

**HAWK**

**Fakultät**

**Soziale Arbeit und Gesundheit**

**Hildesheim**

Master of Arts  
Social Work in International and Intercultural  
Contexts

# Module Handbook

Decision of Studies Commission from January 25, 2017

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Checked by the Executive Board on

## Contents

1 Guideline and Profile of the Master's Study Program in "Social Work in International and Intercultural Contexts" .....	3
2 Module Description.....	6
MA 1 Research, Analysis and Evaluation in Social Work .....	6
MA 1.1 Analysis of practical work.....	6
MA 1.2 Basic studies: Research and Evaluation.....	6
MA 1.3 Qualitative research (advanced).....	8
MA 1.4 Quantitative research (advanced).....	8
MA 2a and 2b: Designing work processes: Management, leadership and education in social work .....	9
MA 2.1 Work structures in social work and (international) institutions.....	10
MA 2.2 Financing and marketing concepts in institutions.....	10
MA 2.3 Designing client-centered structures, care and case management.....	11
MA 2.4 Strategic alignment: Concept development .....	11
MA 2.5 Communication and didactics.....	12
MA 3a and 3b Culture and understanding: Diversity, intersectionality and inclusion .....	13
MA 3.1 Forms of discrimination in the context of social power structures .....	14
MA 3.2 Global dimensions of social inequality .....	14
MA 3.3 Culture and diversity .....	14
MA 3.4 Inclusion and participation in the human rights profession.....	15
MA 3.5 Discipline and profession – Historical and current developments .....	15
MA 4a and 4b: Social work in the international context.....	16
MA 4.1 International developments in the profession and scientific discipline.....	16
MA 4.2 International conditions of social development .....	16
MA 4.3 Country-specific conditions in social work .....	18
<b>MA 4.4 Legal and political developments in Europe.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>MA 4.5 Human rights, social rights and social work.....</b>	<b>18</b>
MA 5 Compulsory elective modules at HAWK Hildesheim .....	20
MA 5.1 Languages .....	21
MA 5.2 Project seminar/applied research/practical application .....	21
MA 5.3 "Field studies" abroad (in English).....	22
MA 5.4 Social work and business enterprises .....	22
MA 5.5 Buying and selling in the social context.....	23
MA 5.6 Business start-ups and professional self-employment.....	23
MA 6 Master thesis .....	24
3 Studies abroad/time spent abroad and internationalization.....	25
4 Overview of the study achievements and credits .....	26
5 Study plan .....	28

## 1 Guideline and Profile of the Master's Study Program in "Social Work in International and Intercultural Contexts"

The consecutive Master's program "Social Work in an International and Intercultural Context" at HAWK, Faculty of Social Work and Health, Hildesheim, qualifies graduates for leading positions in various fields of social work, in planning, concept development, consulting, education and training as well as in teaching, research and evaluation. It is a four-semester program divided into six modules. The Master's program's profile is application-oriented and practice-oriented research. The curriculum is based on the following profile and mission statement:

On a **first level**, the profile of the Master's program is related to **international** and not exclusively European developments in social work. In the curriculum, in addition to the now international definition of social work according to the international organizations and associations of social work (IFSW 2004), the theoretical foundations and an understanding of social work as a human rights profession form a central starting and reference point for the further development of social work as a discipline and profession.<sup>1</sup>In the Master's program, recently developed concepts and theories of inclusion, diversity, and intersectionality receive special attention and are taught to students in depth. The theoretical discourse on the foundations of social work and social policy has also become highly international, for example with the strengths perspective, the foundations of the theory of realization opportunities, and justice.

Furthermore, the international developments in the forms of action of social work are formative for the theory and practice of social work. For example, many concepts such as "community organizing" and "case management" have been transferred from the Anglo-American area worldwide and also to European welfare states. In part, these processes take place with only limited regard for the historical and cultural characteristics of the respective national welfare and service cultures. In the Master's program, students are enabled to examine and reflect more closely on these respective processes of an international transfer of methods and of "policy-learning" in social work in their origins and with regard to practical application at the local level. "Field studies" and stays abroad are also possible within the framework of the Master's program and are particularly encouraged. In addition to the traditional professional fields of social work, international organizations and NGOs in the field of social work and in the education sector as well as in the context of economic aid increasingly offer growing employment opportunities for graduates of the Master's program. In the process, newer research approaches and methods (for example, in the area of action research, in the form of "panel studies"), which have also been strongly developed in the international discourse, or more impact-oriented research approaches find their way into teaching.

The Master's program is related to **intercultural contexts** of social work on a **second profile level**. In this context, the concept and understanding of culture are relatively open, based on the theoretical approach of diversity as a resource in the curriculum. "Interculturality" is understood in the curriculum analytically and theoretically on the basis of clear questions and content related to origin, religion and migration. In this context, the objective of the Master's program is also to open up the understanding of "culture" on the one hand theoretically and at the same time sharpen it analytically for the curriculum and in practical teaching and research. This didactic approach becomes concrete, for example, in **module 2 (Designing Work Processes: Management, Leadership and Education in**

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<sup>1</sup>The HAWK/Faculty of Social Work and Health is a member of the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) and the European Association of Schools of Social Work and Social Work Educators (EASSW).

