



# Study guide

**International  
Bachelor in  
Social Sciences**

**2023**





Photo: Lisbeth Holten

International Bachelor in Social Sciences	3
Why study International Bachelor in Social Sciences?	4
Programme structure	5
Bachelor subjects	6
Being a student at Roskilde University	8
Example: Weekly schedule	9
Example: The first semester	9
Master programmes	10
Need guidance?	11

This study guide shows the range of bachelor's programmes and bachelor's subjects per 1 January 2023. We reserve the right to make changes to our range of study opportunities and entry requirements after this date.

Check [ruc.dk](https://ruc.dk) for updated information.

# International Bachelor in Social Sciences

**The International Bachelor in Social Sciences offers you an international and interdisciplinary perspective on social sciences and gives you the opportunity to specialise in one or two bachelor subjects.**

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**Social sciences identify societal problems and challenges, like climate change or societal impact of covid-19, which it analyses in order to better understand a specific problem that exist at national level and/or global level. Social sciences study the relations between societal structures and agencies, for example examining change to the economic structures in a country, or the role of actors in changing societies.**

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At the International Bachelor in Social Sciences, you will work with social sciences from an international perspective. You will study together with both Danish students and students from other countries. This gives you a multicultural study and learning environment. The programme is taught in English, this means that you will have to read and write academic English for both your courses, exams and projects.

Moreover, all teaching and course literature is in English. The academic staff come from different countries, and from different academic fields of social sciences including geography, political science and international relations.

During the first year on the International Bachelor in Social Sciences, you will have courses in political science, sociology, economics, planning, spaces and resources. You will work interdisciplinary, and will gain knowledge of key social science concepts, theories, and methods. This will form the foundations of your academic knowledge regardless of the subjects you select for your specialisation.

From the second year, you start to specialise in either one or two subjects. You can choose from a predefined list of combinations from social sciences, or you can combine your social science subject with a subject in the humanities or natural sciences.

The programme has a strong focus on methods, and each semester you will have a course in different social science methods, starting with introductory courses. In your final year you will have more specialised method courses. The methods courses will provide you with strong competencies to investigate and analyse relevant problems in society, both quantitatively and qualitatively.

In addition to your courses, you will carry out project work, where you will be part of a project group, and together with 3-4 other students you will identify and investigate a societal problem. During the project work, you will apply your theoretical knowledge and methodological tools from the courses.

Some examples of issues which you can work on in your projects are:

- Is Brexit threatening human rights protections of foreigners in the UK?
- Protecting national interests? – Policies on pharmaceuticals in India
- How does digital activism challenge political systems?
- Are international institutions in a globalized world – a blessing or a curse?

## Admission requirements

- English at Danish B-level
- Mathematics at Danish B-level
- History *or* Social Science *or* Contemporary History *or* History of Ideas at Danish B-level
- 6.0 on the Danish 7-point grading scale from your entry qualification

Read more about admission requirements and deadlines for international students:

[ruc.dk/en/admission-bachelors-programmes](https://ruc.dk/en/admission-bachelors-programmes)

# Why study International Bachelor in Social Sciences?



**You get a good foundation in social sciences before choosing your specialisation**

The first half of your bachelor programme at Roskilde University will give you a broad introduction to social sciences. You will gain knowledge of central theories and methods in social sciences. This introduction to social sciences and how to work academically will give you a solid foundation for choosing one or two bachelor subjects that you will specialise in.



**You get an interdisciplinary education with a specialisation in one or two bachelor subjects**

Your specialisation gives you knowledge that you apply in your project work, where you analyse societal problems from multiple perspectives, thereby encouraging you to think interdisciplinary. Therefore, as a student at Roskilde University you work beyond traditional academic subject boundaries to analyse complex societal problems.



**You learn to manage projects and examine actual societal problems**

The guiding pedagogical framework for learning at Roskilde University is problem-orientated project work. This approach to teaching and learning is a way to investigate and understand complex, societal problems and challenges. Project work constitutes 50% of your studies. In your project work, you can choose to work with a company or other types of organisations to investigate and analyse a societal problem that you find interesting. Problem-oriented project work is about identifying a problem and using the existing knowledge in an academic field and carrying out your own research together with your project group, thereby creating new knowledge yourself.



