BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT, ECONOMICS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DRIVING SUSTAINABLE CHANGE

Interdisciplinary • International • Interactive

Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences
University of Cologne
The University of Cologne is one of the oldest and most prestigious European universities. It has produced several Nobel and Leibniz Prize winners and is part of the only economic cluster of excellence in Germany. Founded in 1388, the University of Cologne is a leader in many disciplines and a member of many international networks.

The Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences (also known as “WiSo Faculty”) is part of the University of Cologne and has over a century of experience in educating new generations of business professionals, economists, social analysts and political experts. As one of Germany’s largest educational institutions, the WiSo Faculty regularly ranks among the top providers of management and business education.

As a student of the WiSo Faculty, you benefit from a teaching approach based on theory and methods in combination with research and applications.

The traditional diversity of subjects, top-level research, practical relevance and internationality allow the WiSo-Faculty to stand up to national and international comparison and to achieve top positions in international research rankings. Through its interdisciplinary research approach, the Faculty’s seminars and institutes make a major contribution to the excellent research at the University of Cologne.

The education provided at our Faculty has benefited from many years of experience in working with companies and visiting lecturers from different professional fields. Several faculty members are professionals and managers, who bring important industry experience to the programmes, resulting in sector-specific, up-to-date programme content for our students. This ensures that our interdisciplinary programme reflects the real world and ideally combines practice and theory, while also promoting knowledge sharing.

Despite our emphasis on research skills, all teaching programmes at our Faculty are strongly application-oriented and meet the increased demands of a highly complex and differentiated labour market. With this we succeed the realisation of our motto “Today’s ideas. Tomorrow’s impact.”

Global markets have fundamentally changed the situation of economic and political action. It will only be possible to meet the global challenge of society through a change in attitudes and organisations. To achieve this, however, the underlying global interrelationships must be investigated, understood, and considered by decision makers.

By pursuing this degree programme at the WiSo Faculty, you will gain the knowledge and skills you need in order to face future challenges, considering both our planet and society. You will focus on entrepreneurship and develop a system thinking that will help to turn your career plans into reality.

“Our up-to-date research knowledge is applied in this programme and provides you with appropriate tools and knowledge. This helps you to approach future global challenges and to make comprehensive decisions for a better world”.

Andreas Fügener Academic Director WiSo Bachelor
FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT THE WISO-FACULTY

Studies at the WiSo Faculty of Cologne University help to establish an excellent basis for your further professional and personal career paths. With nearly 8,000 students and a host of departments and academic staff, the WiSo Faculty is one of the largest and most prestigious schools of management, economics and social sciences in Europe.

- 7,901 national and international
- 149 partner universities worldwide*
- 17 professors
- More than 200 research and teaching assistants
- More than 100 years experience in research and teaching

Enrolling in a programme at the WiSo Faculty will give you everything you need to take the next step in furthering your career. One of Germany’s most prestigious educational institutions, the school regularly ranks among the top providers of management and business education. The following is an overview of current rankings:

In the current Academic Ranking of World Universities (“Shanghai Ranking”) by Subject, the University of Cologne ranks first in the national evaluation for “Management”, “Business Administration” and “Sociology”, as it did last year.

In the AIS 8 Information Systems Ranking in the field of Business Information Systems, the University of Cologne is top of the list in Germany.

According to the WirtschaftsWoche research ranking, the University of Cologne is one of the most research-intensive German-speaking universities. In business administration, it ranks second within Germany.

The Supply Chain Management (SCM) Journal List Ranking places the University of Cologne in first place in Germany.

According to the WirtschaftsWoche personnel ranking, which asks HR managers in German companies which universities train students best for their needs, the University of Cologne is currently in third place.

Prof. Dr. Erik Hornung is the third best researcher at a German university in the Handelsblatt economist ranking “Researchers under 40 (overall research performance)”.

