Educational Objectives, 
Career Prospects.

Educational Objectives

The JKU polymer degree programs aim at conveying the following competencies and skills:

- Comprehensive basic and advanced knowledge in key subject fields of polymer engineering and science, covering the entire polymer technology network
- Special in-depth expertise by selecting from the optional advanced elective track courses offered in the various degree programs and by selecting the thesis topic
- Balanced combination of scientific and theoretical knowledge with practical and application-oriented expertise and business administration and management competencies
- Expertise in providing solutions for polymer engineering and management-related problems and assignments in an industrial environment requiring multi- and cross-disciplinary knowledge
- Polymeric materials and polymer-based technologies in the context of environmental and societal challenges (towards a ‘Circular Economy’ and ‘Sustainable Development’)
- Methodological competencies and expertise in setting up, performing and presenting polymer engineering and science-driven and/or market-oriented research projects

Job Opportunities

Graduates of a polymer degree program are highly sought-after specialists, have a high job placement rate, and can pursue a variety of professional occupations at industrial companies and businesses. Professional occupations range from production and research and development to marketing responsibilities and executive management positions.

Graduates can also pursue an entrepreneurial path and create a start-up company. Some graduates have outstanding careers at research institutions, public service institutions, and in academia.
Polymeric materials include a wide variety of thermoplastics, thermosets, elastomers, composites and hybrid materials. Steady growth and innovation has contributed to the advancement of polymer technologies and polymer products are now an indispensable part of the economy and our everyday lives. In regards to future prospects, polymers can help us manage some of human civilization's greatest challenges as we try to supply a growing world population with energy, water, and other goods and services while adhering to principles of a ‘circular and sustainable economy’.

The JKU is one of only a handful of universities in the world to offer comprehensive academic degree programs in polymer technologies and science. Under the expertise and guidance of experienced faculty members, our challenging and flexible academic environment allows students to specialize in their areas of interest.

**Key Areas**

- **Polymer Chemistry & Science**: From molecules to applications.
- **Polymer Engineering**:
  - **Bachelor’s Program**: Polytechnics, 6 semesters, in German.
  - **Master’s Program**: Polytechnics and Science, 4 semesters, in English.
  - **PhD Program**: Polytechnics and Science, 4 semesters, in English.

**Your Benefits**

- Globally unique polymer programs
- Earning a science-based undergraduate, graduate, or PhD degree
- Flexible curricula; specialize according to personal interests
- Excellent academic learning environment, supporting international student mobility
- Modern infrastructure and lab facilities; collaboration with industry
- Outstanding career prospects in Austria, Europe and abroad

**Academics**

- DI/MSc Management in Polymer Technologies (4 semesters, in English)
- PhD (field-specific polymer doctoral programs; 6 semesters, in English or German)

13 institutes/chairs with currently 17 full and associate professors with teaching and research activities in polymers.

**Key areas of activity**: From molecules to applications.