



# The implementation of the newly developed accreditation system of Germany

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# *Akkreditierungsrat* (Accreditation Council)

- *Stiftung zur Akkreditierung von Studiengängen in Deutschland* (Foundation for the Accreditation of Study Programmes in Germany)
- Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Republic of Germany of 16 December 2004
- Primary mission is to organize quality assurance mechanisms in Germany through accreditation of study programs
- Accreditation Council as the executor of the foundation



# Responsibilities of the Accreditation Council

- Certifies accrediting agencies by establishing procedural rules and criteria
- Informs higher education institutions and society of its actions and objectives
- Refines the system and helps the HEIs assume responsibility for quality of teaching & learning
- Represents Germany internationally
- Participates in the development of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA)
- Co-operates with other agencies



# Program accreditation

- Legal foundations: *Common Structural Guidelines of the Länder for Accreditation of Bachelor and Master Programs 10.10.2003* (amended in 2005)
- Consecutive B + M may be accredited if they do not exceed a total of 5 years of study
- Special regulations apply to state-regulated programs (e.g. medicine, law) or ecclesiastical programs



# Bachelor and Master Degree Accreditation

- Prescribed as a directive of the Conference of German Cultural Ministers, must be included in legislation of each state
- Established at both universities, university-level institutions and at *Fachhochschulen* (Universities of Applied Sciences)
- Bachelor programs can be established even if no corresponding Master program is established at the same institution
- Program lengths should not exceed five years total (300 ECTS credits)
- “More Practice-Oriented” vs “More Research-Oriented” study profile is not required for Bachelor degrees, but it IS required for Master degree programs



# Master degree program profile types

- Consecutive
- Non-Consecutive
- Further Education



# Accreditation System Characteristics

- Based on the *Criteria for the Accreditation of Study Programs*
- Decentralized
- Agencies sign a contract
- Agencies are subject to periodic re-accreditation
- Accreditation process composed of a number of stages, including peer review and on-site visits



# Accreditation process results

- Granted
  - Granted with condition
  - Abandoned process
  - Rejected
- 
- All four levels apply to program accreditation as well as accrediting agency accreditation process





# Accredited Agencies (I)

- **ACQUIN** (Accreditation Certification & Quality Assurance Institute) [www.acquin.org](http://www.acquin.org)
- Located in South-East Germany
- Re-accreditation due in 2011
- Accredits B + M degrees in all subject fields and selected international programs



# Accredited Agencies (II)

- **AHPGS** (Accreditation Agency for Study Programs in Health and Social Sciences) [www.ahpgs.de](http://www.ahpgs.de)
- Re-accredited in March 2009
- Accredits B + M degree programs in health and social science fields, including fine arts and music



# Accredited Agencies (III)

- **AKAST** (Agency for Quality Assurance & Accreditation of Canonical Study Programs)  
[www.akast.info](http://www.akast.info)



# Accredited Agencies (IV)

- **AQAS** (Agency for Quality Assurance by Accreditation of Study Programs) [www.aqas.de](http://www.aqas.de)
- Re-accreditation due in 2012
- Located in Bonn
- Accredits all fields



# Accredited Agencies (V)

- **ASIIN** (Accreditation Agency for Study Programs in Engineering, Informatics, Natural Sciences and Mathematics) [www.asiin.de](http://www.asiin.de)
- Accredits programs in the above-listed subject areas, including selected international programs



