

## **Important Information on the study programme V001 – March 2024 “International Entrepreneurship, Digitalization and Sustainability” please read carefully before applying and enrolling**

### **FAQ - General Topics**

#### **Where do lectures take place?**

Usually in presence at the HNU.

#### **When do lectures take place?**

At HNU, we have periods during the semester when lectures take place. Furthermore, there are also lecture-free periods. We recommend that you keep the whole day free during the lecture periods Mon.-Fri., as sometimes there may also be short-term changes of appointments.

#### **How much time do I have to invest in the program?**

This is a full-time course of study. Similar to any other Master program, there are 30 ECTS to be earned per semester. One ECTS corresponds to a workload of 25 - 30 hours, i.e., 750 - 900 hours per semester. These are distributed over lectures, seminars, and self-study. One semester has approximately 26 weeks, the lecture period which is relevant for the weekly workload has approximately 15 weeks. This means 50 – 60 hours per week as a maximum workload (similar to any other master program) – normally the workload is distributed over several lectures, and evaluation formats.

#### **Can I still work on the side?**

If it can be arranged, we do not recommend this, as you can expect to work 50 – 60 hours per week (similar to any other master program - maximum - during the semester). If you take on a part-time job, we recommend that you make sure your working hours are flexible (10 – 15 hours).

#### **What is the didactic concept?**

We primarily use action learning, i.e. a small part theory and examples; a large part studying theory (books/papers), group work, presentation, discussion - i.e. no classical study as you know it from the Bachelor (see also: <https://www.educationcorner.com/the-learning-pyramid.html>). We do this because we value the development of professional competencies, methodological competencies, social competencies and personal competencies (see also: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/10/top-10-work-skills-of-tomorrow-how-long-it-takes-to-learn-them/>).

#### **How much independent work is expected?**

A lot, especially when it comes to self-study - it's not about "presenting" to you, it's about empowering you to figure out issues on your own, work in teams, research in the library (papers and books), read... etc. So for a lecture with 5 ECTS we usually plan 3 hours (= 4 academic units) in presence, and 7 hours for self-study etc.

#### **What costs will I have to pay?**

There are no tuition fees, however, you should budget ~ 100 € per semester for the student service contribution.

#### **Are there any scholarships that I can use to finance my studies?**

There are scholarships that you can apply for as an (international) student. You can find an overview of possible scholarships on the website of our International Office:

<https://www.hnu.de/en/international/international-degree-seeking-students/funding->

[opportunities](https://www.hnu.de/en/studies/before-the-study/study-financing/scholarships). You can also find more scholarships on the "Scholarships" page of the HNU website: <https://www.hnu.de/en/studies/before-the-study/study-financing/scholarships>

### How can I find an accommodation near HNU?

On the HNU website there is an overview of possible dormitories and platforms for finding rooms: <https://www.hnu.de/en/studium/vor-dem-studium/studienorganisation/living>. You can also take a look at „WG-Gesucht“ <https://www.wg-gesucht.de/>.

### What do I need to bring with me to be able to study this Master's program at HNU?

To be able to study the IEDS Master you need a Bachelor's degree with at least 210 ECTS. In addition, you need Level B2 English language skills and for international students, German language skills at Level A1 are required. A proof of A1 German level must be provided in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester at the latest. For the international students, a valid visa for the stay is crucial.

## FAQ - Study contents

### How is the study program structured?

The program is structured over three semesters and students must take courses in the fields of International Entrepreneurship, Digitalization, Sustainability and Research.

Here you find the entire plan of the study programme (subject to change):

3. Semester	Scientific Research Lab	Master's thesis in the context of entrepreneurship, digitalization or sustainability (or a combination)				Master Seminar	
2. Semester	Elective in the field of Entrepreneurship	Elective in the field of Entrepreneurship	Elective in the field of Digitalization	Elective in the field of Digitalization	Elective in the field of Sustainability	Elective in the field of Sustainability	International Entrepreneurship
1. Semester	Elective in the field of Entrepreneurship	Elective in the field of Entrepreneurship	Elective in the field of Digitalization	Elective in the field of Digitalization	Elective in the field of Sustainability	Elective in the field of Sustainability	Digitalization
							Sustainability
							Research

\*Two electives from each subject area must be chosen per semester, i.e. 10 ECTS in International Entrepreneurship, 10 ECTS in Digitalisation and 10 ECTS in Sustainability. The third semester focuses purely on research.

The Master's degree program focuses on three areas (Entrepreneurship, Digitalisation and Sustainability). The individual modules can be chosen individually by the students from the corresponding range of courses offered by the HNU and partner universities. In principle 20 ECTS points must be earned per area; if you take the Junior Consulting Project, you will have to earn 10 ECTS points per area. The focus areas are to be taken in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semesters. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester, the research area is covered.

### How long does the study program take?

Since only partner universities from Austria are currently available and 120 ECTS are required for a Master's degree in Austria, the program will take a total of 4 semesters. 90 ECTS will be completed at the HNU or in an optional semester abroad and 30 ECTS will be completed at one of the Austrian double degree universities.

