The guiding principle of social work is to establish social justice in society. To do so requires providing general assistance in coping with life’s challenges, through a service that is open to everyone as a fundamental aspect of welfare provision in a modern-day society. At the same time, effort must be devoted to preventing and removing social disadvantage and need.

Professional social work focuses on the needs of the individual. This means that the assistance given and measures taken by social institutions must be tailored in a flexible and integrated way to individuals and their respective situations. To this end, it is essential to study the particular living conditions and surroundings of the individuals involved.

The purpose of social work is to change and improve both: the behaviour of the individuals concerned and their living conditions and circumstances. This is achieved by offering education and training, advice, support, and assistance to groups and individuals, sometimes in the context of especially precarious living environments.

The aim of the programme is to provide students with the qualifications and professional skills necessary for employment in the various fields of social work. This involves the close link of practice and theory to animate students to reflect on what they have learned in theory in light of their real-world experiences.

About the programme

The duration of the full-time programme is seven semesters. It is also possible to study on a part-time basis. The fifth semester is a practical semester, during which students apply the knowledge gained in the first part of the programme in a work placement of their choosing. In the sixth and seventh semesters, students specialise in one of the following areas:

- Education, culture, and media
- Cultural studies
- A life course approach in social work
- Organisation, management, education, and communities
- Social work in the public health system

Degree awarded: Bachelor of Arts

Programme structure

Specific courses in four subject areas:

- Fundamentals of organisation and subject-specific policy
- Social policy and economics
- History/Theory
- Educational sciences
- Psychology
- Social change
- Communication
- etc.

Legal fundamentals
- Ethics
- etc.

Project-based work placement
- Methods for use in counselling and group work
- Creative Media
- Community work
- etc.

Graduates from the bachelor’s programme in Social Work are qualified for employment in all areas of practical social work and are eligible for admission onto a master’s programme. Social work encompasses an ever increasing range of professional duties and fields of work. Opportunities for employment include:

- the Youth Welfare Office and the Social Welfare Office
- a variety of facilities offering peripatetic, site-based, and partially site-based educational support
- day nurseries and day care centres
- school social work
- child and youth work
- family counselling and support
- community work
- rehabilitation facilities and social work in the public health system
- ex-offender services, court assistance, victim and offender mediation
- assistance for the homeless
- social psychiatry
- occupational social work
- adult education
The bachelor’s programme lays the foundation for further professional development through a consecutive master’s programme or, relevant work experience assumed, an extra-occupational master’s programme or further training. At Munich University of Applied Sciences, the consecutive master’s programme in »Applied Research in Social Work« follows on from the bachelor’s programme in Social Work.

Options for further professional development

**Personal requirements**
- Pleasure in working with people
- Commitment to social justice
- Ability to communicate clearly and resolve conflicts
- Ability to work in a team
- Ability to empathise and be creative
- Willingness to contribute to social change

**Qualification requirements**
Applicants must have a higher education entrance qualification recognised in Bavaria. Good German and English skills are required. Munich University of Applied Sciences can provide further information about admission requirements (e.g. if admission is restricted or a prior work placement is required).

Further information can be found online at: http://hm.edu/en

**Important dates and deadlines**

The programme starts every year in October. The application period for studies beginning in the winter semester runs from 2 May to 15 July of the same year. Application forms and information can be downloaded online at: http://hm.edu/en

**Contact details and information**

**Address**
Hochschule München
Munich University of Applied Sciences
Lothstraße 34, 80335 Munich

**Website**
www.hm.edu

**General enquiries**
Lothstraße 34, 80335 Munich
Tel: +49 (0)89 1265-1121
See online for consultation hours

**Enrolment**
Lothstraße 34, 80335 Munich
Tel: +49 (0)89 1265-5000

**Department**
Department of Applied Social Sciences
Am Stadtpark 20, 81243 Munich

**Website**
www.hm.edu/fk11

**Departmental enquiries**
Sebastian Bernhard
(General student enquiries)
Tel: +49 (0)89 1265-2145
studienberatung fk11@hm.edu

Christine Kopatsch
(Part-time student enquiries)
Tel: +49 (0)89 1265-2162
kopatsch@hm.edu

**Programme**
Prof. Dr. Angelika Iser

**Director**
Dipl. Soz.Päd. (FH) Norbert Schindler

**Entry requirements**

The Department of Applied Social Sciences is located in Pasing. Pasing lies in the southwest of Munich and is readily accessible by public transport (suburban train and bus). The Pasing Campus gives students the opportunity to study in a cosmopolitan city but still enjoy the benefits of studying in natural surroundings.

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