



Admissions Regulations of the Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg to the consecutive Master's Programme in Jewish Civilizations (Partnership Programme)

from June 19th, 2024

The following translation of the Admissions Regulations for the Master Programme in Jewish Civilizations is provided here only to give students a better understanding of the contents of the original German document. Only the German version is legally binding.

Due to § 70 para. 6 in combination with § 32 of the Landeshochschulgesetz, the Board of the Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg decided on the following Admissions Regulations, for the consecutive Master's programme Jewish Civilizations on June 19th, 2024.

The rector approved the changes on June 19th, 2024.

§ 1 Area of Application

For the consecutive Master's programme in Jewish Civilizations, the Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg will allocate its places according to the following regulations.

§ 2 Application deadlines und forms of application

- (1) The informal application for admission, personally signed by the applicant,¹ must be received by the Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg by post or fax by July 15th at the latest for the following winter semester, or on January 15th for the following summer semester (exclusion deadline).
- (2) The application should include the following documents:
 - a) evidence of compliance with the prerequisites for admission as laid out in § 3,
 - b) a letter of motivation, spanning two to three pages in DIN A4 format,
 - c) a letter of recommendation from a qualified person,
 - d) a declaration as to whether the applicant has lost his eligibility to be examined in a consecutive Master's programme Jewish Civilizations, or in another programme with essentially the same content as the Hochschule, in Germany or abroad, or is still in the process of completing examinations within these course of studies.

§ 3 Prerequisites for Admission

¹ Due to space constraints the entire Examination Regulations uses the masculine form. It continuously refers to both men and women equally.

(1) The prerequisites for admission are:

1. The certificate of the Allgemeine Hochschulreife or an equivalent qualification, which, as a high school leaving certificate, includes relevant subjects qualifying the candidate for entrance to university.
2. A degree with above-average marks in a relevant Bachelor's degree programme in cultural studies, social sciences, law, humanities, or theology, for which a standard period of study of at least three academic years is set and which comprises at least 180 ECTS credit points, or a degree certificate recognised as equivalent (for non-EU citizens). The subject share in one of the above-mentioned disciplines must generally be at least 50 % or 70 credit points. In exceptional cases, a subject share of less than 50 %, but at least 20 % or 28 credit points is also sufficient. Admissible disciplines are e.g. Jewish studies, History, German studies, other subjects involving the study of literature, theology, philosophy, religious studies, Islamic studies, cultural studies, gender studies, art history and social sciences. The Admissions Board will determine whether a particular subject is to be considered a relevant subject, and the rector will determine whether or not an application will be accepted.
3. For the consecutive study programme Jewish Civilizations, proof of English proficiency is required, which is to be determined before the start of the first semester by Paideia Stockholm – The European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden. This can take place generally through the student showing an accredited certificate of English proficiency or through the student's interview with a faculty member of Paideia Stockholm – The European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden, carried out either in person or through a video call.

(2) In calculating the above average result, the following can be taken into account:

1. A college/university final mark of at least 2,3 (according to the German marking system)
2. Evidence to which subject an external applicant's final examination(s) was classified by his university is a prerequisite for admission to this master's programme (ranking).

(3) Whether the applicant's previous study can be considered an equivalent qualification, as well as whether the obtained qualification can be considered of a comparable nature, is a decision made by the Examination Board. In recognising foreign qualifications, the recommendations of the Ministry of Education and the Arts as well as agreements within the framework of the Hochschule partnerships should be taken into account. Uncertain cases will be referred to the Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB).

(4) Notwithstanding § 2, para. 2, admission to the consecutive Master's programme Jewish Civilizations may be granted if a Bachelor's degree (or an equivalent qualification) has not yet been awarded due to individual examinations not yet having been completed, and/or if owing to the length of the previous study programme, the examinations have not yet been released, as long as the Bachelor's (or equivalent qualification) will have been awarded and/or the examination results released before the intended start of the Master's programme. The holding of a Bachelor's degree or an equivalent qualification and their concurring standards are, according to § 29, para. 2, sentences 5 und 6 of the Landeshochschulgesetz and § 3, para. 1 and para. 2 of these statutes are prerequisites for admission to postgraduate study and must be fulfilled before beginning a Master's programme. Admission in this instance is granted on the condition that the Bachelor's degree (or equivalent qualification) and the prerequisites that accompany it as in § 29 LHG und § 3, para. 1 und para. 2 of these statutes are provided in due course. Should the Candidate fail to provide the necessary evidence, the offer of admission will be withdrawn.

§ 4 Admissions process

- (1) a) Admission to the Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg is decided upon by the rector, on recommendation of the Admissions Board, after consulting with other lecturers.
- b) A maximum of 20 applicants are admitted per academic year. If the number of qualified applicants who meet the admission requirements exceeds the number of available student places, the admissions committee makes its selection based on the following criteria in descending order:

- i) academic achievement
 - ii) motivation to study
 - iii) social commitment
 - iv) European diversity (this means: an application is given preference if it means that more European countries or regions are represented in the cohort of students admitted in the respective academic year)
- (2) An application will be rejected if:
- a) The normal regulations, as set out in § 2 to 3, have not been complied with and/or
 - b) The candidate has lost his eligibility to be examined in the consecutive Master's programme in Jewish Civilizations or in a course of study with equivalent content, or still has examinations to complete within these courses of study.
- (3) Conditional admission is possible in the case that the admission requirements are not met in their entirety. The Admissions Board can, in such a case, set up a learning contract requiring graded or non-graded study work in addition to that of the consecutive Master's programme Jewish Civilizations, to be completed until the application to begin the Master's dissertation, in order to retroactively compensate missing admission requirements.

§ 5 Admissions Board

The Admissions Board consists of the rector, two lecturers of the Hochschule, as per the statutes of the Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg § 3, para. 1 point 1, as well as a research associate. The rector acts as Chairman of the board. His deputy as well as the other members of the Admission Board and their deputies are appointed for a period of two years by the rector.

§ 6 Implementation

These regulations are effective on October 1st 2024. They are valid for the first time for the winter semester 2025/26. The regulations of August 26th, 2020, in their final version, herewith lose their validity.

Heidelberg, June 19th, 2024

Professor Dr. Werner Arnold
Managing Rector