# Accredited Agencies (VI)

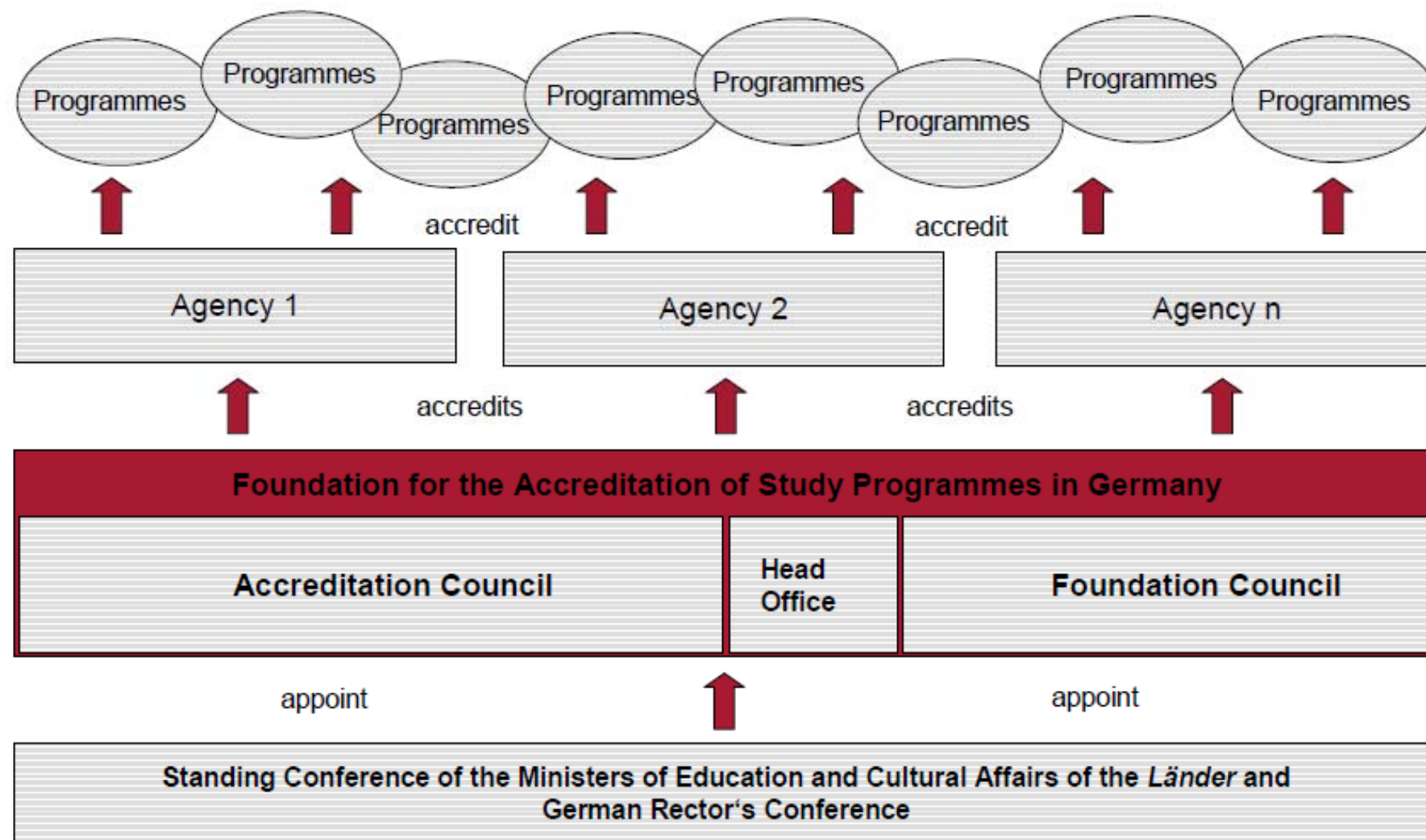
- **FIBAA** (Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation) [www.fibaa.org](http://www.fibaa.org)
- Located in Switzerland (Zürich) with a branch in Bonn
- Re-accreditation by the German Accreditation Council due in 2012 (also accredited by the Dutch accreditation council)
- Accredits business-related programs, recently also extended its accreditation scope to fields of law and social sciences



# Accredited Agencies (VII)

- **ZEVA** (Central Evaluation & Accreditation Agency Hannover) [www.zeva.org](http://www.zeva.org)
- Founded by the government of *Niedersachsen* (Lower Saxony) for the purpose of evaluation of HEIs in its own state
- Renamed in 2000 and adopted accreditation resolution principles of the German Accreditation Council

## The Accreditation System in Germany







# Statistical Data

- By 2006, total of accredited programs was 2,100 (35% of B + M programs which represented more than half of all programs listed on the HRK Compass website)
- In 2009, total of accredited programs is:
  - 2,407 Bachelors
  - 2,068 Masters
  - 30 Diploms/Magisters
  - Includes 58 distance education programs at the Bachelor level
  - Includes 176 international programs