### What is the Junior Consulting Project and how can I take it?

In order to be able to carry out the Junior Consulting Project, you need a company in which you can do an internship in the field of consulting for three months (at least 50 days of attendance).

A company is required in order to participate in the Junior Consulting project. You must search independently for a suitable company and clarify with Prof. Dr. Daniel Schallmo at an early

stage whether the company is suitable. The company should be represented in the consulting area of International Entrepreneurship, Digitalization or Sustainability. You have to write a total of three study project papers and a learning diary. The study project papers are small, "scientific" papers that deal with very practice-relevant topics from your work. Ideally, you will use scientific methods to address issues that are currently relevant to the company. In the learning diary, you reflect on your daily work. The Junior Consulting Project replaces a whole semester (30 ECTS). You can carry out the Junior Consulting project either in the first or second semester.

Here you find the entire plan of the study programme with the Junior Consulting Project (subject to change):

3. Semester	Scientific Research Lab	Master's thesis in the context of entrepreneurship, digitalization or sustainability (or a combination)				Master Seminar	
2. Semester	Elective in the field of Entrepreneurship	Elective in the field of Entrepreneurship	Elective in the field of Digitalization	Elective in the field of Digitalization	Elective in the field of Sustainability	Elective in the field of Sustainability	International Entrepreneurship
1. Semester	Elective Junior Consulting Project, in which students spend a semester working on a project in a company as junior consultants (including coaching and seminars from the university) - the project focuses on one of three areas: entrepreneurship, digitalization or sustainability						Digitalization
							Sustainability
							Research

### What is the Scientific Research Lab?

At the Scientific Research Lab you will be taught how to write a scientific paper. This serves to prepare the Master's thesis. You will deal with Systematic Literature Review, Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods. With this knowledge, you can also work as a junior researcher later on.

### What is the Master Seminar?

This is the presentation of your master's thesis followed by a Q&A session with the professors.

### How flexible am I in my choice of courses?

You are basically very flexible in your choice of courses. However, we recommend that you choose the courses in such a way that you take about 10 ECTS per category each semester. Plan everything well in advance and make sure that the classes are taking place and don't overlap with other courses. We also recommend taking the courses from the field of research as part of the master's thesis, as important knowledge for the upcoming work is imparted here. In the end, a total of 30 ECTS credits must be earned in the field of research and 20 ECTS each in the categories International Entrepreneurship, Digitalization and Sustainability. If the Junior Consulting project is chosen only 10 ECTS credits each of the categories Entrepreneurship, Digitalization and Sustainability must be taken.

### How do I choose the courses?

You will receive a list of your compulsory elective options at the appropriate time. You must choose these independently based on the timetable provided and organise them yourself so that there are no overlaps. The course selection must be submitted no later than the week before the start of lectures.

### What competencies will I learn?

- Professional competencies with theoretical basics, approaches, and representatives
- methodological competences with procedures, instruments, and projects
- Social competences with teamwork and reflection.

### **Will I start a business in the program?**

*Not mandatory. You will receive the most important skills/tools/information - but the responsibility is yours to make something out of it. At HNU, we have the appropriate networks and infrastructure to support you in your start-up projects.*

### **What are my job prospects after graduation?**

- *Entrepreneur who builds and grows their own business, scales, and networks globally.*
- *Intrapreneur, business developer, innovator, strategist who drives companies and organizations forward internationally.*
- *Sustainability manager for the transformation of companies in the context of sustainability.*
- *Young scientist for the topics of entrepreneurship, digitalization and sustainability.*

## **FAQ - Examinations**

### **What kind of examinations are there?**

*Mostly portfolio exams with presentations, project reports or seminar papers. In individual subjects, examinations are conducted by means of written examinations.*

### **When, on which topics and with whom do I write my master's thesis?**

*The master thesis is written in the 3rd semester. Topics that have been dealt with during the course of study are suitable for this. It can be a theoretical or empirical work, which is written with the Institute for Entrepreneurship or in cooperation with a company. The supervisors are professors from the lectures.*

## **FAQ – Double Degree**

### **Is the double degree mandatory?**

*Yes, the double degree is mandatory if you are a regular student at the HNU.  
Are you a UCLL student doing your additional master's programme here? In this case, the double degree with another university is not mandatory.*

### **When does the double degree Semester takes place?**

*The double degree semester ideally takes place in either the second or third semester. At the University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria, the double degree semester can only take place in the winter semester.*

### **Wo kann ich mein Double Degree absolvieren?**

*The Double Degree Semester can currently be completed at the following universities:*

- [University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria](#) (Austria)
- [Vienna University of Applied Sciences](#) (Austria)

*Please note that a Master's degree in Austria requires 120 ECTS. Therefore, 90 ECTS must be completed at HNU and a further 30 ECTS at the Austrian partner university.*

### **How and when do I choose my double degree university?**

*When applying, you prioritise the possible double degree universities. 1-2 weeks after enrollment and the start of lectures, the final decision on the double degree university must be made.*

