Preparatory studies for students with refugee experience

Take part in the KOMPETENZ KOMPAKT preparatory studies programme for students with refugee experience at the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences. You will be able to:

- attend selected courses in your subject area with support from subject tutors,
- earn credit points and acquire subject-specific language skills,
- enhance your study strategies and your self-management and intercultural skills,
- obtain advising on all matters related to your studies and get support with your application.

As part of the preparatory studies programme you will also benefit from the following offers:

- Multilingual tutors will accompany and support you in learning the subject-specific language and with getting oriented in everyday student life.
- HAW Hamburg will give you access to the libraries and an open study room with computer workstations.
- Hochschulsport Hamburg will provide you with the opportunity to take advantage of the sports and leisure activities it offers and get to know other students.

Participation in the preparatory studies programme does not result in automatic admission to regular studies at HAW Hamburg. Participants can undertake preparatory studies for a maximum of two semesters and will receive a certificate of participation upon completion.

Participation is free of charge and binding.

Winter semester applications: 1 June–31 July
Summer semester applications: 1 Dec–31 Jan
HAW Hamburg’s preparatory studies programme for students with refugee experience differs from the offers at other universities and applied sciences universities because it is oriented towards your skills and your specific situation.

We want to enable prospective students with refugee experience to start their studies as quickly and successfully as possible. The multilingual tutorials that accompany the courses you attend play an important role here: even before you have achieved university-level language skills (C1), you can learn the subject-specific language, can refresh any subject-related skills which might have been impacted by your situation and can learn more about what it takes to study successfully at HAW Hamburg.

HAW Hamburg’s four faculties offer a large selection of degree courses in engineering and computer science; life sciences; design, media and information; and business and social sciences.

You can find more information about the various Bachelor’s and Master’s degree courses at: haw-hamburg.de/en/courseofferings

The programme is open to qualified prospective students with refugee experience who meet the following criteria:

- You have a higher education entrance qualification (even without proof) or have interrupted your studies.
- You are interested in a degree course offered at HAW Hamburg.
- You have German language skills at the B2 level or higher.
- You live in Hamburg or the surrounding area.

We especially encourage women to apply.

The preparatory studies programme for students with refugee experience is offered by the Centre for Migration Research and Integration Practice as part of the KOMPENZ KOMPAKT programme. Through the project, HAW Hamburg facilitates suitable educational opportunities for people with refugee and migration experience via a systematic emphasis on these individuals’ resources and skills. The preparatory studies programme is funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) with financial support from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).