**Social Work**), in which students are taught about different administrative, management and control cultures in terms of their respective characteristics and instruments. As a result, management cultures are becoming increasingly "hybrid", especially for social work, and can no longer be clearly assigned to the private, public or intermediary sectors, as the introduction of new management and business management instruments demonstrates. At the same time, for social work to be sustainably effective in its services and performances related to persons and groups, a nevertheless specific culture of control and service is necessary, which is conveyed to the students in its instruments and ways of acting. Furthermore, theoretical and empirical contributions to respective particular teaching and learning cultures in different areas of social work are a forward-looking topic in this module. Within the framework of the Master's program in Social Work, the specific characteristics of a teaching and learning culture for training, qualification and further education in social work are identified, taken into account and innovatively developed, also in the context of didactics.

In modules **3a and 3b (Culture and Understanding: Diversity, Intersectionality and Inclusion)**, the concepts of social professional action taught focus not only on a wide variety of questions and problems of inter- and transculturality and corresponding theoretical and empirical foundations, but also on terms and analytical concepts such as those of a "culture of poverty" or "culture of the poor" and also a "culture of wealth" in the center of social work. References to inclusion, intersectionality, and diversity are also taken into consideration. In this context, communication cultures that provide specific patterns of interpretation and communication in the professional, institutional, socio-spatial and actor-related context of social work also come into view. The concepts of action also reveal a theoretical and pragmatic approach to gender and the body in particular in order to deal with social exclusion and to address equally heterogeneous expressions of gender and body cultures. Against the backdrop of social change and demographic developments, questions about intergenerational relations and cultures of understanding are central topics that have been dealt with in social work for many years. Based on diversity theories to understand the intertwining of forms of discrimination and lines of difference, the variety of diversity in cultures is also addressed. The topic of disability and the associated social exclusion processes are also taken into account.

**Modules 4a and 4b (Social Work in an International Context / Law in an International Context)** deal with country-specific conditions and different **cultural characteristics of social work** in Germany as well as the specific **legal culture** and the **welfare and service culture** of the German welfare state in an international comparison and under the influence of international and European developments. International references can be found specifically through the legal references to human rights, to the growing influence of the law and jurisprudence of the European Union and its institutions, and, for example, in the area of rehabilitation and health, as well as through the standards of the World Health Organization (WHO). Country comparisons serve to analyze particular legal, welfare and service cultures in terms of their structural features and institutional arrangements.

It becomes apparent that the concept and understanding of "culture" are, on the one hand, multifaceted. At the same time, however, the reference to "culture" is of great analytical value for social work, both theoretically and practically. The concept and understanding of "culture" in social work training and continuing education are also directly compatible with existing concepts of action based on strengths and lifeworld orientation and are directly linked in the profile of the Master's program in Social Work at the Hildesheim location with international developments in which, according to sociological findings, forms of a "global society" are emerging. The goal and task of the graduates of the Master's program "Social Work in an International and Intercultural Context" at the HAWK in Hildesheim is to critically reflect on these social, economic, political-legal, cultural and methodological developments and to

incorporate them into their competencies and social professional activities in order to deal with new and old social problems in a preventive and sustainable way.

## 2 Module Description

### MA 1 Research, Analysis and Evaluation in Social Work

Course		Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule) 2 SWS / practical training/seminar	Recommended semester
	<b>1a) Basic studies</b>		
P	1.1 Analysis of practical work	2 SWS / seminar	1/2
P	1.2 Basic studies in research	2 SWS / seminar	1/2
	<b>1b) Advanced studies “Research/Evaluation”</b>		
P	1.3 Qualitative research (advanced)	2 SWS / seminar	2/3
P	1.4 Quantitative research (advanced)	2 SWS / seminar	2/3
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester			
<b>Total workload/credits</b> 720 h/24 CP	<b>University time</b> 8 SWS 120 h	<b>Home study</b> 200 h	

### Individual descriptions of seminars/courses in module 1a

#### MA 1.1 Analysis of practical work

MA 1.1 Analysis of practical work			P
<b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> In this seminar, students analyze the practical application of social work. Students are expected to identify typical problems on a scientific basis. The competencies and learning outcomes acquired in the seminar enable the explanation and evaluation of social problem situations and lead to a conceptual adaptation or reflected change of individual as well as institutional professional actions. The sociological analysis and evaluation of the context and conditions of the students' own professional practice form the starting point for this. The aim is to explore, use and expand the scope of social work.			
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>	
Seminar	1	1	
<b>Module exam:</b> Written practical report on a first small practical research project in a field of social work using the methods developed in the seminar. The practical report also counts as qualified proof of internship in the form of a graded examination.			
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none			
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester		<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

#### MA 1.2 Basic studies: Research and Evaluation

MA 1.2 Basic studies: Research and Evaluation	P
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**Competencies/Qualification goals:** Students acquire exemplary basic knowledge and understanding of social science and humanities research and evaluation methods and their evaluation criteria in relation to a research project to be designed, carried out and evaluated by themselves. You will be able to access information and support for developing, planning, and conducting your own research projects and use this as a basis for conducting a research project independently.

Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)	Recommended semester	Recommended study year
2 SWS / seminar	1/2	1
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

## Individual descriptions of seminars/courses in module 1b

### MA 1.3 Qualitative research (advanced)

<b>MA 1.3 Qualitative research (advanced)</b>		<b>P</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Learning outcomes and competencies consist of the independent development of qualitative research questions and the reflective selection and determination of the research object. Students are able to develop a sophisticated research design in a team or group and select or design methods and instruments of qualitative social research in a well-founded manner. They are able to independently collect, prepare and evaluate corresponding data according to current standards. Special emphasis is placed on expanding competencies in documenting and presenting research findings in both written and oral forms, as well as in media-effective forms. Furthermore, in-depth competencies for the critical evaluation of existing research results are taught and students acquire knowledge and skills in linking qualitative and quantitative research methods. Likewise, in the different phases of the research process, students reflect on and implement questions of a basic ethical stance and relate them to ethical discourses in social work. In the context of teaching research, thematic focuses can also be offered and practically tested and implemented by the students using the competencies mentioned above. As a result, students learn, reflect on, and apply skills in scientific and interdisciplinary collaboration.</p>		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	2/3	1/2
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

### MA 1.4 Quantitative research (advanced)

<b>MA 1.4 Quantitative research (advanced)</b>		<b>P</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Learning outcomes and competencies consist of the independent development of quantitative research questions and the reflective selection and determination of the research object. Students are able to develop a sophisticated research design in a team or group and select or design methods and instruments of qualitative social research in a well-founded manner. They are able to independently collect, prepare and evaluate corresponding data according to current standards. Special emphasis is placed on expanding competencies in documenting and presenting research findings in both written and oral forms, as well as in media-effective forms. Furthermore, in-depth competencies for the critical evaluation of existing research results are taught and students acquire knowledge and skills in linking qualitative and quantitative research methods. Likewise, in the different phases of the research process, students reflect on and implement questions of a basic ethical stance and relate them to ethical discourses in social work. In the context of teaching research, thematic focuses can also be offered and practically tested and implemented by the students using the competencies mentioned above. As a result, students learn, reflect on, and apply skills in scientific and interdisciplinary collaboration.</p>		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	2/3	1/2
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	



**MA 2a and 2b: Designing work processes: Management, leadership and education in social work**

Course		Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)	Recommended semester
	<b>2a) Management of institutions (compulsory seminars 2.1-2.3)</b>		
P	2.1 Work structures in social work and (international) institutions	Seminar	1
P	2.2 Financing and marketing concepts in institutions	Seminar	1
P	2.3 Designing client-centered structures, care and case management	Seminar	1
	<b>2b) Concepts and methods in (international) institutions (compulsory seminars 2.4-2.5)</b>		
P	2.4 Strategic alignment: Concept development	Seminar	1
P	2.5 Communication and didactics	Seminar	1

<b>Module exam:</b> Students complete a graded examination in a selected course from Module 2a (2.1-2.3). In order to successfully complete module 2, they also take an ungraded examination in accordance with the regulations of the examination regulations in module 2b (2.4-2.5). In this respect, students must provide evidence of their in-depth knowledge and competencies.			
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none			
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester		<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every semester.	
<b>Total workload/credits</b> 450 h/15 CP	<b>University time</b> 10 SWS 150 h	<b>Home study</b> 220 h	<b>Practical training time</b> none

## Individual descriptions of seminars/courses in module 2a

### MA 2.1 Work structures in social work and (international) institutions

<b>MA 2.1 Work structures in social work and (international) institutions</b>			<b>P</b>
<b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Students engage in studies of socio-politically shaped organizational and work structures in social work and their economic foundations. Special attention is paid to specific organizational and administrative cultures in social work as well as to selected (international) institutions. Students analyze the conditions and production processes of the "social work market" with the aim of being able to develop and communicate methodical and strategic approaches that combine social and legal framework conditions with the professional criteria of social work. They address the development of new work structures in social work under changing global, socio-political and economic conditions.			
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>	
2 SWS / seminar	2/3	2	
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none			
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester		<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

### MA 2.2 Financing and marketing concepts in institutions

<b>MA 2.2 Financing and marketing concepts in institutions</b>			<b>P</b>
<b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> This seminar provides students with an overview of social work organizations. Students are taught the core competencies required for the development and leadership and management of organizations and social services. The specific aim is to communicate problem-solving skills in specific corporate and service cultures as well as in complex processes of teamwork and also in multi-professional work contexts. The seminar also focuses on learning and understanding "strategic thinking" in the management of institutions. In the area of financing social work, business management, socio-political and professional competencies in social work are brought together in order to understand, analyze and further develop contract and billing systems, among other things.			
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>	
2 SWS / seminar	1	1	
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none			
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester		<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

