

LEUPHANA GRADUATE SCHOOL MASTERS AND DOCTORAL STUDIES



→ GRADUATE SCHOOL



LEUPHANA
UNIVERSITÄT LÜNEBURG



“ We understand graduate education to have three key functions: enlightenment, shaping and critical reflection. In the future, it will be necessary to further develop this triad in the context of internationalisation, digitalisation, interdisciplinarity and the interactions between universities, society and the economy.

DR. ANJA SOLTAU

Dr. Anja Soltau has headed the Leuphana Graduate School since 2008. As a Masters and PhD graduate in Spanish, English and Business Economics, she has always been enthusiastic about the interdisciplinarity and internationalization of science.

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

TWO PHASES – ONE INSTITUTION

The Leuphana Graduate School is oriented towards the Anglo-American model of graduate education – it is the home of both the Masters and doctoral programmes at the university. Together with the teachers and researchers at the Leuphana, the Graduate School is committed to:

- ensuring that all Masters programmes are strongly research-oriented
- enabling Masters students to get a taste of the PhD world via the Doctoral Track, ensuring that the Masters programmes and doctoral research groups are coordinated in terms of their content
- ensuring that the Masters programmes and doctoral research groups are closely interlinked with regard to their thematic focuses
- providing joint spaces and opportunities for Masters and doctoral students in order to make them part of our Graduate Community.

We consider Masters students to be the young researchers of the future. By interlinking the Masters and doctoral programmes, we offer many possibilities to encourage this.



“ I would never have thought this during my Bachelor, but I really enjoy academic work, and I could even imagine working in the academic field in the future.

SARAH BURTON

Sarah Burton is studying for a Masters degree in Cultural Studies – Culture, Arts and Media.

THE MASTERS DEGREE

INTERDISCIPLINARY – INTERNATIONAL – RESEARCH-ORIENTED

STUDYING, RESEARCHING, OVERCOMING SUBJECT BOUNDARIES:

- in one of the six key topics of our Masters programmes: Education, Governance and Law, Cultural Studies, Management, Psychology and Sustainability
- in academically challenging in-depth studies within the chosen Masters programme
- in the interdisciplinary modules of the research projects, in the electives, and in the Masters Complementary Studies programme
- in a semester abroad as part of a Double or Joint Degree option, or in an exchange programme

We understand the Masters degree to be an area of scientific and professional specialisation in which education takes priority over training. We encourage this through interdisciplinary and innovative formats of study and with the consistent internationalisation of our programmes.



“ I enjoy an incredible amount of freedom in my research here, while being in close contact with my supervisor at the same time.

JAN PEINEMANN

Jan Peinemann was awarded his doctorate in 2020 in the doctoral research group Sustainability Science.

THE DOCTORATE RESEARCH AND CAREER IN FOCUS

RESEARCHING, DISCUSSING, DISCOVERING NEW THINGS:

- in Leuphana's doctoral research groups. Here, doctoral students and supervisors get together, present their projects, receive feedback and give each other encouragement.
- in the seminars of the doctoral modules. Here, doctoral candidates deepen their methodological knowledge and are encouraged to address the ethical and historical issues of academia both for themselves and for their work.
- at conferences and at research institutions at home and abroad. The Graduate School provides support in this field with a generously endowed fund for junior researchers
- in our Graduate School's coaching and qualification offers. Here, doctoral students can attend specific skills workshops and complete a one-year certificate programme to accompany their doctorate.

We are convinced that a successful doctorate is based on four pillars: independent research, regular internal and external networking, an ethical, methodological and philosophical-historical education, as well as career support for specific target groups.



“ Shortly after handing in my dissertation, I started my job as Academic Coordinator for a large-scale research project within the Federal Programme for Biological Diversity at the Kiel University. Participating in the Graduate School’s certificate programme helped me a lot with my application: initially, as an additional qualification on my CV and then in the job interview. I was able to apply the contents of the workshops to specific interview questions relating to project management and leadership issues.

KATHARINA MAUSOLF

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

SUPPORT DURING YOUR STUDY AND YOUR DOCTORATE

ADVISING, COACHING, QUALIFYING:

- in our student counselling and career coaching for students interested in a Masters degree, for current Masters students, as well as for prospective and current doctoral students
- with the MasterSkills and GradSkills: the transferable skills portals and workshops for Masters and doctoral students
- with the Leadership for Society and Economy certificate programme for doctoral students and early postdocs, preparing them for leadership positions in the outer university context
- with Spring and Summer Schools focusing on different topics and offered in cooperation with regional partner graduate schools.

We consider professional consultation and coaching services as well as an attractive selection of different qualifications offers to be an important supplement to the subject-specific curricula.



“ At Leuphana, the graduate spirit is shaped by new, surprising spaces where people can meet and freely share their ideas.

DR. OLIVER SCHMIDT

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

ACADEMIC HOME AND FORUM FOR INNOVATIONS

GETTING TOGETHER, TRYING OUT NEW THINGS AND SHAPING THE FUTURE:

- at the Masters Kick-off, where new Masters students get together with their fellow students, find out about other subjects, and meet professors and alumni
- in the Masters Complementary Studies, where students attend seminars outside their specialist area of expertise
- in the Doctoral Track, where we provide the opportunity to get involved in the world of doctoral studies while completing the Masters programme
- as part of discussion formats with invited educational experts, where we develop innovative ideas for the future of graduate education.

We believe that the encouragement of a community spirit and the opportunity of exploring possibilities in a sheltered environment are exceptionally valuable components of graduate studies.

