



UNIVERSITÄT
DUISBURG
ESSEN

Open-Minded



Master of Arts **Socio-Economics**

The MA in Socio-Economics

Application-oriented - Pluralistic - Interdisciplinary

With the master's program in **Socio-Economics**, the University of Duisburg-Essen is responding to a growing necessity to investigate current societal key topics with interdisciplinary and pluralistic-oriented scientific approaches. Regarding its content, the program focuses on socio-economic questions and problems with high amounts of **societal and economic policy relevance**. For example:

- economic inequality
- future of European integration
- political economy of globalization
- welfare state reforms
- inequality, growth and the environment
- political effects of economic inequality
- financial and economic crises
- political consequences of socio-economic inequality
- economic activity of the state and public debt

A particular focus is placed on the **social, institutional and political conditions** of economic dynamics and **application-oriented methodological training**.

In addition to **interdisciplinarity**, a central principle of the MA is a **pluralism** of perspectives, theories and models driven by the goal of making the controversies in economic policy debates apparent to the students.

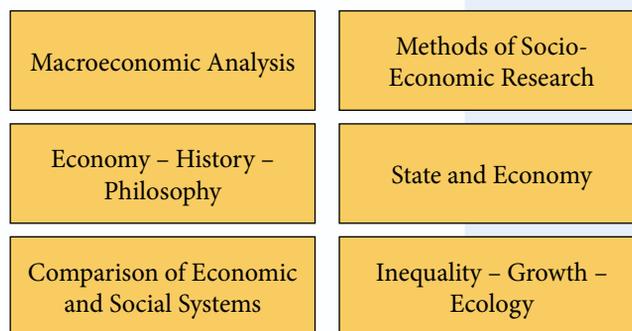
The target group of the program are students of economics and social sciences as well as students of neighboring disciplines with **career ambitions** in the fields of

- academia
- politics and policy advice
- administration
- media
- civil society / NGOs / associations
- (Socio-)Economic and political civic education

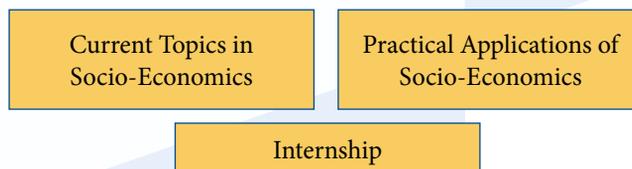


Program Structure and Core Content

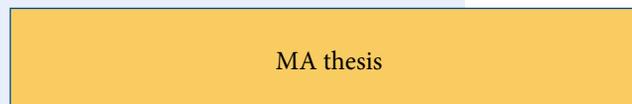
First and second semester: Six core modules



Third semester



Fourth semester



MA Socio-Economics - The Planned Modules and Core Content

Macroeconomic Analysis

- National accounting
- Institutions of monetary, fiscal and wage policies
- Social and ecological embeddedness of the economy
- History of macroeconomics
- Historical and current economic policy controversies and challenges
- Macroeconomic and political-economic modelling
- International macroeconomics
- Varieties of capitalism and growth models

Economy – History – Philosophy

- Fundamentals of European intellectual history and current economic policy discourses
- History of economic thought
- Economic paradigms
- Comparative analysis of economic and philosophical theories and approaches
- Multi-perspectival view on societal challenges
- Modern economic history

Comparison of Economic and Social Systems

- Comparison of different varieties of capitalism (Varieties of Capitalism, Growth Models)
- Comparative analysis of welfare states, labor market regimes, industrial relations and occupational training systems
- Socio-Economic processes of change (e. g. inequality, technological change, deindustrialization, financialization, globalization), their political causes and consequences
- Socio-Economic dimension of political conflicts

Internship

MA Thesis

Core Modules

Methods of Socio-Economic Research

- Philosophy of science in economics
- Social ontology
- Methodological foundations of the social sciences
- Fundamentals of data processing in the social sciences
- Fundamentals of econometrics
- Applied econometrics

State and Economy

- Basic functions and challenges of government activity and public finances
- Methods of public finance analysis
- Institutional studies: government revenue and expenditure in the federal system of Germany and in Europe
- Multiparadigmatic impact analysis of state activity and public finances, in particular their implications for distribution
- International tax competition, tax evasion and tax avoidance

Inequality – Growth – Ecology

- Inequality of income and wealth: measurement, causes, consequences and measures of distribution policy
- Theories of growth and distribution
- Relationship between distribution and growth
- Ecological economics
- Methods of inequality research

Individual Specialization

Practical Applications / Current Topics in Socio-Economic Research

Alternating optional in-depth seminars (including in advanced econometrics, comparative political economy and macroeconomic analysis, public finance, inequality research, ecological economics,...)

