

**Master's program
Sociology**

Module Handbook

March 1, 2023

General information on examination requirements

Coursework and examinations

The examination modalities are bindingly regulated in the module descriptions and in the examination regulations. For the purpose of assessing student performance, individual modules provide for different forms of examination, which are described in more detail below.

Module examinations

A module examination takes place at the end of a module and covers the content, methods, and skills taught in the module's courses. The content of a single element may also be considered a module examination if it is included as an example. Admission to the module examination requires that the coursework specified in the module has been completed.

Partial performance

In justified exceptional cases, partial achievements related to a course are completed for the module completion. To complete a module and earn the module's credit points, all partial achievements must be successfully completed. The module grade is calculated from the sum of the products of the grades of the partial achievements with their assigned credit points divided by the number of credit points of the module.

Coursework

In modules with module examinations, academic achievements are specified that demonstrate that students have actively participated in the courses. Academic achievements are completed within the framework of individual courses and are graded as pass or fail.

Scope of individual examination forms

Typical forms of examination for module examinations and partial performances are written examinations, oral examinations, or term papers. Other forms of examination (e.g., portfolio) are possible. If the type of performance to be completed is not specified in the module descriptions, it will be announced by the instructor no later than two weeks after the start of the course.

For *module examinations*, written examinations last between one and a half and a maximum of three hours, while oral examinations last between 20 and 45 minutes. Term papers have a length of up to 20 pages of text (one page of text corresponds to approximately 2,500 characters including spaces; plus cover page, outline, bibliography, appendices).

For *partial achievements*, written examinations last between one and a maximum of two hours, while oral examinations last between 15 and 30 minutes. Term papers may be up to 15 pages in length (one page corresponds to approximately 2,500 characters including spaces, plus cover page, outline, bibliography, and appendices).

The effort required for *coursework* is included in the workload for the course and is less than for partial assessments or module examinations. Coursework includes, for example, minutes, presentations, participation in seminar design, or smaller written assignments. The respective instructors will announce the form of coursework at the beginning of each course.

MA Sociology Module 1: Introduction – Transformations of Modernity

Sociological theories of social transformation have emerged from the experiences and expectations of modernity and thus from processes of social change themselves. Sociological conceptualizations of time are oriented toward observable changes in social order and social upheaval. They establish a relationship between the past, present, and future that is conceived and formulated in highly diverse ways. In the course of social transformations, spatial interactions have also become more complex (both locally and globally), and spatial concepts are being fundamentally re-examined, as space can no longer be understood analytically as a 'container concept'. The developments mentioned above point to complex questions and problems as well as to diverse social challenges in the context of plural, intertwined modernities. The seminar deals with general sociological theories of the spatio-temporal transformation of modernity and thus introduces the fundamentals of the master's program.

Module 1: Introduction – Transformations of Modernity					
Master's program in Sociology					
Frequency: Winter semester		Duration 1 semester	Study section: 1st semester	Credit points: 5	Workload: 150 hours
1	Module structure				
	Element / Course			Type	LP
	1 Transformations of Modernity			S	3
	Module examination				2
2	Language of instruction German				
3	Course content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sociological theories of the transformation of modernity from classical to contemporary sociology; Social thematizations and sociological conceptualizations of time and space; selected current questions and problems in contemporary sociological diagnosis; the significance of spatiotemporal, social, and cultural contexts (plural modernities, globality, locality, cosmopolitanization). 				
4	Competencies Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> have advanced theoretical knowledge of processes of social transformation and the change of modernity; are familiar with sociological conceptualizations of time and space and can relate these to social issues in an analytically reflective manner; have acquired knowledge of selected questions and problems in contemporary sociological analysis; are sensitized to the significance of spatial-temporal, social, and cultural contexts (with particular consideration given to the plurality of modernities and the conditions of globality and locality). 				
5	Exams Module exam				
6	Examination types and performance (for scope, duration, and requirements, see introduction) The form of coursework and module examinations will be announced by the instructor at the beginning of the semester.				
7	Participation requirements None				
8	Module type and applicability of the module Compulsory module				
9	Module coordinator Prof. Dr. Angelika Pofertl		Responsible department Department 17 Social Sciences		

