



Deutsche  
Sporthochschule Köln  
German Sport University Cologne

German Sport University

**Since 1947 – Science in the Service of Sport**



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Sporthochschule Köln  
German Sport University Cologne

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20.01.2025



## International Reputation Concentrated in Cologne

- Germany's only and Europe's largest sport university
- Multifaceted research at 19 institutes, four affiliated institutes and five transfer centres
- Unique interdisciplinarity at one location
- Complex social topics examined from different perspectives of sport science
- European-oriented university with modern bachelor's and master's degree programmes
- 65 university partnerships worldwide



## From 1947 ... The History of the German Sport University at a Glance

**1947**

Foundation of the German Sport University in continuation of the tradition of the German College for Physical Education in Berlin, which opened in 1920



**1962**

Takeover by the State of NRW

**1966**

1,000 students



**1982**

Over 5,000 students, 8% from 55 countries

**1952**

285 students



**since 1965**

“German Sport University Cologne“



**1970**

The state of NRW grants the right for the University to confer degrees at both doctoral and post-doctoral levels and the status of a Scientific University

**2001**

Development as a European Sport University



## ... to this Day

**2007**

Introduction of Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes



**2011**

Introduction of Bachelor's and Master's programmes in the teacher training education

**2012**

Over 5,500 students (36% female; 6.5% internationals from 62 countries)



**2024**

5,897 students from 93 countries, 1083 employees

**2010**

Graduation of the 1st Bachelor's year class



**2012**

Expiry of the diploma study courses



**2018**

Move into the Institute Building Natural Sciences and Medicine



## The Campus

- 187.000 m<sup>2</sup> Campus area
- Space for 26 x Cologne Cathedral
- 1.600 trees
- Most modern sports facilities
- Student dorms for more than 450 students
- 400.000 meals a year
- State-of-the-art research building  
Institute Building Natural Sciences and  
Medicine (7.700 m<sup>2</sup>, 12 institutes)





## The Sport Facilities

- 61.000 m<sup>2</sup> sports areas
- 23 gyms, 22 playing pitches
- Indoor and outdoor track and field area (1.600 m<sup>2</sup>)
- Elite training centre (Swimming centre, Hockey and Judo)
- Beach volleyball facilities
- Shooting range
- Dance and music centre
- Multi-purpose halls for spectator sports





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## The President's Office

Left to right

**Univ.-Prof.'in Dr. Bettina Rulofs**  
Vice-President of Studies, Teaching and  
Further Education

**Univ.-Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Bloch** Vice-  
President of Resources and Sustainable  
Development

**Univ.-Prof. Dr. Ansgar Thiel**  
President

**Univ.-Prof. Dr. Tobias Vogt**  
Vice-President of Research und Transfer  
**Marion Steffen**  
Provost

**Univ.-Prof. Dr. Thomas Abel**  
Vice-President of Communication  
and Digital Transformation





## A Sporty Team

Total: 1.083



Professors: 32

Academic staff: 295

Non-academic staff: 326

Assistant lecturers: 181

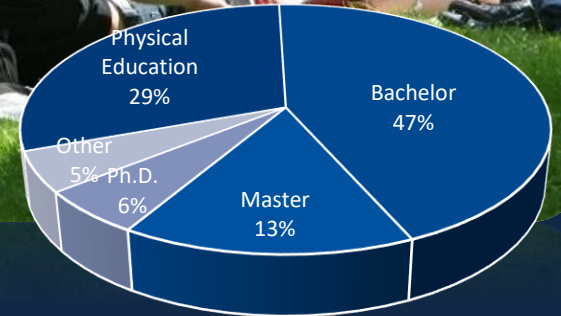
Research & student assistants: 236

Trainees: 1



## Our Students

Total: 5.897 (female: 36%)



Physical Education: 1.689

Ph.D.: 330

Bachelor: 2.801

Other\*: 282

Master: 795

\*Programme students, master's degrees in advanced studies, guest students, German language course.

