

Verkündungsblatt 16/2026

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HAWK**HOCHSCHULE****FÜR ANGEWANDTE WISSENSCHAFT UND KUNST****Hildesheim/Holzminden/Göttingen****University of Applied Sciences and Arts**

Prüfungsordnung für den Masterstudiengang Soziale Arbeit im sozialräumlichen Kontext (Besonderer Teil)

**Fakultät Soziale Arbeit (Holzminden)
PO 2017 (F 2026)**

Die Prüfungsordnung Besonderer Teil für den konsekutiven Masterstudiengang Soziale Arbeit im sozialräumlichen Kontext vom 7. Dezember 2016 in der Fassung vom 17. Juni 2026 tritt gemäß Fakultätsratsbeschluss der Fakultät Soziale Arbeit (Holzminden) vom 17. Juni 2026 und Genehmigung des Präsidiums vom 29. September 2026 nach ihrer hochschulöffentlichen Bekanntmachung in Kraft. Die hochschulöffentliche Bekanntmachung erfolgte am 30. September 2026.

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§ 1 Dauer und Gliederung des Studiums

- (1) Die Regelstudienzeit des konsekutiven Masterstudiengangs Soziale Arbeit im sozialräumlichen Kontext beträgt einschließlich der Erstellung der Masterthesis (Modul Masterarbeit; Masterthesis mit Kolloquium) vier Semester.
- (2) Das Studium gliedert sich in zwölf Module. Der Gesamtumfang der Module beträgt 120 Leistungspunkte (Credits, kurz CP).

§ 2 Prüfungen

- (1) Die Prüfungen werden studienbegleitend durchgeführt. Sie bestehen aus Prüfungsleistungen (siehe Absatz 2) und Studienleistungen (siehe Absatz 3) für die einzelnen Module. Das Modul Masterarbeit wird durch eine Masterthesis mit Kolloquium abgeschlossen.
- (2) Prüfungsleistungen, die mit einer Note bewertet werden: Der Workload für die Prüfungsvorbereitungen und die Erbringung der Prüfungsleistung beträgt je nach Modul 2 CP/60 Std. bis 5 CP/150 Std. Prüfungsleistungen können wie folgt abgelegt werden (vgl. § 8 Absatz 3 Prüfungsordnung Allgemeiner Teil):

Prüfungsleistungen (benotet)	Abk.	Erläuterungen
Schriftliche Prüfungsleistungen		
Klausur	K	Bearbeitungszeit: 3 Unterrichtsstunden
Hausarbeit	H	Umfang: 15-20 Seiten
Mündliche Prüfungsleistungen		
Mündliche Prüfung	M	Maximal 20 Minuten
In Lehrveranstaltungen integrierte Prüfungsleistungen		
Referat	R	Umfang: mündlicher Vortrag inklusive Plenumsdiskussion von i.d.R. 45 Minuten, schriftliche Ausarbeitung i.d.R. 8-10 Seiten
Moderation	MOD	Umfang des mündlichen Beitrags: 45 Minuten, schriftlich fixiertes Konzept und Ergebnissicherung (i.d.R. 5 Seiten)
Fallstudie	FS	■ Als mündlicher Vortrag von i.d.R. 30 Minuten, inklusive angeleiteter Reflexion im Plenum und schriftliche Ausarbeitung (i.d.R. 5 Seiten) ■ Als schriftliche Studie im Umfang von 10 Seiten
Mediales oder künstlerisches Produkt	MP	Erstellung und Präsentation des Produkts; Konzept- und Durchführungsbeschreibung
Rollentraining	RT	Simulierte, eigenständig durchgeführte Beratungs- oder Interventionssituation von i.d.R. 30 Minuten unter Beobachtung einer Gruppe. Videografierte oder anderweitig unterstützte Dokumentation und schriftliche Auswertung der Sequenz im Umfang von i.d.R. 5 Seiten
Portfolio	PF	Persönlich gestaltetes Portfolio mit mehreren Artefakten und/oder einer Prozess-/Lernreflexion über einen längeren Zeitraum

Konzeptentwicklung	KE	Theoriegeleitete und anwendungsorientierte Entwicklung eines Konzeptes für einzelne Maßnahmen, Angebote, Einrichtungen etc. im Umfang von i.d.R. 10-15 Seiten
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- (3) Prüfungen, die mit „bestanden“ oder „nicht bestanden“ bewertet werden (Studienleistungen): Der Workload für eine Studienleistung beinhaltet die Vor- und Nachbereitung der Präsenz- bzw. online-Termine (1 CP/30 Std.) sowie eine zusätzliche Leistung im Umfang von 1 CP/30 Std. oder 2 CP/60 Std. In den Lehrveranstaltungen werden zu Beginn jeweils sinnvolle Anleitungen für das Selbststudium entwickelt (z. B. Literaturlisten, Bearbeitungsempfehlungen) und Feedbackverfahren zum Nachweis des Selbststudiums mit den Studierenden vereinbart. Die zusätzliche Leistung kann beispielsweise sein:

Studienleistungen	Abk.	Erläuterungen
Klausur	K	Bearbeitungszeit: 1 Unterrichtsstunde
Hausarbeit	H	Umfang: 8-10 Seiten
Referat	R	Umfang: mündlicher Vortrag inklusive Plenumsdiskussion von i.d.R. 15 Minuten, schriftliche Ausarbeitung i.d.R. 3-5 Seiten
Moderation	MOD	Umfang des mündlichen Beitrags: i.d.R. 20 Minuten, schriftlich fixiertes Konzept und Ergebnissicherung (i.d.R. 3 Seiten)
Präsentation	P	Umfang des mündlichen Beitrags i.d.R. 15 Minuten, schriftliche Ausarbeitung i.d.R. 3 Seiten
Exkursions-/Hospitationsbericht	EB	Schriftliche Ausarbeitung i.d.R. 8 Seiten, unter Einbezug von Fachliteratur, ggf. mündliche Präsentation
Fallstudie	FS	Als mündlicher Vortrag von i.d.R. 15 Minuten, inklusive angeleiteter Reflexion im Plenum und schriftliche Ausarbeitung i.d.R. 3 Seiten
Medienprodukt/künstlerisches Produkt	MP	Erstellung und Präsentation des Produkts
Rollentraining	RT	Als Rollenspiel konzipierte Beratungs- oder Interventionssituation von i.d.R. 15 Minuten unter Beobachtung einer Gruppe. Schriftliche Auswertung der Sequenz im Umfang von i.d.R. 3 Seiten
Portfolio	PF	Portfolioartefakt zur Dokumentation eigener Kompetenz, z. B. Hausarbeit (5 Seiten), auch medial, z. B. Videofilm, Audiobeitrag o. ä.
Konzeptentwicklung	KE	Schriftliche Ausarbeitung eines Konzepts für einzelne Maßnahmen, Angebote oder Einrichtungen, i.d.R. 8-10 Seiten

- (4) Die Prüfungskommission legt den Zeitplan (Prüfungsplan) über den Ablauf der Prüfungen fest.
- (5) Die Gewichtung der einzelnen Prüfungen ergibt sich aus der Vorgabe der Credits (siehe Anlage 1).
- (6) Die bzw. der Studierende hat sich zu den im jeweiligen Semester abzulegenden Prüfungen schriftlich bzw. elektronisch bei der Prüfungsverwaltung innerhalb des von dieser festgesetzten Zeitraumes zu melden.

- (7) Abweichend von § 15 Absatz 2 der Prüfungsordnung Allgemeiner Teil findet keine Pflichtanmeldung zur ersten Wiederholungsprüfung statt. Eine nicht bestandene Modulprüfung nach § 15 Absatz 1 der Prüfungsordnung Allgemeiner Teil soll jedoch in der Regel im Rahmen der regulären Prüfungstermine innerhalb der nächsten beiden Semester in der gleichen Art und Dauer wiederholt werden.

