

**Subject-Specific Regulations for the Master's Program in Sociology**  
**dated 17<sup>th</sup> December 2012 (Study model 2011),**  
**in conjunction with the revisions of 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022,**  
**28<sup>th</sup> June 2024, and 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

— Consolidated Version —

The versions published in the Official Gazette of Bielefeld University – Official Announcements are binding.

Pursuant to Sections 2(4) and 64(1) of the Higher Education Act of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (Higher Education Act – HG) of 16 September 2014 (Law and Ordinance Gazette of North Rhine-Westphalia (GV.), p. 547), as amended by the Act of 17 October 2017 (GV., p. 806), the Faculty of Sociology, in conjunction with the Examination and Study Regulations for the Master's Program (MPO fw. (Master Examination Regulations "Fachwissenschaftlich") – Study model 2011) at Bielefeld University of 1 September 2015 (Official Gazette of Bielefeld University – Vol. 44, No. 15, p. 424), as amended on 15 December 2016 (Official Announcements of Bielefeld University – Vol. 45, No. 18, p. 427), hereby issues the following Subject-Specific Regulations (Appendix to sec. 1(1) MPO fw.):

**1. Master's degree (sec. 3 s.o. MPO fw.)**

The Faculty of Sociology offers the degree program in Sociology leading to the degree "Master of Arts" (M.A.).

**2. Further access requirements (sec. 4(1-4) s.o. MPO fw.)**

The subject-specific regulations govern the additional access requirements alongside those stipulated in sec. 49 HG of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) and sec. 4 s.o. MPO fw.

Applicants who meet all the requirements shall be granted access; applicants who do not meet all the requirements shall be denied access.

(1) Access is further conditional upon proof of a prior qualifying degree (sec. 49(6) s. 2 HG NRW) pursuant to paragraph 2. Furthermore, access requires proof of proficiency in German according to the general regulations or in English at the B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, in accordance with the guidelines of Bielefeld University.

(2) A degree is considered qualified if all of the following subject-specific requirements are demonstrated by completed coursework, i.e., each criterion receives one point and a total of four points is achieved:

- Competence in Sociological Theory: Knowledge of classical and contemporary sociological theories, their comparison, and exemplary application (cf. Module 30-M1 Basics of Sociology and Module 30-M4 Sociological Theory I): 0–1 points
- Competence in Methods of Empirical Social Research: Basic knowledge of different methods of empirical social research, their application, potential, and reflection (cf. Module 30-M2 Empirical Social Research Methods (Fundamentals)): 0–1 points
- Competence in a Specialized Area of Sociology: Knowledge and application of central concepts, theories, and empirical methods of a relevant specialized area of sociology (see, for example, subject modules of the BA Sociology): 0–1 points
- Competences in an Additional Specialized Area of Sociology or Basic Knowledge of Another Social Science Field or Related Discipline: 0–1 points

The following points are awarded:

- 0 points: the required competencies are not fulfilled.
- 1 point: the required competencies are fulfilled.

The reference points for the required knowledge and skills for the Master's program are the competencies conveyed in the Bachelor's program in Sociology at Bielefeld University, as the Master's program is conceptually built upon it.

The awarding of points for competencies is carried out in accordance with the provisions for recognition (sec. 21 of the General Examination Regulations of Bielefeld University dated 18 December 2020) and the applicable standards and guidelines, including those of the [European Area of Recognition Project](#), based on the following criteria:

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- Quality of the university and/or the degree (accreditation)
- Level of acquired competencies (qualification framework)
- Workload
- Profile / orientation of the completed degree
- Specific learning outcomes with consideration of learning objective taxonomies

(3) The evaluation of the requirements and prerequisites for both the access and admission procedures is based on the following documents, which must be uploaded and submitted in due time via the relevant application portal of Bielefeld University:

- a) Degree certificate of a prior qualified degree and the associated final documents (transcript, transcript of records, diploma supplement, or similar), or a provisional degree certificate indicating a preliminary final grade.
- b) Module handbook or module descriptions of the completed modules. If no diploma supplement, transcript, module handbook, or module descriptions are available, applicants must upload equivalent documentation providing information on the completed degree program, the competencies acquired, the coursework completed and graded, and the individual academic profile of the degree program.

