Master of Arts (M.A.) Political Science
Why the University of Mannheim?

- Best German University in Social Sciences and Management (QS Ranking by Subject 2017)
- International Semester Calendar
- International Campus: large international student and staff community
- Various student organizations and associations on campus that students can get involved in
- Global Network: Researchers at the university collaborate with numerous national and international partners. The university has a particularly close relationship with the GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences and the Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES), the largest research institution for Social Sciences at a German university
- Mannheim is home to over 8,000 businesses, including several successful international companies, such as BASF and SAP. Mannheim is also one of the most attractive economic centers in Germany, providing excellent conditions for young professionals and entrepreneurs.
Why study our M.A. in Political Science?

• Two-year English-taught and research oriented education in an internationally renowned research environment.
• The program builds on the school’s strength in empirical-analytical approaches, quantitative methods and comparative research.
• The curriculum emphasizes the training of empirical analysis that is firmly grounded in both theory and rigorous methods.
• Core research areas include Comparative Politics and International Relations, with emphasis on Political Behavior, Political Economy, International Conflict, and German and European Politics.
• A compulsory research internship of 6 weeks is designed to offer students hands-on experience in empirical research. Our faculty internship office assists students in finding internship positions.
• Students are encouraged to take part in research projects at one of the nearby research institutes (e.g. MZES).
• Study Abroad opportunities at one of our renowned partner universities worldwide, e.g. in New York, Aarhus, Paris, Mailand, Maastricht, Oslo, Leeds, Nagasaki, Newcastle, Tartu, Toronto or Barcelona.
# M.A. Political Science – Research-oriented Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Program Schedule</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. (fall)</td>
<td>Module Data and Measurement (8 ECTS)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Module Multivariate Analyses (8 ECTS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Module Game Theory (8 ECTS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Module Research Design (6 ECTS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. (spring)</td>
<td>Basic Module International Politics (6 ECTS)</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basic Module International Political Economy (6 ECTS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basic Module Comparative Political Behavior (6 ECTS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basic Module Comparative Government (6 ECTS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. (fall)</td>
<td>Choose one of three Research Modules</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research Module International Politics (28 ECTS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research Module Comparative Politics (28 ECTS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research Module Methods (28 ECTS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research Internship (8 ECTS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. (spring)</td>
<td>Final Module (30 ECTS)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Σ</td>
<td></td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Doctoral Studies

Doctoral Program
The Center for Doctoral Studies in Social and Behavioral Sciences (CDSS) offers PhD programs in Political Science, Psychology and Sociology in close collaboration with the School of Social Sciences at the University of Mannheim. Admission is purely based on merit and open to excellent candidates holding either a research oriented Bachelor’s or a Master’s degree. Admitted students receive a scholarship and there is no tuition fee.

Fast Track your Doctoral Degree
Students interested in pursuing a doctoral degree at the CDSS have the opportunity to apply for ‘Associate Membership’ in the second Master’s year. Application is open to all 2nd year M.A. students.

Individual Doctoral Studies
Many doctoral candidates choose to conduct their doctoral studies individually at a chair or an affiliated research institute. Prospective doctoral students interested in this option should consult job openings on offer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Fast Track PhD</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. (fall)- 4. (spring)</td>
<td>Master Program Political Science</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. (fall) - 6. (spring)</td>
<td>Crafting Social Science Research; Theory Building and Causal Interference; Electives</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. (fall) - 9. (fall)</td>
<td>Thesis Writing Phase</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. (spring)</td>
<td>Placement Phase</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Funding

Scholarships
The University of Mannheim awards around 250 scholarships per year and has one of the most differentiated scholarship systems among public higher education institutions in Germany. The University cooperates with a large network of partners and sponsors, e.g. the Deutschland Scholarship. The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is the world’s largest funding organization for the international exchange of students and researchers. Check out their scholarship opportunities and plan ahead!

Jobs
Students who are considering a career in academia can take their first step by working as a student assistant at one of the chairs or nearby research institutes. You can be involved in a research project and gain work experience while increasing your income! This is also the case if you work part-time or are doing an internship.
Life

- Creative, cosmopolitan, economically advanced – the UNESCO Creative City impresses with its numerous concerts, museums, theaters, and festivals such as the Enjoy Jazz festival and the International Film Festival.
- The stadium of the ‘Bundesliga’ soccer team Hoffenheim is nearby, and the home matches of ‘Mannheim Adler’ (Icehockey) and ‘Rhein-Neckar-Löwen’ (Handball) take place in the impressive SAP-Arena just outside the city.
- Mannheim is a green city with many parks and recreation areas close to the city center.
- Take advantage of the excellent sports program for students: We offer sports that suit everybody’s requirements.
- Accommodation is reasonably priced: Compared to other nearby university cities, cheap and comfortable appartments are found throughout the city center and close to the campus. As a student, you are also eligible to buy a semester ticket for regional transportation.

Come and discover the Mannheim experience!
Application

- Start: Every fall semester
- Application Period: March 15 - April 30

Entry requirements
- Bachelor degree in Social Sciences or a subject-related degree (completed with a grade of at least „good“ = 2,5)
- Good English language skills certified by an English language university-entrance diploma or Bachelor degree. Alternatively, a language test is required (TOEFL, IELTS)
- A certificate (or transcript of records) with at least one course in statistical analysis and/or social research methods (completed with a grade of at least „good“ = 2,5)

Selection criteria
- Final grade of the Bachelor degree or the grade point average at the time of the application deadline (10%)
- Courses in statistical analysis and/or social research methods
- Letter of motivation in English, max. of 500 words (30%)
- Sample of written work in Political Science in English or German, max. of 5000 words (60%)

Contact

- Program Manager and Student Advisor
  School of Social Sciences
  A5,6 · Room A 416 · 68131 Mannheim
  Phone: (+49) 621/181-1826
  E-Mail: pol@sowi.uni-mannheim.de

- Admissions Office
  L1, 1 · 68131 Mannheim
  Website: bewerbung.uni-mannheim.de
  Phone: (+49) 621/181-2222
  E-Mail: application@uni-mannheim.de

For further information:
www.sowi.uni-mannheim.de