(summer term 2024)



## Multifaceted Research

Sport and movement as an overarching reference point

### Interdisciplinary:

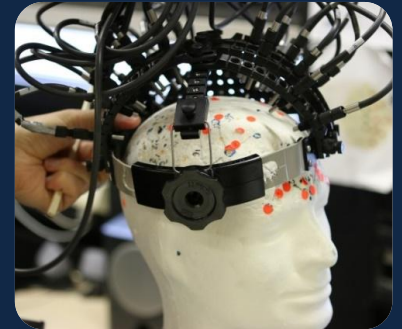
Humanities  
Social sciences  
Natural and Life sciences

### Key topics:

Performance  
Health  
Society  
Education

### Research:

Applied research  
Basic research





## Pioneering Research and Teaching

Development of innovative models from high performance to health sports

Critical and independent authority  
with regard to problematic developments  
in sport (e.g. doping, commercialisation,  
environmental issues)



Adjusted to:

- Changes and problems in the field of sport
- Health security, prevention and rehabilitation
- Social integration and socialisation
- Leisure behaviour





## Forschung in Zahlen

### Publications



Number of Articles in Trade Journals in 2024

Deutsch – 109      Englisch – 257

### PhD



Graduations 2024

**37**

### Third-party funding

#### PER PROFESSOR

2022	492.162 Euro
2023	571.250 Euro
2024	461.818 Euro

### Scientists

At 19 scientific institutes

**339**

### Intermediate evaluation

Psychology in Sport and Exercise (M.Sc)

### Tutorial programme

113 tutorials in 26 disciplines



## The 19 Institutes of the German Sport University

- Institute of Biochemistry
- Institute of Biomechanics and Orthopaedics
- Institute of Cardiology and Sports Medicine
- Institute of Communication and Media Research
- Institute of Dance and Movement Culture
- Institute of European Sport Development and Leisure Studies
- Institute of Exercise Training and Sport Informatics
- Institute of Movement and Neurosciences
- Institute of Movement and Sport Gerontology
- Institute of Movement Therapy and Movement-oriented Prevention and Rehabilitation
- Institute of Outdoor Sports and Environmental Science
- Institute of Pedagogy and Philosophy
- Institute of Professional Sport Education and Sport Qualifications
- Institute of Psychology
- Institute of School Sport and School Development
- Institute of Sport Economics and Sport Management
- Institute of Sport History
- Institute of Sport Law
- Institute of Sociology and Gender Studies



## The Affiliated Institutes and Transfer Centres

### Four affiliated institutes:

- Institute for Occupational Health Promotion
- Institute for Quality Assurance in Prevention and Rehabilitation
- Research Institute for Inclusion through Movement and Sport
- Manfred Donike Institute for Doping Analytics e.V.

### Five transfer centres:

- German Research Centre for Elite Sport Cologne
- Teacher Training Centre
- Centre for Health and Integrative Physiology in Space
- Olympic Studies Centres
- Centre for Preventive Doping Research

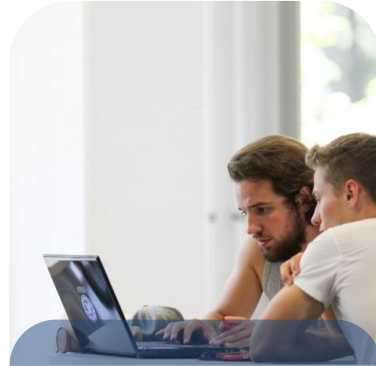


## Gemeinsam zum Erfolg

Enge Verzahnung von Theorie und wissenschaftlich fundierter Praxis



Interdisciplinary Research  
(cross-institutional and  
cross-disciplinary)



Cooperation with foreign  
universities (mutual  
recognition of study and  
examination achievements)



Differentiated training in  
academically oriented  
professional profiles as a  
reliable basis for qualified  
work in the field of sport



Promotion of young  
scientists



## Qualified and International Teaching

- Germany's only and Europe's largest university with a focus on sport and sport sciences
- Studying on the basis of excellent research
- 31 study programmes are offered by the GSU. These include teacher training education at Bachelor's and Master's level for all five school types as well as five Bachelor's degree programmes, nine Master's degree programmes, six Master's of Advanced Studies and the PhD Studies
- The diversity of the educational offers allows precise targeting in a later choice of profession and thus optimally prepares the students for the increasing differentiation of the occupational field of sport
- 65 partnerships with universities worldwide are available for a study visit abroad
- 6,000 students from 93 countries



## Bachelor-Studiengänge



Five sport science  
Bachelor's Degrees  
completed with a  
Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or a  
Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.)

