



Module Catalogue

for the Subject

Ergonomics (Teaching at the German Mittelschule)

as Didaktikfach

with the degree "Erste Staatsprüfung für das Lehramt für
Sonderpädagogik"

Examination regulations version: 2013

Responsible: Faculty of Human Sciences

Responsible: Institute for Political Science and Sociology

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The subject is divided into

section / sub-section	ECTS credits	starting page
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Abbreviations used

Course types: **E** = field trip, **K** = colloquium, **O** = conversatorium, **P** = placement/lab course, **R** = project, **S** = seminar, **T** = tutorial, **Ü** = exercise, **V** = lecture

Term: **SS** = summer semester, **WS** = winter semester

Methods of grading: **NUM** = numerical grade, **B/NB** = (not) successfully completed

Regulations: **(L)ASPO** = general academic and examination regulations (for teaching-degree programmes), **FSB** = subject-specific provisions, **SFB** = list of modules

Other: **A** = thesis, **LV** = course(s), **PL** = assessment(s), **TN** = participants, **VL** = prerequisite(s)

Conventions

Unless otherwise stated, courses and assessments will be held in German, assessments will be offered every semester and modules are not creditable for bonus.

Notes

Should there be the option to choose between several methods of assessment, the lecturer will agree with the module coordinator on the method of assessment to be used in the current semester by two weeks after the start of the course at the latest and will communicate this in the customary manner.

Should the module comprise more than one graded assessment, all assessments will be equally weighted, unless otherwise stated below.

Should the assessment comprise several individual assessments, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.

In accordance with

the general regulations governing the degree subject described in this module catalogue:

LASPO2009

associated official publications (FSB (subject-specific provisions)/SFB (list of modules)):

28-Sep-2015 (2015-173)

This module handbook seeks to render, as accurately as possible, the data that is of statutory relevance according to the examination regulations of the degree subject. However, only the FSB (subject-specific provisions) and SFB (list of modules) in their officially published versions shall be legally binding. In the case of doubt, the provisions on, in particular, module assessments specified in the FSB/SFB shall prevail.

Compulsory Courses

(20 ECTS credits)

Successful completion of modules worth 20 ECTS credits in each subject selected as Didaktikfach (subject studied with a focus on teaching methodology) is a prerequisite for admission to the Erste Staatsprüfung (First State Examination) in the subject Didaktiken einer Fächergruppe der Mittelschule (Didactics of a Group of Subjects of Mittelschule).

Module title		Abbreviation
The structures involved in Arbeitslehre [2] Didactics		o6-AL-BM-092-m01
Module coordinator		Module offered by
Subject Representative (Fachvertreter) Arbeitslehre Didactics		
ECTS	Method of grading	Only after succ. compl. of module(s)
5	numerical grade	--
Duration	Module level	Other prerequisites
1 semester	undergraduate	By way of exception, additional prerequisites are listed in the section on assessments.
Contents		
<p>a) Familiarity with structures, objectives, and characteristics of methods in Arbeitslehre and interrelating these with specific classroom situations. Structure of lecture on methodology (might be replaced by course offered by Virtuelle Hochschule Bayern (vhb) as of the winter semester 2010/11): general theoretical fundamentals of methods for use in the Arbeitslehre classroom; fundamental principles of traditional methods; simulative methods.</p> <p>b) Overview of curriculum designs for the subject of Arbeitslehre; arguments from the area of education policy as well as anthropological, social, and economic arguments to justify contents and objectives of the subject of Arbeitslehre.</p>		
Intended learning outcomes		
<p>After successful completion of the module, students will have become familiar with essential methods in the Arbeitslehre classroom, will have developed the ability to adequately evaluate them with respect to their use in the classroom, and will have become self-reflexive in their actions. They will be able to interrelate what is required of teachers and what is required of pupils when using the respective methods as well as to identify interrelations between a teacher's personality and suitable teaching methods. Students will have developed competencies in the area of media didactics and will be able to evaluate possible ways to use essential media in the Arbeitslehre classroom. In addition, they will be able to produce arguments to justify the educational objectives of the subject of Arbeitslehre and will be able to see the contents and design of curricula in the context of the historical development of the subject as well as to present and implement these in manner that is tailored to the needs of their target group.</p>		
Courses (type, number of weekly contact hours, language — if other than German)		
<p>This module comprises 2 module components. Information on courses will be listed separately for each module component.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • o6-AL-BM-1-092: V (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available) • o6-AL-BM-2-092: S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available) 		
Method of assessment (type, scope, language — if other than German, examination offered — if not every semester, information on whether module is creditable for bonus)		
<p>Assessment in this module comprises the assessments in the individual module components as specified below. Unless stated otherwise, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.</p> <p>Assessment in module component o6-AL-BM-1-092: Methodology for teaching Arbeitslehre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade • written examination (approx. 90 minutes) <p>Assessment in module component o6-AL-BM-2-092: The history, curriculum, educational aims, and conception of Arbeitslehre as a field of study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 ECTS, Method of grading: (not) successfully completed • • Other prerequisites: Admission prerequisite to assessment: regular attendance (minimum 70%) of seminars. 		