§ 3 Masterarbeit und Kolloquium

- (1) Die Masterthesis ist eine Prüfungsleistung im gleichnamigen Modul (24 Credits), wobei auf die schriftliche Abschlussarbeit 21 Credits, auf das mündliche Kolloquium zwei Credits und die begleitende Lehrveranstaltung ein Credit entfallen.
- (2) Die Bearbeitungszeit für die Abschlussarbeit beträgt sechs Monate. Sie soll den Umfang von 80 Seiten nicht wesentlich überschreiten.
- (3) Zur Prüfungsleistung Masterarbeit wird zugelassen, wer im Rahmen des Masterstudienganges Soziale Arbeit berufsbegleitend mindestens 60 Credits erbracht und die noch ausstehenden Prüfungsleistungen angemeldet hat. Näheres regelt die Prüfungskommission.
- (4) Dem Antrag auf Zulassung zur Masterarbeit ist ein Vorschlag für den Themenbereich, dem das Thema für die Masterarbeit entnommen werden soll und eine Erklärung, ob die Masterarbeit als Einzel- oder Gruppenarbeit vergeben werden soll, beizufügen.
- (5) Das Kolloquium soll in der Regel in der Prüfungswoche am Ende des Semesters durchgeführt werden, zu dem die Masterarbeit abgegeben worden ist. Die Gesamtdauer des Kolloquiums beträgt je Student*in mindestens 40 und maximal 50 Minuten.
- (6) Die endgültige Note der Masterarbeit ergibt sich aus der Bewertung der schriftlichen Abschlussarbeit und des mündlichen Kolloquiums. Beide Teile müssen bestanden sein. Bei der Ermittlung der Gesamtnote werden schriftliche und mündliche Note im Verhältnis 3:1 gewichtet.

§ 4 Hochschulgrad, Zeugnis

- (1) Der Studiengang schließt mit dem Kolloquium zur Masterarbeit ab.
- (2) Die Hochschule verleiht zum Abschluss den Hochschulgrad Master of Arts, abgekürzt M.A. Hierüber stellt die Hochschule eine Urkunde mit dem Datum des Zeugnisses aus (Muster siehe Anlage 2). Ein Muster des Masterzeugnisses enthält Anlage 3. Gleichzeitig mit dem Zeugnis wird der bzw. dem Studierenden ein englisches Diploma Supplement in der jeweils aktuellen HRK-Vorlage ausgehändigt.

§ 5 Inkrafttreten und Übergangsregelungen

- (1) Diese Änderungsfassung dieser Prüfungsordnung Besonderer Teil tritt zum Wintersemester 2026/27 in Kraft und gilt für alle in die POBT 2017 immatrikulierten Studierenden.
- (2) Studierende, die bereits vor dem Wintersemester 2024/25 ihr Studium begonnen haben, werden zum WiSe 2027/28 in die Prüfungsordnung Besonderer Teil des Masterstudienganges Soziale Arbeit berufsbegleitend überführt. Über Ausnahmen, insbesondere Härtefälle, entscheidet auf begründeten Antrag, der spätestens innerhalb von drei Monaten nach erfolgter Überführung zu stellen ist, die Prüfungskommission.

Anlage 1: Prüfungen und Credits

(1) In folgenden Modulen werden Prüfungsleistungen erbracht:

Modul
1: Sozialraumanalyse
3b: Theorien und Konzepte des sozialen Raums II
6: Partizipation und Aktivierung
7: Diversität und Sozialer Raum
8: Sozialraumorientierte Organisationsentwicklung
4b: Forschungsmethoden in der Sozialen Arbeit – Forschungswerkstatt
12: Masterarbeit (Notenvergabe aufgrund von Masterthesis und Kolloquium)

In den nicht genannten Modulen werden keine Prüfungsleistungen, sondern Studienleistungen erbracht.

(2) Im Masterstudiengang bedeutet dies:

Modul	Gewichtung
1: Sozialraumanalyse	6 Credits (Note multipliziert mit 6)
3b: Theorien und Konzepte des sozialen Raums II	6 Credits (Note multipliziert mit 6)
6: Partizipation und Aktivierung	6 Credits (Note multipliziert mit 6)
7: Diversität und Sozialer Raum	6 Credits (Note multipliziert mit 6)
8: Sozialraumorientierte Organisationsentwicklung	9 Credits (Note multipliziert mit 9)
4b: Forschungsmethoden in der Sozialen Arbeit – Forschungswerkstatt	9 Credits (Note multipliziert mit 9)
12: Masterarbeit (Notenvergabe aufgrund von Masterthesis und Kolloquium)	24 Credits (Note multipliziert mit 24)

Die Gesamtnote wird durch die Summe der multiplizierten Einzelnoten, geteilt durch 66 ermittelt.

Anlage 2: Masterurkunde (Muster)

MASTERURKUNDE

Die HAWK
Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaft und Kunst
Hildesheim/Holzminden/Göttingen
Fakultät Soziale Arbeit

verleiht mit dieser Urkunde

geboren am **«Vorname» «Nachname»**
«Geburtsdatum» in «Geburtsort»

den Hochschulgrad **Master of Arts**
abgekürzt M.A.,
nachdem die Abschlussprüfung im Studiengang
Soziale Arbeit im sozialräumlichen Kontext
bestanden wurde.

Holzminden, den «Datum»

«Dekan*in»

«Studiendekan*in»

Anlage 3: Masterzeugnis (Muster)**MASTERZEUGNIS**

geboren am **«Vorname» «Nachname»**
«Geburtsdatum» in «Geburtsort»

hat die Masterprüfung im Studiengang

Soziale Arbeit im sozialräumlichen Kontext

der Fakultät Soziale Arbeit
bestanden.

Thema der Masterarbeit:

Abschlussprüfung	Credits	Gesamtnote
Gesamtbewertung	000	0,0 (in Worten)

Die Gesamtnote ergibt sich aus den Modulnoten gemäß Anlage zum Masterzeugnis.

Holzminden, den «PruefDatum»

«Studiendekan*in»

ANLAGE ZUM MASTERZEUGNIS**Studiengang**

	Vorname Nachname
geboren am	00.00.0000 in «Ort»

Module	Credits	Note
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Pflicht- und Wahlpflichtmodule

0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0

Masterarbeit

0,0

Gesamtnote

Anlage 4: Diploma Supplement (Muster)

DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT

This Diploma Supplement model was developed by the European Commission, Council of Europe and UNESCO/CEPES. The purpose of the supplement is to provide sufficient independent data to improve the international 'transparency' and fair academic and professional recognition of qualifications (diplomas, degrees, certificates, etc.). It is designed to provide a description of the nature, level, context, content and status of the studies that were pursued and successfully completed by the individual named on the original qualification to which this supplement is appended. It should be free from any value judgements, equivalence statements or suggestions about recognition. Information in all eight sections should be provided. Where information is not provided, an explanation should give the reason why.

1. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE HOLDER OF THE QUALIFICATION

- | | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1.1 | Family name(s) | Nachname | 1.2 | First name(s) | Vorname |
| 1.3 | Date of birth | 00.00.0000 | 1.4 | Student identification number or code | 000000 |

2. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE QUALIFICATION

- 2.1 Name of qualification and (if applicable) title conferred (in original language)
Master of Arts – Soziale Arbeit im sozialräumlichen Kontext, M.A.
- 2.2 Main field(s) of study for the qualification
Social Work in Social-spatial context
- 2.3 Name and status of awarding institution (in original language)
HAWK Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaft und Kunst
Hildesheim/Holzminde n/Göttingen
Fakultät Soziale Arbeit (Faculty of Social Work)
University of Applied Sciences and Arts / State Institution
- 2.4 Name and status of institution (if different from 2.3) administering studies (in original language)
[as above]
- 2.5 Language(s) of instruction/examination
German (90 %), English (10 %)

3. INFORMATION ON THE LEVEL AND DURATION OF THE QUALIFICATION

- 3.1 Level of the qualification
Master programme, second degree
- 3.2 Official duration of programme in credits and/or years
Two years, 4 semesters, 120 ECTS
- 3.3 Access requirement(s)
Baccalaureate degree/Bachelor's degree in Social Work or related fields (three years, with 180 ECTS credits), or foreign equivalent

4. INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAMME COMPLETED AND THE RESULTS OBTAINED

- 4.1 Mode of Study
Full Time Study
In the event of part-time study (individual application required), the official length of the programme will be extended accordingly.
- 4.2 Programme learning outcomes

The profile of this study programme is "more practice-oriented" as described by the Foundation for the Accreditation of Study Programmes in Germany ("Akkreditierungsrat" - Accreditation Council)

Contents and Results Gained

I. Analysis of Social Space

(Sozialraumanalyse)

- Methods of analysing social space
- Analysis of social structures
- Analysis of participant structures

II. Practical Module

(Praxismodul)

- 450 hours of professional internship
- Analysis and evaluation of social work practice
- Quality management

III. Theories and Concepts of Social Space

(Theorien und Konzepte des sozialen Raums)

- Theories of space and social space
- Orientation in social space
- Community organization
- Community development
- Community employment

IV. Research Methods in Social Work

(Forschungsmethoden in der Sozialen Arbeit - Forschungswerkstatt)

- Advanced knowledge and skills in research methods relating to professional and scholarly activity in Social Work

V. Media and Social Space

(Medien im sozialräumlichen Kontext)

- Communication design and media use with respect to community organization
- Knowledge and experience in the use of social media and their implications for social relationships

VI. Participation and Activation

(Aktivierung und Partizipation)

- Participant-centered methods: open space, activation, presentation, socio-cultural work, etc.

