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**HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management**

HHL was founded in 1898 as Handelshochschule Leipzig (Leipzig Commercial College) on the initiative of the merchants of Leipzig. It is the oldest business school in the German-speaking countries and is regarded as the birthplace of university-level management education in Germany.

HHL has followed the guiding principle of the honorable merchant for over 120 years; a figure it has borne in its signet and logo since 1923 to this day. The honorable merchant represents virtues such as entrepreneurial spirit, a sense of responsibility, long-term thinking and effectiveness.

**History**

After World War II, HHL was integrated into Universität Leipzig as a department. In the GDR era, it was initially used as an educational institution for domestic trade. In the 1960s, it was transformed into a state-owned business school and continued its operations as such until Germany's reunification. In 1992, the school was closed as a result of the amendment of the Law on Higher Education in the Free State of Saxony and re-established as private university-level business school that same year by the Leipzig Chamber of Commerce and Industry. In 2012, the English name *HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management* was introduced to appropriately represent HHL's international orientation.

**HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management today**

HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management is one the leading business schools in Germany and worldwide. It is a university-level private business school with the right to award doctoral and post-doctoral degrees. *Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft* (Founders' Association of German Science) ranked HHL as the best entrepreneurial university in Germany for the fourth time in a row in 2018. HHL's *Master in Management (M.Sc.)* program was ranked no. 1 in Europe and no. 2 worldwide (Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education College Rankings 2019).

The goal of the oldest business school in German-speaking Europe is to educate effective, responsible and entrepreneurially-minded leaders. HHL stands out for its excellent teaching, its clear research focus, its effective knowledge transfer into practice as well as its outstanding student services. The courses of study include full and part-time Master in Management and MBA programs, a doctoral program as well continuing education courses.

HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management was the first private German business school to be accredited by *AACSB* (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) in 2004 and was able to renew this status for the fourth time just recently.

Only five percent of all business schools worldwide were awarded this seal.) Overall, 750 students from 65 nations are currently enrolled at HHL.

**HHL's positioning**

HHL's position is based on the three pillars of entrepreneurship, sustainability and leadership and prepares the students for the challenges of the digital transformation in the economy and society.

Entrepreneurship includes the ability to identify and seize opportunities — certainly to establish new businesses but also to renew existing companies and business models as well.

Sustainability focuses on the fact that entrepreneurial decisions should have a long-term approach and that one's own actions should be responsible ones regarding the dimensions of economy, ecology and society.

Leadership includes self-management and self-assessment in addition to the "classic" leadership of human beings and organizations. This combination allows for the necessary changes to be implemented successfully in companies through digital transformation.