In addition, information regarding the criteria outlined in paragraph 2 and language proficiency must be provided in the application portal.

Only PDF files are accepted in the application portal; these should be searchable whenever possible. Documents submitted after the application deadline or via other means will not be considered.

(4) Access is assessed by an authorized examiner. Applicants will be informed of the outcome of the access process via an electronic notification. If applicants submit a substantiated objection to the evaluation within one week, the decision will be reviewed, and an additional authorized examiner will be involved in this process. The evaluation will be corrected if necessary. Regardless, the possibility of legal caveat exists, which is communicated in the instruction on legal remedies included in the notification.

(5) The decision on whether the admission requirements are met is made by the authority responsible under sec. 14 MPO fw., which also defines further details of the procedure, appoints examiners entitled to conduct examinations, determines application deadlines, and makes all decisions regarding the admission process.

### **3. Admission Procedure (sec. 4(4) s.o. MPO fw.)**

- (1) Upon verification of the access requirements, in the case of an admission restricted Master's program, it will be checked whether the number of applicants who meet the criteria in item 2 exceeds the number of available places. If this is not the case, all such applicants will be admitted.
- (2) If the number of applicants who meet the criteria in item 2 exceeds the number of available places, study places will be allocated in the order of the points achieved in the procedure according to item 2, paragraph 2. In the event of a tie, the (preliminary) final grade of the degree qualifying for the Master's program will be decisive. If a clear ranking cannot be determined thereafter, the decision will be made by drawing lots. The consideration of a preliminary final grade requires a level of achievement corresponding at least to the completion of the fourth semester (approx. 120 (CP) credit points). Additionally, proof of the achievements in the four competency areas (item 2, paragraph 2), corresponding to a workload of 40 CP must already be provided.
- (3) Admission is granted based on the ranking according to paragraph 2 by the Student Administration Office. In the event of admission by waiting list progression, paragraphs 2 and 3 apply accordingly.
- (4) Applicants will be informed of the result of the admission procedure via an electronic notification from the Student Administration Office.

### **4. Commencement of studies before fulfilling the access requirements (sec. 4(5) s.o. MPO fw.)**

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### **5. Start of Studies (sec. 5(1) s.o. MPO fw.)**

The program can be started in either the winter or summer semester. However, the program is oriented towards a winter semester start. Beginning studies in the summer semester may lead to delays in the study progression.

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## 6. Curriculum (sec. 7 s.o. MPO fw.)

The program is characterized by a high degree of elective freedom. Students are offered the opportunity and expected to have the ability to individually select and design their Master's studies in Sociology, building upon their undergraduate degree, from a broad range of subject offerings.

The core structure of the program comprises the completion of an introductory module, five additional modules, a project-based research module, and the final module with the master's thesis.

There is a wide selection of modules to be completed, with certain requirements for the choice and combination of modules arising from the profile overviews below. To complete the degree, one of the profiles must be fulfilled; however, a binding commitment to a specific profile during the course of study is not required. The general profile allows students to study the subject broadly. The other profiles are aimed at specializing in a specific thematic area.

The curriculum can be completed entirely in German or entirely in English (International Track) within the standard period of study. This may result in limited elective options.

Each profile requires the completion of elective modules from the module pool (see section i.). Within this, there is the option of an in-depth study by completing two modules from the specified thematic areas.

### a. General Profile

Abbreviation	Module title	Recommended semester	CP	Required Prerequisites
30-M-Soz-M1	Introductory module	1	6	
30-M-Soz-M2a	Sociological Theory a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M3a	Sociological Methods a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
Four modules not yet completed must be taken from the module pool, including a project-based research module worth either 14 or 28 CP. A maximum of 28 CP may be taken from a single thematic area.		1 o. 2 o. 3	56	
30-M-Soz-MA	Conclusion module	4	30	see sec. 8
<b>Total sum of points</b>			<b>120</b>	

Further information about the modules can be found in the module structure table under section 7. as well as in the module descriptions.