VII. Diversity and Social Space

(Diversität und Sozialer Raum)

- Theories of social inequality
- Social Work as discipline and profession with respect to diversity
- Interculturality
- Relationships between the generations
- Disabled persons and inclusion
- Gender

VIII. Social Space-Oriented Organisational Development

(Sozialraumorientierte Organisationsentwicklung)

- Quality management
- Organisational development
- Public relations
- Management of institutions
- Leadership and team competencies

IX. Professional Profile Formation

(Professionelle Profilbildung)

- Self-evaluation
- Long-range planning
- Thesis preparation

X. Planning and Concept Development

(Planung und Konzeptentwicklung)

- Policy advising, strategic development, concept development
- Project acquisition, development funds

XI. Extracurricular Studies

(Studium Generale)

XII. Master Thesis

(research-based, 6 months), with colloquium

- 4.3 Programme details, individual credits gained and grades/marks obtained
Please refer to the Certificate (Masterzeugnis) for a list of courses and grades.
- 4.4 Grading system and, if available, grade distribution table
Absolute grading scheme: "Sehr Gut" (1,0; 1,3) = Very Good; "Gut" (1,7; 2,0; 2,3) = Good; "Befriedigend" (2,7; 3,0; 3,3) = Satisfactory; "Ausreichend" (3,7; 4,0) = Pass; "Nicht ausreichend" (5,0) = Fail
Statistical distribution of grades: **grading table**
- 4.5 Overall classification of the qualification (in original language) **0,0**
The final grade is based on the grades awarded during the study programme and that of the final thesis (with oral component). Please refer to the Certificate (Masterzeugnis).
When there are no marks given, not enough results are available yet to determine ECTS-grades.

5. INFORMATION ON THE FUNCTION OF THE QUALIFICATION

- 5.1 Access to further study
The degree entitles its holder to apply for admission for a doctoral thesis according to the regulations covering doctoral programmes, respectively.
- 5.2 Access to a regulated profession (if applicable)
The Master degree in Social Work entitles its holder to the legally protected professional title "Master of Arts" and to exercise professional work to work as a state-recognised social work/social pedagogy practitioner in accordance with German legislation. This includes the executive ranks of the civil service, following a professional internship. Please see state registration.

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 6.1 Additional information
Non-academic acquired competencies were credited in an amount of **00** credits in the following modules: ...
- 6.2 Further information sources
www.hawk.de

7. CERTIFICATION

This Diploma Supplement refers to the following original documents:

Document on the award of the academic degree (Masterurkunde)	00.00.0000
Certificate (Masterzeugnis)	00.00.0000
Transcript of Records	

Certification Date:	00.00.0000
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(Official Stamp / Seal)

Chairwoman/Chairman Examination Committee

8. NATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

The information on the national higher education system on the following pages provides a context for the qualification and the type of higher education institution that awarded it.

8. INFORMATION ON THE GERMAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEMⁱ**8.1 Types of Institutions and Institutional Status**

Higher education (HE) studies in Germany are offered at three types of Higher Education Institutions (HEI).ⁱⁱ

- *Universitäten* (Universities) including various specialised institutions, offer the whole range of academic disciplines. In the German tradition, universities focus in particular on basic research so that advanced stages of study have mainly theoretical orientation and research-oriented components.

- *Fachhochschulen (FH)/Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HAW)* (Universities of Applied Sciences, UAS) focus their study programmes on engineering and other technical disciplines, business-related studies, social work, and design areas. The common mission of applied research and development implies an application-oriented focus of studies, which includes integrated and supervised work assignments in industry, enterprises or other relevant institutions.

- *Kunst- und Musikhochschulen* (Universities of Art/Music) offer studies for artistic careers in fine arts, performing arts and music; in such fields as directing, production, writing in theatre, film, and other media; and in a variety of design areas, architecture, media and communication.

Higher Education Institutions are either state or state-recognised institutions. In their operations, including the organisation of studies and the designation and award of degrees, they are subject to higher education legislation.

8.2 Types of Programmes and Degrees Awarded

Studies in all three types of institutions have traditionally been offered in integrated "long" (one-tier) programmes leading to *Diplom-* or *Magister Artium* degrees or completed by a *Staatsprüfung* (State Examination).

Within the framework of the Bologna-Process one-tier study programmes are successively being replaced by a two-tier study system. Since 1998, two-tier degrees (Bachelor's and Master's) have been introduced in almost all study programmes. This change is designed to enlarge variety and flexibility for students in planning and pursuing educational objectives; it also enhances international compatibility of studies.

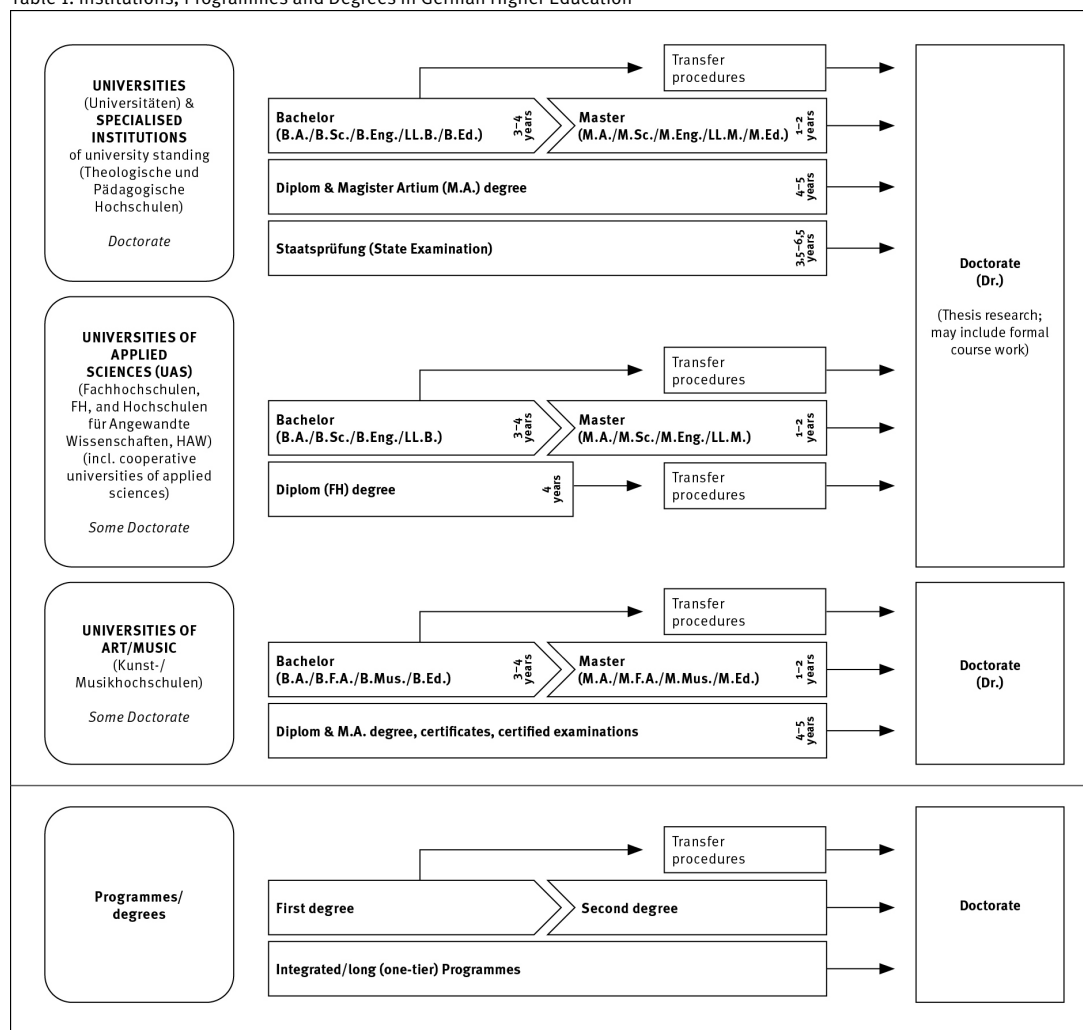
The German Qualifications Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (HQR)ⁱⁱⁱ describes the qualification levels as well as the resulting qualifications and competences of the graduates. The three levels of the HQR correspond to the levels 6, 7 and 8 of the German Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning^{iv} and the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning^v.

