 300 hours of coursework) must come from empirical research methods, such as data collection, data analysis, mathematics and/or statistics. A general course in research methods is not enough and does not count in this case.

The final grade of 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.

Language requirements

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 (level B2 CEFR or higher) by means of a recognised language certificate.

You should also have basic knowledge of German (level A1 CEFR) to help you in your everyday life. If you do not have basic knowledge of German at the time of application, you will be offered a free language course within the first two semesters of the degree programme.

Deadline for applications

To be considered, your application must reach us by 31 May.

How to apply

Please visit www.uni-passau.de/en/apply to get detailed information on the application process.

Scholarships

For an overview of available scholarship opportunities, visit www.uni-passau.de/en/scholarships

Further information and contact details

Programme page on the web

www.uni-passau.de/en/ma-devstudies

Academic Advice Service

Primary contact for prospective international students seeking advice on study options and entry requirements

E-mail: advice@uni-passau.de

www.uni-passau.de/en/academic-advice

Programme co-ordinator

Dr Christian Dölle

Phone: +49 851 509 2623

E-mail: christian.doelle@uni-passau.de

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

E-mail: registry@uni-passau.de

www.uni-passau.de/en/apply

Language Centre

A wide range of foreign language and German courses

www.sprachenzentrum.uni-passau.de/en

iStudi Coach for international students

Contact for internships and career opportunities

www.uni-passau.de/en/iStudi

Future: Careers and Competencies Section

Helps students seeking internships or career entry positions and offers transferable skills courses

www.uni-passau.de/en/zkk

Helmut-Schmidt-Programme (Master's Scholarships for Public Policy and Good Governance)

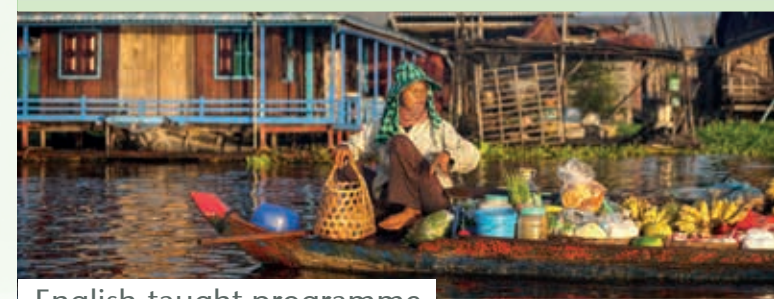
With this programme, the DAAD strives to contribute to promoting good governance and civil society structures in developing and emerging countries. The aim is to qualify future leaders from the areas of politics, law, business and administration based on the principles of good governance, and to prepare them for their future professional activities. The M.A. Development Studies is part of this scholarship programme.

www.uni-passau.de/en/ma-devstudies/daad-scholarship



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

Master of Arts in Development Studies



English-taught programme

About the programme

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.

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

Who should study this degree programme?

This programme is particularly suitable for students with a first degree in social science and mid-career professionals in any development-related field. Qualified students from developing and emerging countries are particularly welcome.

Programme features

- Programme entirely taught in English
- Strong focus on quantitative and qualitative methods
- Field research opportunities
- A unique selection of language courses, including German as a Foreign Language

Degree awarded	Master of Arts (M.A.)
Duration and credits	4 semesters; 120 ECTS credits
Starts in	October
Language of instruction	English



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 and community groups
- policymakers at bilateral and multilateral organisations, such as GIZ, the World Bank and the United Nations, as well as for civil society advocacy groups
- an academic career as a researcher/doctoral student

The University of Passau

Since opening its doors to the public in 1978, the University of Passau has quickly developed into a first address in German academia: the University regularly attains top positions in academic rankings, e.g. in Law, Business and Economics, Computer Science, Communication Studies, Political Science and Cultural Studies.

The University's modern campus is located in the south-eastern part of Bavaria – Germany's high-technology state – in verdant surroundings, a few minutes' walk from the historic Old Town of Passau.

Passau is considered by many to be one of the most beautiful cities in Germany and offers an excellent standard of living while being close to the Alps and the Bavarian Forest as well as the major metropolitan centres of Prague, Munich and Vienna.

Programme syllabus

Module area A: Foundation (15 ECTS credits)

- Methods and theories of development research
- Interdisciplinary development seminar

Module area B: Research (at least 25 ECTS credits)

- Qualitative and quantitative research methods
- Research seminar
- Development studies colloquia

Module area C: Specialisation (at least 40 ECTS credits)

You will complete at least one module each from three of the five core subject areas offered. These are:

- Economics
- Southeast Asian Studies
- Sociology and Politics
- Sustainability and Resources
- Geographies of Development

Module area D: Transfer (15 ECTS credits)

- Applied development studies (research project or internship)
- Foreign language module
- Development studies in perspective, I and II

Master's thesis (25 ECTS credits)

This is written in one of the specialisation subjects (module groups chosen in module area C).

Study focus

By choosing the relevant modules, you can place your study focus on Economics, Southeast Asian Studies or Sustainability. This study focus will be indicated on your final transcript.

