

Regulation of the teaching load: the Teaching Obligations Ordinance (Lehrverpflichtungsverordnung)

For many of you, teaching is an essential part of your everyday work at the university. Your teaching load is determined in the Teaching Obligations Ordinance - LVV.

Basis of the teaching obligation: the semester hour per week.

The basis for the calculation is the teaching hour, better known as the semester hour per week (SWS = Semesterwochenstunde). One teaching hour or semester hour is a unit of 45 minutes. One teaching hour of 45 minutes per lecture week means teaching 1 SWS. Preparation and follow-up work does not count towards the teaching load, but is of course part of the working time. However, depending on the type of course, only part of it may count towards the teaching load. Courses that are scheduled according to the subject curriculum are taken into account. The supervision of Bachelor's and Master's theses will be credited up to a maximum of 3 SWS, depending on the effort involved.

Different groups of persons, different teaching obligations

The extent of the teaching obligation depends on the type of employment. Research assistants, for example, have a teaching obligation of 4 to 8 SWS, for academic councillors and senior councillors the teaching load is between 5 and 9 SWS. Teachers in higher education and LfBA have to teach 16 SWS. The LVV does not apply to employees who are paid from third-party funds. They have no teaching obligations.

Reduction of the scope of teaching duties

By taking on other tasks in addition to teaching, the teaching load can be reduced up to complete exemption. A severe disability reduces the individual teaching obligation by up to 25% depending on the degree of disability. Part-time employees must teach correspondingly fewer SWS.

A source of conflict: teaching loads?

The determination of the teaching load in a specific case, the crediting of courses and the consideration of supervised theses can lead to disagreements. Contact us if you have any questions or if there are differences of opinion when determining your teaching load.

Do you have any questions? Please feel free to talk to us!

For further reading:

Teaching Obligation Ordinance
(Lehrverpflichtungsverordnung – LVV):

https://recht.nrw.de/lmi/owa/br_text_anzeigen?v_id=10000000000000000609