

## ABSTRACT ANGLICKY

The aim of this thesis is to introduce the reader to the concept of German student fraternities, specifically the German bursenschaften. In the first part, the focus will be on the history of the bursenschaft and its role in the past, the history of the bursenschaft Frankonia zu Heidelberg is described in more detail. In the second part, the traditions and functioning of the bursenschaften today are described. The third part of the thesis, the practical part, analyses the perspectives of the current active and inactive members of the Heidelberg Bursenschaft Frankonia zu Heidelberg. The thesis tries to compare the differences between the fraternities in the past and the present and to ascertain their role in the life of a student who is or was a member of a student fraternity.