For details cf. Sec. 8.4.1, 8.4.2, and 8.4.3 respectively. Table 1 provides a synoptic summary.

8.3 Approval/Accreditation of Programmes and Degrees

To ensure quality and comparability of qualifications, the organisation of studies and general degree requirements have to conform to principles and regulations established by the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK).^{vi} In 1999, a system of accreditation for Bachelor's and Master's programmes has become operational. All new programmes have to be accredited under this scheme; after a successful accreditation they receive the seal of the Accreditation Council.^{vii}

Table 1: Institutions, Programmes and Degrees in German Higher Education



8.4 Organisation and Structure of Studies

The following programmes apply to all three types of institutions. Bachelor's and Master's study programmes may be studied consecutively, at various higher education institutions, at different types of higher education institutions and with phases of professional work between the first and the second qualification. The organisation of the study programmes makes use of modular components and of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) with 30 credits corresponding to one semester.

8.4.1 Bachelor

Bachelor's degree programmes lay the academic foundations, provide methodological competences and include skills related to the professional field. The Bachelor's degree is awarded after 3 to 4 years. The Bachelor's degree programme includes a thesis requirement. Study programmes leading to the Bachelor's degree must be accredited according to the Interstate study accreditation treaty.^{viii}

First degree programmes (Bachelor) lead to Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.), Bachelor of Engineering (B.Eng.), Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.), Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), Bachelor of Music (B.Mus.) or Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.). The Bachelor's degree corresponds to level 6 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

8.4.2 Master

The Master's degree is the second degree after another 1 to 2 years. Master's programmes may be differentiated by the profile types "practice-oriented" and "research-oriented". Higher Education Institutions define the profile. The Master's degree programme includes a thesis requirement. Study programmes leading to the Master's degree must be accredited according to the Interstate study accreditation treaty.^{ix}

Second degree programmes (Master) lead to Master of Arts (M.A.), Master of Science (M.Sc.), Master of Engineering (M.Eng.), Master of Laws (L.L.M.), Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.), Master of Music (M.Mus.) or Master of Education (M.Ed.). Master's programmes which are designed for continuing education may carry other designations (e.g. MBA).

The Master degree corresponds to level 7 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

8.4.3 Integrated "Long" Programmes (One-Tier): Diplom degrees, Magister Artium, Staatsprüfung

An integrated study programme is either mono-disciplinary (*Diplom* degrees, most programmes completed by a *Staatsprüfung*) or comprises a combination of either two major or one major and two minor fields (*Magister Artium*). The first stage (1.5 to 2 years) focuses on broad orientations and foundations of the field(s) of study. An Intermediate Examination (*Diplom-Vorprüfung* for *Diplom* degrees; *Zwischenprüfung* or credit requirements for the *Magister Artium*) is prerequisite to enter the second stage of advanced studies and specialisations. Degree requirements include submission of a thesis (up to 6 months duration) and comprehensive final written and oral examinations. Similar regulations apply to studies leading to a *Staatsprüfung*. The level of qualification is equivalent to the Master's level.

- Integrated studies at *Universitäten (U)* last 4 to 5 years (*Diplom* degree, *Magister Artium*) or 3.5 to 6.5 years (*Staatsprüfung*). The *Diplom* degree is awarded in engineering disciplines, the natural sciences as well as economics and business. In the humanities, the corresponding degree is usually the *Magister Artium* (M.A.). In the social sciences, the practice varies as a matter of institutional traditions. Studies preparing for the legal, medical and pharmaceutical professions are completed by a *Staatsprüfung*. This applies also to studies preparing for teaching professions of some *Länder*.

The three qualifications (*Diplom*, *Magister Artium* and *Staatsprüfung*) are academically equivalent and correspond to level 7 of the German Qualifications Framework/European Qualifications Framework.

They qualify to apply for admission to doctoral studies. Further prerequisites for admission may be defined by the Higher Education Institution, cf. Sec. 8.5.

- Integrated studies at *Fachhochschulen (FH)*/*Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HAW)* (Universities of Applied Sciences, UAS) last 4 years and lead to a *Diplom (FH)* degree which corresponds to level 6 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

Qualified graduates of FH/HAW/UAS may apply for admission to doctoral studies at doctorate-granting institutions, cf. Sec. 8.5.

- Studies at *Kunst- und Musikhochschulen* (Universities of Art/Music, etc.) are more diverse in their organisation, depending on the field and individual objectives. In addition to *Diplom/Magister* degrees, the integrated study programme awards include certificates and certified examinations for specialised areas and professional purposes.

8.5 Doctorate

Universities as well as specialised institutions of university standing, some of the FH/HAW/UAS and some Universities of Art/Music are doctorate-granting institutions. Formal prerequisite for admission to doctoral work is a qualified Master's degree (UAS and U), a *Magister* degree, a *Diplom*, a *Staatsprüfung*, or a foreign equivalent. Comparable degrees from universities of art and music can in exceptional cases (study programmes such as music theory, musicology, pedagogy of arts and music, media studies) also formally qualify for doctoral work. Particularly qualified holders of a Bachelor's degree or a *Diplom (FH)* degree may also be admitted to doctoral studies without acquisition of a further degree by means of a procedure to determine their aptitude. The universities respectively the doctorate-granting institutions regulate entry to a doctorate as well as the structure of the procedure to determine aptitude. Admission further requires the acceptance of the dissertation research project by a professor as a supervisor.

The doctoral degree corresponds to level 8 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

8.6 Grading Scheme

The grading scheme in Germany usually comprises five levels (with numerical equivalents; intermediate grades may be given): "*Sehr Gut*" (1) = Very Good; "*Gut*" (2) = Good; "*Befriedigend*" (3) = Satisfactory; "*Ausreichend*" (4) = Sufficient; "*Nicht ausreichend*" (5) = Non-Sufficient/Fail. The minimum passing grade is "*Ausreichend*" (4). Verbal designations of grades may vary in some cases and for doctoral degrees.

In addition, grade distribution tables as described in the ECTS Users' Guide are used to indicate the relative distribution of grades within a reference group.

8.7 Access to Higher Education

The General Higher Education Entrance Qualification (*Allgemeine Hochschulreife*, *Abitur*) after 12 to 13 years of schooling allows for admission to all higher education programmes. Specialised variants (*Fachgebundene Hochschulreife*) allow for admission at *Fachhochschulen (FH)*/*Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HAW)* (UAS), universities and equivalent higher education institutions, but only in particular disciplines. Access to study programmes at *Fachhochschulen (FH)*/*Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HAW)* (UAS), is also possible with a *Fachhochschulreife*, which can usually be acquired after 12 years of schooling. Admission to study programmes at Universities of Art/Music and comparable study programmes at other higher education institutions as well as admission to study programmes in sports may be based on other or additional evidence demonstrating individual aptitude.

