



Economics: Data Science and Policy

Master-Studiengang

General Information

Degree	Master of Science (M.Sc.)
Credit points	120 CP
Standard period of study	4 semesters
Start of studies	Winter semester only
Form of study	Classroom teaching, Full-time studies, International study programme
Medium of instruction	English
Admission	restricted (Uni-NC)
Specific admission requirements	yes (Details)
Faculty	Juristische und Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Fakultät
Institute	Wirtschaftswissenschaftlicher Bereich
Accreditation	accredited

Programme objectives

The master's programme in *Economics: Data Science and Policy* is an internationally recognised, 2-year degree programme that provides state-of-the-art education in economics with a particular focus on data science and policy analysis. You will learn how economists derive insights from data, analyse issues of economic policy, and communicate their research results effectively.

The programme consists of three main building blocks: First, you study advanced, state-of-the-art concepts of micro- and macroeconomics. Second, modules in economic data science provide a systematic and comprehensive introduction to key statistical methods and software. Third, you learn how to apply economic expertise in evidence-based economic policy analysis. The modules in this programme cover a wide range of subject areas and allow you to engage in e.g. applied labor and health economics, monetary economics, or development economics.

The course of study emphasizes a hands-on approach to learning. You will have ample opportunities to actively work on your own projects and to engage in critical thinking in exercises and seminars. The international environment and small class sizes create an interactive and intellectually stimulating atmosphere.

The programme is closely linked to the [Halle Institute for Economic Research \(IWH\)](#), an internationally renowned economic research institute located in Halle. IWH staff both contributes to the curriculum and supervises programme interns at the institute. The close connection with the IWH will give you the opportunity to gain insights into real-world policy consulting and to attend research seminars with international speakers.



Study in Halle!

Aside from academic success, your time at Halle University can and should be very enriching personally. Staff and student tutors, the Orientation Week and events organized by the [International Office](#) will help you settle in quickly and you will make friends that just might accompany you throughout your studies and potentially for the rest of your life.

The city of Halle is the largest and most densely populated city in the Federal State of Saxony-Anhalt. Architectural monuments, an opera house, the Händel auditorium and multiple theaters and stages, make Halle an important historic and cultural destination. The banks of the Saale river as well as numerous parks and pubs invite students to pursue recreational activities and to hang out with friends. With its university and two colleges, renowned research institutions for economics and biosciences as well as a booming logistics industry, Halle is also one of the thriving cities in the region.

Halle University does not charge tuition fees but only a small social contribution, i.e. a semester fee, which includes public transport. Students should anticipate total monthly expenses of approximately 750 Euros including rent, food, transportation and health insurance. Students typically live in either dormitories, shared accommodation or single apartments that range from 150-300 Euros. There are only limited financial support schemes available for international undergraduate students but you may work a limited number of days to support your studies. Our International Office will be happy to assist you in these matters.

Career opportunities

The programme prepares for employment in the private sector or public administration or for a research-oriented career at a research institute or university. Graduates are qualified to successfully work in various professional areas where an understanding of economic issues is essential. Our graduates have entered the following fields:

- Research institutes / Think Tanks
- International organisations
- Business
- Ministries
- Parties / Associations / Unions
- Media / Journalism

Accreditation

The study programme is accredited.

Programme structure

The programme is structured as follows:



1. Compulsory modules (15 CP)
2. Master's thesis (25 CP)
3. Economic Data Science (35 CP)
4. Economic Policy (35 CP)
5. Electives (10 CP)

Compulsory modules in advanced microeconomics, advanced macroeconomics and advanced monetary economics bring all students up-to-date in these core subjects. The economic data science and economic policy building blocks both contain 3 compulsory classes, 1 seminar and 3 additional classes you are free to choose. That way every student is exposed to key concepts of the respective fields and acquires the skills required to both work with empirical data and to apply the results in the context of evidence-based policy advice. Two electives allow you to choose additional data science/policy classes or to select from a wider range of content. A master's thesis concludes your studies.