MA Sociology Module 2: Theoretical and Methodological Reflections

In Module 2, the dimensions of space and time as well as the categories of difference and distinction, which are of central importance in the focus areas (Module 4), are discussed in depth and compared with regard to the focus areas. On the one hand, this involves contextual connections (e.g., between inequality and digitalization or families from the perspective of different stages of life). On the other hand, it deals with the reflection of theoretical/empirical research that is embedded in spatial (e.g., international, multi- and transregional) and temporal contexts (e.g., intervals of time comparisons, references to time in discourses on sustainability, aging, etc.) and works with various forms of categories of difference. The associated challenges and the scope of these concepts need to be questioned. The two courses in the module accompany the specification of space and time, but also of diverse differences and distinctions in the focus areas, in order to reflectively highlight the 'common thread' between the specifications in the course of study. Among other things, spatial and temporal references can be identified at the social and societal theory level as well as in medium-range concepts (as phenomena to be explained and explanatory factors).

Module 2: Theoretical and methodological reflections				
Master's program in Sociology				
Frequency: Summer semester	Duration 2 semesters	Study period: 2nd and 3rd semesters	Credit points: 10	Workload: 300 hours
1	Module structure			
	Element / Course	Type	LP	SWS
	1 Spatial-temporal contexts	S	5	2
	2 Differences and distinctions	S	5	2
2	Language of instruction German			
3	Learning content Element 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion of spatial and temporal categories used in the context of spatial and temporal sociological approaches; theoretical-conceptual (e.g., at the social and societal theory level) and methodological/research-practical reflections (e.g., regional/international comparative or transnational research, longitudinal studies); Challenges associated with research and the scope of corresponding findings. Element 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion of various categories of difference in terms of social inequalities and cultural differences in the broader sense; Questions here include, for example: What role do these categories play in the context of living environments, for example with regard to gender, migration contexts, or life phases/generations? Which boundaries of such categories are (in)appropriate for which subjects and problems, and why? In both courses, the dimensions also serve as a tool for comparing their manifestations in the various focus areas (Module 4).			
4	Competencies Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> learn to critically reflect on sociological concepts in spatio-temporal contexts and to recognize and question the categories of difference used; are able to reflect on the spatial and temporal horizons of sociological problems; are able to apply the findings to various problems in a comparative manner on the basis of relevant texts; can present these findings transparently (orally or in writing). 			
5	Exams Two partial assessments.			
6	Examination types and requirements (for scope, duration, and requirements, see introduction)			

	The form of the partial assessments will be announced by the instructor at the beginning of the semester. The grades for the two partial assessments will each account for half of the module grade. Both partial assessments must be graded at least 'sufficient'.	
7	Participation requirements None	
8	Module type and applicability of the module Mandatory module	
9	Module coordinator Prof. Dr. Nicole Burzan	Responsible department Department 17 Social Sciences

MA Sociology Module 3: Research Workshop

The research workshop offers the opportunity to apply and discuss methods of empirical social research in depth. Students can choose between qualitative/interpretative or quantitative research, with a focus on specific areas based on knowledge gained in previous studies (different methodological approaches, procedures, topics, varying degrees of application orientation, etc.). The aim is always to raise awareness of the methodological foundations and challenges of empirical research in general, as well as the links between theory and empirical research.

Module 3: Research Workshop						
Master's program in Sociology						
Frequency: Winter semester		Duration 2 semesters	Study period: 1st and 2nd semester	Credit points: 10	Workload: 300 hours	
1	Module structure					
	Element / Course			Type	LP	SWS
	1a	Research workshop (quantitative) I		S	4	2
	2	Research workshop (quantitative) II		S	4	2
		Module examination			2	
	OR					
	1b	Research workshop (qualitative) I		S	4	2
	2b	Research workshop (qualitative) II		S	4	2
		Module examination			2	
2	Language of instruction German					
3	Course content <ul style="list-style-type: none">In two consecutive courses, students use empirical examples to replicate the research steps (design/conceptualization, data collection, data analysis, and interpretation) from elaborate areas of quantitative and qualitative/interpretive research, present their results, and reflect on their approach and its methodological and epistemological foundations. Content-related problems and methodological concepts and instruments are systematically related to each other.In the quantitative variant, the focus may be on different types of data (e.g., panels, big data) or on specific analysis methods/evaluation software (e.g., multilevel models).In the qualitative/interpretative variant, different research concepts (e.g., ethnography) or data types (e.g., collective interview data) are used. Mixed methods supplements (while maintaining the chosen focus) are also possible. In order to achieve the module objectives, the variant of the selected research workshop may not be changed between elements 1 and 2.					
4	Competencies Students <ul style="list-style-type: none">learn to apply the principles of quantitative or qualitative/interpretative research to a specific example in a methodologically reflective manner, taking methodological challenges into account;can apply elaborate methodological procedures and recognize the limitations of their approach;can present the results in an appropriate form with a view to knowledge transfer;are sensitized to the challenges of empirical research in various contexts beyond the application example.					
5	Exams Module exam					
6	Examination types and performance (for scope, duration, and requirements, see introduction) Graded written module examination (e.g., research report). Completion of the module requires successful completion of coursework in both courses of the module.					
7	Participation requirements A minimum of 5 CP from previous studies in the chosen research strand must be demonstrated (see admission requirements for the program in the examination regulations).					
8	Module type and applicability of the module					