**You will be taught and supervised by professors**

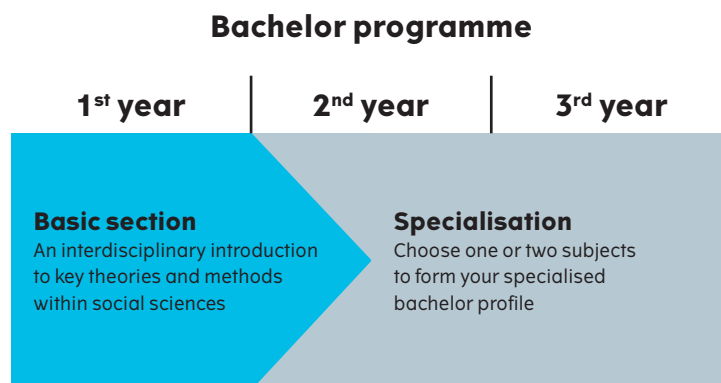
International Bachelor in Social Sciences is a research-based programme. you will be taught and supervised by academic staff, who carry out cutting-edge re-search, and who will bring the latest knowledge into both courses and project supervision. Moreover, your project group will have a supervisor, who will give you feedback on you project ideas and discuss your project progress.

# Programme structure

**Your bachelor programme starts with one year of studying fundamental theories and methods within the scientific field of social sciences. This phase is followed by your specialisation in one or two bachelor subjects.**

You will be introduced to the main theories and methods within social sciences during the first half of your bachelor programme. At the same time, you will carry out project work, where you investigate societal problems using theories and methods from your courses together with 3-4 fellow students. Working together with other students enables you to discuss the project, give each other feedback and learn from each other. Group work facilitates your learning and is an important part of studying at Roskilde University.

In your second half of the degree programme, you will specialise in one or two bachelor subjects, where you can choose between different subjects and you can combine these subjects for example: International Studies combined with Business Studies. See page 7 for an overview of the available subjects and combinations.

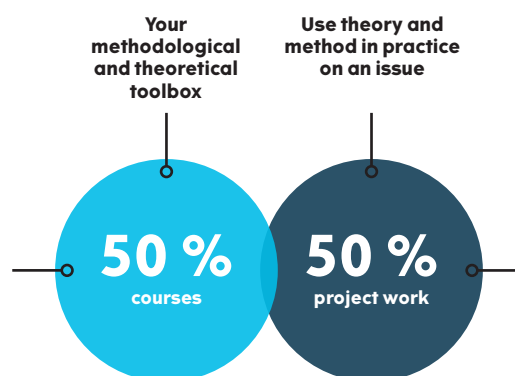


## Courses and project work

International Bachelor in Social Sciences consists of 50% courses and 50% project work.

The courses take place as lectures, workshops and classroom teaching. You will have fewer on-campus classes than you have been used to in high school. As a university student you are expected to work independently and take responsibility for your own learning, this includes preparing for class and working in your project group.

You can expect to spend approximately 7 hours of preparation for each class.



The project work is where you and your group of fellow students work to identify, illuminate, understand, and explain societal problems. It is during project work that you learn to apply the theoretical and methodological tools that you have learned during your courses.

The characteristics of this way of learning is that you and your fellow students create new knowledge for yourselves – based on scientific investigation – rather than just adopting knowledge created by others.



# Bachelor subjects

## Choose your specialisation as a part of International Bachelor in Social Sciences:

### **Business Administration** (single subject)

Business Administration is a business specialisation which involves the classic disciplines such as organisation, sale, financial management, accounting, finance and business law. Moreover, Business Administration includes project management as an analytical and practical discipline in leading and managing a group of people.

Business Administration at Roskilde University is distinctive due to the focus on interdisciplinarity problem-based project learning. The unique aspect of the BSc Business Administration at Roskilde University is the focus on project work as a pedagogic tool for learning, and furthermore the programme puts a special focus on interdisciplinarity between the classic disciplines within business economics.

Business Administration will give you the recognised HA degree title and after your Master degree in Business Administration you will receive the degree title cand.merc.

[ruc.dk/bachelor/business-administration](http://ruc.dk/bachelor/business-administration)

### **Business Studies** (combination subject)

The aim of the specialisation in Business Studies is to provide the student with insights into important issues in business economics including relevant aspects of a company's finances, organisation and sales. This is primarily achieved through studies grounded in theory and analysis.

The Business Studies specialisation will enable you to apply aspects of key business economics theories and methods in company analyses. You will develop and substantiate knowledge of company processes and business economics issues. Moreover, you will develop an understanding of interdisciplinary approaches, including financial, organisational and managerial aspects of companies and processes in the corporate field.