Applicants with a qualification in vocational education and training but without a school-based higher education entrance qualification are entitled to a general higher education entrance qualification and thus to access to all study programmes, provided they have obtained advanced further training certificates in particular state-regulated vocational fields (e.g. *Meister/Meisterin im Handwerk, Industriemeister/in, Fachwirt/in (IHK), Betriebswirt/in (IHK) und (HWK), staatlich geprüfte/r Techniker/in, staatlich geprüfte/r Betriebswirt/in, staatlich geprüfte/r Gestalter/in, staatlich geprüfte/r Erzieher/in*). Vocationally qualified applicants can obtain a *Fachgebundene Hochschulreife* after completing a state-regulated vocational education of at least two years' duration plus professional practice of normally at least three years' duration, after having successfully passed an aptitude test at a higher education institution or other state institution; the aptitude test may be replaced by successfully completed trial studies of at least one year's duration.^x

Higher Education Institutions may in certain cases apply additional admission procedures.

8.8 National Sources of Information

- *Kultusministerkonferenz (KMK)* [Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany]; Graurheindorfer Str. 157, D-53117 Bonn; Phone: +49[0]228/501-0, www.kmk.org; E-Mail: hochschulen@kmk.org
- Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) as German NARIC; www.kmk.org; E-Mail: zab@kmk.org
- German information office of the *Länder* in the EURYDICE Network, providing the national dossier on the education system; www.kmk.org; E-Mail: Eurydice@kmk.org
- *Hochschulrektorenkonferenz (HRK)* [German Rectors' Conference]; Leipziger Platz 11, D-10117 Berlin, Phone: +49 30 206292-0; www.hrk.de; E-Mail: post@hrk.de
- "Higher Education Compass" of the German Rectors' Conference features comprehensive information on institutions, programmes of study, etc. (www.higher-education-compass.de)

ⁱ The information covers only aspects directly relevant to purposes of the Diploma Supplement.

ⁱⁱ *Berufsakademien* are not considered as Higher Education Institutions, they only exist in some of the *Länder*. They offer educational programmes in close cooperation with private companies. Students receive a formal degree and carry out an apprenticeship at the company. Some *Berufsakademien* offer Bachelor courses which are recognised as an academic degree if they are accredited by the Accreditation Council.

ⁱⁱⁱ German Qualifications Framework for Higher Education Degrees. (Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 16 February 2017).

^{iv} German Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning (DQR). Joint resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the German Conference of Economics Ministers and the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 15 November 2012). More information at www.dqr.de

^v Recommendation of the European Parliament and the European Council on the establishment of a European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning of 23 April 2008 (2008/C 111/01 – European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning – EQF).

^{vi} Specimen decree pursuant to Article 4, paragraphs 1 – 4 of the interstate study accreditation treaty (Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 21 November 2024).

^{vii} Interstate Treaty on the organisation of a joint accreditation system to ensure the quality of teaching and learning at German higher education institutions (Interstate study accreditation treaty) (Decision of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 8 December 2016), Enacted on 1 January 2018.

^{viii} See note No. 7.

^{ix} See note No. 7.

^x Access to higher education for applicants with a vocational qualification, but without a school-based higher education entrance qualification (Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 6 March 2009).

HAWK**HOCHSCHULE****FÜR ANGEWANDTE WISSENSCHAFT UND KUNST****Hildesheim/Holzminden/Göttingen****University of Applied Sciences and Arts**

Prüfungsordnung für den Masterstudiengang Soziale Arbeit berufsbegleitend (Besonderer Teil)

**Fakultät Soziale Arbeit (Holzminden)
PO 2024 (F2026)**

Die Prüfungsordnung Besonderer Teil für den Masterstudiengang Soziale Arbeit berufsbegleitend vom 4. Oktober 2023 in der Fassung vom 17. Juni 2026 tritt gemäß Fakultätsratsbeschluss der Fakultät Soziale Arbeit (Holzminden) vom 17. Juni 2026 und Genehmigung des Präsidiums vom 29. September 2026 nach ihrer hochschulöffentlichen Bekanntmachung in Kraft. Die hochschulöffentliche Bekanntmachung erfolgte am 30. September 2026.

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§ 1 Dauer und Verlauf des Studiums

- (1) Die Regelstudienzeit des konsekutiven Teilzeit-Masterstudiengangs Soziale Arbeit berufsbegleitend beträgt sechs Semester.
- (2) Das Studium setzt sich aus neun Pflichtmodulen im Umfang von 120 Credits zusammen. Eine Modulübersicht inklusive Angaben zum Workload wird in Anlage 1 aufgezeigt.

§ 2 Prüfungen

- (1) Die für die Masterprüfung zu erbringenden Prüfungen werden studienbegleitend erbracht und ergeben sich ebenso wie die Prüfungsarten aus der Modulübersicht (Anlage 1).
- (2) Die Gesamtnote wird aus den Modulnoten gebildet und nach den auf das Modul entfallenden Credits gewichtet (siehe Anlage 1). Ausschließlich für Praxisanteile vergebene Credits werden bei der Gewichtung der Noten nicht berücksichtigt.
- (3) Ist in der Modulübersicht (Anlage 1) eine Studienleistung als Prüfungsvorleistung (PVL) vorgesehen, so ist das Bestehen dieser Prüfungsvorleistung neben dem Vorliegen der Voraussetzungen gemäß § 8 des Allgemeinen Teils der Prüfungsordnung für die Zulassung zur notenbildenden Modulabschlussprüfung erforderlich.
- (4) Abweichend von § 15 Absatz 2 der Prüfungsordnung Allgemeiner Teil findet keine Pflichtanmeldung zur ersten Wiederholungsprüfung statt. Eine nicht bestandene Modulprüfung nach § 15 Absatz 1 der Prüfungsordnung Allgemeiner Teil soll jedoch in der Regel im Rahmen der regulären Prüfungstermine innerhalb der nächsten beiden Semester in der gleichen Art und Dauer wiederholt werden.

§ 3 Praxisphasen

- (1) In den Studiengang ist Praxis im Gesamtumfang von 300 Stunden (10 Credits) integriert. Die studienintegrierte Praxis ist Bestandteil spezifisch ausgewiesener Module (siehe Anlage 1).
- (2) Die Praxisphase kann in gewerblichen, frei gemeinnützigen und staatlichen Einrichtungen, in denen professionelle Soziale Arbeit geleistet wird, durchgeführt werden.
- (3) Voraussetzung für die Anerkennung der Praxisphase ist die begleitende Teilnahme an der Veranstaltung des Modul 1.

§ 4 Masterarbeit und Kolloquium

- (1) Die Masterthesis ist eine Prüfungsleistung im gleichnamigen Modul (24 Credits), wobei auf die schriftliche Abschlussarbeit 21 Credits, auf das mündliche Kolloquium zwei Credits und die begleitende Lehrveranstaltung ein Credit entfallen.
- (2) Die Bearbeitungszeit für die Abschlussarbeit beträgt sechs Monate. Sie soll den Umfang von 80 Seiten nicht wesentlich überschreiten.
- (3) Zur Prüfungsleistung Masterarbeit wird zugelassen, wer im Rahmen des Masterstudienganges Soziale Arbeit berufsbegleitend mindestens 60 Credits erbracht und die noch ausstehenden Prüfungsleistungen angemeldet hat. Näheres regelt die Prüfungskommission.

- (4) Dem Antrag auf Zulassung zur Masterarbeit ist ein Vorschlag für den Themenbereich, dem das Thema für die Masterarbeit entnommen werden soll und eine Erklärung, ob die Masterarbeit als Einzel- oder Gruppenarbeit vergeben werden soll, beizufügen.
- (5) Das Kolloquium soll in der Regel in der Prüfungswoche am Ende des Semesters durchgeführt werden, zu dem die Masterarbeit abgegeben worden ist. Die Gesamtdauer des Kolloquiums beträgt je Student*in mindestens 40 und maximal 50 Minuten.
- (6) Die endgültige Note der Masterarbeit ergibt sich aus der Bewertung der schriftlichen Abschlussarbeit und des mündlichen Kolloquiums. Beide Teile müssen bestanden sein. Bei der Ermittlung der Gesamtnote werden schriftliche und mündliche Note im Verhältnis 3:1 gewichtet.

§ 5 Hochschulgrad, Zeugnis

- (1) Der Studiengang schließt mit dem Kolloquium zur Masterarbeit ab.
- (2) Die Hochschule verleiht zum Abschluss den Hochschulgrad Master of Arts, abgekürzt M.A. Hierüber stellt die Hochschule eine Urkunde mit dem Datum des Zeugnisses aus (Muster siehe Anlage 2). Ein Muster des Masterzeugnisses enthält Anlage 3. Gleichzeitig mit dem Zeugnis wird der*dem Studierenden ein englisches Diploma Supplement in der jeweils aktuellen HRK-Vorlage ausgehändigt.