# Top 3 fields of study among accredited programs

- Engineering: 1,368
- Language and Cultural Studies: 1,052
- Mathematics and Natural Sciences: 968



# Accredited Programs Database

- [http://www.hochschulkompass.de/kompass/xml/akkr/maske\\_en.html](http://www.hochschulkompass.de/kompass/xml/akkr/maske_en.html) (direct link)
- <http://www.akkreditierungsrat.de> (home page of the Accreditation Council)

Akkreditierte Studiengänge - Zentrale Datenbank - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www.hochschulkompass.de/kompass/xml/akkr/80540\_71029\_en.htm

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TU Dortmund - Gestufte Lehrerbildung Google Image Result for http://www.... Akkreditierte Studiengänge - Ze...

## ■ Accredited Degree Programmes - Central Database - Detailed View

### Health industry (career-integrated), Baccalaureate / Bachelor, University of Applied Sciences for Medium-Sized Companies (FHM)

Subject	Health industry (career-integrated)
Degree Awarded	Bachelor of Arts
Standard Length of Studies	12 Trimester
Special form of studies	part time
Higher Education Institution	University of Applied Sciences for Medium-Sized Companies (FHM)
Faculty/Department	Fachhochschule des Mittelstands (FHM) Bielefeld, Ravensberger Straße 10 G, 33602 Bielefeld, www.fhm-mittelstand.de, www.fhm-bielefeld.de
Contact Person	Prof. Dr. Uwe Sander / Ramona Bauer
Phone	+49 521 – 9 66 55 - 21
Fax	+49 521 – 9 66 55 - 11
E-mail	gesundheit@fhm-mittelstand.de
Accredited	Yes
accredited by	Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA)
Date of first accreditation	07.02.2006
Period of Accreditation	31.10.2009
Conditions	Keine
Profile of the Degree Programme	Die Fachhochschule des Mittelstands Bielefeld (FHM) gGmbH ist im Jahr 2000 als Hochschule in privater Trägerschaft gegründet worden. Träger ist die gemeinnützige FHM-Träger-GmbH, deren Gesellschafter die Stiftung Bildung & Handwerk, die Handwerkskammern in Nordrhein-Westfalen und der Westdeutsche Handwerkskammertag sind. Die staatliche Anerkennung durch das Ministerium für Schule, Wissenschaft und Forschung des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen erfolgte im Mai 2000. Zum Oktober 2000 nahm die Hochschule den Studienbetrieb auf. Das aktuelle Studienangebot umfasst die Diplom-Studiengänge Betriebswirtschaft und Medienwirtschaft und den weiterbildenden Masterstudiengang: Controlling und Management in der Gesundheitswirtschaft.  Im Bachelor-Studiengang Gesundheitswirtschaft sollen wissenschaftsbasiert, anwendungsorientierte Kenntnisse und Fähigkeiten vermittelt werden, die dazu qualifizieren, Fach- und Führungsfunktionen unter den besonderen Bedingungen kleiner und mittelständischer Unternehmen wahrzunehmen.

Done

Below is the image at: [www.hochschulkompass.de/.../80830\\_71029\\_en.htm](http://www.hochschulkompass.de/.../80830_71029_en.htm)

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## Degree programme in Detail

Degree program	Health industry (career-integrated) (Bachelor - University of Applied Sciences for Medium-Sized Companies (FHM))	<div><small>Stiftung zur Akkreditierung von Studiengängen in Deutschland</small> <b>Akkreditierungsrat</b> ■ <a href="#">Accreditation information in detail</a></div>
Degree Awarded	Bachelor of Arts	
Standard Length of Studies	12 Trimester	
Accredited	Yes	
Subsequent master possible	Yes	
Comment of the higher education institution	Career-integrated course	
Special form of studies	part time	
Admission Mode	selection by the HEI	
Admission Semester	fall trimester	
Entrance requirement	Hochschuleigenes Auswahlverfahren	
	<a href="#">Dates and Deadlines</a>	
Main course language	German	
Course language(s)	English	
Disciplines	Economics; Health; Health sciences	
Fee	375.00 EUR / Monat	
Comment on the fee	Bei einem berufsbegleitenden Studium (Studiendauer vier Jahre) beträgt die monatliche Studiengebühr 375,00 EUR.	
	<a href="#">Internet site</a>	
	<a href="#">Contact</a>	