- B.A. Sport Management and Communication
- B.A. Sport and Health in Prevention and Therapy
- B.Sc. Sport and Performance
- B.A. Sport, Adventure and Expressive Movement
- B.A. Sport Journalism
- B.A. Physical Education



## Master's Programme



With its consecutive degree system the German Sport University offers nine Master's degree courses

- M.Sc. Sport Tourism and Destination Management
- M.A. Sport, Media and Communication Research
- M.Sc. Sport Management
- M.Sc. Performance, Training and Coaching in Elite Sport
- M.Sc. Human Technology in Sports and Medicine
- M.A. Rehabilitation, Prevention and Health Management
- M.Sc. Psychology in Sport and Exercise
- M.A. International Sport Development and Politics



## Physical Education (Bachelor & Master)



- B.A. Primary School Teaching
- B.A. Main, Middle and Comprehensive School Teaching
- B.A. Grammar School and Comprehensive School Teaching
- B.A. Technical College Teaching
- B.A. Special Needs School Teaching

The GSU offers teacher training degrees in Physical Education for all types of schools. Students of these degree courses have to study an additional subject at one of the cooperating universities.



## PhD Program



- Ph.D. Exercise Science
- Ph.D. Natural Science
- Ph.D. Social Science

The German Sport University (GSU) confers the academic degree Ph.D. following the successful completion of the Ph.D. studies, a scientific dissertation and an oral examination



## Master´ of Advanced Studies



- M.Sc. Sport Physiotherapy
- M.A. Dance – Mediation, Research, Artistic Practice
- M.A. Olympic Studies
- LL.M. Sport Law
- M.A. Game Analysis

Sieben weiterbildende  
Master-Studiengänge  
können im Sinne der  
quartären Bildung  
berufsbegleitend absolviert  
werden (kostenpflichtig).  
Die Studiendauer beträgt  
2 bis 3 Jahre.



## Physical Aptitude Test

- **19 of 20 individual performances** (Athletics, Gymnastics, Swimming, Team sports, Racket sports) must be completed
- **Endurance** – at the end of the day (2.000 m respectively 3.000 m)
- Date: twice a year
- Costs: 60 Euro
- Validity: three years
- Repetition: as often as you like



June 2025  
1.164  
participants  
728 passed  
(63%)





## Partnerships – with universities worldwide



- More than 40 partner universities in Europe
- 23 partner universities worldwide
- 588 international students
- Students from 93 countries



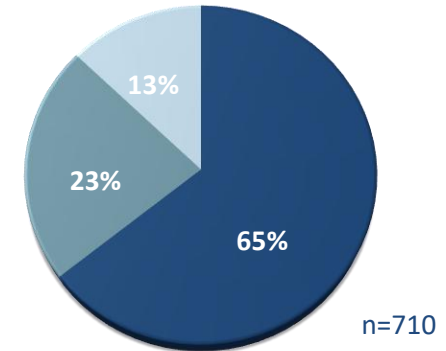
## Graduate Survey

Characteristics of the employment situation (exclusively employed persons)

	GSU Bachelor	GSU Master
Permanent position	55% (n=239)	58% (n=210)
Gross monthly salary (full-time, arithmetic mean)	2.581 € (n=140)	3.061€ (n=156)
Subject-related tasks	71% (n=241)	74% (n=218)
High job satisfaction	62% (n=241)	54% (n=213)

*(summarised data of the graduates 2011-2016)*

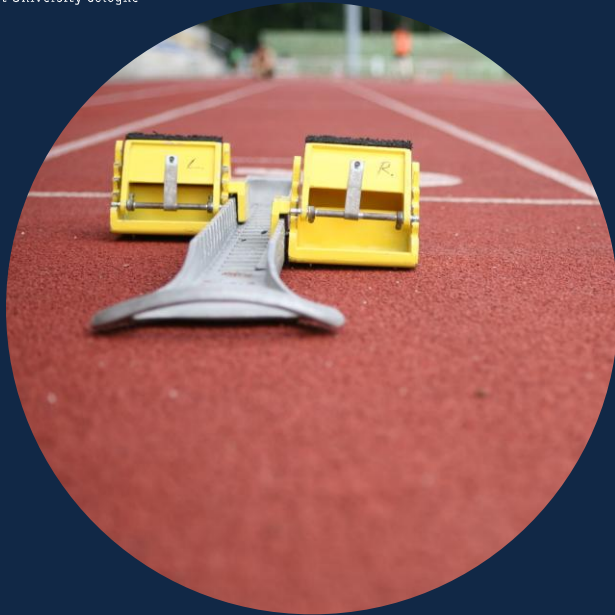
Employment sector



- (Private-) economic area (including self-employed, freelance and honorary work)
- Public area (e.g. civil service/ public administration)
- Non-profit organisations (clubs, federations, churches)



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#### Contact

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