



**HOCHSCHULE  
RHEIN-WAAL**  
Rhine-Waal University  
of Applied Sciences



## **Faculty of Communication and Environment General Information for Students**

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## Structure of our B.A. Programmes

A bachelor degree programme consists of compulsory and elective modules which make up 150 credit points (CP) out of the 210 CP which are required to finally graduate. The standard period of study (full-time) at the Faculty of Communication and Environment is seven semesters. The first five semesters are reserved for completing the compulsory and elective modules (150 CP). In the sixth semester, you have the choice of either studying abroad or doing a practical semester (30 CP). Finally, in the seventh semester, you write your thesis and attend accompanying workshops (30 CP).

The majority of modules are compulsory (130 CP). They provide you with a firm grounding in your subject. Each module typically comprises one to three individual courses and you have to pass each single course of a module in order to progress. For more information, please refer to the "Examinations" pamphlet.



In addition to these compulsory modules, you will be offered a catalogue of elective modules to choose from. The four electives you have to take will give you the chance to broaden your knowledge according to your interests and career plans. Each elective consists of a single subject and is completed as an individual unit. You have to earn at least 20 CP from elective modules at 5 CP per module. Up to 6 CP may be earned in electives offered by other degree programmes or faculties if the Faculty Examination Board consents.

## Milestones

A bachelor degree programme is structured into different phases and you need to provide evidence of a certain number of credit points to the Student Service Center if you want to be admitted to the next phase:

- A minimum of 90 CP to do a work placement or semester abroad
- A minimum of 175 CP to start with your bachelor's thesis
- A minimum of 207 CP to register for the colloquium
- A minimum of 210 CP to be awarded a bachelor's degree

## Dual Study Programmes

Primarily for German-speaking students, the degree programmes **E-Government** and **International Business and Social Sciences** currently offer the possibility of a co-op arrangement between students and local companies. After signing a contract with the company, students divide their time between working and studying during the initial four semesters. Usually they spend two days studying at university and three days working at the company each week. This is a good chance to apply classroom knowledge in a "real world" professional environment. To ensure that the workload is not too demanding, the contents of the first two full-time semesters are stretched over four semesters. This is the "dual phase" of studies, which concludes with an examination, in German, at the Niederrhein Chamber of Commerce.

In the fifth and sixth semester, students return to regular full-time study and complete the remaining degree requirements. Sometimes they continue working part-time at the company.

In the eighth semester they either do a work placement or study abroad before submitting their bachelor's thesis in the ninth semester.

Dual study differs from full-time study in two main ways:

- The normal duration of study increases from seven to nine semesters due to the dual phase.
- Module examinations for dual study students can differ from those for full-time students. These differences are reflected in the dual study course plan.

### **Bridging Courses**

Bridging courses are intensive courses you can take before starting your studies. They are voluntary and do not carry any credit-point value towards your degree. Bridging courses are designed for students who may not meet the assumed knowledge requirements and bridge the gap between school and university studies. When you enrol for your degree programme, you can also register for any bridging course on offer. Timetables will be announced on the faculty's website.

<http://www.hochschule-rhein-waal.de/en/faculties/faculty-communication-and-environment>

### **Group Tutoring**

Group tutoring sessions can be arranged during the course of a semester to complement your lectures and practical courses. They are a good opportunity to further discuss course material and work in a group to solve additional practice problems. They are a particularly effective way to fully grasp new concepts and prepare for exams.

If you are interested, please inform your professor or lecturer well ahead of examination week and they will find a suitable tutor - usually a top student from an advanced semester or a member of the faculty's scientific staff - to lead the group.

### **Moodle**

Moodle is the central learning platform of Rhine-Waal University. It is used extensively by students and teaching staff. Here you can join course groups and receive important course-related information or additional material like presentations or exercises as well as announcements from professors or lecturers. To set up your Moodle account, please use the login data at the bottom of the printout containing your student ID. You can also visit our IT Support for help. Please be sure to bring your student ID for identification purposes. Opening hours and detailed information can be found at

<http://www.hochschule-rhein-waal.de/en/university/facilities-and-initiatives/it-services/overview-students>

Activating an account also provides access to the Rhine-Waal student webmail. This is a central university email account for important updates from professors and lecturers as well as information on exams, cancelled lectures, job openings, upcoming university events and a lot more. To access this account, please go to <https://mail-kam.hsrw.org>

It is your responsibility to enrol in Moodle courses and join the correct groups in each new semester. Only then you will be able to receive all relevant information and emails including presentations, announcements, timetables, exam schedules etc.

To receive general information related to a degree programme, please join the faculty's "General Information" and "Forms and Notices" group.

For more information, contacts, advice and help, please visit <http://www.hochschule-rhein-waal.de/en/university/student-services/student-helpdesk>

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