### **Who decides at which university I will do my double degree?**

*You decide what your favorite university is when prioritizing. However, we cannot guarantee that you will be able to complete the double degree at your preferred university. The final decision at which university you will conduct your double degree is made by the professors among themselves. The professors will assign you the most suitable double degree place, which in best case corresponds to your prioritization.*

### **What do I have to consider before I decide on a double degree university?**

*You need a valid visa to stay at the Double Degree University. It should also be noted that if you want to do a double degree with an Austrian university, you will need to complete another 30 ECTS credits in order to receive the Austrian degree. In Austria, 120 ECTS are required to obtain a Master's degree, so you have to complete 30 ECTS more instead of the 90 ECTS.*

### **Do I have to pay tuition fees for the double degree semester?**

Normally, no additional tuition fees have to be paid abroad. Please also note that despite the Double Degree Semester, you have to pay the ~ 100 € per semester for the student service contribution.

### **What courses can I take abroad?**

*The courses you take abroad are very similar in content to the courses you can take at HNU. The exact courses that must be taken at the respective double degree universities will be made available in due course.*

### **What happens if I fail an exam abroad?**

If you fail the examination abroad, you must retake it in any case. Whether the repeat examination is taken physically depends on the type of examination. A student research project, for example, can also be written in Germany. The situation is different for an oral examination, for example (a Zoom examination could also be considered, but the foreign university must cooperate). There is no entitlement to an online exam. This means that it depends on the respective university or examiner and is decided on a case-by-case basis. The exam is always conducted by the university abroad.

### **What is the exam performance like abroad?**

*The examinations are very similar to those at the HNU. Mostly portfolio exams with presentations, project reports or seminar papers. In individual subjects, examinations are conducted by means of written examinations.*

### **How do I find accommodation abroad?**

*We do not arrange accommodation abroad and do not assist in the search for accommodation. We recommend that you take care of accommodation at the respective double degree partner university in good time and research on the university websites of the double degree universities. You can also exchange ideas with students who are doing the double degree semester at the HNU at the same time and, if necessary, sublet their apartment abroad. So you can make an apartment swap. Contacts can be made at the appropriate time. However, we do not guarantee that an apartment exchange is possible, but you should start looking for accommodation early.*

### **Are there scholarships for the Double Degree Semester?**

*We do not award scholarships for the Double Degree Semester. However, there are scholarships that you can apply for as an (international) student. You can find an overview of possible scholarships on the website of our International Office:*

*<https://www.hnu.de/en/international/international-degree-seeking-students/funding-opportunities>. Please note that no Erasmus+ scholarships are awarded.*

### **Can I complete a semester abroad in addition to the Double Degree Semester?**

*Yes, if you wish, you can complete a semester abroad in addition to the double degree semester. Ideally, you can do this in the last semester while writing your master's thesis.*

### **Are there scholarships for the semester abroad?**

According to the current status, there is no Erasmus+ for Master's students. However, if you are interested, you can apply for another scholarship. You can find an overview of possible scholarships on the website of our International Office:

<https://www.hnu.de/en/international/international-degree-seeking-students/funding-opportunities>

## **Expectations**

### **What can I expect?**

- Current topics taught in interactive teaching formats by lecturers from science and practice. The focus is on discussions and application in teams (see also: <https://www.educationcorner.com/the-learning-pyramid.html>).
- Work in (international) teams to apply theoretical knowledge in practice and thus be equipped with suitable skills for one's later profession (see also: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/10/top-10-work-skills-of-tomorrow-how-long-it-takes-to-learn-them/>).
- Learning skills to later be a) a (global) entrepreneur starting their own business, b) an intrapreneur, business developer, innovator, strategist, advancing companies and organizations, or c) as sustainability manager for the transformation of companies in the context of sustainability d) a junior researcher on the topics of entrepreneurship, digitalization and sustainability.
- A double degree semester to experience international entrepreneurship live and up close and to make valuable international contacts.

### **What can I not expect?**

- "Assisted studying". We expect a high level of initiative and independent work from you.
- Only lectures in which something is "presented". You will be challenged to organize yourself in your teams and work together on solutions, which you will then present.
- The "perfect" study program. There is no such thing; from our past experiences, we have mapped the most important content and formats in the degree program. It may also be that not everything always runs "smoothly", and dates have to be changed/postponed.

## **Summary**

### **We are looking for...**

- Bachelor graduates that are motivated to develop themselves further on the above-mentioned topics with the didactic methods.
- Students that are able to work independent, on their own and in teams (incl. to organize themselves), especially when it comes to read papers and books, to work on case studies, to prepare presentations and assignments, and to conduct research.
- Students that are willing to handle the workload, especially during the semester and lecture period.
- Students that are open-minded, have an international focus, are team players and are resilient.
- Students that are willing to work in one of the above-mentioned working areas after the study program.
- Students that are a good team member to their colleagues. This means (among others) to come to lectures prepared (e.g., read the assigned texts), complete your parts of group assignments on time, attend team meetings on time and generally be a reliable team member for your classmates.

If you have read the above-mentioned content carefully and if you agree with that, we are more than happy to work with you.