



Start > [About M.A. Transformation Studies](#) > [Opinions on the M.A. Transformation Studies](#)

- › Study Profile
- › **Opinions on the M.A. Transformation Studies**
- › Who we are
- › Address and Travel Direction

## Opinions on the M.A. Transformation Studies

🔊 Listen

Different experts from both within and outside universities have supported us in developing this program and shared their opinions about it. Find these below:

### Prof. Dr. Olav Hohmeyer, Europa-Universität Flensburg, Member of the IPCC (2002-2008)



»The Master's program 'Transformation Studies' deals with the question of how social change towards sustainability can be achieved. This is undoubtedly one of the central questions of the 21st century and it is of increasing importance. I highly welcome the establishment of this course of study, and the teaching and research at our university surrounding the topic of "sustainability", which is also our mission statement. In addition, the social science M.A. Transformation Studies is an ideal addition to the existing M. Eng. Energy and Environmental Management. Through the cooperation and exchange between the social and engineering sciences/energy-economics formats, I promise numerous synergies as well as an overall increase in the attractiveness of the study offer at the Europa-Universität Flensburg.«

### Dr. Kora Kristof, Head of the policy department of the German Federal Environmental Agency (UBA)

»The Master's Program closes an important gap in the university's degree program, as it provides students with an interdisciplinary analysis of the causes and consequences of various socio-ecological problems. In addition, the students acquire solid knowledge about the opportunities and limitations of the design of social transformations (models of change). The students can apply their theoretical knowledge in practice and are encouraged to exercise interesting formats of research learning. For the environmental agency, which not only researches but also scientifically advises politics and supports other social actors in social-ecological transformation, graduates who have both a well-founded knowledge base on social-ecological transformations and the factors that lead to sustainable change are extremely important. Such qualifications are also becoming more and more important for companies and civil society at large.«



### Prof. Dr. Stephan Lessenich, LMU Munich, Chairman of the German Society for Sociology



»This course of study matches the needs of the present – one is tempted to say: 'unfortunately'. The ecological limits and negative externalities of the production and reproduction model established in the "overdeveloped" societies of Western industrial modernity since the Second World War can no longer be denied. What is at stake here is social transformation of an unprecedented scale: It is a matter of thoroughly rethinking and transforming the ideas and practices of business and consumption, as well as working and living, which have been thoroughly established in our latitudes. In this regard, the Master's course of 'Transformation Studies' fits into our societal history – and thankfully so. This is due to the fact that in approach, concept and didactics, it can be described as a problem-oriented attempt to adapt academic studies and

academic teaching to the challenges of the social present, and in particular of the societal future. From a sociological point of view, it has not only succeeded in its approach because it is constitutively based on the social dimension of both the structural problems of the current development model and the guiding ideas of a sustainable transformation, but also because it comprehensively embeds this perspective into an interdisciplinary perspective which it also intersects. The triad of present – past – future is wisely chosen, especially in this order, and the didactic concepts, particularly those of research training, correspond to the necessities of a new individual and collective social practice of transformative action regarding an open future. This course had to be eventually developed and it is needed –however, at the end I should add again: unfortunately.«

**Prof. Dr. Uwe Schneidewind, President of the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment, Energy and Member of the German Advisory Council on Global Change (WBGU)**

»In Paris in the winter of 2015, the global community committed itself to common climate protection targets. In order to achieve these goals, the restructuring of central areas within our common economy and society is necessary. Such transformations require new forms of knowledge and the integration of knowledge. These challenges can be outlined by the concept of transformative literacy. Thus, with the ability to productively assimilate information about the processes of social change and to bring own action into these processes. At present, climate protection is mostly discussed in the context of technological change but economic, institutional and cultural transformations are also urgently required. In order to cope with transformations towards sustainability, this imbalance must be eliminated. The Master's program "Transformation Studies" designed at the Europa-Universität Flensburg directs its primary efforts towards this concern. It thus plays a pioneering role in the German university system for the intermediation of transformative literacy.«



[Back to top](#)   [Page # 21711](#)   [Permalink](#)   03/01/2019