**b. Profile of Sociology of Work and Economics**

Abbreviation	Module title	Rec. semester	CP	Required Prerequisites
30-M-Soz-M1	Introductory module	1	6	
30-M-Soz-M4a	Sociology of Work and Economics a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
<b>Modules totaling 28 credit points, or alternatively the module 30-M-Soz-M4_LF2, must be completed.</b>				
30-M-Soz-M4b	Sociology of Work and Economics b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M4c	Sociology of Work and Economics c	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M4_LF1	Student research project in Sociology of Work and Economics	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M4_LF2	Student research project in Sociology of Work and Economics	1 o. 2	28	
Modules totaling 42 CP that have not yet been completed must be selected from the module pool. If no project-based research in the area of Sociology of Work and Economics has been completed, a research module from the module pool (excluding 30-M-Soz-M4_LF1 and 30-M-Soz-M4_LF2) must be completed, amounting to either 14 or 28 CP.		1 o. 2 o. 3	42	
30-M-Soz-MA	Conclusion module	4	30	see sec. 8
<b>Total sum of points</b>			<b>120</b>	

Further information about the modules can be found in the module structure table under section 7. as well as in the module descriptions.

**c. Organizational Sociology**

Abbreviation	Module title	Rec. semester	CP	Required Prerequisites
30-M-Soz-M1	Introductory module	1	6	
30-M-Soz-M6a	Organizational Sociology a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
<b>Modules totaling 28 credit points, or alternatively the module 30-M-Soz-M6_LF2, must be completed.</b>				
30-M-Soz-M6b	Organizational Sociology b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M6c	Organizational Sociology c	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M6_LF1	Student research project in Organizational Sociology)	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M6_LF2	Student research project in Organizational Sociology)	1 o. 2	28	
Modules totaling 42 CP that have not yet been completed must be selected from the module pool. If no project-based research in the area of Organizational Sociology has been completed, a research module from the module pool (excluding 30-M-Soz-M6_LF1 and 30-M-Soz-M6_LF2) must be completed, amounting to either 14 or 28 CP.		1 o. 2 o. 3	42	
30-M-Soz-MA	Conclusion module	4	30	see sec. 8
<b>Total sum of points</b>			<b>120</b>	

Further information about the modules can be found in the module structure table under section 7. as well as in the module descriptions.

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**d. Profile of Political Sociology**

Abbreviation	Module title	Rec. semester	CP	Required Prerequisites
30-M-Soz-M1	Introductory module	1	6	
30-M-Soz-M5a	Political Sociology a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
<b>Modules totaling 28 credit points, or alternatively the module 30-M-Soz-M5_LF2, must be completed.</b>				
30-M-Soz-M5b	Political Sociology b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M5c	Political Sociology c	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M5_LF1	Student research project in Political Sociology	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M5_LF2	Student research project in Political Sociology	1 o. 2	28	
Modules totaling 42 CP that have not yet been completed must be selected from the module pool. If no project-based research in the area of Political Sociology has been completed, a research module from the module pool (excluding 30-M-Soz-M5_LF1 and 30-M-Soz-M5_LF2) must be completed, amounting to either 14 or 28 CP.		1 o. 2 o. 3	42	
30-M-Soz-MA	Conclusion module	4	30	see sec. 8
<b>Total sum of points</b>			<b>120</b>	

Further information about the modules can be found in the module structure table under section 7. as well as in the module descriptions.

**e. Profile of Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality**

Abbreviation	Module title	Rec. semester	CP	Required Prerequisites
30-M-Soz-M1	Introductory module	1	6	
30-M-Soz-M7a	Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
<b>Modules totaling 28 credit points, or alternatively the module 30-M-Soz-M7_LF2, must be completed.</b>				
30-M-Soz-M7b	Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M7c	Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality c	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M7_LF1	Student research project in Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M7_LF2	Student research project in Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality	1 o. 2	28	
Modules totaling 42 CP that have not yet been completed must be selected from the module pool. If no project-based research in the area of Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality has been completed, a research module from the module pool (excluding 30-M-Soz-M7_LF1 and 30-M-Soz-M7_LF2) must be completed, amounting to either 14 or 28 CP.		1 o. 2 o. 3	42	
30-M-Soz-MA	Conclusion module	4	30	see sec. 8
<b>Total sum of points</b>			<b>120</b>	

Further information about the modules can be found in the module structure table under section 7. as well as in the module descriptions.

