

University of Hamburg
Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH)
Cooperation Network (KoFrieS)

Call for Applications
Peace and Security Studies (MA)

Degree:	Peace and Security Studies, Master of Arts
Standard period of study:	4 semesters (or 2 semesters)
Credit points:	120 ECTS (or 60 ECTS)
Languages:	German and English
Time required:	Full-time, part-time on request
Type of study:	Attendance study (with digital elements)
Start:	1 October (winter semester)
Places:	25–30 students
Application period:	15 February to 31 March
Selection process:	April–May
Admission notice:	Expected 9 June

Are you interested in the connections between peace research and security policy? Would you like to learn more about strategies to avoid or reduce violent conflicts and what conclusions should policy makers draw from it? Do you have practical experience and would like to acquire further knowledge and competencies?

Join our two-year master's programme Peace and Security Studies and study at one of Germany's leading research institutions. You need a degree with 180 ECTS and a good command of German and English. After admission, applicants with 240 ECTS have the opportunity to apply for a two-semester curriculum.

The master's programme is the only one in Germany to date to combine questions of security policy and security research with a peace studies perspective. The programme gives you an overview of the social science foundations of peace research and security policy. You will learn about current conflicts in individual regions of the world, concrete aspects of peacekeeping, disarmament and foreign policy.

Moreover, the curriculum combines research-oriented learning with hands-on skills in an interdisciplinary environment. We cooperate with German and international academic institutions that have a thematic proximity to the work of the IFSH. You will learn from experts in the field of social sciences, law, humanities, ethics and natural sciences.

The variety of the study content is also reflected in the diversity of the students, who come from all over the world and have diverse academic backgrounds. Small study groups promote intensive exchange and create a personal atmosphere.

Another special feature: you will gain an insight into the concrete work of institutions and research facilities. During your studies, you will have the opportunity to intern at one of our national and international cooperation partners as part of the integrated internship. In addition, there are several excursions, e.g. to Brussels or Vienna. There, students will get an insight into the work of international organizations such as NATO, EU, OSCE and UN. Career preparation events such as media training or the alumni association's job exchange complete the curriculum.

Studying Peace and Security will be a unique educational experience and prepares you to work in international environment, i.e. in peace research, at an NGO, an international organisation, in the media or in the diplomatic service.

University graduates from all disciplines are eligible to apply. Applicants should have an interest in peace and security policy issues and, ideally, have already worked in the field, done an internship or volunteered. The programme is free of charge.

The Peace and Security Studies (MA) programme has been successfully conducted by the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy (IFSH) in cooperation with the Faculties of Economic and Social Sciences, Law, Humanities and Mathematics, Informatics and Natural Sciences of the University of Hamburg since 2002. In addition, renowned teaching and research institutes from Germany and abroad are involved in the programme as partners of the cooperation network "[Peace Research and Security Policy](#)" (KoFrieS).

The application documents must only be submitted via [the STiNE portal of the University of Hamburg](#). Please also note the [Application Information MPS of the University of Hamburg \(PDF\)](#)! (Bewerbungsinformationen, only available in German!)

Before applying, please read the information on admission requirements, living and studying in Hamburg, scholarships and accommodation of the University of Hamburg. Please, click [here](#).

Inquiries regarding the application procedure may first be addressed to:

Email: studiengangsverwaltung@ifsh.de; Tel: +49 (0)40 866 077-15

Website: <https://ifsh.de/en/teaching/mps/applications>

ADMISSION M.A. “PEACE AND SECURITY STUDIES”

Online Application (application period: 15 February – 31 March)

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS:

- | Application for admission
- | Letter of motivation (form)
- | Tabular Curriculum Vitae
- | Certificate of general higher education entrance qualification or certificate of an equivalent school-leaving qualification
- | University or university of applied sciences degree certificates (min. 180 ECTS)
- | Proof of German and English language skills
- | Proof of relevant professional activity or internships or voluntary work in the content area of the degree programme (optional)

Selection Process (April – May)

THE SELECTION PROCESS TAKES PLACE IN TWO STAGES:

1. Ranking according to documents:
 - a) Grade of higher education entrance qualification,
 - b) Grades of university degrees,
 - c) Work experience,
 - d) Letter of motivation and curriculum vitae
2. Further selection process for selected applicants consisting of essay and interview for final ranking.

Admission (admission notice from 9 June)

Online-Enrolment (within 7 days after notification of admission)

ENROLMENT DOCUMENTS:

- | Enrolment application
- | Health insurance certificate
- | Proof of higher education entrance qualification and academic degrees
- | If applicable, further documents
- | Payment of semester contribution (includes ticket for public transport)