Focus on current societal challenges, e.g. inequality, climate change, right-wing populism, future of public finances

Macroeconomic-analytical perspectives

Philosophical reflection and integration in the history of (socio-) economic thinking

Sound and broad methodological training

Economic history perspectives and relevance of path dependencies

Relevance of institutions and legal frameworks

Economic and social policy

Microfoundation of socio-economic analysis via perspectives of economic sociology and political economy



Foto: UDE

The Institute for Socio-Economics



- Founded in 2017 at the Faculty of Social Sciences, the Institute for Socio-Economics (IfSO) is committed to analyzing **economic issues from an interdisciplinary and plural perspective** at the intersection of economics and social sciences.
- The IfSO is integrated in the Faculty of Social Sciences, which is one of the largest social science faculties in Germany with around 200 scientists, including over 30 professors, and over 3000 students.

In addition to the Institutes of **Political Science** (IfP), **Sociology** (IfS), and **Socio-Economics** (IfSO), the **Institute for Work and Qualification** (IAQ) and the **Institute for Development and Peace** (INEF) as well as the **Institute for East Asian Studies** (IN-EAST) set special priorities in the faculty.

- Five professorships have been established at the Institute of Socio-Economics, with a main focus on
 - Macroeconomic Analyses
 - State functions and Public Finances
 - Pluralist Economics
 - Empirical Inequality Research
 - Comparative Political Economy and Economic Sociology
- The IfSO attaches particular importance to the continuous **transfer of research findings**, making them accessible to the media, politics, civil society and interested members of the public.

Further information at www.uni-due.de/soziooekonomie

Studying at the University of Duisburg-Essen

The University of Duisburg-Essen is in the midst of the Rhine-Ruhr-area with one campus each in Duisburg and Essen, respectively. With more than 43,000 students, it is one of the ten largest universities in Germany. The courses offered range from the humanities to social sciences, from education to economics, engineering, natural sciences and medicine. Since its foundation in 2003, the UDE has become a globally recognized research university. The approach taken by the Institute for Socioeconomics fits in perfectly with the university's claim: „Open Minded“

Further information at www.uni-due.de

Occupational Fields & Possible Career Paths

Graduates of the MA in Socioeconomics have a wide range of career options. During their studies, students can focus on research-oriented seminars and prepare for an academic career. Alternatively, the strong focus on application in the program can also lead to numerous career options in the areas of politics and administration, public policy advice, journalism and media, as well as NGOs. Valuable connections in these respective fields can be made during the program. Cooperations with universities abroad enable an additional broadening of students' horizons and provide additional contacts to international academics and students.

Application

Admission criteria: Successful completion of a BA or an equivalent program (180 ECTS) in the field of the social and economic sciences or another course of studies with a minimum of 20 ECTS* in social sciences/economics. Minimum grade: 2.5. German language skills must be proven for study qualification at a non-German-speaking institution.

Further information:

Further information on the application procedure and the required documents: www.uni-due.de/soziooekonomie/master_en

Language

The courses are held partly in German and partly in English. All exams can be held in both languages. Students can take additional language courses at the Foreign Language Center and receive further support if required.

Overview

- **Start** of the MA in Socio-Economics: Winter Semester of 2019/20
- Teaching by the newly founded **Institute for Socio-Economics** at the Faculty for Social Sciences with five professorships and approximately ten research assistants at the Duisburg campus
- **Four semesters** of study, six core modules, two in-depth modules as well as a final module with an internship/research project and master's thesis, 120 ECTS

Professors in charge



Prof. Dr. **Jakob Kapeller**, focus on Pluralist Economics



Fotos: UDE

Prof. Dr. **Miriam Rehm**, focus on Empirical Inequality Research

Prof. Dr. **Till van Treeck**, Managing Director at IfSO, focus on Macroeconomic Analyses



Prof. Dr. **Paul Marx**, focus on Comparative Political Economy and Economic Sociology



Prof. Dr. **Achim Truger**, focus on State Activity and Public Finance



All members of the Institute for Socio-Economics:
www.uni-due.de/soziooekonomie/personen

Further information

- More information on the MA Socio-Economics:
www.uni-due.de/soziooekonomie/master_en
- Register to the IfSO **newsletter** here:
www.uni-due.de/soziooekonomie/newsletter
- If you have any questions about the MA in Socio-Economics, please feel free to write us at: studium.ifso@uni-due.de

Note: This flyer describes the planning status up to the editorial deadline (February 2019). Binding information on the start of studies, study structure and exact content can only be published after the successful completion of the establishment procedure.