Finally, the specialisation will give you the ability to comprehend complex problems, collect and process relevant information, and draw up accurate conclusions and analyses in aspects of business administration.

[ruc.dk/bachelor/business-studies](http://ruc.dk/bachelor/business-studies)

### **International Studies** (single subject or combination)

International Studies focuses on global institutions and norms, international politics and security and international political economy and development. You will learn about debates on globalization, the consequences of globalization and possible responses. International Studies focus on the role of a wide range of actors, including states, international organisations, corporations, markets, interest groups and non-governmental organisations. you will thereby come to understand the role of these actors in different settings.

International Studies is an interdisciplinary subject module that combines international development studies, international relations and EU studies. This will enable you to analyse structural inequalities between rich and poor parts of the world. You will be able to analyse and understand conflict, security, war, institutions, identities, and power in a global setting. Finally, you will learn about the European integration process and the limits and possibilities for cooperation among European states.

A bachelor's degree in international studies qualifies you to several Master programmes, for instance 'Global and Development studies' and 'International Politics and Governance'.

[ruc.dk/bachelor/international-studies](http://ruc.dk/bachelor/international-studies)

# SUBJECT DESCRIPTIONS

## Other bachelor subjects, you can choose as a part of international bachelor in Social Sciences:

### Communication Studies

At Communication Studies you will acquire fundamental communication skills. Studying the whole communication circuit from senders to message to audiences, Communication Studies takes into account the social, cultural and technological contexts that both constrain and enable communicative processes.

<ruc.dk/bachelor/communication-studies>

### Social Psychology of Everyday Life

Social Psychology of Everyday Life focuses on Social Psychology in a global context. It deals with the questions of how humans think and react, why humans think and act as they do, and how they interact with culture and society through their actions.

<ruc.dk/bachelor/social-psychology-everyday-life>

### Cultural Encounters

Cultural Encounters focuses on the study of cultural identities and symbolic representational and interpretational forms through an international, cross-cultural and global perspective. It is particularly concerned with problems related to processes where cultural identities and representations interact and are exchanged.

<ruc.dk/bachelor/cultural-encounters>

## POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS:

Business Administration	Business Studies	International Studies
Must be studied as a single-subject bachelor programme	must be combined with one of the following subjects	Single-subject bachelor or must be combined with one of the following subjects
	↓	↓
	Communication Studies	Business Studies
	Cultural Encounters	Communication Studies
	International Studies	Cultural Encounters
	Social Psychology of Everyday Life	Social Psychology of Everyday Life

Please be aware that the combination options may change.  
Check <ruc.dk/bachelor/international-bachelor-social-sciences>

# Being a student at Roskilde University

At International Bachelor in Social Sciences you will become part of a vibrant social community and academic network of students from Denmark and from around the world. From your first day you will belong to a team, known as SIB, which consists of approximately 80 fellow students. SIB will be your base and home for the first half of your programme. You can choose to be active in the student academic committee, which organises social and academic activities, like pub quizzes with questions set by a professor or board game evenings.

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**It takes commitment,  
independence and  
responsibility to study  
International Bachelor  
in Social Sciences**

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## **Become a part of the International Community**

International Community is a student driven organisation that facilitates events and you can join the workshop, the cooking-and-dining nights, the sport events, the game nights – or the virtual alternatives.

When you begin your studies at Roskilde University, you will encounter a different structure to your daily life compared to what you may have been used to before. You will have fewer on-campus lessons and you will be challenged with higher demands of independent preparation for your courses.

At the same time you will begin your project work together with your group of fellow RUC-students. It's up to you and the group to plan your own time and complete the necessary tasks in order to make progress throughout the semester – guided by one of the professors from your programme.

It is your responsibility to schedule and carry out the work which you need to complete in order to contribute to the shared goals in your project group.

Throughout the semester leading professors and lecturers will guide you and give you feedback in your group project and for individual exams, and you will be given assignments and tests as you make your academic progression. By the end of the semester, you and your project group will have an oral exam on the project report that you have handed in as a result of the semester's project work.

It requires independence and taking responsibility to be a student at the International Bachelor in Social Sciences. In return you will develop knowledge, skills and competences that employers all over the world look for in their employees, especially the ability to solve present and future challenges ranging from climate change, politics, economics, immigration and integration, etc.