Modules

Module	CP	rec. sem.
Compulsory modules (40 CP)		
Advanced Macroeconomics	5	1
Advanced Microeconomics	5	1
Advanced Monetary Economics	5	1
Thesis Module "Master Economics: Data Science and Policy"	5	3 or 4
Elective modules (80 CP)		
1. Economic Data Science (35 CP)		
Econometrics I	5	1
Econometrics II	5	1
Causal Inference	5	2



Seminar in Econometrics	5	3 or 4
<i>Elective Modules</i>	15	
2. Economic Policy (35 CP)		
Ethics and Economics of Institutional Governance	5	1
Growth and Development I	5	3
Institutions, Organizations and Policy: An Empirical and Historical Perspective	5	3
Seminar in Economics	5	3 or 4
<i>Elective Modules</i>	15	
3. Electives (10 CP)	10	

The content, learning objectives, workload, requirements and prerequisites of specific modules are published in the module catalogue and in the study and examination regulations (in German only), respectively.

Internship

An internship in business and administration is recommended but not compulsory.

Study abroad

We recommend for you to study one semester at a foreign university but an exchange semester is not compulsory. The Faculty of Law and Economics of Halle University maintains partnerships with several universities abroad, which include student exchanges. However, students can also organize and arrange stays abroad on their own initiative. Students are advised by the Faculty of Law and Economics on their planned studies abroad and are supported during the exchange.



Admission requirements

Applicants for the *MSc Economics: Data Science and Policy* must

- hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent in a business- or economics-related programme (at least 60 ECTS in economics-related modules) with a **minimum grade of 2.5 or better** according to the German academic grading scale, and
- provide proof of their proficiency in English at **B2 level**.

Exclusively, the following proofs are accepted:

1. Cambridge: minimum FCE with grade C;
2. Placement test B2 at Halle University: passed, if offered*;
3. Native speaker of English: A native speaker is defined as someone who has obtained the university entrance qualification or bachelor's degree or an equivalent educational qualification in one of the following countries and has completed at least the last 2 years of the school or university education there: Australia, Ireland, Canada (excluding Quebec), New Zealand, Singapore, United Kingdom, USA;
4. IELTS: minimum total band score of 6.0;
5. TOEFL iBT: minimum score of 72;
6. UNlcert II

(only this year) TOEFL iBT Special Home Edition: minimum score of 72

(only this year) IELTS Indicator: minimum total band score of 6.0

**If you wish to participate in the placement test at Halle University, you need to be able to travel to Halle for this purpose: We do not issue invitation letters for visas to take the test. Please also read our [FAQ](#) to learn about the advantage of submitting an internationally recognised test score.*

The above-mentioned accepted proofs of English language proficiency are all recognised as valid for an unlimited period of time.

A sound knowledge of mathematics, statistics and experience in using information and communication technologies is strongly recommended.

This chapter consists of excerpts roughly translated into English. Only [the study and examination regulations](#) are legally binding.

Application

The admission to the *MSc Economics: Data Science and Policy* is currently **restricted** (Uni-NC).



- Applicants with a German bachelor's degree (or equivalent) please apply via www.uni-halle.de/bewerben by **15 July**.
- Applicants with a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) from abroad please apply via www.uni-assist.de by **15 June**. > **Information and Application procedure**

Required documents

The following documents must be submitted with the application for admission:

1. A hard copy of your bachelor's degree or equivalent (i.e., graduation certificate and transcripts). **Important note:** Applicants via uni-assist upload their certificates and transcripts (both in original language and official translations, unless the originals are in English or in German) with their online application. For those applicants it is not necessary to hand in any additional hard documents.
2. Halle University does accept provisional graduation certificates, if your degree is scheduled after the application deadline. Please submit your transcripts indicating minimum 2/3 of your total credits to be passed / your senior student stage, accordingly. The final graduation certificate shall be submitted with enrolment, respectively by no later than 31 January in the year following admission.
3. Subject relevant respectively basic knowledge of microeconomics, macroeconomics, econometrics /statistics, economic policy to be proven by modules completed in the Transcript of Records or as demonstrated by suitable evidence and/or degree thesis on an economic topic
4. Recognised proof of the proficiency in English language as outlined in the selection regulations (see also admission requirements)
5. Proof of any relevant practical experience as outlined in the selection regulations

For more detailed information, please refer to [the selection regulations](#).

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Information for international applicants

For any questions regarding application and admission - except eligibility - please see [website](#) or contact the **International Students Section** (Student Registration Office) via international.students@uni-halle.de.

Programme advisor

For detailed information concerning the contents, objectives and structure of the programme, please contact the programme advisor.



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