### MA 2.3 Designing client-centered structures, care and case management

<b>MA 2.3 Designing client-centered structures, care and case management</b>		<b>P</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Students receive basic and in-depth knowledge about the theories and action concepts in social work. In addition to the knowledge of theoretical findings, the aim is also to test methods. This includes approaches of strengths-based leadership as well as person- and environment-related consulting approaches. The knowledge and competencies acquired also include an understanding and critical analysis of an application of concepts, methods &amp; instruments in different fields of action of social work.</p>		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	1	1
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

### Individual descriptions of seminars/courses in module 2b

#### MA 2.4 Strategic alignment: Concept development

<b>MA 2.4 Strategic alignment: Concept development</b>		<b>P</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> In this seminar, students acquire an in-depth knowledge of the development of different types of concepts. They develop the ability to analyze, understand, and critically evaluate social work policies and concepts. The qualification goal is for students to develop skills and competencies in policy analysis, independent concept development, and the presentation, representation, and application of concepts they have created themselves. The strategic as well as conceptual work in organizations takes into account issues of human resource development.</p> <p>The planning of educational and teaching processes requires the reflected use of didactic and methodological elements on three levels:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Macro didactics level: This refers to a level of planning, such as planning educational programs or developing specific offerings.</li> <li>2. Micro didactics level: This involves the design of individual course sequences with regard to the use of media and/or methods.</li> <li>3. Melodicities level: This describes the conception of educational plans (learning areas) and is part of a manager's job.</li> </ol> <p>As a result, the aim of the seminar is also to convey to the students these different perspectives of concept development on education and teaching related to the respective teaching and learning culture of organizations and/or social work target groups. In this way, students gain a theoretical, analytical and practical, and at the same time reflective, insight into the structure of educational concepts. They acquire the skills and competencies required to evaluate these and are able to design their own educational concept on the basis of examples.</p>		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	1	1
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

## MA 2.5 Communication and didactics

<b>MA 2.5 Communication and didactics</b>		<b>P</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Research into categories, insights and principles of learning has been carried out in the planning of learning and educational processes since Johan Amos Comenius (1592-1670) and the "Didacta magna" in order to reach "each and every one down to the last person" as far as possible in learning and educational processes. Against this theoretical background, the seminar communicates knowledge and competencies in the detailed didactic planning of educational processes, whereby the contents of the seminar refer to all elements of didactic planning that are essential for education and teaching. In the process, students acquire knowledge and skills for analyzing, designing, implementing and evaluating didactic teaching and learning units, with particular reflection on and attention to the specific "communication culture" and teaching and learning cultures in each case. The didactics of educational processes must take group dynamics into account and must be planned and implemented in a way that is appropriate to the goals, target groups, ages and situations. The seminar also focuses more closely on these dimensions of the methodological design of pedagogical processes. Students will implement, test and reflect on individual elements of didactic planning and methodological application in their own didactic planning. The aim of the seminar is to implement a selected learning scenario against the background of a pedagogical concept in reflected didactical and methodical planning. As far as possible, this is done in close cooperation with educational institutions and social work facilities.</p>		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	1	1
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

### MA 3a and 3b Culture and understanding: Diversity, intersectionality and inclusion

Course		Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)	Recommended semester
P	3.1 Forms of discrimination in the context of social power structures	Seminar	2
P	3.2 Global dimensions of social inequality	Seminar	2
P	3.3. Culture and diversity	Seminar	2
P	3.4 Inclusion and participation in the human rights profession	Seminar	2
P	3.5 Discipline and profession – Historical and current developments	Seminar	2

**Time it takes to complete the module:**  
two semesters

Total workload/credits	University time	Home study
630 h/21 CP	10 SWS 150 h	480 h

## Individual descriptions of seminars/courses in module 3a

### MA 3.1 Forms of discrimination in the context of social power structures

<b>MA 3.1 Forms of discrimination in the context of social power structures</b>		<b>P</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Independent of target groups, students will be enabled to reflect on individual, institutional, and structural discrimination and privilege. They will be enabled to understand societal structures of power and domination. They will develop a professional, theoretical and practical attitude towards all actors that is normatively oriented towards human rights and learn to represent this attitude.</p>		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	2	1
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

### MA 3.2 Global dimensions of social inequality

<b>MA 3.2 Global dimensions of social inequality</b>		<b>P</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Social inequalities can be observed in many dimensions, both nationally and globally. Students will be enabled to critically analyze, reflect, and position themselves on issues such as transnational identities, globalization, post-colonialism, and distributive justice. Current dimensions of social inequality, such as the causes of refugee flight or climate change, are also examined from a critical point of view.</p>		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	2	1
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