Allocation of places
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Additional information
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Referred to in LPO I (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)
§ 38 (1) 1. Didaktik der Hauptschule Arbeitslehre § 38 (1) 1. Didaktik der Mittelschule Arbeitslehre

Module title		Abbreviation
Fundamental principles of Arbeitswissenschaft[1] and Careers Advice Didactics		o6-AL-Beruf-092-mo1
Module coordinator		Module offered by
Subject Representative (Fachvertreter) Arbeitslehre Didactics		
ECTS	Method of grading	Only after succ. compl. of module(s)
5	numerical grade	--
Duration	Module level	Other prerequisites
1 semester	undergraduate	By way of exception, additional prerequisites are listed in the section on assessments.
Contents		
a) Fundamental principles of Arbeitswissenschaft and its sub-disciplines: history, types of evaluation, and forms of work; b) Careers advice didactics: development and aspects of as well as changes in the concept of occupation; development of an occupational classification system; theories of vocational choice with regard to contents and objectives of job-oriented teaching.		
Intended learning outcomes		
After successful completion of the module, students will: have gained an overview of the sub-disciplines of Arbeitswissenschaft and the contributions of related disciplines to the formation of a comprehensive concept of work; be able to reflect upon the fundamental principles of job-oriented teaching; be able to interrelate vocational choice, the vocation, and the labour market; have gained an insight into the systems of enabling pupils to make a good choice of career and preparing them for the world of work as well as vocational training and advanced vocational training systems; have gained an overview of the support that is available from the German Federal Employment Agency, in the form of media or personal assistance, for pupils in the process of exploring career options and choosing a suitable career.		
Courses (type, number of weekly contact hours, language — if other than German)		
This module comprises 2 module components. Information on courses will be listed separately for each module component. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o6-AL-Beruf-1-092: S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available) o6-AL-Beruf-2-092: S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available) 		
Method of assessment (type, scope, language — if other than German, examination offered — if not every semester, information on whether module is creditable for bonus)		
Assessment in this module comprises the assessments in the individual module components as specified below. Unless stated otherwise, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.		
Assessment in module component o6-AL-Beruf-1-092: Careers Advice Didactics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade designing a seminar (approx. 60 minutes) with presentation (20 to 45 slides) and written examination (approx. 45 minutes). Designing a seminar includes providing subject-specific input, giving instructions for assignments, moderating/coordinating the participants' contributions, summarising these contributions as well as demonstrating/delivering/designing a class. Provided the number of participants is large enough, assessment can take the form of a written examination (approx. 90 minutes) instead of designing a seminar. Other prerequisites: Admission prerequisite to assessment: regular attendance (minimum 70%) of seminars. 		
Assessment in module component o6-AL-Beruf-2-092: Fundamental principles of Arbeitswissenschaft <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 ECTS, Method of grading: (not) successfully completed Other prerequisites: Admission prerequisite to assessment: regular attendance (minimum 70%) of seminars. 		

