

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 the 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 / 1.2 First name

Nachname, Vorname

1.3 Date of birth

January 01st, 2000

1.4 Student ID number or code (if applicable)

1234567890

2. Information identifying the qualification

2.1 Name of qualification (full, abbreviated; in original language)

Master of Arts - M.A.

Title conferred (full, abbreviated; in original language)

n.a.

2.2 Main field(s) of study for the qualification

Sociology

2.3 Name of awarding institution (in original language)

Universität Rostock, Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaftliche Fakultät, Deutschland

Status (type / control) (in original language)

University / State Institution

2.4 Institution administering studies (in original language)

Universität Rostock, Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaftliche Fakultät, Deutschland

Status (type / control) (in original language)

see 2.3

2.5 Language(s) of instruction / examination

German, some modules in English

3. Information on the level and duration of the qualification

3.1 Level of the qualification

Graduate / second degree (2 years), by research with thesis

UNSTER

3.2 Official length of programme in credits and/or years

Two years (120 Credit Points, workload 900 hours/semester)

3.3 Access requirement(s)

First academic degree (at least 180 Credit Points) in sociology or a related scientific study field, good knowledge in German (at least level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages or equivalent), proof of at least 60 credit points in sociology and methodological subjects of which at least 36 credit points are in sociology and at least 12 credit points methodology of sociology and 12 credit points statistics.

4. Information on the programme completed and the results obtained

4.1 Mode of study

Full time

4.2 Programme learning outcomes

The Master of Arts, M.A., in sociology combines theoretical and methodological knowledge. It prepares students for professional fields in which knowledge and competence for the analysis and understanding of social problems, particularly under conditions of demographic change, are needed.

The programme is designed to:

- enable students to gain a high-level overview of topics and methods in sociology and detailed knowledge in the special fields chosen
- promote critical awareness of most important theories and methods in sociology as well as the ability to work on solutions for societal problems
- provide students with personal skills, competences and a professional perspective that enables them to apply their knowledge and understanding in the field of sociology to their professional activity, to identify new problems, analyse them theoretically and empirically, and formulate policy recommendations
- enable students to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions in the field of sociology to both specialists and non-specialists and to take responsibility in a team
- enable students to develop an interdisciplinary view on the complex processes of demographic change as combination of demographic, economic and social change

Students are required to gather own research practice in a practical research training. Their ability to conduct scientific work and possibly own research is further assessed through writing a master thesis within a period of twenty weeks.

4.3 Programme details, individual credits gained and grades/ marks obtained

See Transcript of Records and certificate of Examination for list of modules including grades and topic and grading of the master's thesis.

4.4 Grading system and, if available, grade distribution table

For general grading scheme see 8.6.

4.5 Overall classification of the qualification (in original language)

For the Master's examination a final grade is calculated. The overall grade is calculated by averaging the grades of all modules. In this averaging process, the specific module grades are weighted with the corresponding Credit Points.

gut (2.0) (final grade)
(ECTS-Grade)

5. Information on the function of the qualification

5.1 Access to further studies

Entitles for pursuing a doctorate

5.2 Access to regulated profession (if applicable)

n.a.

6. Additional information

6.1 Additional information

n.a.

6.2 Further information sources

About the university: <https://www.uni-rostock.de>

About the studies: <https://www.wsf.uni-rostock.de/studium/studiengaenge/master/>

About national institutions see paragraph 8.8

As a university, the university of Rostock is authorised for the purposes of system accreditation. An internal certification system is used by the university for most accreditation procedures. The master course Sociology successfully underwent the process of internal accreditation. For more information on the accreditation of the course of studies, see the web page of the internal accreditation of the University of Rostock: <https://www.hqe.uni-rostock.de/akkreditierungsevaluation/akkreditierte-studiengaenge/liste-der-akkreditierten-studiengaenge/>

7. Certification

This Diploma Supplement refers to the following original documents:

- Degree award certificate issued on January 01st, 2099
- Diploma/ Degree/ Certificate awarded on January 01st, 2099
- Transcript of Records issued on January 01st, 2099

Rostock, January 01st, 2099

Chair, 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 awarding it.

Master

(official stamp/seal)

8. Information on the German Higher Education System

8.1 Types of Institutions and Institutional Status

Higher education (HE) studies in Germany are offered at three types of Higher Education Institutions (HEI):²

- *Universitäten* (Universities) including various specialized 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) concentrate their study programmes in 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 both 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)³ 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 Learning⁴ and the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning⁵.

