

**Information sheet for the doctoral programme
"Health and Sustainability Communication and Management (HSCM)"
at Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt**

Many thanks for your interest in the "Health and Sustainability Communication and Management (HSCM)" doctoral programme at Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt (AAU). HSCM is a thematic doctoral programme, in which the students are assigned to various doctoral degree programmes, according to the field of research and the prospective doctoral degree.

Within the scope of HSCM, the following doctoral degrees can be achieved:

- Doctorate in Natural Sciences (Dr. rer. nat.)
 - Supervisors: Prof. Sylke Andreas | Prof. Heather Foran | Prof. Brigitte Jenull
- Doctorate in Philosophy (Dr. phil.)
 - Supervisors: Assoc. Prof. Sandra Diehl | Prof. Matthias Karmasin | Assoc. Prof. Franzisca Weder | Dr. Tobias Eberwein (supervising mentor)
 - Supervisors: Prof. Sylke Andreas | Prof. Heather Foran
- Doctorate in Social Sciences and Economics (Dr. rer. soc. oec.)
 - Supervisors: Assoc. Prof. Sonja Bidmon | Prof. Heiko Breitsohl | Assoc. Prof. Sonja Grabner-Kräuter | Prof. Ralf Terlutter

Other doctoral degrees (e.g. Dr. med.) cannot be obtained.

Depending on the focus of the thesis, doctors from KABEG with a habilitation thesis relevant to the field may also act as second supervisors in HSCM.

If you are interested in the HSCM doctoral programme and would like to enrol in HSCM, you must take the following steps:

First step:

Submit the application documents for the HSCM doctoral programme:

Please send informative application documents (detailed CV, degree certificates with scores/grades, a letter of motivation) to heather.foran@aau.at and indicate the doctoral degree you wish to obtain: Dr. rer. soc. oec., Dr. phil. or Dr. rer. nat. If you already have ideas regarding the topic of your thesis, please share these with us in your application. However, please note that the topic of the thesis will be jointly determined by the prospective writer of the thesis and the supervisor. It is also possible to apply for the HSCM doctoral programme without having a topic in mind.

Your application documents will be reviewed by the subject representatives and you will hear back in due course.

Second step:

Apply for formal admission to the doctoral degree programme at Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt

If you receive a positive response in the first step, apply formally for admission to the doctoral programme at AAU: You can find information about this here: <https://www.aau.at/en/study/courses/doctoral-programme/admission/>

In order to take HSCM, you must be accepted on one of the following doctoral programmes at Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt. The requirement for this is that you fulfil the general eligibility criteria for university entrance (see below). The prospective doctoral degree should be preceded by a relevant programme of study that has already been completed (see general eligibility for university entrance):

Programme spokesperson: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Heather Foran

Department of Psychology, Health Psychology
Universitätsstrasse 65-67 | 9020 Klagenfurt | Austria | Tel: +43(0)463 2700-1641
heather.foran@aau.at

General eligibility for university entrance (Article 64(4) of the Universities Act)

The proof of general eligibility for university entrance for doctoral programmes shall be deemed to be established by proof of successful completion of a relevant diploma or Master's programme, a relevant University of Applied Science diploma or Master's programme in accordance with Article 5, Paragraph 3 of the University of Applied Science Studies Act [Fachhochschul-Studiengesetz] or another equivalent programme at a recognised domestic or international post-secondary educational institution.

In the event that equivalence has been established in principle and only certain supplementary qualifications are required for full equivalence, the rectorate shall be entitled to link the determination of equivalence with examinations sat during the respective doctoral degree programme.

If you are unable to demonstrate that your study programme is clearly relevant, various bodies at Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt will have to decide whether admission subject to conditions is possible and, if so, which course or examinations would need to be completed additionally in order to be admitted to the corresponding prospective doctoral programme at the university. From experience, this can take some time (typically between 2-6 months).

Further steps:

Start of the thesis project: Taking the necessary courses and writing a thesis

Information regarding the range of study programmes (educational programmes) in HSCM can be found here:

<https://www.aau.at/en/doctoral-programme/prospective-doctoral-students/thematic-doctoral-programmes/health-and-sustainability-communication-and-management/>

Preferably, the thesis should be written cumulatively. This means that various journal articles and conference papers should be written. Information regarding the guidelines from the rector of studies for cumulative theses can be found here:

<https://www.aau.at/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Mitteilungsblatt-2018-2019-10-Beilage-13.pdf> (in German only)

Public presentation of the proposed thesis open to the university

Within the framework of a presentation open to the university, the proposed thesis is presented to the doctorate advisory committee responsible for the field of the thesis. This should take place within one year of being admitted onto the doctoral programme. The doctorate advisory committee provides a written statement regarding the proposed thesis to the rector of studies, who decides whether or not the thesis should be approved. You can find further information here:

<https://www.aau.at/en/study/courses/doctoral-programme/public-presentation/> as well as under Article 4 of the Curriculum for Doctoral Programmes at Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt (<https://www.aau.at/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Mitteilungsblatt-2016-2017-19-Beilage-7.pdf>).

Continuation of the proposed thesis: Continuing to take the necessary courses and writing the thesis

Once you have successfully completed the prescribed courses for the HSCM programme and are able to produce sufficient publications, after consulting with your supervisors, the thesis is formally submitted and assessed. See also:

Thesis agreement: <https://www.aau.at/en/doctoral-programme/stages/introductory-stage/thesis-agreement/>

Submitting courses: <https://www.aau.at/en/doctoral-programme/stages/completion-stage/submit-coursework/>

Requesting examiners: <https://www.aau.at/en/doctoral-programme/stages/completion-stage/requesting-reviewers/>

Uploading and submitting the thesis: <https://www.aau.at/en/doctoral-programme/stages/completion-stage/uploading-and-submitting-the-thesis/>

Defence/comprehensive doctoral examination: <https://www.aau.at/en/doctoral-programme/stages/completion-stage/defensio-viva/>