# Old vs new degree programs

- Traditional system:
  - Diploma (in most fields) or Magister Artium (in some fields)
  - State exam (*Staatsexamen*) in selected licensable professions, e.g. law, medicine, dentistry, teacher training etc.
- Reformed system:
  - Bachelor and Master degrees in most fields
  - State exam in same professional fields, but transitioning to B + M in some states

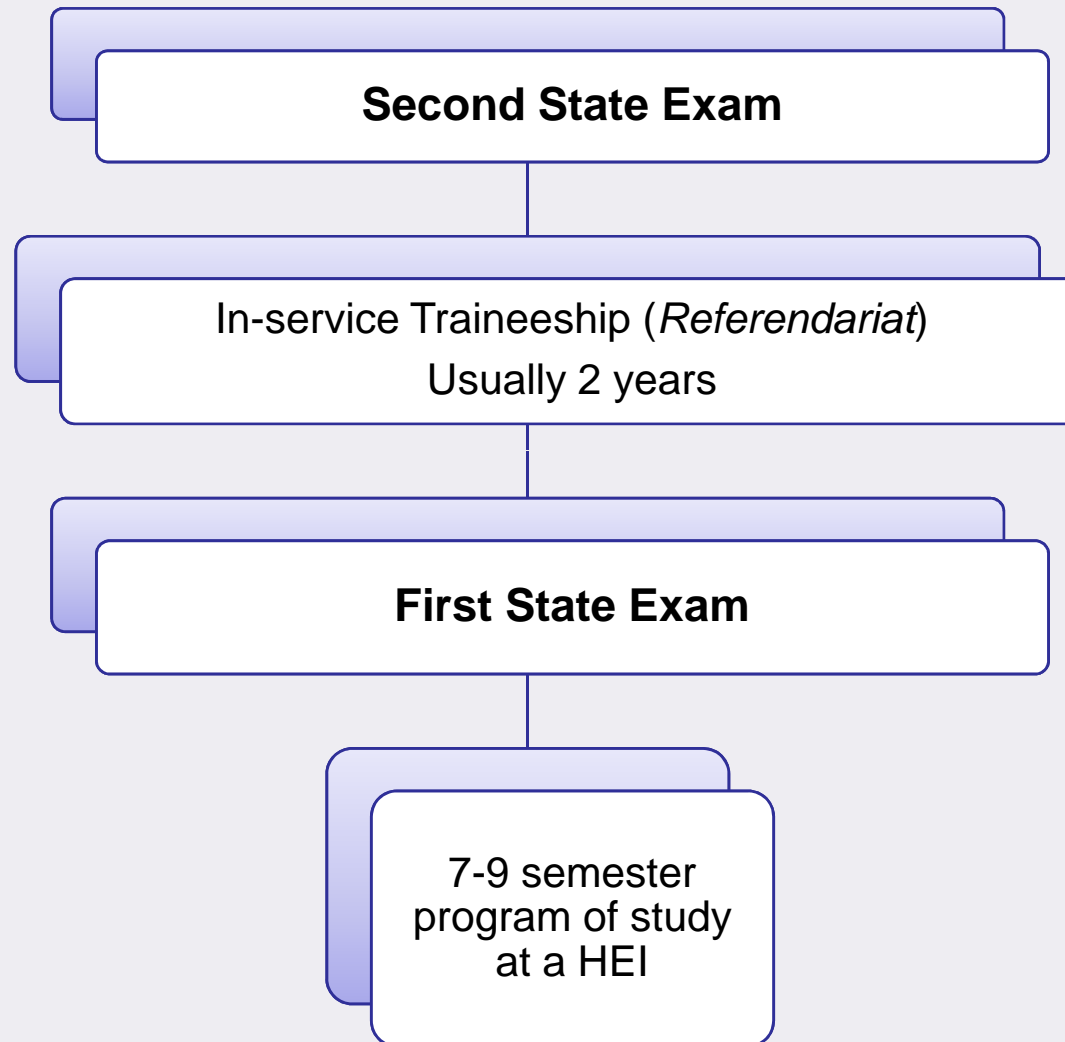


# Teacher training degree transition

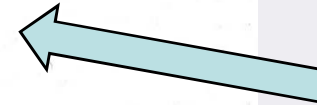
- Most diverse field in German higher education
  - Multitude of qualifications(certification levels and teaching majors)
  - Variety of institution types offering instruction (e.g. *Pädagogische Hochschule in Baden Württemberg*, but nowhere else)



