

**Institute of Social Work and Social Pedagogy
Information on Master's Thesis
(M.Sc. – Social Work Research)**

The Master's Thesis will usually be written during the fourth semester. The seminars of the module "MA-SWR-8: Master's Thesis" serve as a support format for all students to conceptualize their Master's Thesis.

It is important to reflect that the Master's Thesis is not solely a completed module, but also represents the thesis that you complete your degree program with. Therefore, please focus on a specific topic that you are really interested in and that you have possibly been interested in during a longer part of your studies. In the Master's Thesis, you will get the opportunity to investigate this topic more carefully than before.

To have your Master's Thesis supervised and graded, you are going to need a chief supervisor. Please contact your preferred chief supervisor **no earlier than January 1 of the year in which you are scheduled to complete your studies and, ideally, no later than April 1 of that year.** Ideally, you should do this with a brief written proposal (approx. 1 page) containing your initial ideas for a guiding research question for your Master's thesis.

The following faculty are currently available as **chief supervisors** (alphabetical order):

- Prof. Dr. Lars Alberth
- Dr. Iniobong Essien
- Dr. Felix Fabian Hemmerich
- Prof. Dr. Anke Karber
- Prof. Dr. Ellen Kollender
- Verena Marke
- Prof. Dr. Philipp Sandermann
- Dr. Vanessa Schwenker
- Prof. Dr. Birte Siem
- Dr. Laura Wenzel
- Prof. Dr. Maren Zeller

When specifying the topic for your Master's Thesis and contacting potential supervisors, please also take their fields of expertise into account. For guidance, we recommend visiting the respective personal pages on the institute's website!

In addition, you will need a **second supervisor for your Master's Thesis.** You have the right to propose a candidate for this position. If you do not exercise this right, the institute's administrative assistance will organize the second supervisor and inform you in good time.



Please note: If you need your master's certificate for any application after your graduation by a certain time, we strongly recommend that you submit your master's thesis at least 8 weeks before the application deadline. This time is necessary to enable the entire process from assessment to certificate issuance to be completed on time.

Please find further information on all **formalities regarding your Master's Thesis** in the IFSP's guideline on academic working on our website.