### MA 3.3 Culture and diversity

<b>MA 3.3 Culture and diversity</b>		<b>P</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Culture is a formidable factor. Many people think they understand people from other countries, but many of them more or less unconsciously impose their cultural identity on others and thus dominate them. Ethnic origin, gender and sexual orientation, physical appearance and disability, social origin, language and age are just as important as the level of productive forces and culture in the societies concerned. Second socialization means for refugees, for example, that they have to forget almost everything of the above-mentioned and learn from people of the unknown culture, for whom everything in their awareness turns out to be "objective and self-evident".</p> <p>In this seminar, students receive an overview of the variety of diversity in cultures and are enabled to understand the intertwining of forms of discrimination and lines of difference, among other things, on the basis of diversity theories.</p>		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	2	1
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		

<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.
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## Individual descriptions of seminars/courses in module 3b

### MA 3.4 Inclusion and participation in the human rights profession

<b>MA 3.4 Inclusion and participation in the human rights profession</b>		<b>P</b>
<b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Social work as a human rights profession always includes questions about participation rights and obligations. Students receive an overview of inclusion and participation theories (e.g., body, gender, class, race), and social practice in this seminar. The aim of this sub-module is to make students aware of stereotypical ideas and their effects on their own actions. In addition, they are to be enabled to critically question social practice and develop alternative courses of action.		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	2	1
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

### MA 3.5 Discipline and profession – Historical and current developments

<b>MA 3.5 Discipline and profession – Historical and current developments</b>		<b>P</b>
<b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> This course provides students with an in-depth look at theories of diversity, interculturality, and gender and their adaptation in social work theory building. They develop important professional concepts and action competencies for social work in the context of intersectionality. The goal is an analytical disciplinary examination and the development of a professional attitude in which heterogeneity and diversity are primarily understood and conceptualized as possibilities and resources for social work processes. This is examined in more detail on the basis of studies and practical experience using the example of selected fields of action in social work.		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	2	2
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

## MA 4a and 4b: Social work in the international context

Course		Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule) Seminar/project/lecture	Recommended semester
	<b>4a) International social work (4.1-4.3)</b>		
P	4.1 International developments in the profession/discipline	2 SWS / seminar	3
P	4.2 International conditions of social development	2 SWS / seminar	3
P	4.3 Country-specific conditions in social work	2 SWS / seminar	3
	<b>4b) International law (4.4-4.5)</b>		
P	4.4 Legal and political developments in Europe	2 SWS / seminar	3
P	4.5 Human rights, social rights and social work	2 SWS / seminar	3
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester			
<b>Total workload/credits</b> 630 h/21 CP	<b>University time</b> 10 SWS 150 h	<b>Home study</b> 480 h	

## Individual descriptions of seminars/courses in module 4a

### MA 4.1 International developments in the profession and scientific discipline

MA 4.1 International developments in the profession and scientific discipline			P
<b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Students engage in the in-depth and analytical study of theoretical and professional approaches to social work against the backdrop of international, national, and local developments. The objective is a critical appraisal and discursive further development of the most current theoretical and action-related approaches with reference to social developments and professional experiences.			
Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)	Recommended semester	Recommended study year	
2 SWS / seminar	3	2	
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> Language skills in written and spoken English (B2 level)			
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester		<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

### MA 4.2 International conditions of social development

MA 4.2 International conditions of social development			P
<b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Students acquire important competencies and skills to understand internationalization and global problems in a multidisciplinary way, to analyze their effects and consequences, and to develop solutions. This seminar focuses on current challenges and the approaches to solutions that are being discussed politically around the world. Topics include: Population development, wars, hunger, poverty, old and new diseases, child labor, educational imbalances, child soldiers, natural disasters. The seminar also introduces the different platforms for discussing and solving social, political and economic problems in order to understand, analyze and critically evaluate them in the context of social work.			
Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)	Recommended semester	Recommended study year	



2 SWS / seminar	3	2
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> Language skills in written and spoken English (B2 level)		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

### MA 4.3 Country-specific conditions in social work

<b>MA 4.3 Country-specific conditions in social work</b>		<b>P</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Internationally, social work has very different historical backgrounds in individual welfare states and different countries, and in some cases, its frameworks are organized and structured very differently. Students are provided with basic theoretical knowledge of cross-national comparative social policy research and country-specific welfare cultures. They acquire competencies to analyze and understand current national and international developments and respective structural features of welfare state arrangements and social policy using selected countries as examples. In a synthesis and critical reflection of theory and empirical findings on individual welfare state arrangements, social interventions, and service cultures, students can also evaluate local "best practices" and process of "policy learning" and communicate them in the findings. Thus, they also acquire competencies to analyze selected projects and interventions in other countries and welfare regimes by way of example and can independently develop conclusions for social work in the Federal Republic of Germany. The processing of individual theoretical texts or the evaluation of international empirical studies requires the willingness to analyze texts and articles written in English. Furthermore, students will learn basic principles of an emerging global social policy and international social work.</p>		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	3	2
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> Language skills in written and spoken English (B2 level)		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