# State Exam scheme







# ZEUGNIS



hat vor dem Prüfungsamt für Lehramtsprüfungen Berlin die

**Erste Staatsprüfung für das Amt des Studienrats**

**mit der Gesamtnote - gut - bestanden (1,93).**

Sie hat damit die fachlichen Voraussetzungen für die Zulassung zum Vorbereitungsdienst für das Amt des Studienrats erworben.

Die Leistungen wurden bewertet in

der wissenschaftlichen Hausarbeit	mit	sehr gut	(1,30)
der Erziehungswissenschaft und Fachdidaktik Biologie	mit	sehr gut	(1,30)
dem ersten Prüfungsfach Biologie	mit	befriedigend	(2,77)
dem zweiten Prüfungsfach Englisch	mit	gut	(1,65)

Ihre wissenschaftliche Hausarbeit galt dem Thema:

*Kriteriengeleitetes Vergleichen und elementares Ordnen - Empirische Studie zur  
Klassifikation von Pflanzen unter besonderer Berücksichtigung von Schülervorstellungen*

Die Prüfung wurde nach der Verordnung über die Ersten Staatsprüfungen für die Lehrämter vom 1. Dezember 1999 (GVBl. 56. Jg. Nr. 1, S. 1), zuletzt geändert durch Gesetz vom 6. November 2000 (GVBl. S. 473), durchgeführt.

