

**Study regulation
for the supplementary postgraduate distance learning program in
East European Studies (Master of Arts) of the
Freie Universität Berlin**

Preamble

On the basis of § 83 sub-section 1 of the University Act of the Federal State of Berlin (BerlHG) in its version of 13th February 2003 (official journal p.81) the institute council of the Institute for East European Studies issued the following study regulations on 5th May 2003:

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§ 1

Scope of application, responsibility

- (1) The present study regulations apply for the supplementary postgraduate distance learning program in East European Studies (Master of Arts) of the Institute for East European Studies of the Freie Universität Berlin. They regulate the goals, contents and the structure of this program on the basis of the examination rules for the supplementary postgraduate distance learning program in East European Studies (Master of Arts) of 5th May 2003.
- (2) Responsible for instruction, studies and examinations is the Institute for East European Studies.

§ 2

Description of the course

- (1) The supplementary postgraduate distance learning program in East European Studies (Master of Arts) allows the students to deepen and supplement their technical knowledge by specializing in the states and societies of the region of Eastern, Central Eastern and South Eastern Europe (in the following "Eastern Europe"). The program conveys broad, multidisciplinary qualifications regarding the region of Eastern Europe as well as practical skills and abilities. The program conveys insights and prepares for the practical work.
- (2) The program takes place online and is supplemented by in-house classes. The language of instruction is English.

§ 3

Goals of the course

- (1) The program is meant to enable the students to analyze and interpret developments in Eastern Europe and to put them in their respective political, social, legal, economic, historic and cultural contexts. In this context, the approach to the issues and tasks within the regional sciences shall be interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary.
- (2) The supplementary postgraduate distance learning program in East European Studies (Master of Arts) aims to convey to the students the scientific foundation and a first practical experience for a professional activity as experts in Eastern Europe as for example in the following areas of expertise: Politics and political advisers, economy and economic advisers, law and legal advisers, social politics and social work, foreign service and international organizations, NGOs, culture, tourism, planning and administration, media, adult education, publishing houses and libraries, research and teaching in scientific institutions.

§ 4

Structure and design of the course

- (1) The program is structured as follows:
 - a) Introduction,
 - b) Practical work,
 - c) Disciplines and
 - d) Multidisciplinary studies.
- (2) The curriculum consists of different modules. The course of study is divided into a total of 13 modules, 1 module corresponding to the introductory part, 5 modules to the disciplinary part, 5 modules to the multidisciplinary part and 2 modules to the practical work. Each module consists of at least two parts with related subjects. The program finishes with the Master's thesis.
- (3) The requirement for admission for each module is the successful participation in the preceding module according to appendix 1.
- (4) In addition, and before beginning the master's thesis, the students have to prove their improvement of an East European language which they have acquired in self-organized study or they have to prove that they already have knowledge of an East European language (at least UNlcert II or equivalent).

§ 5 Contents of the course

- (1) Introduction (12 LP) One module (Introduction and Tools), consisting of three parts
Part I Introduction to the Study of the Region
Part II Tools
Part III Methods of Analysis Offered by Sociology, Law, Economics, Political Science, History and Cultural Studies

The module Introduction and Tools conveys basic approaches, discussions and working methods of East European Studies.

- (2) Disciplines (32 LP) Five modules (Economics, Society, Humanities, Law, Politics), sub-divided into three parts each (Part I: Introduction and Basics, Part II: Extension and Consolidation, Part III: Review and Debates)

Apart from basic theoretic approaches and working methods, the disciplinary modules convey specific knowledge about Eastern Europe from the perspective of each discipline.

- (3) Practical work (25 LP) Internship and two modules, the first of which consists of three parts (Project Management: Part I Introduction, Part II Extension, Part III Application), and the second consists of two parts (preparation for internship) Part I Introduction, Part II Application)

Project Management:

The Project Management module imparts knowledge in the areas of project design, implementation, control and documentation.

Preparation for internship:

The preparation for the internship prepares the students for situations they are likely to encounter in their practical work experience and conveys skills for everyday working situations (for example how to draw up a time schedule, how to direct a conversation or a negotiation).

Internship:

The contents of the internship are described in § 7.

- (4) Multidisciplinary studies (36 LP) five modules (Intercultural Communication, Conflict Management, 3 Modules Issue 1, Issue 2, Issue 3), consisting of three parts each.