### Individual descriptions of seminars/courses in module 4b

#### MA 4.4 Legal and political developments in Europe

<b>MA 4.4 Legal and political developments in Europe</b>		<b>P</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> First, this module deals with the legal framework of social work on the levels of national and European law. The main focus is on current reform projects and discussions that will have an impact on the content of social work in the future. The module enables students to relate political developments at national and European level to legal principles. In the sense of comparative law, the different legal cultures with their respective understanding of (social) law are of particular importance. The aim is to use the abstract legal analyses to develop specialist strategies for dealing with concrete problems. Second, students analyze developments at the European level and in EU law with regard to their impact on social work and relate them to individual life situations.</p>		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS	3	2
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> Language skills in written and spoken English (B2 level)		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

#### MA 4.5 Human rights, social rights and social work

<b>MA 4.5 Human rights, social rights and social work</b>	<b>P</b>
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**Competencies/Qualification goals:** Based on the approach of social work as a human rights profession, students first acquire basic knowledge of human rights at the European and international level, especially with regard to the different possibilities of the legal enforceability of human rights. At the same time, this enables students to recognize different legal cultures and points of view in the context of human rights. This provides students with the opportunity of learning about implementation processes and thus modes of action of human rights at the national level and thus acquire knowledge about how human rights can affect social work.

<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS	3	2

**Prerequisite for participation:** Language skills in written and spoken English (B2 level)

<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.
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### MA 5 Compulsory elective modules at HAWK Hildesheim

Course		Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule) Seminar	Recommended semester
WP	5.1 Languages	2 SWS / seminar	1/2/3/4
WP	5.2 Project seminar/applied research	2 SWS / seminar	2/3
WP	5.3 “Field studies” abroad	2 SWS / seminar	2/3
WP	5.4 Social work and business enterprises	2 SWS / seminar	1/2/3/4
WP	5.5 Buying and selling in the social context	2 SWS / seminar	1/2/3
WP	5.6 Business start-ups and professional self-employment	2 SWS / seminar	2/3/4
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester			
<b>Total workload/credits</b> 360 h/12 CP	<b>University time</b> 8 SWS 120 h	<b>Home study</b> 240 h	

## Individual descriptions of seminars/courses in module 5

### MA 5.1 Languages

<b>MA 5.1 Languages</b>		<b>WP</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> With this course offering, students are to improve at least one foreign language (usually English) in order to be able to engage in professional exchange, also in the context of conferences, research projects, in the context of international exchange or also when attending international conferences and congresses. During their studies, students are given the opportunity to improve their knowledge of English, in particular, to the level "B2" of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages by the time they register for their Master's thesis. It is also possible to apply for the recognition of external seminars/language courses corresponding to the "Master" level.</p>		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS (4 SWS are possible) / language course	1/2/3/4	1/2
<p><b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> Basic knowledge in the respective spoken and written language (basic courses are usually not offered/recognized).</p>		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> It is offered every year.	

### MA 5.2 Project seminar/applied research/practical application

<b>MA 5.2 Project seminar/applied research/practical application</b>		<b>WP</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> This seminar offers students the opportunity to test and reflect on methodological skills in a practice-oriented manner. This practical reflection is based on in-depth theory. The seminar is open to the most diverse fields of social work and to the variety of experiences of the students. Likewise, this seminar provides opportunities to design as well as practically implement research projects. The advantages of practice research and also possible risks (too close) of practice research in one's own field of practice are addressed.</p>		
<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	2/3	1/2
<p><b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none</p>		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> Offered on a regular basis depending on student capacity and interest	

### MA 5.3 "Field studies" abroad (in English)

<b>MA 5.3 "Field studies" abroad (in English)</b>		<b>WP</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> Students (in a group of maximum 15) acquire skills and competencies in preparing, organizing and conducting "field-studies" abroad. Based on the basic knowledge of the framework conditions as well as of the welfare-state and -cultural structural characteristics of social work in a selected country (e.g., Sweden, Turkey, Finland...) initially acquired via literature and in the seminars of modules 4a and 4b, this knowledge will be deepened in the course of study visits to social institutions and partner universities of the respective country. Translated with <a href="http://www.DeepL.com/Translator">www.DeepL.com/Translator</a> (free version) In terms of research methodology, the field studies will include, in particular, interviews with experts, group discussions, and surveys of passersby. Students also acquire practical experience, knowledge and skills in documenting the results of field studies, using a wide variety of media (reports, film documentation, etc.).</p>		
<b>Type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar/excursion	2/3	1/2
<p><b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> Language skills in spoken and written English at least at level "B 2" of the European Framework of Reference for Languages.</p>		
<p><b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester</p>		<p><b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> Offered on a regular basis depending on student capacity and interest</p>