Allocation of places
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Additional information
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Referred to in LPO I (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)
§ 38 (1) 1. Didaktik der Hauptschule Arbeitslehre § 38 (1) 1. Didaktik der Mittelschule Arbeitslehre

Module title		Abbreviation
The Didactics of Business Studies education in the subject of Arbeitslehre		o6-AL-Wirtschaft-092-m01
Module coordinator		Module offered by
Subject Representative (Fachvertreter) Arbeitslehre Didactics		
ECTS	Method of grading	Only after succ. compl. of module(s)
5	numerical grade	--
Duration	Module level	Other prerequisites
1 semester	undergraduate	By way of exception, additional prerequisites are listed in the section on assessments.
Contents		
<p>a) Fundamentals of economics for the purpose of teaching Arbeitslehre: essential concepts for business studies education; relevant fundamental principles of economics; relevant fundamental principles of business management. b) Block-taught seminar: creating products for a particular market using different production methods; practical application of knowledge in the area of the core functions of business; project as an opportunity to deploy and test the students' knowledge of the foundations of economics.</p>		
Intended learning outcomes		
<p>After successful completion of the module, students will have gained an overview of the fundamental concepts and principles of business management and economics that qualifies them for teaching Arbeitslehre; students will be able to apply fundamental elements of this knowledge in the context of a project; students will have developed a sound knowledge of the employment of methods for teaching economics; students will have acquired basic experience with practical assignments related to the core functions of business and will thus be prepared to deliver classes with a focus on pupils setting their own learning objectives, methods, and outcomes in accordance with the respective curriculum.</p>		
Courses (type, number of weekly contact hours, language — if other than German)		
<p>This module comprises 2 module components. Information on courses will be listed separately for each module component.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • o6-AL-Wirtschaft-1-092: S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available) • o6-AL-Wirtschaft-2-092: R (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available) 		
Method of assessment (type, scope, language — if other than German, examination offered — if not every semester, information on whether module is creditable for bonus)		
<p>Assessment in this module comprises the assessments in the individual module components as specified below. Unless stated otherwise, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.</p> <p>Assessment in module component o6-AL-Wirtschaft-1-092: The fundamentals of economics for the purpose of teaching Arbeitslehre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade • • Other prerequisites: Admission prerequisite to assessment: regular attendance (minimum 70%) of seminars. <p>Assessment in module component o6-AL-Wirtschaft-2-092: Creating products for a particular market using different production methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 ECTS, Method of grading: (not) successfully completed • practical examination (25 to 30 hours total) and written elaboration (approx. 10 slides per candidate); practical examination will include the planning, implementation and evaluation of the production of products in project teams 		
Allocation of places		
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Additional information

Additional information will be listed separately for each module component.

- 06-AL-Wirtschaft-1-092: --
- 06-AL-Wirtschaft-2-092: Additional information on module duration: usually offered in the form of a block course.