	Elective module	
9	Module coordinator Prof. Dr. Bernd Sommer	Responsible department Department 17 Social Sciences

MA Sociology Module 4: Space and Time in Social Fields

MA Sociology Module 4.1: Social-Ecological Transformation and Social Innovation

This module focuses on the interplay between social innovations (at the micro and meso levels) and social change and transformation processes for establishing sustainable structures and practices (at the macro level). In the context of possible strategies for overcoming social challenges, increasing reference is made to the importance of social innovations and socio-ecological transformation processes, which are discussed in social science research, among other things, in the context of the concept of sustainability. *Time aspects* are already evident in this module through the processes mentioned above. Examples of *spatial aspects* include spatial understandings of nature and the environment, the connection between social innovation and spatial design, and the sociocultural contexts of innovation processes.

The two elements of the module start from a respective focus (socio-ecological transformation and social innovation) and take into account their interrelationship on this basis.

Module 4.1: Socio-ecological transformation and social innovation						
Master's program in Sociology						
Frequency: Winter semester		Duration 1 semester	Study section: 1st semester	Credit points: 10	Workload: 300 hours	
1	Module structure					
	Element / Course			Type	LP	SWS
	1	Social-ecological transformation in spatial-temporal contexts		S	4	2
	2	Social innovation in spatial-temporal contexts		S	4	2
	Module examination				2	
2	Language of instruction German					
3	Course content <ul style="list-style-type: none">Theoretical foundations of socio-ecological transformation and social innovation research;Analysis of the drivers and obstacles for change and innovation processes in the past and present, as well as in different spatial contexts;In-depth understanding of the interplay between social innovations (at the micro and meso levels) and societal change and socio-ecological transformation processes (at the macro level);Effects of innovation and transformation processes on society.					
4	Skills Students <ul style="list-style-type: none">have advanced theoretical and empirical knowledge in socio-ecological transformation and social innovation research;acquire a systematic approach to issues of sustainable development and socio-ecological transformation;can analyze innovation processes in historical and international comparison and derive the associated consequences for society on a theoretical and empirical basis;understand the significance of space and time in innovation and transformation research and are thus able to take a comparative perspective.					
5	Exams Module exam on one of the two courses.					
6	Examination types and requirements (for scope, duration, and requirements, see introduction) The form of coursework and module examination will be announced by the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Successful completion of the module requires successful completion of coursework in both courses of the module.					
7	Participation requirements None					
8	Module type and applicability of the module					

	Compulsory module	
9	Module coordinator Prof. Dr. Jürgen Howaldt	Responsible department Department 17 Social Sciences

MA Sociology Module 4.2: Migration and Gender

This module examines processes of change brought about by migration and gender relations with regard to various areas of life and society. The first focus is on approaches to migration research and theories on the causes and effects of migration. Individual topics such as integration, identity, and belonging are also explored in depth. The second focus is on approaches to gender studies, addressing gender as a structural and process category (doing gender), but also including gender and sexuality norms as well as welfare state gender regimes.

Spatial aspects are addressed in the context of local and global identities and affiliations, the construction of borders, gender-specific appropriation of space, and with regard to gendered processes of transnationalization and cosmopolitanization. *Temporal aspects* are reflected upon with regard to biographical and everyday life changes, as well as migration processes and transformations in gender relations. The two elements of the module start from a respective focus (migration or gender) and take into account the interactions between gender orders and migration processes and the transformations that result from these connections.

