

Fact Sheet

General information on the structure of the Master's programme in Sociology (Bielefeld University)

- Standard period of study: 4 semesters
- the MA Sociology contains 120 credit points
- there are **three compulsory modules, one profile area and three or four additional modules** to be studied

Compulsory modules	Elective modules ¹
<p><u>Introductory module (30-M-Soz-M1)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6 credit points - can only be studied in the winter term and is recommended for the first semester! - consists of three lectures - no “Studienleistung”², no “Prüfungsleistung”³ is required <p><u>One student research project (LEH)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 14 or 28 credit points - There are “small” (14 credit points) and “large” (28 credit points) LEH - Lasts one or two semester - Replaces one or two modules <p><u>The Conclusion module (30-M-Soz-MA)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 30 credit points - consists of the Master's and a corresponding colloquium - can only be started after completion of the introductory module and modules totaling 56 credit points <p>Aside from that, modules can be chosen individually, as long as you fulfill profile requirements! →</p>	<p>For the M.A. Sociology elective <u>modules</u> from <u>eight profiles</u> can be chosen: (Most English-language courses are available for the modules written in bold)</p> <p>General profile Social structure and social inequality profile Sociology of the Global World profile Political Sociology profile Sociological Methods profile Sociological Theory profile Organizational Sociology Sociology of Work and Economics</p> <p>You can find the seminars that belong to the modules in the eKVV (Course Catalogue by Bielefeld University) → Select Sociology / M.A. - only courses from the Master's degree programme in Sociology can be credited towards the Master's degree!</p> <p><u>Special modules:</u></p> <p>Interdisciplinary module (30-M-Soz-M14)</p> <p>Internship module (30-M-Soz-M13)</p>

¹ Typically, an elective module (14 credit points) consists of two classes: Seminar 1 + Seminar 2.

“Studienleistungen” must be completed in both classes (4 credit points + 4 credit points) and “Prüfungsleistung” must be submitted in one seminar (6 credit points).

² Studienleistung: is an ungraded assignment that is usually completed during the semester. It is part of the self-study and attendance time and takes approximately 30 hours. The form in which the coursework is to be completed is usually determined by the lecturer in the first seminar session.

³ Prüfungsleistung: is a graded assignment that is usually completed at the end of the semester. It normally takes the form of a term paper (approx. 20 - 30 pages). However, other forms of assessment are also possible. The lecturer will provide information about the options at the beginning of the seminar.

Explanation: Profile

In the MA Sociology programme, you can choose between a **thematic profile** or a **general profile**.

- (1) A **thematic profile** comprises **three modules of the same content/area** and three elective modules (including “student research project”).

The student research project can be part of either any thematic profile or the other elective modules.

(Please note: Not all profile areas offer a sufficient number of courses in English!)

- (2) The **general profile** comprises **Sociological Theory a** and **Sociological Methods a** and four elective modules (including “student research project”)

(Please note: as soon as three elective modules of the same content are studied, it is a thematic profile and no longer a general profile!)

Due to the **maximum freedom of choice in the MA Sociology** study model, it is **not possible to create a general study plan for all students or even in advance**.

However, to give you a better understanding of the structure, you will find **an overview of exemplary and possible study templates** below. You can adapt the templates to your individual preferences.

Please note:

The templates do NOT reflect the temporal organisation of the modules, but general possibilities of the study structure.

The standard study period of the MA Sociology is 4 semesters, however individual circumstances must always be considered. **Please weigh up what is possible for you based on your situation.**⁴

⁴ To study in the standard period of study (4 semesters), 2 modules must be completed in each of the first 3 semesters. This means that two “Hausarbeiten” (term papers) must be written per semester, i.e. a total of 6.

After the first/second semester, it can be determined on an individual basis whether it is realistic to study in regular study time. In any case, it is unrealistic to write more than two assignments and the Master's thesis in the third and fourth semesters.

Explanation: Specialization

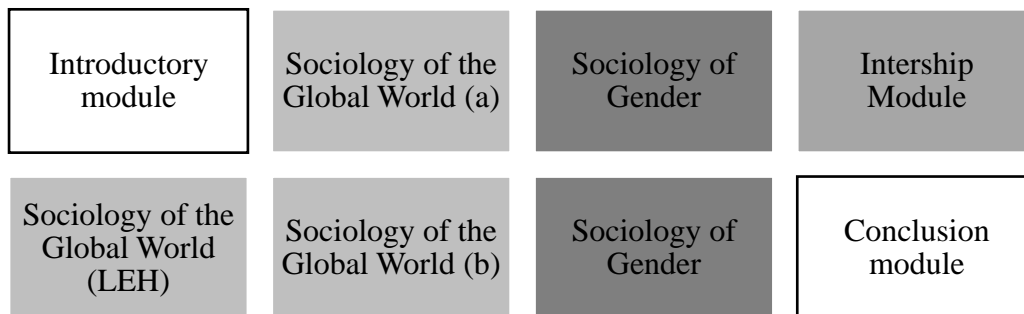
In the MA Sociology programme, you can choose between **a specialization** or **no specialization**.