Referred to in LPO I (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

§ 38 (1) 1. Didaktik der Hauptschule Arbeitslehre

§ 38 (1) 1. Didaktik der Mittelschule Arbeitslehre

Module title		Abbreviation
The fundamental principles of technical education in the subject Arbeit-Wirtschaft Technik [3]		o6-AL-Technik-092-mo1
Module coordinator		Module offered by
Subject Representative (Fachvertreter) Arbeitslehre Didactics		
ECTS	Method of grading	Only after succ. compl. of module(s)
5	numerical grade	--
Duration	Module level	Other prerequisites
1 semester	undergraduate	By way of exception, additional prerequisites are listed in the section on assessments.
Contents		
a) Fundamental principles of technology: relevance and history of technology; natural-scientific foundations of technology; structures involved in technology (basic categories material, energy, and information); aspects of energy and manufacturing engineering; aspects of communication and information technology. b) Evaluation of technology: technology assessment; methods for the evaluation of technology (value engineering, life cycle); introduction to methods for technical education.		
Intended learning outcomes		
After successful completion of the module, students will: have developed an essential knowledge of the relevance, development, and natural-scientific foundations of technology; have gained an overview of the structures involved in technology and of the basic categories of technology; have developed knowledge and skills in the area of technology assessment (examples); have developed knowledge of methods for the evaluation of technology; be able to describe the structures of selected technological systems; have gained an insight into aspects of manufacturing and energy engineering as well as communication and information technology; have become familiar with fundamental methods for technical education in the classroom; be able to apply selected methods for fundamental technical education in practice.		
Courses (type, number of weekly contact hours, language — if other than German)		
This module comprises 2 module components. Information on courses will be listed separately for each module component. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o6-AL-Technik-1-092: Ü (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available) o6-AL-Technik-2-092: S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available) 		
Method of assessment (type, scope, language — if other than German, examination offered — if not every semester, information on whether module is creditable for bonus)		
Assessment in this module comprises the assessments in the individual module components as specified below. Unless stated otherwise, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.		
<p>Assessment in module component o6-AL-Technik-1-092: The fundamental principles and evaluation of technology (VHB)[4]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 ECTS, Method of grading: (not) successfully completed exercises as specified by Virtuelle Hochschule Bayern (vhb) (usually approx. 2 exercises per teaching unit); documentation of solutions to be printed out and submitted to lecturer in Würzburg who will be responsible for grading <p>Assessment in module component o6-AL-Technik-2-092: Practical methods for technical education in the subject of Arbeitslehre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade a) designing a seminar (approx. 60 minutes) with presentation (20 to 45 slides) or b) term paper (approx. 12 pages) or c) documentation portfolio (25 to 30 hours) Designing a seminar includes providing subject-specific input, giving instructions for assignments, moderating/coordinating the participants' contributions, summarising these contributions as well as demonstrating/delivering/designing a class. Other prerequisites: Admission prerequisite to assessment: regular attendance (minimum 70%) of seminars. 		
LA Sonderpädagogik Ergonomics (Teaching at the German Mittelschule) (2013)	JMU Würzburg • generated 17-Sep-2019 • exam. reg. data record Lehr- amt Sonderpädagogik (Mittelschule-Didaktikfach) Arbeitslehre - 2013	page 12 / 18

Allocation of places

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Additional information

Additional information will be listed separately for each module component.

- o6-AL-Technik-1-092: Additional information on module duration: 1 to 2 semesters. Exercise comprises participation in an online seminar offered by Virtuelle Hochschule Bayern (vhb) (approx. 14 teaching units).
- o6-AL-Technik-2-092: Additional information on module duration: 1 to 2 semesters.

Referred to in LPO I (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

§ 38 (1) 1. Didaktik der Hauptschule Arbeitslehre

§ 38 (1) 1. Didaktik der Mittelschule Arbeitslehre

Freier Bereich (general as well as subject-specific electives)

(0-15 ECTS credits)

Teaching degree students must take modules worth a total of 15 ECTS credits in the area Freier Bereich (general as well as subject-specific electives) (Section 9 LASPO (general academic and examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)). To achieve the required number of ECTS credits, students may take any modules from the areas below.

Freier Bereich -- interdisciplinary: The interdisciplinary additional offer for a teaching degree can be found in the respective Annex "Ergänzende Bestimmungen für den "Freien Bereich" im Rahmen des Studiums für ein Lehramt".