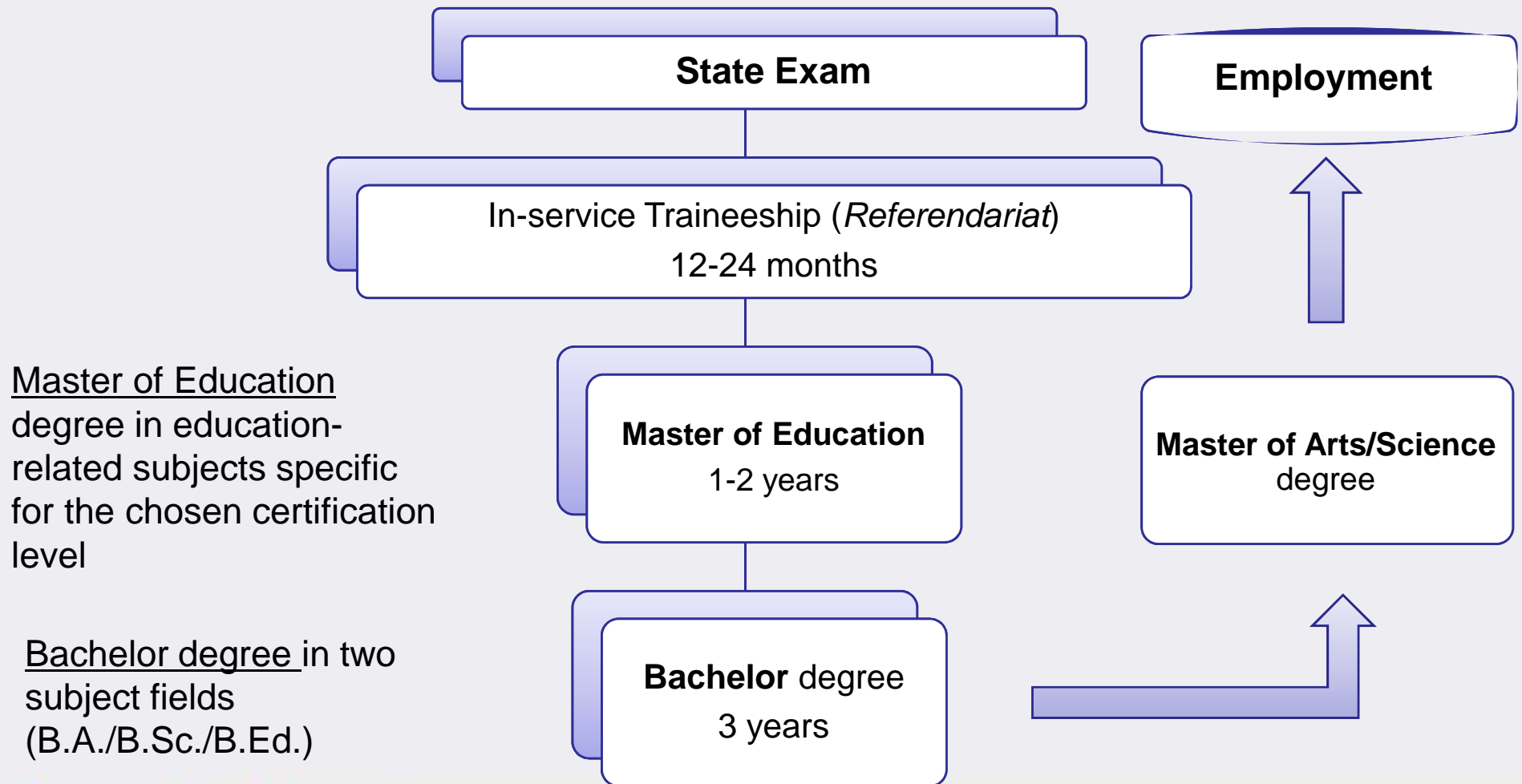
Berlin, den 05. Mai 2006

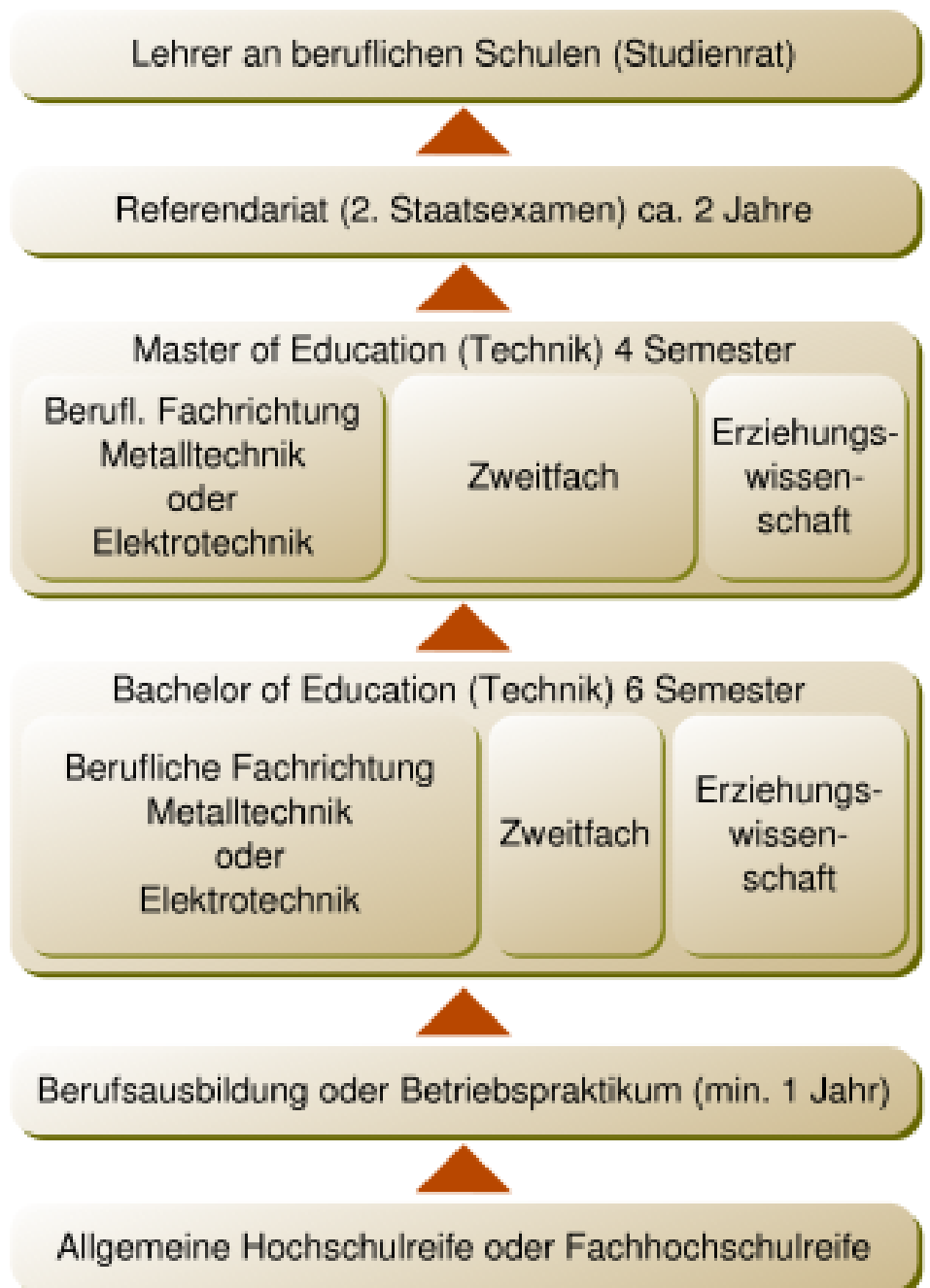
Prüfungsamt für Lehramtsprüfungen Berlin  
In Vertretung