§ 6 Inkrafttreten und Übergangsregelungen

- (1) Diese Prüfungsordnung tritt zum Wintersemester 2026/27 in Kraft.
- (2) Sie gilt weiterhin für Studierende, die ihr Studium seit dem Wintersemester 2024/2025 begonnen haben.
- (3) Studierende, die bereits vor dem Wintersemester 2024/25 ihr Studium begonnen haben, werden zum Wintersemester 2027/28 in diese Ordnung überführt. Über Ausnahmen entscheidet auf begründeten Antrag die Prüfungskommission.

Anlage 1: Modulübersicht

Nr.	Modulname	Credits/Semester						Workload	PVL ¹	PL/SL ¹
		1	2	3	4	5	6			
MA 1	Analyse der Praxis	2 + 7 ²	3 + 3 ²					150 + 300 ²		H/PF
MA 2	Aktuelle Diskurse in Disziplin und Profession	6	6					360	PR	PF
MA 3	Gesellschaftliche und (so- zial-)politische Rahmenbe- dingungen Sozialer Arbeit	6						180		PA/FS/PF
MA 4	Leitung von Teams und Organisationen		6	6				360	PF	PF
MA 5	Empirische Sozialforschung in der Sozialen Arbeit			6	9			450	PF	EP
MA 6	Konzeptentwicklung zur Stärkung und Sicherung gesellschaftlicher Teilhabe			9	6			450	PF + PF	PF
MA 7	Professionelle Profilbildung				6	6		360	PF	PF ¹
MA 8	Wissenschafts- kommunikation					9		270		PR/PA
MA 9	Masterthesis						24	720		AA

¹ unbenotet, ² Credits Praxis

Abkürzung	Bezeichnung
PVL	Prüfungsvorleistung (unbenotet)
SL	Studienleistung (unbenotet)
PL	Prüfungsleistung (benotet)
/	oder
AA	Abschlussarbeit mit Kolloquium
EP	Empirisches Projekt
FS	Fallstudie
H	Hausarbeit
PA	Projektarbeit
PR	Präsentation
PF	Portfolio

Anlage 2: Masterurkunde (Muster)**MASTERURKUNDE**

Die HAWK
Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaft und Kunst
Hildesheim/Holzminden/Göttingen
Fakultät Soziale Arbeit

verleiht mit dieser Urkunde

geboren am **«Vorname» «Nachname»**
«Geburtsdatum» in «Geburtsort»

den Hochschulgrad **Master of Arts**
abgekürzt M.A.,
nachdem die Abschlussprüfung im Studiengang

Soziale Arbeit

bestanden wurde.

Holzminden, den **«Datum»**

«Dekan*in»

«Studiendekan*in»

Anlage 3: Masterzeugnis (Muster)**MASTERZEUGNIS**

geboren am **«Vorname» «Nachname»**
«Geburtsdatum» in «Geburtsort»
hat die Masterprüfung im Studiengang

Soziale Arbeit

der Fakultät Soziale Arbeit
bestanden.

Thema der Masterarbeit:

Abschlussprüfung	Credits	Gesamtnote
Gesamtbewertung	000	0,0 (in Worten)

Die Gesamtnote ergibt sich aus den Modulnoten gemäß Anlage zum Masterzeugnis.

Holzminde, den «PruefDatum»

«Studiendekan*in»

ANLAGE ZUM MASTERZEUGNIS**Studiengang**

	Vorname Nachname
geboren am	00.00.0000 in «Ort»

Module	Credits	Note
---------------	----------------	-------------

Pflicht- und Wahlpflichtmodule

0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0
0,0

Masterarbeit

0,0

Gesamtnote

Anlage 4: Diploma Supplement (Muster)

DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT

This Diploma Supplement model was developed by the European Commission, Council of Europe and UNESCO/CEPES. The purpose of the supplement is to provide sufficient independent data to improve the international 'transparency' and fair academic and professional recognition of qualifications (diplomas, degrees, certificates, etc.). It is designed to provide a description of the nature, level, context, content and status of the studies that were pursued and successfully completed by the individual named on the original qualification to which this supplement is appended. It should be free from any value judgements, equivalence statements or suggestions about recognition. Information in all eight sections should be provided. Where information is not provided, an explanation should give the reason why.

1. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE HOLDER OF THE QUALIFICATION

- | | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1.1 | Family name(s) | Nachname | 1.2 | First name(s) | Vorname |
| 1.3 | Date of birth | 00.00.0000 | 1.4 | Student identification number or code | 000000 |

2. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE QUALIFICATION

- 2.1 Name of qualification and (if applicable) title conferred (in original language)
Master of Arts – M.A. Soziale Arbeit
- 2.2 Main field(s) of study for the qualification
Social Work and Social Pedagogy
- 2.3 Name and status of awarding institution (in original language)
HAWK Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaft und Kunst
Hildesheim/Holzminde/n/Göttingen
Fakultät Soziale Arbeit (Faculty of Social Work)
University of Applied Sciences and Arts / State Institution
- 2.4 Name and status of institution (if different from 2.3) administering studies (in original language)
[as above]
- 2.5 Language(s) of instruction/examination
German

3. INFORMATION ON THE LEVEL AND DURATION OF THE QUALIFICATION

- 3.1 Level of the qualification
Master programme, graduate, second degree, by research with thesis
- 3.2 Official duration of programme in credits and/or years
Three years, 6 semesters, 180 ECTS
- 3.3 Access requirement(s)
Bachelor or Diploma degree in Social Work or similar disciplines.

4. INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAMME COMPLETED AND THE RESULTS OBTAINED

- 4.1 Mode of Study
Full Time Study
In the event of part-time study (individual application required), the official length of the programme will be extended accordingly.
- 4.2 Programme learning outcomes
See Transcript of Records enclosed.
Graduates of the Master's Programme in Social Work have a comprehensive and widespread knowledge and understanding of the scientific foundations of social work, including the understanding of theories, models and methods of social work in a national and international context. They are competent to independently scientifically grasp the scientific-theoretical and methodological principles of national and international research and development in social work. Against the background of

the analysis of new, unclear and untypical tasks, they are capable of interdisciplinary cooperation and the integration of other disciplines and of professional cooperation and guidance of colleagues as well as of leading multi-professional teams in research and practice with (sole) responsibility. They design the planning and conception of social work independently, addressee-oriented and with the inclusion of (inter-)professional/disciplinary research and development processes. They are able to develop and communicate complex solution strategies for new, unknown tasks. Against the background of critical analysis of their own and others' research results and perspectives, they develop innovative methods and strategies of research and development and thus make an independent contribution to the development of their subject. They examine the effectiveness of social work methods and develop them further. On the basis of scientific methodology, they set up, supervise and further develop comprehensive quality management systems. On the basis of knowledge about professional and ethical decisions against the background of a dynamic, globalised, transcultural world, they are able to communicate professional decisions in a target group-oriented and diversity-sensitive manner and to work on discourse and definition processes of social work. Fundamentally, graduates of the Master's programme in Social Work are characterised by the ability to self-criticism and self-reflection and to independently define the limits and possibilities of their actions.

- 4.3 Programme details, individual credits gained and grades/marks obtained
Please refer to the Certificate (Masterzeugnis) for a list of courses and grades.
- 4.4 Grading system and, if available, grade distribution table
Absolute grading scheme: "Sehr Gut" (1,0; 1,3) = Very Good; "Gut" (1,7; 2,0; 2,3) = Good; "Befriedigend" (2,7; 3,0; 3,3) = Satisfactory; "Ausreichend" (3,7; 4,0) = Pass; "Nicht ausreichend" (5,0) = Fail
Statistical distribution of grades: **grading table**
- 4.5 Overall classification of the qualification (in original language) **0,0**
The final grade is based on the grades awarded during the study programme and that of the final thesis (with oral component). Please refer to the Certificate (Masterzeugnis).
When there are no marks given, not enough results are available yet to determine ECTS-grades.