Module title		Abbreviation
Preparation for the post educational reality of working life, aimed at pupils needing support with learning and emotional development		o6-AL-ABu-Fö-LuEm-092-mo1
Module coordinator		Module offered by
Subject Representative (Fachvertreter) Arbeitslehre Didactics		
ECTS	Method of grading	Only after succ. compl. of module(s)
2	(not) successfully completed	--
Duration	Module level	Other prerequisites
1 semester	undergraduate	Admission prerequisite to assessment: regular attendance (minimum 70%) of seminars.
Contents		
<p>Contents, objectives, and structure of the curriculum for the subject Berufs- und Lebensorientierung (Careers Advice and Life Orientation, BLO) for Förderstufe IV in schools for pupils needing support with learning and in special education centres; systems to help pupils develop the attitudes, knowledge, and skills necessary for the successful completion of vocational training, systems to promote vocational preparation, systems of advice and support during vocational training as well as systems to help graduates of special education schools develop vocational skills; the work of the German Federal Employment Agency, educational institutions, special education vocational schools (Sonderberufsschule), and vocational training centres for persons with disabilities (Berufsbildungswerk) as well as the respective legal framework; practical strategies for implementing the curriculum for the subject BLO at special education schools; methods in Arbeitslehre for work and job-oriented teaching adapted to meet the needs of that target group.</p>		
Intended learning outcomes		
<p>After successful completion of the module, students will be familiar with the structure, contents, and prescribed learning outcomes of the curriculum for the subject BLO and with several practical examples of its implementation; students will have gained an insight into the interaction of the German Federal Employment Agency with educational institutions, special education vocational schools, and vocational and pre-vocational training centres above company level for persons with disabilities with regard to preparing pupils for vocational training, helping them develop vocational skills and qualifications as well as preparing them for responsible living and for gainful or non-gainful employment; students will have gained an overview of ways to adapt methods of teaching Arbeitslehre with a focus on pupils setting their own learning objectives, methods, and outcomes for work, job, and life-oriented teaching at special education schools for pupils needing support with learning or pupils with behavioural disorders; students will be able to reflect upon opportunities, risks, and possibilities of instruction aimed at bridging the gap between school and the post-educational reality of the regular and subsidised labour markets.</p>		
Courses (type, number of weekly contact hours, language — if other than German)		
S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)		
Method of assessment (type, scope, language — if other than German, examination offered — if not every semester, information on whether module is creditable for bonus)		
a) presentation (approx. 20 minutes) with 15 to 25 slides or b) log (approx. 3 pages) or c) documentation portfolio (approx. 15 hours)		
Allocation of places		
Number of places: 25. Places will be allocated according to the number of subject semesters. Among applicants with the same number of subject semesters, places will be allocated by lot. A waiting list will be maintained and places re-allocated, if and when they become available, according to the order of receipt of applications.		
Additional information		
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Referred to in LPO I (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)		
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Module title		Abbreviation
Preparation for the post educational reality of working life, aimed at pupils needing support with mental and motor development		o6-AL-ABu-Fö-GuM-092-mo1
Module coordinator		Module offered by
Subject Representative (Fachvertreter) Arbeitslehre Didactics		
ECTS	Method of grading	Only after succ. compl. of module(s)
2	(not) successfully completed	--
Duration	Module level	Other prerequisites
1 semester	undergraduate	Admission prerequisite to assessment: regular attendance (minimum 70%) of seminars.
Contents		
<p>Overview of the contents and structure of curricula used in special education centres and schools for pupils needing support with mental and motor development to prepare pupils to face the challenges of working life and promote financial literacy; systems to promote vocational preparation and enable graduates of special education schools to participate in working life; the work of the German Federal Employment Agency, educational institutions, and specialist services for the integration of individuals with disabilities (Integrationsfachdienst) as well as the respective legal framework; sheltered workshops, disability-inclusive employers (Integrationsunternehmen), and external jobs for members of sheltered workshops (Außenarbeitsplatz); methods in Arbeitslehre for work and job-oriented teaching adapted to meet the needs of that target group.</p>		
Intended learning outcomes		