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**f. Profile of Sociology of the Global World**

Abbreviation	Module title	Rec. semester	CP	Required Prerequisites
30-M-Soz-M1	Introductory module	1	6	
30-M-Soz-M8a	Sociology of the Global World a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
<b>Modules totaling 28 credit points, or alternatively the module 30-M-Soz-M8_LF2, must be completed.</b>				
30-M-Soz-M8b	Sociology of the Global World b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M8c	Sociology of the Global World c	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M8_LF1	Student research project in Sociology of the Global World	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M8_LF2	Student research project in Sociology of the Global World	1 o. 2	28	
Modules totaling 42 CP that have not yet been completed must be selected from the module pool. If no project-based research in the area of Sociology of the Global World has been completed, a research module from the module pool (excluding 30-M-Soz-M8_LF1 and 30-M-Soz-M8_LF2) must be completed, amounting to either 14 or 28 CP.		1 o. 2 o. 3	42	
30-M-Soz-MA	Conclusion module	4	30	see sec. 8
<b>Total sum of points</b>			<b>120</b>	

Further information about the modules can be found in the module structure table under section 7. as well as in the module descriptions.

**g. Profile of Sociological Methods**

Abbreviation	Module title	Rec. semester	CP	Required Prerequisites
30-M-Soz-M1	Introductory module	1	6	
30-M-Soz-M3a	Sociological Methods a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
<b>Modules totaling 28 credit points, or alternatively the module 30-M-Soz-M3_LF2, must be completed.</b>				
30-M-Soz-M3b	Sociological Methods b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M3c	Sociological Methods c	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M3_LF1	Student research project in Sociological Methods	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M3_LF2	Student research project in Sociological Methods	1 o. 2	28	
Modules totaling 42 CP that have not yet been completed must be selected from the module pool. If no project-based research in the area of Sociological Methods has been completed, a research module from the module pool (excluding 30-M-Soz-M3_LF1 and 30-M-Soz-M3_LF2) must be completed, amounting to either 14 or 28 CP.		1 o. 2 o. 3	42	
30-M-Soz-MA	Conclusion module	4	30	see sec. 8
<b>Total sum of points</b>			<b>120</b>	

Further information about the modules can be found in the module structure table under section 7. as well as in the module descriptions.

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#### h. Profile of Sociological Theory

Abbreviation	Module title	Rec. semester	CP	Required Prerequisites
30-M-Soz-M1	Introductory module	1	6	
30-M-Soz-M2a	Sociological Theory a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
<b>Modules totaling 28 credit points, or alternatively the module 30-M-Soz-M2_LF2, must be completed.</b>				
30-M-Soz-M2b	Sociological Theory b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M2c	Sociological Theory c	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M2_LF1	Student research project in Sociological Theory	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M2_LF2	Student research project in Sociological Theory	1 o. 2	28	
Modules totaling 42 CP that have not yet been completed must be selected from the module pool. If no project-based research in the area of Sociological Theory has been completed, a research module from the module pool (excluding 30-M-Soz-M2_LF1 and 30-M-Soz-M2_LF2) must be completed, amounting to either 14 or 28 CP.		1 o. 2 o. 3	42	
30-M-Soz-MA	Conclusion module	4	30	see sec. 8
<b>Total sum of points</b>			<b>120</b>	

Further information about the modules can be found in the module structure table under section 7. as well as in the module descriptions.

#### i. Module Pool

Completion of two modules within one thematic area constitutes what is referred to as an in-depth study. The in-depth study may be pursued in the following areas:

- Sociological Theory (Modules M-Soz-M2a, M-Soz-M2b, M-Soz-M2\_LF1 and M-Soz-M2\_LF2),
- Sociological Methods (Modules M-Soz-M3a, M-Soz-M3b, M-Soz-M3\_LF1 and M-Soz-M3\_LF2),
- Sociology of Work and Economics (Modules M-Soz-M4a, M-Soz-M4b, M-Soz-M4\_LF1 and M- Soz-M4\_LF2),
- Political Sociology (Modules M-Soz-M5a, M-Soz-M5b, M-Soz-M5\_LF1 and M-Soz-M5\_LF2),
- Organizational Sociology (Modules M-Soz-M6a, M-Soz-M6b, M-Soz-M6\_LF1 and M-Soz-M6\_LF2),
- Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality (Modules M-Soz-M7a, M-Soz-M7b, M-Soz-M7\_LF1 and M-Soz-M7\_LF2),
- Sociology of the Global World (Modules M-Soz-M8a, M-Soz-M8b, M-Soz-M8\_LF1 and M-Soz-M8\_LF2),
- Sociology of Gender (Modules M-Soz-M9a, M-Soz-M9b, M-Soz-M9\_LF1 and M-Soz-M9\_LF2),
- Sociology of Science and Technology (Modules M-Soz-M10a, M-Soz-M10b, M-Soz-M10\_LF1 and M-Soz-M10\_LF2)<sup>1</sup>,
- Media Sociology (Modules M-Soz-M11a, M-Soz-M11b, M-Soz-M11\_LF1 and M-Soz-M11\_LF2), and
- Sociology of Law and Regulation (Modules M-Soz-M15a, M-Soz-M15b, M-Soz-M15\_LF1 and M-Soz-M15\_LF2)<sup>2</sup>.

Abbreviation	Module title	Rec. semester	CP	Required Prerequisites
30-M-Soz-M2_LF1	Student research project in Sociological Theory	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M2_LF2	Student research project in Sociological Theory	1 o. 2	28	
30-M-Soz-M2a	Sociological Theory a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M2b	Sociological Theory b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	

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30-M-Soz-M3_LF1	Student research project in Sociological Methods	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M3_LF2	Student research project in Sociological Methods	1 o. 2	28	
30-M-Soz-M3a	Sociological Methods a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M3b	Sociological Methods b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M4_LF1	Student research project in Sociology of Work and Economics	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M4_LF2	Student research project in Sociology of Work and Economics	1 o. 2	28	
30-M-Soz-M4a	Sociology of Work and Economics a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M4b	Sociology of Work and Economics b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M5_LF1	Student research project in Political Sociology	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M5_LF2	Student research project in Political Sociology	1 o. 2	28	
30-M-Soz-M5a	Political Sociology a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M5b	Political Sociology b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M6_LF1	Student research project in Organizational Sociology	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M6_LF2	Student research project in Organizational Sociology	1 o. 2	28	
30-M-Soz-M6a	Organizational Sociology a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M6b	Organizational Sociology b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M7_LF1	Student research project in Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M7_LF2	Student research project in Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality	1 o. 2	28	
30-M-Soz-M7a	Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M7b	Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M8_LF1	Student research project in Sociology of the Global World	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M8_LF2	Student research project in Sociology of the Global World	1 o. 2	28	
30-M-Soz-M8a	Sociology of the Global World a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M8b	Sociology of the Global World b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M9_LF1	Student research project in Sociology of Gender	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M9_LF2	Student research project in Sociology of Gender	1 o. 2	28	
30-M-Soz-M9a	Sociology of Gender a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M9b	Sociology of Gender b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M10_LF1 <sup>1</sup>	Student research project in Sociology of Science and Technology	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M10_LF2 <sup>1</sup>	Student research project in Sociology of Science and Technology	1 o. 2	28	
30-M-Soz-M10a <sup>1</sup>	Sociology of Science and Technology a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M10b <sup>1</sup>	Sociology of Science and Technology b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	



30-M-Soz-M11_LF1	Student research project in Media Sociology	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M11_LF2	Student research project in Media Sociology	1 o. 2	28	
30-M-Soz-M11a	Media Sociology a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M11b	Media Sociology b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M12_LF	Student research project in Further Special Sociologies	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M12	Further Special Sociologies	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M13	Internship	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M14	Interdisciplinary module	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M15_LF1 <sup>2</sup>	Student research project in Sociology of Law and Regulation	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M15_LF2 <sup>2</sup>	Student research project in Sociology of Law and Regulation	1 o. 2	28	
30-M-Soz-M15a <sup>2</sup>	Sociology of Law and Regulation a	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	
30-M-Soz-M15b <sup>2</sup>	Sociology of Law and Regulation b	1 o. 2 o. 3	14	

<sup>1</sup> The modules 30-M-Soz-M10\_LF1, 30-M-Soz-M10\_LF2, 30-M-Soz-M10a, and 30-M-Soz-M10b are no longer available as elective modules for students who enrolled after the winter semester 2013/14. Students who have already started one of these modules may complete them until the end of the summer semester 2016. As of the winter semester 2016/17, it is no longer possible to attend courses or complete module examinations and/or study requirements within these modules.