State of facts and figures: January 2022

* The WiSo Faculty maintains excellent partnerships with 149 leading institutions of higher education across the world on different levels of study, enabling its students to spend time abroad within a range of study and exchange programmes. Students can choose from an attractive range of partner universities, depending on their chosen path of study.
Key Facts

Degree: Bachelor of Science
Content: Interdisciplinary content from Economics, Management, Psychology, and Sociology
Language: English
Duration: 6 Semesters
Credits: 180 ECTS
International: 1 Semester abroad mandatory

This programme provides you with:

- Strong insights in societal challenges, such as climate change, inequality, and digital transformation
- Management skills with a focus on solving new challenges
- A truly global perspective as global challenges need global solutions

Starting from day one, the programme combines an entrepreneurial attitude with academic excellence. You will learn how to approach new problems, how to launch initiatives and how to drive sustainable change. To support you gain a deep understanding of societal challenges, we provide you with state-of-the-art research findings in relevant fields from various disciplines, such as management, economics, sociology or social psychology. You will learn advanced methodologies to rigorously analyse systems and to be able to draw evidence-based conclusions. In order to speed up your personal and academic development, you benefit from an innovative teaching and mentoring concept.

This programme is right for you if you are:

- Active: you seek a decision-making position to solve challenges
- Aware: you consider consequences on the planet, society and long-term prospects
- Ambitious: you are willing to work hard to gain a rigorous understanding

This programme helps you understand the “big picture” regarding societal and environmental issues and strategically evaluate and classify the complexity of relevant aspects. You will benefit the most from this programme if you want to actively pursue a management position for the purpose of shaping change. The content relates to the disciplines of management, economics, and social sciences (such as social psychology and sociology). Thus, this programme allows you to specialise at a later point in time.
**TEACHING APPROACH**

**Holistic learning**

We follow a holistic learning approach based on interactive lectures, seminars, and team projects. Our mentoring programme offers you the opportunity to clarify your values and to work towards your individual goals in a lively exchange with peers, alumni and entrepreneurs.

**Challenge-based mindset**

Problem-based learning challenges you to think critically, creatively and analytically. You will go through goal-oriented and cooperative co-creative learning processes and develop new ideas and solutions, while being integrated in diverse teams. Thereby, you will apply different ways and tools of working. All this will enable you to actively shape social and entrepreneurial solutions to the complex challenges of the 21st century, while acting in an individually and socially responsible manner.

“I chose the WiSo faculty because it has a very good reputation and you study not only business administration, but also other disciplines such as economics and social sciences. Their applied research is trying to improve society.”

**Hannah, student at the WiSo-Faculty**
This bachelor programme is designed to take 6 semesters (3 years). You have to obtain 180 ECTS points.

Understand effect of economies on environment, discuss climate change and how to create a sustainable business.

Understand dynamics in societies, root causes and consequences of social inequality.

Understand impact of digitalization on economical sustainability and modern markets, learn to manage big data to draw insights.
Start shaping own profile, define own ethical values, and discuss challenges in political context. Select courses from various disciplines.

**Semester 4**
Profile Cologne

**Courses**
- Finance and Accounting
- Business Ethics
- Public Policy
- Profile Electives I
- Profile Electives II

Go abroad, and continue to specialize in topics of management, economics, or social science. Broaden your horizon by general electives.

**Semester 5**
Profile Abroad

**Courses**
- Studies Abroad in Management, Economics and Social Sciences
- General Electives (Studies Abroad)

Start developing own projects: an entrepreneurial group project study and an academic thesis. Reflect studies and how to make an impact.

**Semester 6**
Projects

**Courses**
- Leadership and Interpersonal Skills
- Project Study
- Bachelor Thesis

Driving Sustainable Change
English-taught programme

As global challenges need global solutions, this programme is taught in English. For the majority of our study programmes we receive applications from a large number of different nationalities, which means we can ensure an international and intercultural environment for our students.

Mandatory semester abroad

Our cooperation agreements with carefully selected and programme specific group of excellent partner universities in Europe and Asia provide you with attractive options for your mandatory term abroad. The courses of our renowned partner universities complement the range of courses offered at University of Cologne and further help you to develop an international mindset and intercultural competencies, improving your skills in management, economics and social sciences.