<p>After successful completion of the module, students will be familiar with the curriculum components aimed at preparing pupils for working life and the job market that are relevant for teaching at special education schools for pupils needing support with mental development or pupils with physical and complex disabilities; students will have gained an insight into the interaction of the German Federal Employment Agency with educational institutions, special education vocational schools (Sonderberufsschule), and sheltered workshops with regard to preparing pupils for gainful and non-gainful employment, participation in society, and enabling pupils to participate in working life in accordance with social legislation; students will have gained an overview of ways to adapt methods of teaching Arbeitslehre with a focus on pupils setting their own learning objectives, methods, and outcomes for work, job, and life-oriented teaching at special education schools for pupils needing support with mental development or pupils with physical and complex disabilities; students will be able to reflect upon opportunities, risks, and possibilities of instruction aimed at bridging the gap between school and the post-educational reality of working life.</p>		
Courses (type, number of weekly contact hours, language — if other than German)		
S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)		
Method of assessment (type, scope, language — if other than German, examination offered — if not every semester, information on whether module is creditable for bonus)		
a) presentation (approx. 20 minutes) with 15 to 25 slides or b) log (approx. 3 pages) or c) documentation portfolio (approx. 15 hours)		
Allocation of places		
Number of places: 25. Places will be allocated according to the number of subject semesters. Among applicants with the same number of subject semesters, places will be allocated by lot. A waiting list will be maintained and places re-allocated, if and when they become available, according to the order of receipt of applications.		
Additional information		
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Referred to in LPO I (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)		
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Module title		Abbreviation
Cooperation between schools and Arbeitslehre Didactics departments - the involvement of students in creating lesson plans (with a focus on pupils setting their own)		o6-AL-Koop-Schule-FD-092-mo1
Module coordinator		Module offered by
Subject Representative (Fachvertreter) Arbeitslehre Didactics		
ECTS	Method of grading	Only after succ. compl. of module(s)
3	(not) successfully completed	--
Duration	Module level	Other prerequisites
1 semester	undergraduate	Admission prerequisite to assessment: regular attendance (minimum 70%) of seminars.
Contents		
The fundamental theoretical principles of the delivery of activity/project-based and potentially interdisciplinary lessons in the classroom; the following contents will be selected to suit the lessons offered: working with media typically used in the Arbeitslehre classroom and instructing pupils on how to use them during classes; overview of presentation techniques for the Arbeitslehre classroom and practising them with pupils; the practice of real-life encounters during Arbeitslehre classes at Hauptschule schools; selected problems concerning the teaching of the fundamentals of economics in a manner that is close to the reality of life; selected problems concerning ways to enhance the ability of pupils attending Hauptschule to choose a suitable career.		
Intended learning outcomes		
After successful completion of the module, students will be able to develop and implement a complex teaching project (e. g. gathering information on career opportunities offered by the regional economy, organising placements in industry or "contrast placements" in the social sector, organising field trips, etc.); students will have developed in-depth knowledge, in both theory and practice, of the methods selected; students will be able to describe the possibilities and limitations of teaching methods with a focus on pupils setting their own learning objectives, methods, and outcomes; students will have acquired experience jointly presenting learning outcomes with pupils and will be able to select appropriate presentation techniques.		
Courses (type, number of weekly contact hours, language – if other than German)		
S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)		
Method of assessment (type, scope, language – if other than German, examination offered – if not every semester, information on whether module is creditable for bonus)		
a) written elaboration (approx. 3 pages or 10 slides) or b) designing classes (4 to 6 double periods) or c) presentation (approx. 30 minutes) and documentation (approx. 15 slides)		
Allocation of places		
Number of places: 12. Places will be allocated according to the number of subject semesters. Among applicants with the same number of subject semesters, places will be allocated by lot. A waiting list will be maintained and places re-allocated as they become available.		
Additional information		
The seminar is usually held during semester break and takes place at schools near the University of Würzburg.		
Referred to in LPO I (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)		
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Thesis

(10 ECTS credits)

Preparation of a written Hausarbeit (thesis) in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 LPO I (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes) is a prerequisite for teaching degree students to be admitted to the Erste Staatsprüfung (First State Examination). In accordance with the provisions of Section 29 LPO I, students studying for a teaching degree Mittelschule may write this thesis in the subject Didaktik einer Fächergruppe der Mittelschule (Didactics of a Group of Subjects of Mittelschule), in the subject they selected as Unterrichtsfach (subject studied with a focus on the scientific discipline) or in the subject Erziehungswissenschaften (Educational Science). Pursuant to Section 29 Subsection 1 Sentence 2 LPO I, students may also choose to write an interdisciplinary thesis.