- (1) **A specialization** always comprises **two modules of the same content/area**.
- (2) **No specialization** means that you study **modules from different content/areas**.

Example 1: study programme in MA Sociology with **a thematic profile and a specialization**

Thematic profile: Sociology of the Global World

Specialization: Sociology of Gender



Explanation: Specialization⁵

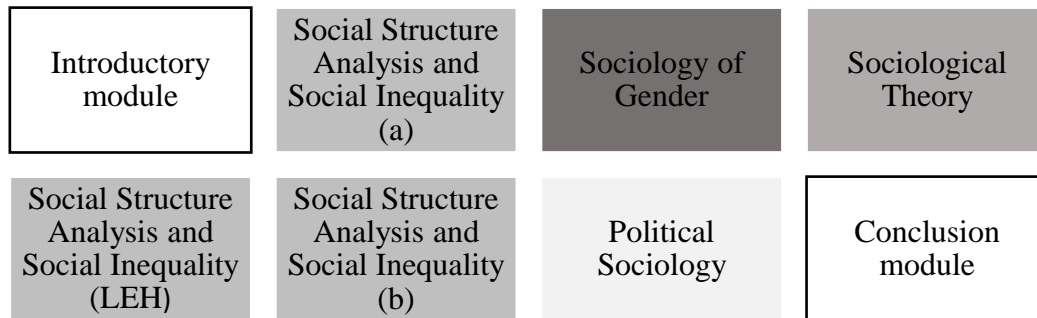
⁵ In the MA Sociology programme, you can choose between **a specialization** or **no specialization**.

- (1) **A specialization** always comprises **two modules of the same content/area**.
- (2) **No specialization** means that you study **modules from different content/areas**

Example 2: study programme in MA Sociology with a **thematic profile and no specialization**

Thematic profile: Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality

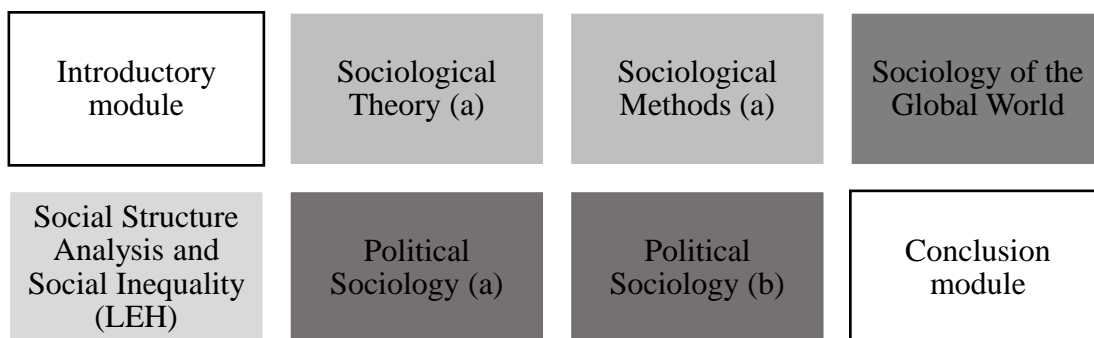
No specialization



Example 3: study programme in MA Sociology with a **general profile and a specialization (two modules from the same field)**

General profile: Sociological Theory (a) and Sociological Methods (a)

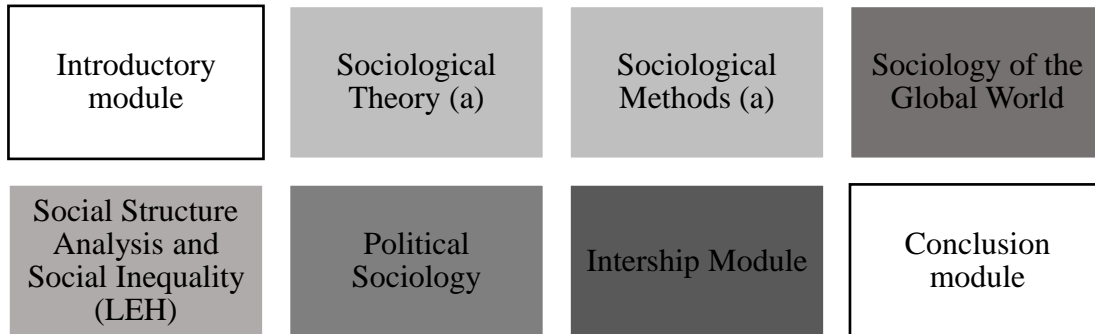
Specialization: Political Sociology



Example 4: study programme in MA Sociology with a **general profile and a specialization**

General profile: Sociological Theory (a) and Sociological Methods (a)

No Specialization



This is only a recommendation for planning your studies - all information without guarantee.

Further questions, uncertainties, ambiguities?

Please write an e-mail to international.soc@uni-bielefeld.de

or

make an appointment (international.soz_beratung@uni-bielefeld.de) or come to our open consultation, always Tuesday from 13 – 14 o'clock.