

W2 Professorship in Typography

The Braunschweig University of Art (HBK) is seeking to fill a W2 professorship in typography at the emerging institute of design disciplines **with effect from 1 October 2027**. The successful candidate will be appointed as either as a civil servant or as a permanent salaried employee.

The Braunschweig University of Art (HBK) is an internationally oriented art university with the right to award doctoral and post-doctoral degrees. With around 1000 students in the fields of fine arts, art education, performing arts, design and design studies, visual communication, art studies and media studies, the HBK Braunschweig is one of the large universities of the arts in Germany.

The university's design departments are currently undergoing a comprehensive restructuring. In addition to the establishment of a new institute, the degree programmes are to be reorganised and numerous professorial posts to be filled. In terms of both content and structure, this process is primarily guided by the profound transformation of the concept of design brought about by the impending ecological and social transition.

The Professorship: Responsibilities and Profile

The Professorship in Typography is to focus on examining, theoretically and practically, the issue of interpretability as well as the ways information is communicated through language, writing and symbols. Moreover, an experimental approach to layout and grid systems in both print and digital media is expected. The professorship focuses on the conception, design, planning, production, and historical and theoretical reflection of typographic publications across all media and formats, including editorial design, books, websites, magazines, newspapers, e-books, exhibitions, and typography in public spaces. Its remit further encompasses communication and information design, text and letterform design, and the design of typefaces. In teaching, the role is intended to combine application-oriented practice with research into writing, signs, and visual identities against the backdrop of their contemporary formal, cultural, and technical context (e.g. variable fonts). Moreover, courses on the history of type and typography are envisioned.

A crucial area of responsibility is the active involvement in shaping and further developing the emerging institute, including the restructuring of the associated degree programmes.

We are looking for

an established and accomplished designer whose particular aptitude for artistic work within the context of design processes is expressed through innovative and contemporary approaches and questions in their own work and complemented by additional artistic achievements.

We expect

- relevant practical experience, in particular in the development of typefaces and sign systems in both digital and analogue contexts as design tools for visual identities,
- profound understanding of the substantive and conceptual handling of signs, images, and texts within cultural and social contexts,
- willingness to actively and comprehensively participate in academic self-administration,
- willingness and ability to actively contribute to and further develop the emerging institute of design disciplines and its range of degree programmes,
- strong communication skills,
- the ability to act in an integrative manner across the university as well as
- fluent command of spoken and written German (C1 level at least) due to the expected teaching duties in German-language degree programmes and the organisational requirements involved in establishing new degree programmes. Willingness to teach in English is also highly welcome.

Experience in the development of study programmes is desirable. The successful candidate should have a particular interest in collaborative processes and in further developing a team-oriented environment, specifically in cross-programme and collaborative teaching. The professorship carries responsibility for the Typography specialisation. Social, leadership, equality, and diversity skills are required in this context, too, as is a willingness to contribute enthusiastically to anti-discrimination work at the university, particularly in the establishment of the new institute. The candidate should be part of a broad, interdisciplinary network, be familiar with contemporary cultural trends and technological developments in their field and able to integrate socio-political discourses responsibly into their teaching. Furthermore, they should have a clear interest in incorporating the subject area of sustainability.

Further requirements

- university degree in the field of design
- pedagogical and didactic aptitude confirmed by practical experience, including the ability and explicit willingness to continuously teach the fundamentals for all design courses at the HBK and to support students in their individual creative development

The appointment requirements are set out in Section 25 of the Lower Saxony Higher Education Act.

Fortunately, the HBK's efforts towards equality have resulted in the absence of under-representation according to the Lower Saxony Equality Act and the Lower Saxony Higher Education Act. Applications from all genders are welcome.

The university fosters a culture of diversity and therefore particularly welcomes applications from individuals who enhance diversity and/or are committed to promoting it.



Applications from people with severe disabilities will be given preferential consideration where qualifications are equal. Proof must be provided.

As a member of the Dual Career Network South-East Lower Saxony, the university can offer support in balancing dual careers.

Due to the additional demands associated with the restructuring process, this position is not suitable for part-time employment.

Please submit your application including the **completed application form and a single PDF file** containing a cover letter, a comprehensive portfolio with examples of your work and teaching, a teaching concept (up to 3 pages), list of publications, course catalogue, details of your professional career/CV, as well as certificates and diplomas, by **3 August 2026** exclusively by email with the subject line "Application W2 Typography" to berufungen@hbk-bs.de. Please note that submissions in other file or delivery formats, or as download links (including automatically generated ones), cannot be considered.

Application costs cannot be reimbursed.

For the purposes of staff selection, personal data will be processed on the basis of Section 88 of the Lower Saxony Civil Servants Law (in case of civil servants) or on the basis of Section 12 of the Lower Saxony Data Protection Act in conjunction with Section 88 of the Lower Saxony Civil Service Act (non-civil servant employees). Should you not be selected, your application documents and all personal data will be destroyed or deleted six months after the selection process has been legally concluded. Detailed information on data protection in the application process can be found under https://www.hbk-bs.de/fileadmin/Hochschule/Berufungen/hinweise_datenschutz_hbk_bewerbung_professuren-1_EN.pdf

If you have any queries regarding the application process, please contact Carina Haas (berufungen@hbk-bs.de , Tel. +49 531 391 9343).