Profile

The term ‘empowerment’ means the (re-)establishment of self-determined control over the circumstances of one’s own life and living environment. Individual empowerment competences and political resources of joint enforcement intertwine and are interdependent.

The profile of the social-scientific master's programme Empowerment Studies is based on human rights and an understanding of political empowerment. The study programme combines a theoretical perspective and the analysis of social power structures with methods of political intervention.
Specialisations
Political empowerment leads to different analyses and political reactions depending on the social contexts. To respond to this broad field, the study programme provides the option to specialise in development policy or social policy. For the specialisation in social policy, courses focus on the context in Germany and comparable societies. The specialisation in development policy concentrates more on the situation in the global south or the context of north-south relations. In development policy, we use the blended learning approach. The higher level of flexibility also makes it attractive for professionals planning to study next to their job. Your physical attendance is required only for several block courses. Most of the programme takes place online (e-learning). Regardless of the specialisation, you also have the option to study part-time.

Please note: The language of instruction is mainly German.

Career Options
The master's programme Empowerment Studies is based on a human rights approach and critical reflection. It qualifies you for positions in Germany or abroad, which focus on
– analysing problems of human coexistence,
– developing solutions based on the empowerment concept and
– influencing social change aiming for emancipation.
In addition, the degree qualifies you for doctoral studies and, thus, for an academic career.

Possible professional fields or employers include, for example:
– community-oriented social work
– sociopolitical organisations, such as trade unions or charities
– international NGOs
– organisations involved in development cooperation
FULL-TIME

SEMESTER 1
– Professional competences
  Human Rights 1
  Social Theories and Theories of Political Action
  Empowerment 1

– Methodological competences
  Political Decision-Making and Political Intervention 1
  Propaedeutics – Social Sciences
  Methods of Applied Social Research

SEMESTER 2
– Professional competences
  Human Rights 2
  Empowerment 2

– Methodological competences
  Political Decision-Making and Political Intervention 2
  Fundamentals of Social Management 1
  Study Research Project

SEMESTER 3
– Methodological competences
  Fundamentals of Social Management 2

  – Thesis
  – Colloquium

PART-TIME

SEMESTER 1
– Professional competences
  Human Rights 1
  Social Theories and Theories of Political Action
  Empowerment 1

– Methodological competences
  Propaedeutics – Social Sciences

SEMESTER 2
– Professional competences
  Human Rights 2
  Empowerment 2

– Methodological competences
  Fundamentals of Social Management 1

SEMESTER 3
– Methodological competences
  Political Decision-Making and Political Intervention 2
  Methods of Applied Social Research

SEMESTER 4
– Methodological competences
  Political Decision-Making and Political Intervention 2
  Study Research Project

SEMESTER 5
– Methodological competences
  Fundamentals of Social Management 2

SEMESTER 6
– Thesis
– Colloquium
Further Information

Faculty contact:
Study programme director
empowerment-studies@hs-duesseldorf.de

About the programme, admission requirements and application:
empowerment-studies.de/en

Get in Touch

Admissions Office
zulassung@hs-duesseldorf.de
hs-duesseldorf.de/zulassungsstelle (in German only)

Student Advisory and Counselling Service (ZSB)
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hs-duesseldorf.de/zsb-en

International Office (IO)
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Family Support Centre
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Office of Counselling and Disability Services (ABS)
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hs-duesseldorf.de/abs-en

Psychological Counselling Service (PSB)
info.psb@hs-duesseldorf.de
hs-duesseldorf.de/psb-en

HSD Invites You

Visit us! Join courses during our yearly trial week (Schnupperstudium) and attend our information events (e.g. Tag der offenen Tür, Hochschulinformationstage, Wochen der Studienorientierung).

Information on all events (in German only):
hs-duesseldorf.de/zsb_veranstaltungen