Module 4.2: Migration and Gender								
Master's program in Sociology								
Frequency: Winter semester		Duration 1 semester		Study section: 1st semester		Credit points: 10	Workload: 300 hours	
1	Module structure							
	Element / Course					Type	LP	SWS
	1	Migration in Spatial-Temporal Contexts				S	4	2
	2	Gender in Spatial-Temporal Contexts				S	4	2
		Module examination					2	
2	Language of instruction German							
3	Course content <ul style="list-style-type: none">Theories and methods of migration and gender sociology;Empirical descriptions of spatial-temporal aspects at the macro, meso, and micro levels (e.g., local and global identities and belonging, transformations in gender relations);Connection with other central areas of life and society and significance for social inequalities.							
4	Competencies Students <ul style="list-style-type: none">have a sound theoretical and methodological knowledge of migration and gender sociology;can analyze migration- and gender-specific contexts and causes and also connect them to various areas of life and society;can describe these connections as an expression of social conditions that influence individual and collective life chances;understand the significance of space and time in these areas and can take a comparative perspective.							
5	Exams Module exam on one of the two courses.							
6	Examination forms and performance (for scope, duration, and requirements, see introduction) The form of coursework and module examination will be announced by the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Successful completion of the module requires successful completion of coursework in both courses of the module.							
7	Participation requirements None							
8	Module type and applicability of the module Compulsory module							
9	Module coordinator Prof. Dr. Mona Motakef				Responsible department Department 17 Social Sciences			

MA Sociology Module 4.3: Family and Age(ing)

Family and age(ing) are fundamental dimensions of both individual life courses and social coexistence. Regional, international, and historical comparative perspectives are taken to identify possible influencing factors, correlations, and developments at the micro level (family and aging in the life course), meso level (social networks, generations in family and society), and macro level (population structures). With reference to *space*, theories and empirical findings are discussed with regard to (international and regional) differences in family forms and generational relationships, support networks and living distances, mobility and mobility restrictions, or housing and assistance systems in old age. *Time aspects* are prominent in research, e.g., on family forms and generational relationships or population structures and social policy in transition, but also on the separation of age and cohort effects as well as family and social networks in the life course. This takes into account conditions for the future shaping of family, social networks, and age(ing) that are effective at all levels and are closely linked to other important areas of life and society (e.g., work, income, environment, leisure, health, care, family and pension policy, social inequality).

Module 4.3: Family and Age(ing)						
Master's program in Sociology						
Frequency:		Duration	Stage of study:	Credit points:	Workload:	
Summer semester		1 semester	2nd semester	10	300 hours	
1	Module structure					
	Element / Course			Type	LP	SWS
	1	Family and Networks in Spatial-Temporal Contexts		S	4	2
	2	Age and aging in spatial-temporal contexts		S	4	2
	Module examination				2	
2	Language of instruction German					
3	Course content <ul style="list-style-type: none">Theoretical and methodological concepts for analyzing spatiotemporal aspects of family, social networks, and age(ing);Empirical description of spatial-temporal aspects at the macro, meso, and micro levels;Connections with other central areas of life and society and significance for social inequality.					
4	Competencies Students <ul style="list-style-type: none">have advanced theoretical and methodological knowledge of spatial-temporal aspects of family, social networks, and age(ing);acquire a systematic approach to regional, international, and historical comparative research at the macro, meso, and micro levels;can derive the connections between areas of life and society and the associated social inequalities on a theoretical and empirical basis;understand the significance of space and time in these areas and are thus able to take a comparative perspective.					
5	Exams Module exam on one of the two courses.					
6	Examination forms and performance (for scope, duration, and requirements, see introduction) The form of coursework and module examination will be announced by the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Successful completion of the module requires successful completion of coursework in both courses of the module.					
7	Participation requirements: None					
8	Module type and applicability of the module Compulsory module					
9	Module coordinator Prof. Dr. Martina Brandt			Responsible department Department 17 Social Sciences		

MA Sociology Module 4.4: Work, Organization, and Digitalization

Based on theoretical and empirical knowledge about past processes of change in work and their drivers, one focus of the module is to analyze and reflect on future visions of work against the backdrop of new forms of organization and advancing digitalization. In this module, the fundamentals of work and organizational sociology are linked in their spatial and temporal perspectives.