<sup>2</sup> The modules 30-M-Soz-M15\_LF1, 30-M-Soz-M15\_LF2, 30-M-Soz-M15a, and 30-M-Soz-M15b are part of a phase-out offering. A corresponding teaching offer to complete these modules will remain available until the end of the winter semester 2025/26. Modules that have already been completed may continue to be credited toward the degree.

**7. Module structure table**

Abbreviation	Title	CP	Required Prerequisites	Number of study requirements (non-graded coursework)	Number of graded module(part)
30-M-Soz-M1	Introductory module	6			
30-M-Soz-M2_LF1	Student research project in Sociological Theory	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M2_LF2	Student research project in Sociological Theory	28		2-4 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M2a	Sociological Theory a	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M2b	Sociological Theory b	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M2c	Sociological Theory c	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M3_LF1	Student research project in Sociological Methods	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M3_LF2	Student research project in Sociological Methods	28		2-4 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M3a	Sociological Methods a	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M3b	Sociological Methods b	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M3c	Sociological Methods c	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M4_LF1	Student research project in Sociology of Work and Economics	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M4_LF2	Student research project in Sociology of Work and Economics	28		2-4 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M4a	Sociology of Work and Economics a	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M4b	Sociology of Work and Economics b	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M4c	Sociology of Work and Economics c	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M5_LF1	Student research project in Political Sociology	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M5_LF2	Student research project in Political Sociology	28		2-4 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M5a	Political Sociology a	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M5b	Political Sociology b	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M5c	Political Sociology c	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M6_LF1	Student research project in Organizational Sociology	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M6_LF2	Student research project in Organizational Sociology	28		2-4 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M6a	Organizational Sociology a	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M6b	Organizational Sociology b	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M6c	Organizational Sociology c	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M7_LF1	Student research project in Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M7_LF2	Student research project in Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality	28		2-4 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M7a	Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality a	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M7b	Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality b	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M7c	Social Structure Analysis and Social Inequality c	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1

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30-M-Soz-M8_LF1	Student research project in Sociology of the Global World	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M8_LF2	Student research project in Sociology of the Global World	28		2-4 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M8a	Sociology of the Global World a	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M8b	Sociology of the Global World b	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M8c	Sociology of the Global World c	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M9_LF1	Student research project in Sociology of Gender	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M9_LF2	Student research project in Sociology of Gender	28		2-4 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M9a	Sociology of Gender a	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M9b	Sociology of Gender b	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M10_LF1 <sup>2</sup>	Student research project in Sociology of Science and Technology	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M10_LF2 <sup>2</sup>	Student research project in Sociology of Science and Technology	28		2-4 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M10a <sup>2</sup>	Sociology of Science and Technology a	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M10b <sup>2</sup>	Sociology of Science and Technology b	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M11_LF1	Student research project in Media Sociology	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M11_LF2	Student research project in Media Sociology	28		2-4 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M11a	Media Sociology a	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M11b	Media Sociology b	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M12	Further specialized areas of sociology	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M12_LF	Student research project in Further Special Sociologies	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M13	Internship	14			1
30-M-Soz-M14	Interdisciplinary module	14			1
30-M-Soz-M15_LF1 <sup>3</sup>	Student research project in Sociology of Law and Regulation	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M15_LF2 <sup>3</sup>	Student research project in Sociology of Law and Regulation	28		2-4 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M15a <sup>3</sup>	Sociology of Law and Regulation a	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-M15b <sup>3</sup>	Sociology of Law and Regulation b	14		1-2 <sup>1</sup>	1
30-M-Soz-MA	Conclusion module	30	see sec. 8		1

<sup>1</sup> The number of study requirements varies depending on the number of courses to be taken.

<sup>2</sup> The modules 30-M-Soz-M10\_LF1, 30-M-Soz-M10\_LF2, 30-M-Soz-M10a, and 30-M-Soz-M10b are no longer available as elective modules for students enrolling after the winter semester 2013/14. Students who have already started these modules may complete them by the summer semester 2016. From the beginning of the winter semester 2016/17 onward, these courses can no longer be attended, and no module exams and/or study requirements may be completed.

