

Sustainable Regional Development

Hochschule Weihenstephan-Triesdorf, Studienort Triesdorf
Master of Science



General

Address global challenges and strengthen local regions

From sustainable land-use planning to circular economy and urban-rural innovation, students of the new English-language Master of Sustainable Regional Development (MRD) care about practical solutions for stronger communities. Sustainable and resilient regions build on their strengths and maximise cooperation for regional development. Located in the German state of Bavaria, Triesdorf has been the preeminent place to learn about rural and regional development for 20 years. At the Triesdorf campus, students benefit from the interdisciplinary approach and practical orientation of the Sustainable Regional Development programme.

Your studies in a nutshell (short profile)

Degree: Master of Science
Duration: 3 Semester
Language: English
Place of study: Campus Triesdorf
Start: Winter semester / Summer semester
Admission restriction: No
Application deadline: End of April - 15. July



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Content

Content of the Master's in Sustainable Regional Development

Throughout the master's programme, students will learn about a wide variety of spatial, management, environmental, and economic topics. They acquire advanced communication and analysis skills. Case studies, international comparisons, special guest lectures, and field trips maximise student learning and prepare students for professional careers or doctoral studies.

The Sustainable Regional Development programme is interdisciplinary and practice-oriented. All HSWT professors have spent time in applied practice, and many courses include adjunct lecturers who are current experts in their fields. International perspectives from within and beyond Europe are an integral part of the master degree.

Structure of the Sustainable Regional Development degree programme in Triesdorf

The programme is usually completed in three semesters (full-time). Each semester comprises a total of 30 European Credit Points (EC), more than half of which are compulsory modules. Students also choose from a range of elective modules (Wahlpflichtmodule/compulsory elective modules). The full-time degree programme concludes with the master's thesis and a colloquium in the 3rd semester.

Part-time study possible

From winter semester 2025, the Sustainable Regional Development degree programme will also be available on a part-time basis (duration: 5 semesters). Please indicate your preference when applying.

Perspectives

Career prospects after the Master's in Sustainable Regional Development

The degree programme prepares students for careers in professional and managerial roles, such as:

- Project management in the context of local, regional and international sustainable development
- Acquisition and implementation of funding programmes,
- Working with local and international networks of stakeholders
- Developing and managing regional supply services and value chains
- Advising regional and international stakeholders, administrations and institutions (i.e. programs of the European Union or United Nations)

Application

Admission requirements for the Master of Sustainable Regional Development

- To be admitted to the master's programme you must have completed (or be about to complete) an undergraduate degree with a grade of at least „good“. If your final grade is lower than 2.5, you can still apply with a letter of motivation, and an examination committee will decide on your admission.
- Your undergraduate degree should be in one of the following subjects: Agricultural Science, Horticulture, Forestry, Landscape Architecture, Landscape Planning, Spatial Planning, Geosciences, Economic Geography, Economic and Social Sciences, Political Science, Environmental or Nutritional Sciences or another comparable domestic or foreign degree.
- The prerequisite for admission to the master's degree program is usually 210 ECTS. Students may also enter the program with 180 ECTS; you can make up the missing credits from theory or practice.
- If your undergraduate degree certificate is not yet available, you can submit it by the end of the first semester.
- Courses are held in English. Foreign students who do not have a bachelor's degree (or an equivalent qualification) in English must therefore provide proof of sufficient knowledge of the English language (at least level B2). For students who also know German, it is possible to take some of the German-language electives in some of the other master's programmes (such as the German Master Regionalmanagement).

Missing credits (ECTS) can be made up as follows:

Missing credits from your undergraduate degree must be completed and submitted by the end of your master's programme. For this purpose, you can take elective modules from the following options during your studies and in addition to the regular semester courses:

- Subject-related courses offered by the HSWT (bachelor's and master's programme) or other universities
- Subject-related modules offered by the Virtual University of Bavaria (VHB)

Application with a foreign degree

Applicants who have obtained their first degree abroad need a "Vorprüfungsdokumentation" (VPD) from uni-assist to apply for the Master of Sustainable Regional Development. The submission of a uni-assist test report is not sufficient. Please plan extra time for this VPD step.

Detailed information can be found on our [website for international applicants](#).