

- The German document is the legally binding one. -

**Regulations governing access and admission to the  
consecutive Master's degree programme „Social Sciences“ (M.A.)  
of School I - Educational and Social Sciences of the Carl von Ossietzky  
University Oldenburg**

as of **xx.xx.2024**<sup>1</sup>

**§ 1  
Scope of application**

(1) These regulations govern the access and admission to the consecutive Master's degree programme "Social Sciences" (M.A.).

(2) The admission requirements are determined in accordance with § 2.

**§ 2  
Admission requirements**

(1) The prerequisites for admission to the consecutive Master's degree programme "Social Sciences" are that applicants:

- have obtained a Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree in a subject-relevant previous course of study with a minimum of 180 credit points, either from a German university or from a university belonging to one of the Bologna signatory states,
- or
- have obtained an equivalent degree in a subject-relevant previous course of study with a minimum of 180 credit points from a foreign university; the equivalence is determined according to the evaluation suggestions of the Central Office for Foreign Education at the Secretariat of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen beim Sekretariat der Kultusministerkonferenz: <http://anabin.kmk.org>).

A previous course of study is considered subject-relevant if the degree programme leading to a Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree has provided competencies in one of the areas of social sciences, sociology, and/or political sciences with a minimum of 60 credit points and has also provided descriptive and inductive statistical competencies, skills in data management and data analysis using common statistical software and introductory knowledge of linear regression analysis including its assumptions with a minimum of 9 credit points.

(2) Applicants may be provisionally admitted to the programme if

- a) the Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree has not yet been obtained at the time of application, , but no more than 30 credit points are missing from the total credit points and it is expected that the Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree will be demonstrated no later than the end of the first semester of this Master's degree programme.

and/or

---

<sup>1</sup> Adopted by the Faculty Council of School I – Educational and Social Sciences on **xx/xx/2024**, approved by the Presidential Board on **xx/xx/2024** and by the Ministry for Science and Culture of Lower Saxony (MWK) on **xx/xx/2024**.

- **The German document is the legally binding one.** -

- b) the subject-relevant previous course of study is missing certain contents for a maximum of 30 credit points of coursework.

The temporary access authorization in case of lit. a) must be accompanied by the condition that the Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree must be submitted no later than April 1 of the following year of enrolment (for enrolment in the winter semester). In case of lit. b), it must be accompanied by a condition that ensures that any missing competencies will be made up for and demonstrated within a maximum of 2 semesters after enrolment in the Master's programme.

(3) Sufficient knowledge of the English language at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) must be demonstrated for the programme. The proof can be provided by a first university degree in an English-speaking programme in a country where English or German is the official language or by successfully completed tests for the B2 level or higher. Accepted language tests include TOEFL, IELTS, Cambridge English Language Assessment, UNicert, Pearson PTE Academic, TOEIC, TELC, university language test of the Language Centre of the University of Oldenburg or another German university.

Other certificates are permissible, provided they demonstrate sufficient language proficiency. The acquisition of the proven qualification must not exceed 5 years at the time of application.

Applicants can be granted provisional admission if it is expected that they will provide the missing proof of language proficiency within one semester. In this case, the determination of the provisional access authorization is to be granted under the condition that language skills at the B2 level of the GeR will be demonstrated by the end of the first semester after enrolling in the master's programme.

(4) If more than one of the cases specified in paragraph 2 sentence 1 lit. a) and lit. b) apply, the determination of the provisional access authorization should only be made if the workload required to meet all conditions is not expected to exceed a total workload equivalent to 30 credit points.

### **§ 3**

#### **Programme start and application deadline**

(1) The Master's programme "Social Sciences" starts each year in the winter semester.