5. INFORMATION ON THE FUNCTION OF THE QUALIFICATION

- 5.1 Access to further study
The degree entitles its holder to apply for admission for a doctoral thesis according to the regulations covering doctoral programmes, respectively.
- 5.2 Access to a regulated profession (if applicable)
The Master degree in Social Work entitles its holder to the legally protected professional title "Master of Arts" and to exercise professional work to work as a state-recognised social work/social pedagogy practitioner in accordance with German legislation. This includes the executive ranks of the civil service, following a professional internship. Please see state registration.

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 6.1 Additional information
Non-academic acquired competencies were credited in an amount of **00** credits in the following modules: ...
- 6.2 Further information sources
www.hawk.de

7. CERTIFICATION

This Diploma Supplement refers to the following original documents:

Document on the award of the academic degree (Masterurkunde)	00.00.0000
Certificate (Masterzeugnis)	00.00.0000
Transcript of Records	

Certification Date:	00.00.0000
---------------------	-------------------

(Official Stamp / Seal)

Chairwoman/Chairman Examination Committee

8. NATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

The information on the national higher education system on the following pages provides a context for the qualification and the type of higher education institution that awarded it.

8. INFORMATION ON THE GERMAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEMⁱ**8.1 Types of Institutions and Institutional Status**

Higher education (HE) studies in Germany are offered at three types of Higher Education Institutions (HEI).ⁱⁱ

- *Universitäten* (Universities) including various specialised institutions, offer the whole range of academic disciplines. In the German tradition, universities focus in particular on basic research so that advanced stages of study have mainly theoretical orientation and research-oriented components.

- *Fachhochschulen (FH)/Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HAW)* (Universities of Applied Sciences, UAS) focus their study programmes on engineering and other technical disciplines, business-related studies, social work, and design areas. The common mission of applied research and development implies an application-oriented focus of studies, which includes integrated and supervised work assignments in industry, enterprises or other relevant institutions.

- *Kunst- und Musikhochschulen* (Universities of Art/Music) offer studies for artistic careers in fine arts, performing arts and music; in such fields as directing, production, writing in theatre, film, and other media; and in a variety of design areas, architecture, media and communication.

Higher Education Institutions are either state or state-recognised institutions. In their operations, including the organisation of studies and the designation and award of degrees, they are subject to higher education legislation.

8.2 Types of Programmes and Degrees Awarded

Studies in all three types of institutions have traditionally been offered in integrated "long" (one-tier) programmes leading to *Diplom-* or *Magister Artium* degrees or completed by a *Staatsprüfung* (State Examination).

Within the framework of the Bologna-Process one-tier study programmes are successively being replaced by a two-tier study system. Since 1998, two-tier degrees (Bachelor's and Master's) have been introduced in almost all study programmes. This change is designed to enlarge variety and flexibility for students in planning and pursuing educational objectives; it also enhances international compatibility of studies.

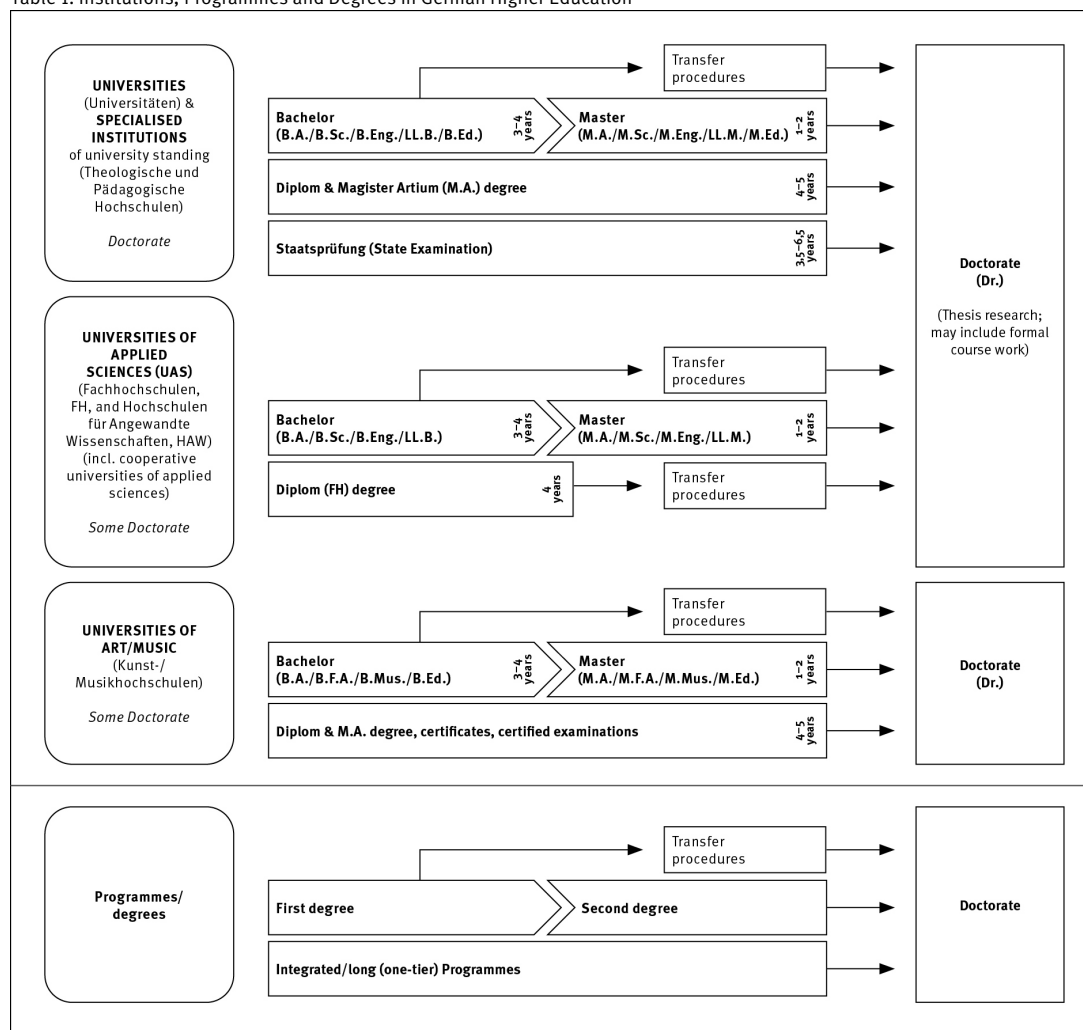
The German Qualifications Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (HQR)ⁱⁱⁱ describes the qualification levels as well as the resulting qualifications and competences of the graduates. The three levels of the HQR correspond to the levels 6, 7 and 8 of the German Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning^{iv} and the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning^v.

For details cf. Sec. 8.4.1, 8.4.2, and 8.4.3 respectively. Table 1 provides a synoptic summary.

8.3 Approval/Accreditation of Programmes and Degrees

To ensure quality and comparability of qualifications, the organisation of studies and general degree requirements have to conform to principles and regulations established by the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK).^{vi} In 1999, a system of accreditation for Bachelor's and Master's programmes has become operational. All new programmes have to be accredited under this scheme; after a successful accreditation they receive the seal of the Accreditation Council.^{vii}

Table 1: Institutions, Programmes and Degrees in German Higher Education



8.4 Organisation and Structure of Studies

The following programmes apply to all three types of institutions. Bachelor's and Master's study programmes may be studied consecutively, at various higher education institutions, at different types of higher education institutions and with phases of professional work between the first and the second qualification. The organisation of the study programmes makes use of modular components and of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) with 30 credits corresponding to one semester.

8.4.1 Bachelor

Bachelor's degree programmes lay the academic foundations, provide methodological competences and include skills related to the professional field. The Bachelor's degree is awarded after 3 to 4 years. The Bachelor's degree programme includes a thesis requirement. Study programmes leading to the Bachelor's degree must be accredited according to the Interstate study accreditation treaty.^{viii}

First degree programmes (Bachelor) lead to Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.), Bachelor of Engineering (B.Eng.), Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.), Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), Bachelor of Music (B.Mus.) or Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.). The Bachelor's degree corresponds to level 6 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

8.4.2 Master

The Master's degree is the second degree after another 1 to 2 years. Master's programmes may be differentiated by the profile types "practice-oriented" and "research-oriented". Higher Education Institutions define the profile. The Master's degree programme includes a thesis requirement. Study programmes leading to the Master's degree must be accredited according to the Interstate study accreditation treaty.^{ix}

Second degree programmes (Master) lead to Master of Arts (M.A.), Master of Science (M.Sc.), Master of Engineering (M.Eng.), Master of Laws (L.L.M.), Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.), Master of Music (M.Mus.) or Master of Education (M.Ed.). Master's programmes which are designed for continuing education may carry other designations (e.g. MBA).

