

Anja Besand (born 1971 in Gruenstadt) is a German social scientist with a focus on education, media politics, and the didactics of political education.

Anja Besand studied from 1991 to 1999 political science, sociology and art as well as history of art at the University of Giessen. From 1998 to 2004 she worked as a research assistant in the institute for political didactics at the same University. After finishing her PhD in 2004 she was appointed as an assistant professor at the University of Education Ludwigsburg. During the winter semester 2008/09 Anja Besand took over the representation of the Department of Didactics of Social Sciences at University in Giessen. In April 2009 she was finally appointed as full professor for the didactics of political education at the Technical University of Dresden. Today she is the director of the institute for political science at this University.

Her academic work focuses on the question of civic education, new Media und Politics as well as educational Science and in this context the core issues of her work are the questions of how people learn about politics and how they construct their ideas about living together in society.