Dr. Fest  
Oberschulrat

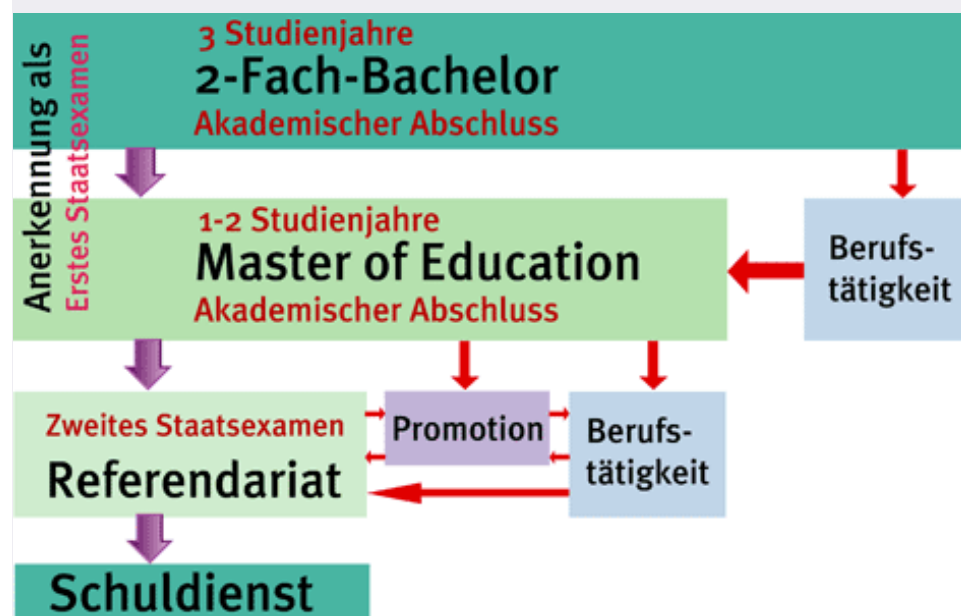


# Bachelor / Master degree scheme





# Sample programs





# Teacher training structures in each state (I)

## States with fully implemented B + M structure

Berlin

Brandenburg (since 2005)

Bremen (since 2005)

Hamburg (since 2007)

Niedersachsen

Rheinland Pfalz (since 2007)

Sachsen (since 2007)

Schleswig Holstein (since 2007, at Universität Flensburg since 2005),  
except vocational school teacher training programs



# Teacher training structures in each state (II)

## **States with B + M implementation still in process (partial)**

Baden-Württemberg (introduction of B+M in 2009 for Gymnasium teachers only)

