A Volontariat (traineeship for graduates) is a post-graduate qualification that offers the possibility of acquiring comprehensive practical knowledge at a museum. It addresses post-graduates as well as persons with a completed doctorate (PhD) and usually takes one to two years.

The traineeship comprehends learning to collect, preserve, research, exhibit and mediate material and immaterial cultural objects. Other focus points of this education programme are public relations, museum management and the economic aspects of a cultural institution.

The lecture presents the traineeship as a general option for a professional qualification within the German museum business and offers concrete insights into this education programme at the Hessisches Landesmuseum in Darmstadt.