Module 4.4: Work, Organization, and Digitalization					
Master's program in Sociology					
Frequency: Summer semester	Duration 1 semester	Stage of study: 2nd semester	Credit points: 10	Workload: 300 hours	
1	Module structure				
	Element / Course		Type	LP	SWS
	1	Work and organization in spatial-temporal contexts	S	4	2
	2	Visions of the future of work	S	4	2
		Module examination		2	
2	Language of instruction German				
3	Course content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fundamentals of past, present, and future aspects of change in working environments in the context of organization, technologization, and digitalization; Change processes at the micro, meso, and macro levels; Factors for change processes in the past, present, and future in different spatial contexts; Analysis and reflection on future visions of work against the backdrop of new forms of organization and advancing digitalization. 				
4	Competencies Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> have advanced theoretical and empirical knowledge of the spatial-temporal transformation of working environments in the context of organizations and digitalization; acquire a systematic approach to questions of change in working environments from the perspective of work and organizational sociology; can also derive the social causes and consequences of change in working environments and the associated social challenges in an internationally comparative manner on a theoretical and empirical basis. 				
5	Exams Module exam on one of the two courses.				
6	Examination types and requirements (for scope, duration, and requirements, see introduction) The form of coursework and module examination will be announced by the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Successful completion of the module requires successful completion of coursework in both courses of the module.				
7	Participation requirements None				
8	Module type and applicability of the module Compulsory module				
9	Module coordinator Prof. Dr. Maximiliane Wilkesmann		Responsible department Department 17 Social Sciences		

MA Sociology Module 4.5: Structures and Cultures of Inequality

Multidimensional inequalities and their dynamics can be analyzed from different perspectives. The structural perspective emphasizes, among other things, resource distribution and aggregated views of social inequality structures, while the cultural perspective analyzes, for example, the dynamics of 'doing inequality' in the context of lifestyles or in specific areas of life and asks how inequalities accumulate and reproduce and become embedded in discourse. The module discusses the connections between both perspectives for various areas of application.

In addition to regional (e.g., state/country) or international comparisons, *spatial aspects* are addressed, for example, through inequalities in the appropriation of space (e.g., in housing markets or representations in public space). In addition to the consideration of developments, *temporal aspects* are expressed, for example, through connections between inequality and time perspectives (for a long time, a planning imperative was assumed in the middle classes) and accelerations, or through time regimes (e.g., in hierarchical organizations) as instruments of power.

Module 4.5: Structures and cultures of inequality								
Master's program in Sociology								
Frequency: Winter semester		Duration 1 semester		Study section: 3rd semester		Credit points: 10	Workload: 300 hours	
1	Module structure							
	Element / Course				Type	LP	SWS	
	1	Structures of inequality in spatial-temporal contexts			S	4	2	
	2	Cultures of inequality in spatial-temporal contexts			S	4	2	
		Module examination				2		
2	Language of instruction German							
3	Course content <ul style="list-style-type: none">Multidimensional inequalities from the perspective of structures (e.g., resource distribution, inequality structures) and cultures (e.g., "doing inequality," discourses on inequality) and their respective dynamics in the context of inequality accumulation and reproduction;Theoretical and empirical analyses of this topic with a view to different dimensions of inequality in their context (e.g., in lifestyle) and/or specific areas of life (elements 1 and 2 set different priorities here);Spatial (e.g., regional/international comparisons, inequalities in spatial appropriation) and temporal aspects (e.g., analysis of developments, socially unequal time perspectives, tempos, time regimes, etc., time orders as instruments of power).							
4	Competencies Students <ul style="list-style-type: none">have in-depth knowledge of the structures, cultures, and dynamics of multidimensional inequalities, and in particular of the connection between these aspects in theoretical and empirical terms;understand the significance of space and time in these areas and are thus able to adopt a comparative perspective.							
5	Exams Module exam on one of the two courses.							
6	Examination forms and performance (for scope, duration, and requirements, see introduction) The form of coursework and module examination will be announced by the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Successful completion of the module requires successful completion of coursework in both courses of the module.							
7	Participation requirements None							
8	Module type and applicability of the module Compulsory module							
9	Module coordinator Prof. Dr. Nicole Burzan				Responsible Department 17 Social Sciences Department 17 Social Sciences			

