

# Teaching

The Faculty of Economics and Management Science follows the guiding principle of "Theory and Practice", which was formulated by the scientist Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz in the 17<sup>th</sup> century who as was born and studied in Leipzig. Following this principle, students should be enabled to discuss national as well as international issues relevant to politics, management and society on the basis of a solid methodological education. At present, the Faculty has two Bachelor and ten Master programs.

## 1. Bachelor programs

In the introductory semesters, the Bachelor's degree programs in *Economics and Management Science* and in *Business Information Systems* provide broad insights into the basic subjects of their respective areas (e.g., Management Science, Economics, Information Systems, Law, Mathematics, Quantitative Methods, Computer Science). In the second half of the programs, students may choose a qualification direction and deepen their competences according to their interests. For the B.Sc. in Economics and Management Science these comprise Economics, Sustainability and Energy Management, Banking and Insurance, Corporate Accounting, Financing and Taxation. In the B.Sc. in Business Information Systems students may choose from various elective modules, which cover both skills from Information Systems, economics as well as computer science.

## 2. Master programs

The ten master programs feature a broad spectrum of possible courses and include consecutive as well as postgraduate and executive programs. In the Master's degree program in *Management Science*, students may choose from the five possible specialisations Sustainability Management, Banking, Insurance and Investment Management, Corporate Accounting, Financing and Taxation, Services and Human Resources Management as well as Marketing and Services. The Master's degree in *Economics* has an international orientation due to the large proportion of teaching in English as well as to courses in the specialisation areas of Development Economics and Economic Policy.

# Research

The Faculty contributes to Leipzig University's goal of being a comprehensive university of the future that is committed to excellence, acting sustainably, positioning itself as connected and outward-looking, acting dynamically and innovatively. In recent years, the Faculty has developed its key research areas and has set priorities through new professorships and the partnering with colleagues in research alliances. For example, this pertains to the Faculty's active participation in several of Leipzig University's strategic profile areas:

- **Sustainable Systems and Biodiversity:** Several professorships from the areas of Biodiversity Economics and Nature's Values participate in the German Center for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) and contribute to the research center ChemResilienz.
- **Global Connections and Comparisons:** Another group of professors is participating in the Research Centre Global Dynamics (ReCentGlobe) and are responsible for research area "Economies of the Global South".
- **Mathematical and Computational Sciences:** Professors from the Faculty's business information systems area are affiliated with the Centre for Scalable Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence ScaDSAI.
- **Contested Order and Modern Diseases:** Professors from Sustainable Financial Services and Financial Economics are participating in the contested order are and members from Health Economics and Management in are on modern diseases.

Another emphasis of the Faculty is rooted in the area of public economics, which has been enlarged through new professorships in Public Management and Applied Finance. Additional appointments in the area of business information systems, in particular on information systems in logistics and intelligent information systems and processes, complement the competences in the innovative and cross-disciplinary areas of artificial intelligence (AI) and the digitalization of business models and processes.

# Transfer

In addition to generating knowledge, the Faculty pursues substantial activities in the field of knowledge transfer. Applying knowledge, transferring knowledge, consulting and communicating findings are therefore among the key competencies and are important elements of the Faculty's strategy.

## 1. Applying knowledge

The "Competence Center for SME Promotion and Training (SEPT)" is the provider of a large number of faculty's transfer projects. In this way, the start-up initiative SMILE of the SEPT Competence Center works to establish the entrepreneurial spirit at all faculties of the university. Since the launch of the initiative in 2006, SMILE has successfully guided the creation of more than 500 start-ups. Other examples of regional and international knowledge transfer are the joint project of "Strengthening the Action Power of Municipalities" or the "Center of Excellence for Development Cooperation ACCESS". In addition, the areas of sustainability management and business information systems are involved in numerous third-party funded projects aim at applying and transferring knowledge in numerous projects with business practice. Among the examples are projects in logistics (e.g., Logistics Living Lab), forming (e.g., Smart Farming Lab), energy (e.g., SPARCS on climate-neutral cities) or tax compliance (e.g., Digital Tax Compliance).