### MA 5.4 Social work and business enterprises

<b>MA 5.4 Social work and business enterprises</b>		<b>WP</b>
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> The course provides students with the knowledge and skills to analyze and understand concrete working conditions in companies. The goal is to be able to independently incorporate the skills of analysis and evaluation gained in this way, and the insights gained from them, in the areas of social work. The aim is also to develop ways in which social work graduates can be increasingly employed in private companies or find jobs in the future. This also includes an independent development of the profile of social work and the ability to communicate as well as the skills towards private business enterprises outside the "traditional field of activity" of social work.</p>		
<b>Type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>	<b>Recommended study year</b>
2 SWS / seminar	1/2/3/4	1/2
<p><b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none</p>		
<p><b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester</p>		<p><b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> Offered on a regular basis depending on student capacity and interest</p>

## MA 5.5 Buying and selling in the social context

MA 5.5 Buying and selling in the social context		WP
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> The course provides students with knowledge and skills about the different areas of "social buying" and "social selling". The focus is on what are known as social department stores and the "fair trade" initiative.</p> <p>In the "second hand – social selling [social department stores]" project, the social sponsoring organizations, their structure, objectives and challenges on site will be analyzed in more detail. Students will examine the objectives in more detail to fully understand them: Generating financial means to finance social projects (money), offering or carrying out training/ further education measures in the store (education), creating paid regular employment (work), recycling the goods (environment), enabling civic/voluntary work (volunteering), selling the goods at a reasonable price (supply), as well as other goals, if applicable.</p> <p>This seminar will also focus on the work and diverse tasks of social workers as well as the situation of the "clients" in the stores and supporting organizations.</p> <p>The "fair trade" initiative is analyzed as a social, political and economic movement of international trade. Fair trade is still in a market niche. The aim is to try to increase the market share of fair trade, among other things through social work activities and especially in social institutions, and thus directly improve the living conditions of many people in what are known as "third-world countries". There are several large fair-trade organizations in Lower Saxony. Their social work and conceptions are also the subject of the seminar, so that the students will be able to understand both the economic and the social dimensions of "fair trade" in an international as well as a regional context.</p>		
Type of teaching (as a rule)	Recommended semester	Recommended study year
2 SWS / seminar	1/2/3/4	1/2
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> Offered on a regular basis depending on student capacity and interest	

## MA 5.6 Business start-ups and professional self-employment

MA 5.6 Business start-ups and professional self-employment		WP
<p><b>Competencies/Qualification goals:</b> The seminar provides basic and in-depth knowledge about the framework conditions and professional requirements for processes and steps of business start-ups and for professional self-employment in social work. The relevant areas of law as well as economic and personal dimensions of business start-ups and professional self-employment will be dealt with in depth. The aim is to communicate not only legal and business knowledge, but also knowledge of how the market functions, of specific corporate cultures and of a new competitive culture in social work. The knowledge and skills acquired also include an understanding and critical analysis of the most current socio-economic and market developments in selected fields of social work activity.</p>		
Type of teaching (as a rule)	Recommended semester	Recommended study year
2 SWS / seminar	2/3	1/2
<b>Prerequisite for participation:</b> none		
<b>Time it takes to complete the module:</b> one semester	<b>Frequency with which the module is offered:</b> Offered on a regular basis depending on student capacity and interest	

**MA 6 Master thesis**

<b>Course</b>		<b>Total – SWS / type of teaching (as a rule)</b>	<b>Recommended semester</b>
P	Bachelor thesis	4 SWS – 2 seminars	3/4

**Time it takes to complete the module:**  
one semester

<b>Total workload/credits</b>	<b>University time</b>	<b>Home study</b>
810 h 27 CP	4 SWS 60 h	750 h



### **3 Studies abroad/time spent abroad and internationalization**

As part of the Master's program "Social Work in International and Intercultural Contexts", the Master's students are actively encouraged to study abroad and spend time abroad in particular – among other things through the measures for internationalization – with internships playing a decisive role here. To do so, they can take advantage of a “five-point program”:

1. Students can take up a Master's program at HAWK without having to prove that they have the corresponding knowledge of German before beginning their studies. In this case, a supporting offer is provided within the framework of a "30 ECTS program for incoming master students" in Hildesheim. The course consists of the seminars in module 4a (Social Work in an international context) and in module 4b (Law in an international context). Starting with the 2012/2013 winter semester, these modules were regularly offered in English and can be studied with a total of 21 credit points for "incoming master-students". This program will be continued. An "international seminar for incoming and outgoing master-students" is offered in English as an elective seminar in the winter semester (3 CP). In addition, two German language courses will be offered for the "incoming master-students": One language course will be an intensive language course (3 CP) before the start of lectures. The second course (3 CP) is offered during the semester. This offer is regularly made to students of ERASMUS partner universities in the winter semester of the respective academic year. It began in the winter semester of 2012/2013.
2. This will reinforce the international dimension of social work for all students in the Master's program in general. Since the winter semester 2012/2013, seminars in modules 4a and 4b are regularly offered one semester exclusively in English (exception: seminars in module 1 "Research, analysis and evaluation in social work").
3. In addition, a seminar on "field studies" abroad is offered as part of the Master's program in the elective area (module 5). This seminar includes a study trip abroad for several days. This seminar is also usually held in English.
4. Internationalization efforts can be concentrated in another seminar offering, namely the "International master's seminar for incoming and outgoing students". If there is sufficient demand, individual concepts and strategies as well as practical contacts for a semester abroad can be developed within the framework of such a seminar, and the "incoming students" can be intensively supported and supervised.
5. In individual cases, the Master's thesis can be written at a partner university abroad after prior consultation and in cooperation with this university. Active support is provided for corresponding stays abroad, applications for scholarships, etc.