Nordrhein-Westfalen (partially implemented at about 50%)

Thüringen (partially implemented, transitional, and traditional)



# Teacher training structures in each state (III)

## States with traditional State Exam structure

Bayern (although obtaining an additional degree of Magister Artium, a non-teaching arts degree, alongside the teacher qualification is highly popular)

Hessen (except Technische Universität Darmstadt which also offers a Master of Education degree for vocational school teachers)

Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (except Universität Greifswald which will re-introduce B+M)

Saarland

Sachsen-Anhalt (although Master of Science degree in that state is equivalent to a State Examination for vocational school teachers)

All four states offer teacher training leading to the first and second state examinations. One innovation common to all four, however, is the introduction of a modularized program structure.

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# Institutional aspect of accreditation process changes

- *Berufsakademie* (also known as University of Co-operative Education) traditionally offered *Diplom* programs
- Most prominent system of BA education in Baden Württemberg
- Dual system of training (on-the-job combined with in-class instruction)
- Since 2005, all diploma programs restructured into Bachelor degree programs
- Since March 2009, all BA in BW renamed ***Duale Hochschule*** and shifted towards the auspices of the government
- New status of a university / *Fachhochschule* equivalent institution opens possibilities for establishment of Master-level courses



## Sample accredited *Berufsakademie* programs

Berufsakademie	Degree program	Agency	Accredited until	Auflagen
ASW – Berufsakademie Saarland	Betriebswirtschaft B.A:	AQAS	30.09.2012	ja
Berufsakademie Baden-Württemberg	Angewandte Informatik (B.Sc.)	ZEVA	30.09.2011	ja
	Wirtschaftsingenieurwesen (B. Eng.)	ZEVA	30.09.2011	ja
Berufsakademie für Bankwirtschaft	Banking and Finance (B. A.)	ZEVA	31.07.2010	ja
Berufsakademie Weserbergland	Betriebswirtschaftslehre (B.A.)	ZEVA	31.07.2009	ja
Staatliche Studienakademie Thüringen	Bachelor of Engineering "Praktische Informatik"	ACQUIN	30.09.2011	ja
Staatlich anerkannte Berufsakademie der Wirtschaftsakademie Schleswig-Holstein, Kiel	Bachelor of Arts Betriebswirtschaftslehre	FIBAA	31.03.2012	nein
Berufsakademie Emsland	Bachelor of Engineering Wirtschaftsingenieurwesen	ZEVA	31.07.2009	Ja
Hessische Berufsakademie	Bachelor of Arts Business Administration	FIBAA	30.09.2013	ja





# Accreditation in the news

- Expertise-based evaluation ensures quality of accredited program content (+)
- Thorough review structure promotes high quality standards (+)
- Too many levels of authority reduce clarity of the system (-)
- New Bachelor degree program curricula are overloaded (-)
- Bachelor degree considered by many as not sufficient for the employment world (-)
- Organized degree structure hinders self-management skills of new graduates (-)



# *Deutscher Qualifikationsrahmen* (German Qualifications Framework)

- Proposed in March 2009
- All EU members have volunteered to develop a national framework comparable to the European Qualifications Framework (EQF)
- Eight levels of qualifications in the reference matrix
- Outcome-based qualification description



# European Qualifications Framework for Higher Education

- First cycle: Typically include 180-240 ECTS credits
- Second cycle: Typically include 90-120 ECTS credits, with a minimum of 60 credits at the level of the 2nd cycle
- Third cycle: not specified yet



# Resources and Further Reading

- [www.akkreditierungsrat.de](http://www.akkreditierungsrat.de) Accreditation Council
- [www.hrk.de](http://www.hrk.de) University Rectors Conference
- [www.hochschulkompass.de](http://www.hochschulkompass.de) Higher Education Institutions Compass
- [www.enic-naric.net](http://www.enic-naric.net)
- [www.kmk.org/information-in-english.html](http://www.kmk.org/information-in-english.html) Cultural Ministers Conference
- <http://acea.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/Eurydice> Information Network in Education in Europe
- Thank you to Renate Vollmer from the U.S. Consulate General in Frankfurt a.Main