## 2. Transferring knowledge

An important element for transferring knowledge are the postgraduate Master's degree programs. For example, all students of Leipzig University are able to attend the key qualification module "Climate Crisis and Possible Solutions", which is led by representatives of the Faculty of Economics and Management Science. The international MBA program SEPT has also been established for many years with almost 1.000 graduates to date as well as the executive master's program MBA-Insurance, which specializes in the insurance industry and has been completed eleven times to date. Finally, the faculty members are also contributing to the Master program in Data Science.

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# Teaching

Another master program that also features a strong international and interdisciplinary orientation is in *Business Information Systems*. It offers a broad variety of individual specialization options, which are based on numerous elective modules from the areas of (business) information systems, economics as well as computer science. The program is closely related to the Information Systems Institute's research projects and the majority of courses are conducted in English since 2024.

The master program in *Business Education* prepares graduates for responsible, pedagogically accentuated specialist and management tasks in business and public organizations, in institutions of vocational training and further education as well as in research institutions. The program focuses on vocational and business education and, depending on the specialization, on the areas of business administration, economics, business information systems and sustainability management.

In the *teacher training program for vocational schools*, the subject of business and administration is studied in combination with one of eleven possible grammar school subjects. Graduates may then begin their preparatory service and work as teachers at vocational schools.

## Contact:

Leipzig University | Faculty of Economics and Management Science

Study Office | [service.sb@wifa.uni-leipzig.de](mailto:service.sb@wifa.uni-leipzig.de)

Dean of Studies, Prof. Dr. Roland Happ



# Research

The Faculty collaborates successfully with leading research institutions in Germany and abroad, as reflected by numerous joint research projects and publications. It is closely networking with non-university research institutions in the Leipzig research area, for example with the:

- **Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research** (UFZ) through jointly appointed professorships in Institutional Economics of the Environment and in Energy and Environmental Economics
- **German Biomass Research Center** (DBFZ) through the jointly appointed professorship on Bioenergy Systems
- **Institute for Applied Informatics** (InfAI) and the **German association of business informatics** (Die WI) through managing positions in both organizations
- **Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy** (IMW) through the joint professorship in Innovation Economics and Management
- **Leibniz Institute for Economic Research Halle** (IWH) through joint junior professorships in Quantitative Macroeconomics and Financial Economics

With the neighboring universities in Dresden, Halle, Jena and Magdeburg the Faculty collaborates for example in the joint training of doctoral researchers in economics and management science.

## Contact:

Leipzig University | Faculty of Economics and Management Science

Dean's Office | [dekanat@wifa.uni-leipzig.de](mailto:dekanat@wifa.uni-leipzig.de)

Vice Dean for Research,

Prof. Dr. Martin Quaas



# Transfer

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## 3. Consulting

Several faculty members contribute their expertise nationally and internationally in external committees. An example is the collaboration in the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). Furthermore, faculty members are repeatedly invited as experts to public hearings in the German parliament (Bundestag) or Bundestag committees, in state parliaments or their committees. An example activities in the field of financial policy and taxation.

## 4. Communicating knowledge

Several high-profile faculty members have succeeded in making their expertise visible nationally and in part internationally through articles and interviews in national newspapers (e.g., FAZ, NZZ) and magazines (e.g., Focus, Spiegel) as well as radio and television interviews (e.g., BBC, ZDF). Furthermore, the Faculty offers several series of lectures. These are aimed at students from within the university, but are also open to external interested parties. Among the examples are the lecture series "Leipzig Seminar for Economics and Practice" and the "Leipzig Economic Policy Talks" as well as the lecture days in the field of insurance science where top-management executives participate.

## Contact:

Leipzig University | Faculty of Economics and Management Science

Dean's Office | [dekanat@wifa.uni-leipzig.de](mailto:dekanat@wifa.uni-leipzig.de)

Vice Dean for Transfer and Campus Development,

Prof. Dr. Utz Dornberger