MA Sociology Module 4.6: Science and Higher Education

Science and higher education research has undergone a major transformation in recent years. From analyses of the Bologna reform to discussions on rankings, new organizational concepts, and standardized comparative surveys to fundamental considerations of what constitutes education, the field has changed fundamentally in recent years. The context of space is particularly dominant in science. References and comparisons in science and higher education systems always take place on a global scale (e.g., comparisons within the EU, with the US, Asia). The reference point for the scientific community is always the global community. At the same time, universities must refer to local specifics (e.g., universities in the Ruhr area). Similarly, the context of time has come to the fore with concepts such as lifelong learning, continuing education, and the student life cycle. In this module, science and higher education systems are examined sociologically through international comparisons, but also by looking at their actors and development dynamics. The focus is on transformation processes at the macro level (e.g., science and higher education systems) and at the meso and micro levels (e.g., changes in universities and working conditions at universities and for students) and their drivers. In addition, various theories and approaches to change in higher education and science, as well as their methods, will be examined.

Module 4.6: Science and Higher Education								
Master's program in Sociology								
Frequency:		Duration		Stage of study:		Credits:	Workload:	
Winter semester		1 semester		3rd semester		10	300 hours	
1	Module structure							
	Element / Course					Type	LP	SWS
	1	Scientific research in spatial-temporal contexts				S	4	2
	2	University research in spatial-temporal contexts				S	4	2
		Module examination					2	
2	Language of instruction							
German								
3	Course content							
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fundamentals of change in science and higher education, international comparison of different higher education systems, concepts of lifelong learning and continuing education in science;Processes of change at the macro, meso, and micro levels;Relevant factors for past and present processes of change;Effects on academic careers and identities.								
4	Competencies							
Students								
<ul style="list-style-type: none">have advanced theoretical and empirical knowledge of change in science and higher education;acquire a systematic approach to issues relating to change in science and higher education;can derive the social causes and effects of changes in science and higher education, as well as the associated social inequalities, on a theoretical and empirical basis in international and historical comparison;are familiar with the spatial and temporal contexts through international comparisons, discourses, and empirical studies of the temporal change of science and higher education systems.								
5	Exams							
Module examination on one of the two courses.								
6	Examination forms and performance (for scope, duration, and requirements, see introduction)							
The form of coursework and module examination will be announced by the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Successful completion of the module requires successful completion of coursework in both courses of the module.								
7	Participation requirements							
None								

8	Module type and applicability of the module Compulsory module	
9	Module coordinator Prof. Dr. Uwe Wilkesmann	Responsible department Department 17 Social Sciences

MA Sociology Module 5: Research Designs

The Research Designs module prepares students for their upcoming master's thesis in terms of methodology (students usually choose the quantitative or qualitative/interpretative variant of the module based on the research workshop they previously selected). They develop a research design for a specific question (with a pretest if necessary) and thus become sensitized to the methodological and practical aspects of an empirical project. In order to gain insights in this module, it is not necessary to have already decided on a topic for the master's thesis at the beginning of the third semester. As a rule, the empirical side of the topic is refined in the course of the semester. In some cases, a well-founded delimitation of initially considered approaches will also be beneficial, as will mutual feedback on the approaches of other students in the seminar.

Module 5: Research Designs						
Master's program in Sociology						
Frequency: Winter semester		Duration 1 semester	Study section: 3rd semester	Credit points: 5	Workload: 150 hours	
1	Module structure					
	Element / Course			Type	LP	SWS
	1a	Research designs (quantitative)		S	3	2
	OR					
	1b	Research designs (qualitative)		S	3	2
		Module examination			2	
2 Language of instruction German						
3 Learning content <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Designing your own research design for a problem and, if necessary, conducting a pretest for data collection (including formulating the problem, planning the reconstruction of the state of research, and, based on this, an empirical program: including data collection, evaluation, field access, case selection/for secondary analytical approaches, as appropriate);▪ thereby: problem-related application of skills acquired during previous studies and preparation of the master's thesis;▪ Consideration of spatial-temporal references and the appropriateness of differentiating categories as cross-sectional dimensions;▪ Expansion of the methodological perspective through reflective feedback on the research designs of fellow students (which focus on different methods in the research strand).						
4 Skills Students <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ are able to design a complex research design, including a schedule, for a specific problem and recognize its potential and limitations for real-world application;▪ can reflect on the spatial-temporal methodological challenges (especially in the case of a master's thesis with an international focus or in the case of longitudinal designs);▪ can, on the one hand, explain their own design transparently in discussions and, on the other hand, competently reflect on other people's designs and suggest solutions to methodological and practical research problems.						
5 Examinations Module examination						
6 Examination forms and performance (for scope, duration, and requirements, see introduction) The form of coursework and module examination will be announced by the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Successful completion of the module requires successful completion of coursework.						
7 Participation requirements Enrollment in the corresponding research strand in Module 3 (exceptions are decided by the examination board upon request).						
8 Module type and applicability of the module Elective module						

