



live

School of Social Sciences

# master of arts (M.A.) & fast-track Ph.D. Political Science

study

For further information: [http://www.sowi.uni-mannheim.de/study\\_programs](http://www.sowi.uni-mannheim.de/study_programs)

work

## Information

### Application for M.A. program

- every fall semester
- online application between March 15 and April 30

### Entry requirements/Selection criteria

- final grade of a bachelor degree in Political Science or a subject-related degree
- certified English language skills
- at least one course in statistical analysis and/or research methods
- letter of motivation
- sample of written work

### Application for fast-track Ph.D. program\*

- after first year of M.A. program
- conditional acceptance & qualification stipends
- final acceptance after second year

\* These changes are pending approval from the authorizing committees.

### Contact

- Political Science Student Advisor  
School of Social Sciences – Dean's Office  
A 5, 6 · Room A 413 · 68131 Mannheim  
Phone (+49) 0621/181-2188  
Email [international@sowi.uni-mannheim.de](mailto:international@sowi.uni-mannheim.de)
- Admission Office  
L 1,1 · 68131 Mannheim  
Phone (+49) 0621/181-2222 (mo – fr, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.)  
<http://bewerbung.uni-mannheim.de/english>



For further information:

[http://www.sowi.uni-mannheim.de/study\\_programs](http://www.sowi.uni-mannheim.de/study_programs)



UNIVERSITY OF  
MANNHEIM

empirical and quantitative methods  
gess graduate school of  
economic & social sciences

School of Social Sciences

# master of arts (M.A.) & fast-track Ph.D. Political Science

## Social Sciences

University of Mannheim



### ■ Study

at one of the most renowned Political Science departments in Europe

- graduate with excellent employment opportunities
- study with a clear focus on empirical research
- enroll in fast-track Ph.D. program at CDSS
- benefit from an excellent infrastructure

### ■ Research and work

as teaching or research assistant is readily available

- finance your studies and do research at the same time
- learn how to organize and implement research programs
- get in contact with leading political scientists worldwide

### ■ Live

in a multi-cultural city with a great variety of freetime activities

- experience the many cultures of people living in Mannheim
- reasonably priced student and private housing available
- student activity groups, work out and gyms close to campus



## ■ Study

Political Science in Mannheim has a long tradition of excellence. The Department of Political Science is widely known for its empirical-analytical approach and maintains strong ties with other renowned universities and research institutes. The Department continues to be one of the most highly ranked political science departments in Germany and Europe.

The Master program in Mannheim is research oriented and has a strong focus on quantitative methods, thus giving students an edge over graduates from many other universities.

The two-year M.A. program in Political Science is dedicated to applied research in political science and provides students with a broad and sound theoretical and methodological knowledge. The language of instruction is English. Upon successful completion of the program, students receive the degree of Master of Arts (M.A.). The program offers courses in various areas of specialization in political science: comparative

politics, international politics, political economy, European societies and politics, and formal and quantitative methods. The unique integration of the M.A. course offers with the Ph.D. program of the Center for Doctoral Studies in Social and Behavioral Sciences (CDSS) furthermore enables students to embark on a fast track doctoral program. After the first year students can apply for provisional acceptance in the Ph.D. program and if accepted, receive a stipend. Final acceptance to the Ph.D. program is after completion of the M.A. program.\*

During the first and second semester, students extend the basic knowledge they have obtained in their respective Bachelor programs. The modules "International Politics" and "Comparative Politics" enhance students' core competencies in these two subfields through intellectually challenging lectures and intensive reading and discussion seminars. The module "Advanced Methods" deepens the knowledge in empirical social science methods, statistics and formal-model building.

During the second and third semester, students specialize by choosing one of two research modules. Each module consists of two intensive research seminars, and intends to add specific methodological tools and analytical capabilities to the skill set of M.A. candidates. In the "Elective Module", students have the opportunity to take courses in advanced quantitative methods or specialize in a substantive area. In the final module, students write their M.A. thesis, a research paper that may well be the first step in a successful career in political science research.

Students are offered the opportunity to spend their third semester at prestigious partner universities in Europe and in the U.S., including New York University, Washington University, Johns-Hopkins University, Sciences Po Paris, Universities of Essex, Maastricht and Copenhagen. Students may even enroll in double-degree programs offered by the University of Mannheim and the University of Nottingham.

## ■ Research and work

Financing a 2-year master's program is an important issue. The Political Science department with its links to the numerous research facilities in Mannheim provides for excellent opportunities: While studying you can already gain valuable insights into research projects!

More than ten professors at the School of Social Sciences are researching on topics like Comparative Politics, International Relations, Political Economy, International Comparative Social Research, Comparative Political Behaviour and Political Sociology. Furthermore, the School of Social Sciences has close cooperations to the CDSS, the Mannheim Center for European Social

Research (MZES), being the biggest research center for European Studies in Germany, the Center for European Economic Research (ZEW), the SFB 884 - Political Economy of Reforms, and the Leibniz-funded GESIS, being member of one of the largest research networks in Germany. Hence, you will have numerous employment possibilities to choose from!

In addition to that, students can participate in numerous classes at the CDSS at the Mannheim Graduate School of Economic and Social Sciences (GESS). The GESS is the only institution in the economic and social sciences to be funded for the second time as part of the federal Excellence

Initiative for Cutting-Edge Research at Institutions of Higher Education. This unique offer of research-oriented employment provides for chances on the job market.

It also explains why our graduates have many advantages when they apply for jobs in research-oriented institutions and Ph.D. programmes. Especially for the admission to the CDSS at the Mannheim GESS, the M.A. in Political Science is an excellent foundation.

Furthermore, the international orientation of the program prepares for employment outside university in international organisations and transnational firms.

## ■ Live

For many years, Mannheim has been a centre of sports, arts and culture. In close proximity to the department, you find attractions like the Academy for Popular Music, which make Mannheim one of the centers of pop culture in Germany.

Mannheim also has a long cultural tradition and the scene continues to be vibrant and lively, with music, opera, museums, exhibitions and more. The possibilities for the occasional after work beer or wine in the local pubs are abundant.

For fans of team sports, Mannheim has many events that are worthwhile: The stadium of Bundesliga soccer team Hoffenheim is nearby, and the home matches of Mannheim Adler (Icehockey) and Rhein-Neckar-Löwen (Handball) take place in the huge SAP-Arena just outside the city. Mannheim is also a green city with many parks and recreation areas close to the city center, and perfect for jogging or walking. In addition, you may take advantage of the excellent sports program for students.

Accommodation is reasonably priced: Compared with other nearby university cities like Heidelberg or Frankfurt, Mannheim has a definitive advantage, as apartments throughout the city centre and close to the campus are relatively cheap and comfortable. As a student, you are also eligible for the semester ticket of VRN, the regional transportation company. For a flat fee of about 140 Euros, you can use their whole network for six months.

Come and join the Mannheim experience!

Master degree in 4 semesters – Ph.D. degree in 10 semesters:

Semester	Program Schedule			ECTS
1. (fall) (Sep. – Dec.)	Basic Module International Politics		Basic Module Comparative Politics	32
2. (spring) (Feb. – June)	Research Module International Politics**		Research Module Comparative Politics**	
3. (fall) (Sep. – Dec.)	Research Module International Politics**		Elective Module	28
4. (spring) (Feb. – June)	Research Module International Politics**		Research Internship	30
5. (fall) – 6. (spring)	Final Module			30
7. (fall) – 9. (fall)	Crafting Social Science Research, Theory Building and Causal Inference; Electives			
10. (spring)	Thesis Writing Phase			
	Placement Phase			180