Topics with international relevance

The global perspective will accompany you throughout your studies. This is the only way to ensure that you, as a future decision-maker, can competently face future challenges.
Being part of this programme, will ensure you have the knowledge and skills necessary in order to shape the future, considering the planet and society instead of the maximisation of profits. You will focus on entrepreneurship and develop a system of thinking that will help to turn your career plans into reality.

In general, you could work in most potential management or economic positions. More specifically, you might focus on sustainability with a start-up mind set, i.e. creating new organisations or driving innovation in existing organisations.

Examples of Possible Jobs:

- (Social) Entrepreneur
- Managing new projects in a large corporation
- Management position in an NGO
- Position in (social) Start-Ups
- Management position in companies covering sustainable topics
- Consulting

After your bachelor studies you may also apply for consecutive Master programmes in management, economics, or social sciences.

“Corporate Social Responsibility means eliminating negative effects of entrepreneurial action as best as possible. It also means that companies develop solutions in their field of business that address acute challenges facing humanity. In this way, you can create positive added value for your company - for yourself and for society.”

Dr. Julian Conrads, Sustainability Manager of the Cologne Start Up FOND OF and Alumnus of the Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences, University of Cologne
COLOGNE

An open minded and science-centred city!

Cologne is located within a metropolitan area of about 13 million people in the heart of Germany’s economy which makes it easy for students and faculty to collaborate with great companies. It is one of Germany’s most attractive locations and offers a vibrant student life.

With around 103,000 students and a lively start-up culture, Cologne is the economic and scientific centre of the Rhineland region. In addition to 17 universities and business schools, the area is also home to numerous internationally renowned research institutions as ESA European Space Agency or Gesis – Leibniz Institute for Social Sciences, with knowledge transfer to industry and society playing a key role. Successful transfer structures include the university’s Excellence Start-Up Center GATEWAY start-up service, the start-up network cologne e.V. and the Digital Hub Cologne.

Cologne is also proud of its reputation as a vibrant and tolerant city and at the same time being both multicultural – with almost 25 % non-German citizens from 183 different nations – and strong in its local identity. Karneval, Cologne’s famous carnival season every February, and the popular local beer “Kölsch”, brewed exclusively in Cologne, are only two examples of the vivid cultivation of the city’s traditions.

- Over 1 million inhabitants in the city of Cologne
- 13 million inhabitants in the metropolitan area of Cologne
- More than 100,000 students in Cologne
- Over one third of Cologne’s total area is covered by public parks, sports grounds and nature areas
- 1 famous Gothic cathedral, the “Kölner Dom”
- Unlimited opportunities to fall in love with the city

Official Cologne Facts & Figures 2019 by City of Cologne
Application information and requirements

Application process and deadline:

- You can submit your application online via the website of the student secretariat.
- Applicants from outside the EU/EEA apply via uni-assist.
- Application deadline is **July 15th**

Requirements and selection procedure:

- Your university entrance qualification.
- English language skills level B2 CEFR (e.g. TOEFL).

The Admissions Board will communicate its decision no later than beginning of July. Enrolment is generally in July.

Detailed information and contact

We are happy to support you in your ambitions: for students the WiSo Student Service Point offers not only advice on studying but also support on all aspects of career choice, career planning and the application process:

WiSo Student Service Point
Phone: +49 (0) 221/470-8818
wiso-studentservice.uni-koeln.de
“Being one of the worldwide largest Faculties of Business, Economics, and Social Sciences, we bring together excellent researchers, students, alumni, and organizations in a friendly and stimulating environment to jointly address today’s grand challenges. Our Faculty is part of an outstanding network of universities and cooperates with leading organizations. This leads into a great reputation in teaching, research and transfer activities, which is reflected in excellent rankings.”

Prof. Ulrich W. Thonemann, PhD
Dean