

## **Bachelor Study Program**

### **Social Work and Early Childhood Education**

At the School of Social Sciences  
HTW Saar, Saarbrücken



# History and Philosophy of the Study Program

- First offered in Winter Semester 2006/2007,
- continues the legacy of academic studies in social work formerly offered by the Catholic College of Social Work (*KHSA* of Saarbrücken),
- but meets today's higher standards in **child care and education** with its concentration in "Early Childhood Education"
- and thus provides – also for social work – a broader perspective in **theory, research** and **professional practice**.

# Philosophy of the Study Program

- **a program of solid training:** confers first professional qualification (Bachelor of Arts) (Social Work; Social Pedagogy)
- qualifies graduates for **professional activities** in social work and education
- **scientific basis** for an application-oriented study program
- **generalist orientation** along with a concentration (Social Work; Early Childhood Education)
- integration of **theory, research, and practice**
- **project-based studies**
- **internationalization** (study abroad, internships abroad, work in our own greater cross-border region)

## **Fields of Professional Activity (examples)**

### **Child and Youth Services**

parenting counseling, work with youth groups or youth in the general public, social work with youths, career guidance, early intervention and assistance programs

### **Early Childhood Care and Education**

day care facilities, nurseries, early intervention, family centers

### **Social Work and Pedagogy in Schools**

school social work, “*Schoolworker*” programs

### **Social Work and Vocational Integration**

case management in job placement centers, career change counseling, integration projects for the unemployed

## **Areas of Professional Activity (examples)**

### **Migration-Related Social Work**

migration counseling, educational programs for children, adolescents, and parents, intercultural projects

### **Health**

drug counseling, psychiatry, hospital social work, health promotion services and prevention

**Community work, neighborhood and district development programs, assistance for the homeless, the disabled, offenders, elderly**

## Forms of Activity and Methods (examples)

<b>Counseling</b>	parenting and social counseling, counseling within other systems (educational, political, etc.)
<b>Empowering</b>	activating the resources available from individuals, families, groups, communities
<b>Networking</b>	of individuals, groups, institutions (use of resources, cooperation/communication)
<b>Guidance</b>	continuing assistance with navigating the practicalities of life

## Forms of Activity and Methods (examples)

### **Group Work/ Pedagogy**

initiation of learning processes within groups

### **Community Work**

self-help activation, improving social infrastructures

### **Therapy**

under certain restrictions (additional training required)

## Admission Requirements

### Secondary School Degree

- qualifying for entrance to traditional university or university of applied science
- or any officially recognized equivalent school-leaving certificate

### Pre-Study Internship

- 3 months (by the beginning of the 3rd semester)
- all practical activities in the fields of education, social work, and health services are recognized

### Places Available

- admissions each winter semester
- 130 new places per year *SAPdK* (SW&ECE)



# Structure of the Study Program

## 7 Semesters; 210 ECTS

Introductory phase (1st and 2nd semesters)

Advanced course phase (3rd und 4th semesters)

Practical semester (5<sup>th</sup> semester)

Advanced course phase (6th and 7th semesters) (with elective modules)

Final phase – Bachelor thesis (7th semester)

# Structure of the Study Program

## Introductory Phase (2 Semesters; 60 ECTS)

Basics of research work

Introduction to the areas of activity (with field explorations)

Fundamentals: Social Work and Early Childhood Education

Fundamentals: Social Sciences, Social Psychology, Law and Social Policy

Fundamentals: Care and Education, Assistance and Guidance

Deciding on a concentration at the end of the 2nd semester



**Social Work**

**Early Childhood  
Education**

# Structure of the Study Program

## Advanced Course Phases (3rd & 4th Semester; 6th & 7th Semester)

Required Modules (45 ECTS)	Advanced Modules (42 ECTS)
Life Course and Biography	Theories and Concepts
Social Inequalities and Heterogeneity	Didactics and Methodology
Professional Practice	Fields of Practice and Activity
Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods	Advanced Studies: Study Projects
Cooperation and Networking, Law and Administration	Concurrent and Supplementary Seminars (e.g. Law)

## Elective Module (18 ECTS)

# Structure of the Study Program

## Practical Semester (5th semester; 30 ECTS)

20 weeks

Accompanied by: Theory/Practice Seminar and Supervision

Report on practical semester

## Final Study Phase(7th semester; 15 ECTS)

Bachelor Thesis (12 weeks)

Accompanied by a colloquium

# Bachelor Degree Certificate

Ms. Jane Doe

has successfully completed the study program **Social Work and Early Childhood Education** with a concentration in Early Childhood Education or Social Work.

This university confers upon her the right to hold the academic degree of **Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)**.

This diploma entitles graduates to engage in professional activities within all occupational fields of social work (social work/social pedagogy) and – following state recognition by the responsible state ministry – to use the professional title of “State-Approved Social Worker” and “State-Approved Social Pedagogue”.

## **Professorships for the Dept. of Social Work and Early Childhood Education**

**Prof. Dr. Dieter Filsinger,**

*Fundamentals of Social Science, Social Policy and Evaluation*

**Prof. Dr. Charis Förster,**

*Theory, Practice, and Empiricism of Early Childhood Education*

**Prof. Dr. habil. Walter Gehres,**

*Sozialization, Childhood Care, and Lifelong Education*

**Prof. Dr. habil. Klaus Krammer,**

*Theory, Practice, and Empiricism of Social Work*

**Prof. Dr. Simone Odierna,**

*Fields of Activity and Methods in Social Work*

**Prof. Dr. Kerstin Rock,**

*Interaction und Organization in Social Work*

**Prof. Dr. Iris Ruppin,**

*Fields of Activity and Methods in Early Childhood Education*

**Prof. Dr. Ulrike Zöllner,**

*Theory, Empiricism, and Methodology of Social Work*

## Assistant Academic Staff

- Lena Altmeyer, M.A.
- Dagmar Ehl, B.A.
- Manuel Freis, Dipl. Päd.
- Dr. Sandra Hahn
- Daniela Henn, Dipl. Päd.
- Jessica Prigge, M.Eval.
- Karsten Ries, M.A.
- Sigrid Selzer, B.A.
- Mark Unbehend, Dipl. Soz.
- Wolfgang Vogt, Dipl. Päd.
- Nicole Weyand-Michel

# Contact Partners

## Faculty

- Dean of the School of Social Sciences: Prof. Dr. Dieter Filsinger
- Vice Dean: Prof. Petra Riemer-Hommel, Ph.D.
- Assistant to the Dean: Ralf Steinkamp, Dipl. Soz.

## Study Program 'Social Work and Early Childhood Education'

- Study Program Director: Prof. Dr. Ulrike Zöller
- Chairperson of the Examination Board: Prof. Dr. Charis Förster
- International Coordinator: Prof. Dr. Klaus Kraimer
- Practice Coordinator: Manuel Freis, Dipl. Päd.
- Student Advising: Nicole Weyand-Michel, B.A.

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