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Double Degree

One Master Programme - Two Degrees in Business Law

Press spokeswoman / Media relations

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The Berlin School of Economics and Law and the Zurich University of Applied Sciences sign a cooperation agreement for a new Master Double Degree programme. It starts in the winter semester of 2021.

The new double degree programme of the Berlin School of Economics and Law (HWR Berlin) and the Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) now offers qualified students the opportunity to acquire two master's degrees upon successful completion of their studies. The President of the HWR Berlin, Prof. Dr. Andreas Zaby, and the Rector of the ZHAW, Prof. Dr. Jean-Marc Piveteau, sealed the cooperation agreement with their signatures in a virtual ceremony on April 30, 2021.

This means that the joint double master's programme can start in parallel with the "Master of Science in Management and Law" in Winterthur and "Corporate Law in an International Context (Master of Laws)" in Berlin for the winter semester 2021/2022. Students complete the first two semesters at their home university, the third semester at the partner university in Berlin or Winterthur and the fourth semester at both institutions. The course achievements are mutually recognized on the basis of the cooperation agreement.

Photo: Sylke Schumann, HWR Berlin

Head of Degree Program Prof. Dr. Stefanie Lorenzen from the HWR Berlin says: "With their special focus, the two courses are a wonderful fit. They complement each other and provide participants with in-depth skills at the interface between management and law as well as an understanding of transnational relationships in companies require practice-oriented specialist and management training at an international level. It is interdisciplinary and international and in two years leads to two complementary master's degrees LL.M and MSc.

Prof. Dr. Peter Münch, head of the ZHAW course, emphasizes major subjects such as corporate management, corporate governance and European business law, which are taught in the related study program at the HWR Berlin. The knowledge about this is particularly relevant for Swiss companies, as the European Union and, above all, Germany are their most important trading partners.

With this double degree, the two universities are intensifying their long-term partnership. Prof. Dr. Andreas Zaby, President of the HWR Berlin, referred to the longstanding and lively student exchange in the undergraduate courses, the exchange of lecturers and joint research projects when signing the agreement.

Photo: Sylke Schumann, HWR Berlin



“The cooperation between the HWR Berlin and the ZHAW is exemplary for a well-functioning international university partnership. With the new double master’s programme, we are taking academic exchange between Berlin and Winterthur to the next level”, says Zaby. “This conclusion of the contract is also a starting signal, because a number of courses for double degree programmes are also available in other disciplines of business administration,” said the President of the HWR Berlin.

The Rector of the ZHAW, Prof. Dr. Jean-Marc Piveteau, emphasizes the great importance of the internationality of both universities as part of their strategy. “With the new double degree programme, we are offering talented and ambitious master’s students from our two universities a qualification that will prepare them well for a career in which they will work together internationally to develop new and sustainable solutions to social problems,” says Piveteau.

The cooperation with the Zurich University of Applied Sciences is one of currently fourteen successful double degree programmes that the HWR Berlin offers together with renowned international partner universities. The HWR Berlin currently has 195 active partnerships with universities on all continents.

Degree Programme Business Law in an International Context

- About the degree programme

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Hochschule für Wirtschaft und Recht (HWR) Berlin

Hochschule für Wirtschaft und Recht (HWR) Berlin, with its 12,000 students, is one of the largest universities of applied sciences. It has a strong practical and international orientation, undertakes intensive and diverse research and maintains high quality standards. Its degree programme portfolio comprises Business, Administration, Law and Security Management as well as Engineering in 60 degree programmes at Bachelor’s, Master’s and MBA levels. HWR Berlin is the largest provider of cooperative study programmes and cooperates with over 700 companies. It promotes knowledge and technology transfer and supports start-up activities through Startup Incubator Berlin. The university maintains 170 active partnerships with universities on all continents and is a member of “UAS7 – Alliance for Excellence”. HWR Berlin is a leader in the internationalization of business administration degree programmes, occupying top positions in Germany-wide rankings compiled by the CHE, the Centre for Higher Education. A country-wide survey run by DEUTSCHLAND TEST repeatedly confirmed the university as a “TOP Business School” for its advanced training. HWR Berlin supports the initiative of the German Rectors’ conference: “Cosmopolitan Universities - Against Xenophobia”.

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