

3. The DNA of the University of Passau is highly international and interdisciplinary

Internationality and interdisciplinarity have always been hallmarks of the University of Passau. This is evident, for example, in degree programmes such as International Cultural and Business Studies, in the high level of international mobility among our students, and in the broad range of international and interdisciplinary collaborations and research partnerships pursued by our scientists.

For years, the University of Passau has been regarded as a breeding ground for diplomats, which is reflected in the fact that around 15 per cent of the employees in the Senior Foreign Service of the Federal Foreign Office are alumni of the University of Passau.



Programme details at a glance

Participant profile: Professionals and leaders in globally operating companies, at consultancies, NGOs, international organisations or in public administration

Entry requirements: Higher education degree, at least three years of relevant professional experience, good knowledge (B2/C1 CEFR) of English and German

Duration: 10 months (kick-off in April 2026 and October 2026; 4-5 workshop weekends in Passau, one in Brussels, online evening sessions)

Workload: Five out of six modules (80 hours in total), self-study for preparation and follow-up of the courses (220 hours in total)

Credits: 10 ECTS credits (300 hours)

Forms of teaching and learning: Lectures, group work, structured discussions, simulations, case studies (on campus in Passau, online, or at selected partner locations) in English and German

Certificate: University of Passau Executive Certificate

Costs: 4,900 Euro

For questions regarding programme content:
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For questions regarding admission and administration:
Zukunft: Karriere und Kompetenzen (ZKK)
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University Certificate Programme for Professionals

www.uni-passau.de/en/weiterbildung/global-affairs



Empowering professionals for a complex world

In a world of increasing geopolitical complexity, cultural interdependence, and disruptive global challenges we need professionals who possess international expertise, intercultural sensitivity, and strategic vision.

With the new certificate programme 'Global Affairs and Intercultural Relations' the University of Passau empowers participants to navigate complex global challenges with strategic, intercultural, and legal competence.

In addition, the programme offers the opportunity to build or expand a career-relevant international network. Experienced experts, such as high-ranking diplomats from the Federal Foreign Office, including numerous alumni of the University of Passau, are involved as guest lecturers. This ensures that theory and practice are closely interlinked.

Why this programme?

1. Participants are empowered for a complex world

After completing the programme, participants will be able to:

- Lead, negotiate and collaborate confidently in international and intercultural environments
- Recognise and respond to geopolitical risks and global economic shifts
- Navigate global trade, policy and Europe's strategic role in world markets
- Apply key legal principles relevant to diplomacy, cooperation and international agreements
- Think across disciplines and anticipate global challenges with a strategic mindset

2. The six included modules are practice-oriented

Intercultural management and negotiation

Module 1 equips participants with tools to manage cultural differences, optimize decision-making, and leverage diverse stakeholder perspectives for strategic success.

Legal principles of international relations, global trade and foreign investment

Module 2 stresses that despite growing disruptions – from great-power rivalry to renationalization – global economic ties and shared threats still demand cooperative strategies amidst a transforming world order.

Global governance and international relations

Module 3 encourages participants to reflect on the diplomatic strategies pursued by Germany and the EU to date in an increasingly volatile and less predictable world.

Global trade, trade policy and europe in the new world (trade) order

Module 4 highlights the need of a new strategy for Germany's export-oriented economy in light of China's aggressive subsidies and geopolitical competition, which is reshaping global trade dynamics.

Global economic and political interdependencies: the case of brussels

Module 5 provides insight into global power relations during a stay in Brussels. The European capital is analysed both from a critical geopolitical perspective and from the perspective of global cities.

Cultural and historical perspectives

Module 6 offers cultural and historical perspectives to understand our interconnected, multipolar world, focusing on transcultural dynamics that challenge Eurocentric views and analyzing political structures like empires, nations, and alliances.