The Master degree corresponds to level 7 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

8.4.3 Integrated "Long" Programmes (One-Tier): Diplom degrees, Magister Artium, Staatsprüfung

An integrated study programme is either mono-disciplinary (*Diplom* degrees, most programmes completed by a *Staatsprüfung*) or comprises a combination of either two major or one major and two minor fields (*Magister Artium*). The first stage (1.5 to 2 years) focuses on broad orientations and foundations of the field(s) of study. An Intermediate Examination (*Diplom-Vorprüfung* for *Diplom* degrees; *Zwischenprüfung* or credit requirements for the *Magister Artium*) is prerequisite to enter the second stage of advanced studies and specialisations. Degree requirements include submission of a thesis (up to 6 months duration) and comprehensive final written and oral examinations. Similar regulations apply to studies leading to a *Staatsprüfung*. The level of qualification is equivalent to the Master's level.

- Integrated studies at *Universitäten (U)* last 4 to 5 years (*Diplom* degree, *Magister Artium*) or 3.5 to 6.5 years (*Staatsprüfung*). The *Diplom* degree is awarded in engineering disciplines, the natural sciences as well as economics and business. In the humanities, the corresponding degree is usually the *Magister Artium* (M.A.). In the social sciences, the practice varies as a matter of institutional traditions. Studies preparing for the legal, medical and pharmaceutical professions are completed by a *Staatsprüfung*. This applies also to studies preparing for teaching professions of some *Länder*.

The three qualifications (*Diplom*, *Magister Artium* and *Staatsprüfung*) are academically equivalent and correspond to level 7 of the German Qualifications Framework/European Qualifications Framework.

They qualify to apply for admission to doctoral studies. Further prerequisites for admission may be defined by the Higher Education Institution, cf. Sec. 8.5.

- Integrated studies at *Fachhochschulen (FH)*/*Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HAW)* (Universities of Applied Sciences, UAS) last 4 years and lead to a *Diplom (FH)* degree which corresponds to level 6 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

Qualified graduates of FH/HAW/UAS may apply for admission to doctoral studies at doctorate-granting institutions, cf. Sec. 8.5.

- Studies at *Kunst- und Musikhochschulen* (Universities of Art/Music, etc.) are more diverse in their organisation, depending on the field and individual objectives. In addition to *Diplom/Magister* degrees, the integrated study programme awards include certificates and certified examinations for specialised areas and professional purposes.

8.5 Doctorate

Universities as well as specialised institutions of university standing, some of the FH/HAW/UAS and some Universities of Art/Music are doctorate-granting institutions. Formal prerequisite for admission to doctoral work is a qualified Master's degree (UAS and U), a *Magister* degree, a *Diplom*, a *Staatsprüfung*, or a foreign equivalent. Comparable degrees from universities of art and music can in exceptional cases (study programmes such as music theory, musicology, pedagogy of arts and music, media studies) also formally qualify for doctoral work. Particularly qualified holders of a Bachelor's degree or a *Diplom (FH)* degree may also be admitted to doctoral studies without acquisition of a further degree by means of a procedure to determine their aptitude. The universities respectively the doctorate-granting institutions regulate entry to a doctorate as well as the structure of the procedure to determine aptitude. Admission further requires the acceptance of the dissertation research project by a professor as a supervisor.

The doctoral degree corresponds to level 8 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

8.6 Grading Scheme

The grading scheme in Germany usually comprises five levels (with numerical equivalents; intermediate grades may be given): "*Sehr Gut*" (1) = Very Good; "*Gut*" (2) = Good; "*Befriedigend*" (3) = Satisfactory; "*Ausreichend*" (4) = Sufficient; "*Nicht ausreichend*" (5) = Non-Sufficient/Fail. The minimum passing grade is "*Ausreichend*" (4). Verbal designations of grades may vary in some cases and for doctoral degrees.

In addition, grade distribution tables as described in the ECTS Users' Guide are used to indicate the relative distribution of grades within a reference group.

8.7 Access to Higher Education

The General Higher Education Entrance Qualification (*Allgemeine Hochschulreife*, *Abitur*) after 12 to 13 years of schooling allows for admission to all higher education programmes. Specialised variants (*Fachgebundene Hochschulreife*) allow for admission at *Fachhochschulen (FH)*/*Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HAW)* (UAS), universities and equivalent higher education institutions, but only in particular disciplines. Access to study programmes at *Fachhochschulen (FH)*/*Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HAW)* (UAS), is also possible with a *Fachhochschulreife*, which can usually be acquired after 12 years of schooling. Admission to study programmes at Universities of Art/Music and comparable study programmes at other higher education institutions as well as admission to study programmes in sports may be based on other or additional evidence demonstrating individual aptitude.

Applicants with a qualification in vocational education and training but without a school-based higher education entrance qualification are entitled to a general higher education entrance qualification and thus to access to all study programmes, provided they have obtained advanced further training certificates in particular state-regulated vocational fields (e.g. *Meister/Meisterin im Handwerk, Industriemeister/in, Fachwirt/in (IHK), Betriebswirt/in (IHK) und (HWK), staatlich geprüfte/r Techniker/in, staatlich geprüfte/r Betriebswirt/in, staatlich geprüfte/r Gestalter/in, staatlich geprüfte/r Erzieher/in*). Vocationally qualified applicants can obtain a *Fachgebundene Hochschulreife* after completing a state-regulated vocational education of at least two years' duration plus professional practice of normally at least three years' duration, after having successfully passed an aptitude test at a higher education institution or other state institution; the aptitude test may be replaced by successfully completed trial studies of at least one year's duration.^x

Higher Education Institutions may in certain cases apply additional admission procedures.

8.8 National Sources of Information

- *Kultusministerkonferenz (KMK)* [Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany]; Graurheindorfer Str. 157, D-53117 Bonn; Phone: +49[0]228/501-0, www.kmk.org; E-Mail: hochschulen@kmk.org
- Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) as German NARIC; www.kmk.org; E-Mail: zab@kmk.org
- German information office of the *Länder* in the EURYDICE Network, providing the national dossier on the education system; www.kmk.org; E-Mail: Eurydice@kmk.org
- *Hochschulrektorenkonferenz (HRK)* [German Rectors' Conference]; Leipziger Platz 11, D-10117 Berlin, Phone: +49 30 206292-0; www.hrk.de; E-Mail: post@hrk.de
- "Higher Education Compass" of the German Rectors' Conference features comprehensive information on institutions, programmes of study, etc. (www.higher-education-compass.de)

ⁱ The information covers only aspects directly relevant to purposes of the Diploma Supplement.

ⁱⁱ *Berufsakademien* are not considered as Higher Education Institutions, they only exist in some of the *Länder*. They offer educational programmes in close cooperation with private companies. Students receive a formal degree and carry out an apprenticeship at the company. Some *Berufsakademien* offer Bachelor courses which are recognised as an academic degree if they are accredited by the Accreditation Council.

ⁱⁱⁱ German Qualifications Framework for Higher Education Degrees. (Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 16 February 2017).

^{iv} German Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning (DQR). Joint resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the German Conference of Economics Ministers and the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 15 November 2012). More information at www.dqr.de

^v Recommendation of the European Parliament and the European Council on the establishment of a European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning of 23 April 2008 (2008/C 111/01 – European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning – EQF).

^{vi} Specimen decree pursuant to Article 4, paragraphs 1 – 4 of the interstate study accreditation treaty (Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 21 November 2024).

^{vii} Interstate Treaty on the organisation of a joint accreditation system to ensure the quality of teaching and learning at German higher education institutions (Interstate study accreditation treaty) (Decision of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 8 December 2016), Enacted on 1 January 2018.

^{viii} See note No. 7.

^{ix} See note No. 7.

^x Access to higher education for applicants with a vocational qualification, but without a school-based higher education entrance qualification (Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 6 March 2009).