

Content and Objectives:

The postgraduate programme „Master of Peace and Security Studies – (M.P.S.)“ at the University of Hamburg is a trans- and interdisciplinary programme of a two semester duration, combining theory-based education in the areas of peace research and security policy with a practice-orientated application of methods for research. The prime objective of the course is to provide highly qualified graduates from a national or foreign university and academically trained practitioners of a field-related vocational background with the



fundamental basics of the discipline peace studies and security policy, as well as providing them with the instruments applicable for differentiated research in this field.

Students will be prepared for a career in academic peace research, international organisations, the media or private companies, peace-keeping and monitoring, verification, development aid, mediation or arbitration, etc.



To strengthen the students' soft skills, courses are offered in presentation techniques, conflict moderation, intercultural communication, scientific work and E-learning.

Within the context of the course, students may play an active role in the building of a peace-network programme in South-East Europe ([Akademisches Netzwerk Südosteuropa](#)). For further information: www.akademischesnetzwerk-soe.net Furthermore, all students will have the possibility to carry out a period of praxis-orientated research at one of the co-operating resident institutes.

Programme Structure:

The Programme is organised in three elements: the propaedeuticum, first semester and second semester.

The propaedeuticum is an introductory module of a three week duration which illustrates the basic issues in peace studies and security policy. Furthermore, the co-operating institutes of KoFrieS will take the opportunity to introduce their research and teaching profiles during this time.

The first semester provides for an intensive programme of study encompassing the following modules:

- International Peace and Security Policy
- International Law and Peace
- Natural Sciences and Peace
- Ethics and Peace
- Economic Problems of Peace and War

Students will take obligatory lectures, additional in-depth seminars, various block seminars as well as a number of interdisciplinary courses and an intensive course at the end of the semester.

The second semester focuses on a praxis-based course and intensive practical academic work, including:

- A minimum period of four weeks time pursuing practical research at one of the programme's co-operating institutes
- Periods of guided and independent research
- Optional short placements and interviews
- Participation at academic colloquies
- The completion of the Master Thesis



Cooperation Network Peace Research and Security Policy (KoFrieS):

The course is a joint programme of the University of Hamburg and the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH). The programme is further guided and partly implemented by a number of co-operating resident institutes of the "Cooperation Network Peace Research and Security Policy" (Kooperationsverbund Friedensforschung und Sicherheitspolitik – KoFrieS).

The programme is co-sponsored by the German Foundation for Peace Research (DSF) and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).



Admission criteria:

To be offered a place on the programme, an above-standard degree from a German or foreign university in either a human or natural science is essential. Applications by practitioners with profound vocational experience in the field of peace studies or security policy are very much welcomed, however standard academic conditions should still be fulfilled in order to be accepted to the course. Applicants must provide evidence showing their ability to speak the languages required by the programme, English and German. Before the programme starts, students must make a payment of 500 Euro tuition fee. The same amount is also to be paid for the second semester. The co-operation with KoFrieS, can offer a limited number of scholarships supported by the DSF and the DAAD. Applications for the DAAD-scholarship should be directed at the German embassy of the home country – see www.daad.de – please notice that there are different, usually shorter time limits for an application than for the M.P.S.-course. Applications for the master's course are welcomed starting the 15 th of December of each year; the deadline for application is the 15th of March. **Detailed information and a downloadable application package can be obtained from <http://www.ifsh.de/IFSH/studium/mps.htm>.**