9	Module coordinator Prof. Dr. Cornelius Schubert	Responsible department Department 17 Social Sciences
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MA Sociology Module 6: Practical Module

This module provides advanced training in writing and presenting in academic and non-academic contexts.

Module 6: Practical Module					
Master's program in Sociology					
Frequency:		Duration	Stage of study:	Credit points:	Workload:
Summer		1 semester	4th semester	3	90 hours
1	Module structure				
	Element / Course			Type	LP
	1	Scientific writing and presenting in different contexts (including module examination)		S	3
2	Course language German/English				
3	Course content Students are sensitized to scientific forms of presentation that can relate to both internal scientific contexts and those in the public sphere and practice ('public sociology'). This includes <ul style="list-style-type: none">the structure and performance of scientific lectures/oral presentations in different contexts and for different target groups;principles of writing scientific texts, e.g., research proposals, articles in journals, project posters/flyers, summaries of project results for partners in practice, popular science texts. Practical examples are reflected upon comparatively and applied in an exemplary manner.				
4	Competencies Students are able to <ul style="list-style-type: none">reflect on the principles of a 'successful' scientific text/presentation in different contexts and for different target groups;present arguments (in writing and orally) for selected forms of presentation in a context-appropriate manner, addressing the respective target group precisely and, if necessary, stimulating discussion.				
5	Exams Module exam				
6	Examination forms and performance (for scope, duration, and requirements, see introduction) Portfolio of academic presentations, the type and scope of which will be announced by the instructors at the beginning of the semester.				
7	Participation requirements None				
8	Module type and applicability of the module Compulsory module				
9	Module coordinator Prof. Dr. Uwe Wilkesmann		Responsible department Department 17 Social Sciences		

MA Sociology Module 7: Master's Thesis

Module 7: Master's Thesis									
Master's program in Sociology									
Frequency: Winter/Summer semester		Duration 1 semester		Stage of study: 4th semester		Performance points: 27 CP		Workload: 810 hours	
1	Module structure								
	Element / Course						Type	LP	SWS
	1	Master's thesis						24	0
	2	Colloquium					S	3	2
2	Language of instruction German								
3	Course content <ul style="list-style-type: none">The topic of the master's thesis can be chosen by the students in consultation with their supervisor in accordance with the examination regulations;the department encourages master's theses in an international context (e.g., through short stays at foreign universities and a second supervisor from a university abroad);presentations on the planned/ongoing master's thesis are discussed in the colloquium.								
4	Competencies <p>The thesis is an important part of the program. It documents and promotes the ability to conduct independent scientific work. Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">are able to design a theory-driven and/or theory-forming (empirical) study and work independently on the associated research questions;can independently carry out the tasks necessary for the project (literature research, development and implementation of a research design, conducting an empirical survey or evaluation, evaluation of collected data, theoretical classification of the data and discussion of its scientific and practical relevance);are able to present their own project and its results in written form according to scientific criteria and to explain its relevance for various areas of society;can present and discuss their own project and its results.								
5	Examinations Module examination: Written master's thesis.								
6	Examination forms and requirements (for scope, duration, and requirements, see introduction) Preparation of the master's thesis; the length should not exceed 200,000 characters including spaces, plus appendices if applicable. Completion of the module requires academic achievements in the colloquium in the form of oral presentations.								
7	Participation requirements Acquisition of 70 credit points (in the form of completed modules).								
8	Module type and applicability of the module Compulsory module								
9	Module coordinator Supervisor of the master's thesis					Responsible department Department 17 Social Sciences			