(2) The application has to be submitted electronically via the online portal of Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg. The application must be submitted by September 30th. For applications with a foreign university degree from a third country, the deadlines for applications for the winter semester are August 31st and for applications for the summer semester, the last day of February (28th/possibly 29th February).<sup>2</sup>

(3) The application must include evidence according to § 2, in particular the degree certificate of the bachelor's degree programme or an equivalent programme, or – in the case of § 2 (2) lit. a) – a certificate of the completed courses and credit points, as well as language proficiency certificates if applicable. If the original documents underlying the evidence are not written in English or German, a German or English translation must also be provided with the evidence.

(4) The application is only valid for the enrolment procedure of the respective application deadline. The university is not obliged to verify the information provided by the applicants ex officio. Incomplete, formal or late applications are excluded from further processing. The submitted documents remain with the university.

---

<sup>2</sup> For a timely review and enrollment, it is recommended to submit applications with the required application documents according to paragraph 3 for the winter semester by July 15th and for the summer semester by January 15th, provided that at this time the minimum score (maximum total credit points minus 30 CP) or already the bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree can be proven.

- **The German document is the legally binding one.** -

#### **§ 4**

#### **Admission committee for the Master's programme "Social Sciences"**

(1) The Faculty Council of School I - Education and Social Sciences appoints an admission committee consisting of at least three voting members and one student representative from either the Master's programme "Social Sciences" or a closely related master's degree programme with advisory voting rights, as well as a substitute for each status group/member.

(2) The voting members are composed of at least

- two members of the group of university teachers (Hochschullehrende) and
- one member of the group of university teachers (Hochschullehrende) or the group of employees (Mitarbeitende).

(3) The term of office of the voting members and their substitutes is two years, while that of the student member and their substitute is one year; reappointment is possible.

(4) The admission committee elects the chair and their substitute from among its voting members. It is quorate when at least two voting members are present, among them the chairperson. In the event of a tie, the chair's vote decides if he or she is present, otherwise the vote of the vice chairperson is decisive.

#### **§ 5**

#### **Procedure, Notification,**

(1) The Admission Committee<sup>3</sup> is responsible for deciding whether the applicant meets the admission requirements, in particular whether a degree is professionally suitable, as well as for determining provisional access authorization with conditions and making decisions within the university's own selection process (§ 4)<sup>3</sup>.

(2) Applicants who are to be admitted based on their ranking will receive an admission notification from the university. This notification will set a deadline by which the applicant must declare in writing or electronically whether they accept the study place. If the declaration of the Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg is not received in a timely and proper manner, the admission notification will become invalid. The admission notification must state this legal consequence.

(4) Applicants who do not meet the admission requirement will receive a rejection notice with instructions on legal remedies.

(5) The conclusion of the procedure is governed by § 37 paragraph 1 and 3 of the NHZVO.

(6) Furthermore, the general provisions of the university's matriculation regulations apply. Individuals with provisional access authorization according to § 2 paragraph 2 lit. a) will be deregistered from the master's programme if they fail to provide evidence of a Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree by April 1st of the following year after enrolment (for winter semester students) and if the person concerned is responsible for this failure. Individuals with provisional access authorization who need to make up for missing competencies according to § 2 paragraph 2 lit. b) will be deregistered from the master's programme if the necessary proof of making up for the missing competencies is not provided within the set deadline and if the person concerned is responsible for this failure.

#### **§ 8 Entry into force**

This regulation shall enter into force upon approval by the Lower Saxony Ministry of Science and Culture and its publication in the official announcements of the Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg for the application process for the winter semester 2024/25. At the same time, all previous versions of the

---

<sup>3</sup> The decision-making authority of the admissions committee also covers decisions in cases of doubt, such as regarding language requirements.

This is an unofficial English translation, based on the German "Ordnung über den Zugang und die Zulassung für den konsekutiven Masterstudiengang „Social Sciences“ (M.A.) der Fakultät I – Bildungs- und Sozialwissenschaften der Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg", as of **XX/XX/2024**.

- **The German document is the legally binding one.** -

regulations governing access and admission to the consecutive Master's degree programme „Social Sciences“ (M.A.) at Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg are hereby revoked.