# Example: Weekly schedule (September)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8.15-10.00	Course: Political Science  Short lectures and interactive exercises	Course: Methods in Social Sciences  Short lectures and interactive exercises	Course preparation: Sociology	Course: Sociology  Short lectures and interactive exercises	Project work		
10.15-12.00							
Lunch							
13.15-15.00	Course preparation: Methods in Social Sciences	Supervisor meeting and project work	Work on course assignment: Sociology	Deadline Sociology- assignment	Project work		Course preparation: Political Science
15.15-17.00		Library					

- On campus at Roskilde University
- On campus at Roskilde University, at home or elsewhere

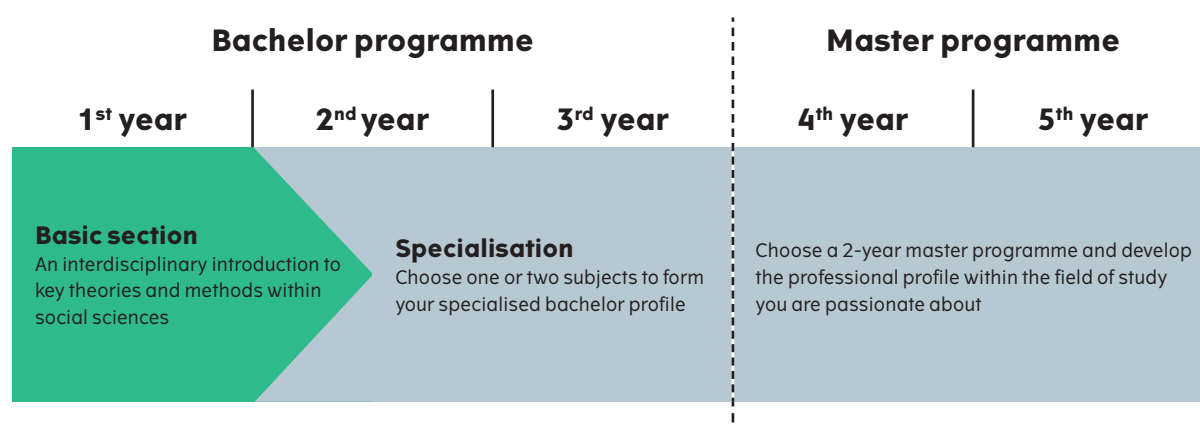
In the beginning of a semester, most of your study-time will focus on your courses . This changes and by the end of the semester you will be working full time – or more – on your project.

# Example: A fall semester

	September	October	November	December	January
<b>Project work</b>	Forming the project groups	Midterm- evaluation	Intensive project work	Handing in the project	Project-exam
<b>Courses</b>	Courses 2-3 times a week in the form of lectures, workshops and classroom teaching			Courses end	Written exams

# Master programmes

With a bachelor from Roskilde University, you have direct access to enroll in one of our master programmes.



**Most students from International Bachelor in Social Sciences continue at one of the following master programmes:**

- MSc in Business Administration and Leadership
- MSc in Global and Development Studies
- MSc in International Politics and Administration
- MA in Media and Communication

Other master programmes at Roskilde University:

- Msc in Chemical Biology
- Msc in Computer Science
- Msc in Environmental Science
- Msc in Mathematical Bioscience
- Msc in Nordic Urban Planning Studies
- Msc in Physics and Scientific Modelling
- Msc in Social Entrepreneurship and Management

Please note that the different master programmes have different admission requirements. More info about admission:

[ruc.dk/en/admission-masters-programmes](https://ruc.dk/en/admission-masters-programmes)

See which of Roskilde University's master programmes that your bachelor degree + your subjects give you direct access to.  
[ruc.dk/en/master/preapproved-programmes](https://ruc.dk/en/master/preapproved-programmes)



# Need guidance?

Talk to one of RUC's student counselors if you have questions about your choice of study programme. Maybe you need some advice on your options or how to choose a bachelor programme. In any case, you are always welcome to contact us, and we will do our best to help you.

Also, take the opportunity to participate in our workshops where you can get information on admission requirements and admission processes as well as information on our study programmes. You will find more information at [ruc.dk](https://ruc.dk).

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## → Write us

[guidance@ruc.dk](mailto:guidance@ruc.dk)

## → Call us

+45 4674 2424  
Monday—Friday:  
10—11.30

## → Meet us

Student Hub  
Building 01  
Roskilde University  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday:  
12—14.00

[ruc.dk/en/contact-study-guidance-bachelor](https://ruc.dk/en/contact-study-guidance-bachelor)





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