<sup>3</sup> The modules 30-M-Soz-M15\_LF1, 30-M-Soz-M15\_LF2, 30-M-Soz-M15a, and 30-M-Soz-M15b are a phasing-out offer. A corresponding opportunity to complete these modules will be provided until the winter semester 2025/26 at the latest. Modules already completed can still be credited toward the degree.

## 8. Further information on module examinations, partial module examinations, and study requirements as well as the Master's thesis (secs. 10, 11, 13 s.o. MPO fw.)

(1) Module examinations or partial module examinations are conducted in one of the following forms:

- Term papers comprising approx. 20–30 pages.
- The research report in the project-based research modules worth 14 CP should be approx. 20–30 pages in length.
- The research report in project-based research modules worth 28 CP should be approx. 40–50 pages in length. Depending on the project, this may also be completed in the form of two written partial examinations, which together must meet the same length and academic standards as the research report. The partial examinations are assessed as a single unit after the completion of both parts.

Other formats—particularly those demonstrating interdisciplinary skills, including media literacy—are also permitted. The workload and qualification requirements must be comparable. Further details can be found in the module descriptions.

(2) Study requirements in the Master's program in Sociology aim to promote communicative (written and/or oral) practice and the development of relevant competencies, with a focus on the interactive setting of the seminar. Study requirements are part of both independent study and attendance hours and correspond to an estimated workload of approximately 30 hours. Typical forms of study requirements include: participation in group work (such as completing exercises, developing research designs, and collecting and analyzing data), as well as moderation or minute-taking tasks and oral presentations, in accordance with the instructor's requirements.

Other formats are possible. When choosing alternative formats, the objective of the study requirement and the specified scope must be considered. Further details are provided in the module descriptions.

(3) The Master's thesis is a written paper. It may only be issued once the introductory module and additional modules totaling at least 56 CP have been successfully completed. The date of issue must be officially recorded. The period for completing the thesis is six months. The length of the thesis should be approximately 160,000 characters including spaces (which corresponds to about 70 pages). The thesis must be submitted on time to the Examination Office of the Faculty of Sociology. A specific processing period is assigned to each thesis (see above), and only this period is available for the entire process, including any preparatory work. The purpose of the Master's thesis is to independently address a defined research question or task within a clearly limited timeframe. To this end, students contact a supervisor and discuss a possible topic. Students are given the opportunity to propose a topic for the thesis. It is the responsibility of the examiner to ensure that the chosen topic is manageable and can be adequately addressed within the prescribed time (workload: 840 hours). A grade of "very good" must be warranted if the assignment is handled in a hypothetically comprehensive and exceptionally excellent manner, relative to an average thesis in the respective discipline. The final topic is officially assigned by the supervisor. Legally, the examination process—and thus the start of the processing period—begins with the official assignment or final agreement on the topic by the primary examiner. The thesis must be registered immediately with the Examination Office of the Faculty of Sociology, including the names of the supervising examiners and the title of the topic. Further regulations are set out in the Master Examination Regulations.

## 9. Commencement and Applicability

(1) These subject-specific provisions come into effect on October 1, 2012. They apply to all students who enroll in the Master's program in Sociology from the winter semester 2012/2013 onwards.

(2) Students who were enrolled in the Master's program in Sociology at the University of Bielefeld prior to the winter semester 2012/2013 may complete their studies until the end of the winter semester 2014/15, based on the appendix to sec. 1(2) s.o. MPO fw.: Subject-specific Regulations for the field of Sociology dated September 3, 2007 (University of Bielefeld Official Gazette – Official Announcements – Vol. 36 No. 19, p. 202) in conjunction with the amendment of June 2, 2008 (University of Bielefeld s.o. Verkündungsblatt – Official Announcements – Vol. 37 No. 9, p. 107). Starting with the summer semester 2015, these subject-specific regulations shall also apply to the students mentioned in sentence 1. The Dean of the Faculty of Sociology decides on the recognition of credits earned up to that point.

(3) Upon the student's request, these subject-specific regulations may also be applied to students as described in paragraph 2. The request is irrevocable.