Intercultural Communication:

Part I Culture, Cultures and Identities

Part II Cultures in Contact

Part III Cultures in Cooperation

The module Intercultural Communication conveys key issues, concepts of culture and knowledge about the values of different cultures, enabling the students to evaluate and contextualize examples and imparting working methods and skills to master relevant situations in everyday and professional life.

Conflict Management:

Part I: Introduction and Basics,

Part II: Extension and Consolidation

Part III: Review and Debates

The module Conflict Management comprises emergence, development and regulation of international and transnational conflicts of a social or cultural nature.

Issues:

Each of the modules dedicated to specific issues (Issue 1, Issue 2, Issue 3) consists of three parts (Part I, II, III), in which the different subjects are treated in a multidisciplinary manner.

- Part I: General Introduction
- Part II: Analysis
- Part III: Synthesis

The issue modules are of equal importance. They focus on innovative theoretical and methodological concepts for the treatment of different subjects. The subjects themselves shall be determined shortly before the course starts and should be of current interest. Possible subjects are: The interpretation of space, globalization or European integration.

- (5) The program shall take into special consideration the change of the traditional gender roles and the disparities arising from ethnical and social origins.

§ 6

Forms of impartation

- (1) The contents shall be imparted in form of an online distance study course, supplemented by in-house classes.
- (2) As a general rule, each module is carried out online and will be treated at least once during in-house classes.
- (3) In the online distance learning course the contents shall be imparted on a learning platform. Within this formula, the forms of communication between the tutors and the students can be synchronous or asynchronous. The students will acquire the contents of the online modules in self-study.
- (4) The in-house classes will take place as workshops. In these phases, the contents will be imparted in the form of group work, presentations, discussions or excursions.
- (5) The Platform serves for the communication between all participants and for the supervision of the students. For each module a moderator shall be designated who is also responsible for the organization of the exam. The students are supervised by one or more tutors who can also be the module moderators and who teach the personal attendance classes. The overall supervision lies with the Institute for East European Studies

§ 7

Internship/Project

- (1) The Internship aims to give the students an insight in potential areas of employment and specialization and to confront them with the demands of professional situations. It serves to test the knowledge acquired during the program against the demands of professional situations. The internship must be related to Eastern Europe. The internship lasts six weeks. In general it is possible to freely chose when to complete the internship but the period between the first and the second year of the program is particularly convenient. At the end of the internship the students have to present a report. For further details see the Internship Guidelines in Appendix 2.
- (2) If an internship of several weeks cannot be attended for reasons related to family or work, a project paper can be presented instead. The project paper must be related to practical issues. It has to be equal to the internship. The students of different backgrounds and specialties – acquired if possible at home and abroad - are asked to elaborate on a certain subject within six weeks and consider it from different points of view. Time and work schedule are to be defined before starting. The results will be reflected in a project report which will be made available to all students in an adequate form of presentation.

§ 8
Entry into force

- (1) These regulations are valid for all students who take up their studies in the supplementary postgraduate distance learning program in East European Studies (Master of Arts) at the Freie Universität Berlin after these have come into force.
- (2) The present regulations come into force on the day after their publication in the official journal of the Freie Universität Berlin.

Appendix 1: Exemplary organizational chart of the course of study

Appendix 2: Internship guidelines

- (1) Within the framework of the supplementary postgraduate distance learning program in East European Studies (Master of Arts) the students complete an internship of six weeks.
- (2) The internship pool of the Institute for East European Studies answers general questions concerning the internship. As a general rule, the students are responsible for finding a post as intern themselves. If necessary, however, they may receive support from the Institute for East European Studies.
- (3) The module moderators of the modules Internship and Preparation for Internship will issue a certificate about the internship and the internship preparation phases. The certificate is issued after the successful termination of the internship preparation, the presentation of the internship report and the confirmation of the internship host entity about duration and scope of the internship.
- (4) The internship aims to give the students an insight in potential areas of employment and specialization and to confront them with the demands of professional situations. It serves to review the acquired knowledge and therefore its function is that of giving the program itself an orientation close to reality.
- (5) The students have to write a report about their activities, experiences and problems during the internship. The following issues have to be considered in the internship report:
 - a. Short description of the company or department.
 - b. Areas of activity and tasks during the internship.
 - c. Supervision, cooperation and atmosphere during the internship.
 - d. Consequences of the internship on the further development of the studies and on reflections about the profession, benefit of the studies for the internship.
 - e. Evaluation of the internship on the whole: Can the internship post be recommended to others? What should other students know before they enter this post?