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).⁶ 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.⁷

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 degree study programmes lay the academic foundations, provide methodological competences and include skills related to the professional field. The Bachelor degree is awarded after 3 to 4 years.

The Bachelor's degree programme includes a thesis requirement. Study courses leading to the Bachelor degree must be accredited according to the Law establishing a Foundation for the Accreditation of Study Programmes in Germany.⁸

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.).

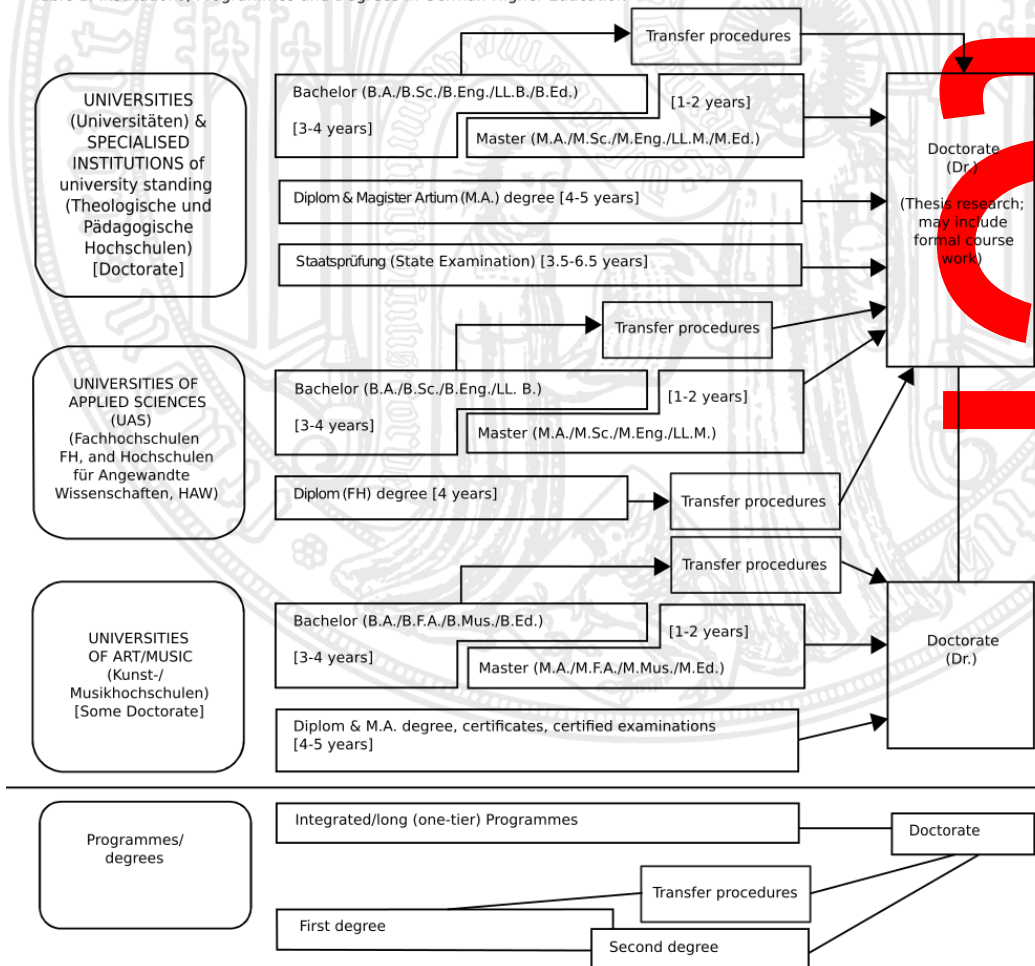
The Bachelor's degree corresponds to level 6 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

8.4.2 Master

Master is the second degree after another 1 to 2 years. Master's study 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's must be accredited according to the Interstate study accreditation treaty.⁹

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



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's 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 specializations. 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 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.

- 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- and 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 specialized areas and professional purposes.

8.5 Doctorate

Universities as well as specialized institutions of university standing, some of the *FH/HAQ/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 educational studies. Specialized 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 a study programme 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.¹⁰

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; Email: hochschulen@kmk.org

- Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) as German NARIC; www.kmk.org; 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 206292-11; 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)

¹ The information covers only aspects directly relevant to purposes of the Diploma Supplement.

² *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.

³ 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).

⁴ 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

⁵ 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).

⁶ 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 7 December 2017).

⁷ Interstate Treaty on the organization 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.

⁸ See note No. 7.

⁹ See note No. 7.

¹⁰ 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).