## 4 Overview of the study achievements and credits

Course offers on the Hildesheim campus	SWS	In-class hours (15 SWS)	Home study	Practical training	Total workload	Type of exam	Credits
<b>Modules 1a and 1b: Research, analysis and evaluation in social work</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>720</b>		<b>24</b>
<b>1a) Basic studies</b>							
1.1 Analysis of practical work	2					<b>1 graded exam (Report on practical training)</b>	9
1.2 Basic studies Research and evaluation	2					1 ungraded exam	3
<b>1b) Advanced studies "Research/evaluation"</b>							
1.3 Qualitative research (advanced)	2					<b>Optionally with 1.4 a graded exam or an ungraded exam</b>	6
1.4 Quantitative research (advanced)	2					<b>Optionally with 1.3 a graded exam or an ungraded exam</b>	6
<b>Modules 2a and 2b: Designing work processes: Management, leadership and education in social work</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>300</b>		<b>450</b>	<b>1 graded exam in 2a (optionally 2.1-2.3) and 1 ungraded exam in 2b (optionally 2.4-2.5).</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>2a) Management of institutions (compulsory seminars 2.1-2.3)</b>							
2.1 Work structures in social work and (international) institutions	2						9
2.2 Financing and marketing concepts in institutions	2						
2.3 Designing client-centered structures, care and case management	2						
<b>2b) Concepts and methods in (international) institutions</b>							
2.4 Strategic alignment: Concept development	2						6
2.5 Communication and didactics	2						
<b>Modules 3a and 3b: Culture and understanding: Diversity, intersectionality and inclusion</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>480</b>		<b>630</b>	<b>1 graded exam each in 3a and 3b</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>3a) Culture and understanding: Diversity, intersectionality</b>							
3.1 Forms of discrimination in the context of social power structures	2						12
3.2 Global dimensions of social inequality	2						
3.3 Culture and diversity	2						
<b>3b) Culture and understanding: Inclusion</b>							
3.4 Inclusion and participation in the human rights profession	2						9
3.5 Discipline and profession – Historical and current developments	2						

<b>Modules 4a and 4b: Social work in the international context</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>480</b>		<b>630</b>	<b>1 graded exam each in 4a and 4b</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>4a) International social work</b>							
MA 4.1 International developments in the profession and scientific discipline	2						12
4.2 International conditions of social development	2						
4.3 Country-specific conditions in social work	2						
<b>4b) International law</b>							
4.4 Legal and political developments in Europe	2						9
4.5 Human rights, social rights and social work	2						
<b>Module 5 Compulsory elective modules</b> (to be offered beyond the faculty and HAWK). Students may also use elective modules from other faculties and colleges after making the appropriate "learning agreement". 4- hour compulsory electives may also be offered, depending on interest and capacity requirements	<b>8</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>240</b>		<b>360</b>	<b>1 ungraded exam per seminar, 4 in total, to complete module 6</b>	<b>12</b>
5.1 Languages	2/4						3/6
5.2 Project seminar/applied research/practical application	2						3
5.3 "Field studies" abroad	2						3
5.4 Social work and business enterprises	2						3
5.5 Buying and selling in the social context	2						3
5.6 Business start-ups and professional self-employment	2						3
<b>MA 6: Master thesis</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>750</b>		<b>810</b>	<b>Master thesis</b>	<b>27 (22 MA thesis and 5 colloqu ia)</b>
<b>SUM</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>2450</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>3600</b>	<b>7 ungraded exams and 8 graded exams (including MA thesis)</b>	<b>120</b>

## 5 Study plan

	2 SWS	2 SWS	2 SWS	2 SWS	2 SWS	2 SWS	2 SWS	2 SWS	2 SWS	2 SWS	CP
WS	Basic research studies MA 1a  12 CP		Management MA 2a  9 CP				Concepts and methods MA 2b  6 CP		Compulsory elective MA 5  3 CP	Practical training time	30
SS	Research Advanced studies MA 1a  6 CP		Diversity, intersectionality MA 3a  12 CP			Inclusion MA 3b  9 CP		Compulsory elective MA 5  3 CP	60		
WS	Research Advanced studies MA 1b  6 CP		International social work MA 4a  In English 12 CP			International law MA 4b In English 9 CP		Compulsory elective MA 5  3 CP	90		
SS	Master thesis (including preparation and supervision) MA 6  27 CP									Compulsory elective MA 5  3 CP	120

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