

Further information on the Folkwang graduate survey

Information on the overall 'graduate studies' project

The Folkwang graduate surveys are conducted as part of a long-term nationwide scientific research project known as the 'co-operative project on graduate studies' (KOAB).

The KOAB project is co-ordinated by the Institute of Applied Statistics (ISTAT) and involves a total of more than 70 universities.

It provides various versions of questionnaires for specific courses. Together with the ISTAT, the Folkwang University of the Arts developed a version specific to colleges of art and music, and incorporated it into the KOAB (http://www.istat.de/de/koab_a.html).

Objectives of the graduate survey

The purpose of the Folkwang graduate survey is to obtain information on graduates' professional careers in the first few years after completing their studies, as well as on the current career situations of graduates from all Folkwang courses.

The results of this survey allow the university to assess the extent to which courses prepare students for the requirements of a career in the arts. The following findings were among those obtained from the survey, and may be incorporated into future activities to further develop Folkwang's course offering:

- How was the transition from studying at Folkwang to professional life?
- What professional fields are Folkwang graduates working in?
- How satisfied are Folkwang graduates with their current life situation (as artists)?
- What are the working hours, employment contracts and income of Folkwang graduates?
- Do their jobs match the content of Folkwang courses and the qualification obtained (employability)??
- What key and additional qualifications are expected in the field of artistic work?
- How do Folkwang graduates rate their course in hindsight?

The survey of the 2020 examination year also included, for the first time, questions on how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected graduates' entry into professional life.

Information on assessing results

University-wide, the survey results are assessed as a summary based on data-matching. If numbers permit, this can be done in a gender-specific and diversity-specific manner, as well as at for subject groups, and used for the university's development.

The results are made available to the Folkwang University of the Arts both as a report (graphic representations) and as scientific-use files (raw data sets) for its own further use. The assessments cannot be linked to specific individuals.

Involvement in the KOAB project (see above) means the Folkwang University of the Arts also has access to comparative data from the relevant study-area group in the nationwide data set. This comparative data assists with assessing the university results at the level of subject content.

Information on data protection

The graduates' addresses were collected in accordance with Section 1 Para. 9 of the Folkwang University of the Arts enrolment regulations and stored in a student database.

Address data may therefore be sent and used within the Folkwang University of the Arts if this serves to fulfil scientific/academic tasks and/or university tasks.

Under Section 7 Para. 2 of the regulation on colleges of art (KunstHG), colleges of art and music in the state of NRW are required to regularly assess fulfilment of their tasks, particularly in the area of teaching. The stored address data is not used for any purpose other than to invite and remind participants to take the graduate survey.

Address data is only processed by university employees. All employees having access to personal data as part of this project are subject to the applicable data-protection act.

Contacts at Folkwang

You are welcome to send queries or suggestions about the Folkwang graduates' survey to Dr Barbara Jesse ([jesse\(at\)folkwang-uni.de](mailto:jesse(at)folkwang-uni.de)) and Ms Elina Thier ([elina.thier\(at\)folkwang-uni.de](mailto:elina.thier(at)folkwang-uni.de)), in the Quality Development division of the University Development unit,

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