# Study plan for the Double Degree Program between The Freie Universitaet Berlin (Institute for East European Studies, OEI) and the Higher School of Economics in Moscow (Sociology Department)

The Higher School of Economics (HSE Moscow) and the Freie Universität Berlin established a MA Double Degree on the basis of the the two existing MA programs *Comparative Social Research* (HSE) and *Osteuropastudien* (East European Studies; OEI at FU Berlin). The Double Degree Program starts in September, 2018.

Upon graduation the students receive a double degree and two certificates: Master of Arts in Sociology from HSE and Master of Arts in *East European Studies* from the Freie Universität Berlin.

## Study Structure

The program consists of a study course equivalent to 120 ECTS accomplishable in a period of four semesters. A minimum of 30 ECTS is to be accomplished at the partner university. The program is structured the following way:

• Students spend the 1st and 2nd semester at their home university; they are entitled to apply for the Double Degree by the end of the 1st semester (the earliest)

• Students that opted for the Double Degree spend the 3rd semester at the partner university. During this period the study regulations of the partner university apply.

•The students can choose whether they would like to spend the 4th semester at the partner university or at their home institution.

## Study plan for FUB students in the 2nd study year (3.+4. semester)

### Third Semester at HSE from September 1st to December 31st (end of teaching period):

Students need to earn a total of 30 ECTS (including 10 ECTS representing a research internship)

* Students have to select lectures or seminars totaling 20 ECTS from the following modules and respective course offer:

Methods module (1. Semester courses), at least 15 ECTS points. See the Appendix for ECTS and workload details; examples of courses that can be selected include:

 - Basic Statistics and Introduction into „R“

- Methodology and Research methods in Sociology: Quantitative Research

- Methodology and Research methods in Sociology: Qualitative Research methods

 - Social Network Analysis

 - Measurement Theory and Questionnaire Design

Examples of other relevant courses in sociology or political science (HSE first & third semester courses; 5 ECTS Points):

 - Comparative Social Research

 - Applied Research in Comparative Sociology

 - Ageing society and development

 - Issues of Contemporary Russian Politics

 - Analysis of Advertising and Mass Communications

- other courses in English at other departments all over HSE, there is no administrative limit

* Research internship (10 ECTS)

- FUB students conduct their internship either in Germany before September 1st (since they are not required to be in Berlin after the end of classes in mid-July)

- or in Moscow from September 1st on (HSE staff helps with finding places). This possibility sits well with the OES study regulations (Studien- und Prüfungsordnung), which emphasizes a preference for OES students conducting internships in Eastern European countries.

### Fourth Semester at HSE from Mid-February to End of June 2019:

Students need to earn 34 ECTS by

- attending the research seminar, where a draft version of the MA thesis is presented (16 ECTS): this MA thesis draft presentation is called “pre-defense” and is usually conducted 2 weeks before MA defense, practically by the end of May 2019

- writing and defending the MA thesis; the MA thesis at the HSE is between 12,000 and 16,000 words long (18 ECTS); the MA defense is scheduled for Mid-June or Mid-October 2019

*Alternatively, FUB students can return to Berlin and spend the fourth and final semester at the FU.*

### Fourth Semester at FU Berlin from April 1st to September 30th2019 (teaching until mid-/end-July 2019):

Students need to earn a total of 30 ECTS at FU Berlin by writing an MA thesis, attending a research colloquium, and defending an expose of their MA thesis in the colloquium. The exposes have to be presented EARLIER (preferably in January or February) than in the case of FU OES students that do not participate in the Double Degree (in April or in the first week of May). The length of the MA thesis should be of around 21,000 words, and the total writing time should not exceed 23 weeks from the date that the student has received the supervision consent of a staff member. Staff members grade MA theses within one month after receipt.

FU OES Students participating in the Double Degree program have to plan-in the defense of their thesis in accordance with HSE requirements, and defend the MA thesis by Mid-June.

APPENDIX: OVERVIEW OF WORKLOAD AND ECTS OF HSE SEMINARS SELECTED FOR THE DOULBE DEGREE MASTER PROGRAM

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  | module\* | teaching hours | self-study hours | total hours | ECTS | assignments |
| Basic Statistics and Introduction into „R“  |  | 1 | 28 | 48 | 76 | 2 | weekly home assignments, final written exam |
| Methodology...: Quantitative Research  |  | 2,3 | 52 | 100 | 152 | 4 | weekly home assignments, 10-page paper, oral presentation, written exam |
| Methodology...: Qualitative Research methods | 2 | 28 | 124 | 152 | 4 | oral presentation OR observation report, written research proposal |
| Social Network Analysis |  |  | 3 | 40 | 190 | 190 | 5 | 3 homework assignments, quizzes, final research project paper |
| Measurement Theory and Questionnaire Design | 3 | 28 | 124 | 152 | 4 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Comparative Social Research |  |  | 1 | 28 | 86 | 114 | 3 | six 2-page written home assignments |
| Applied Research in Comparative Sociology | 3 | 28 | 124 | 152 | 4 | home assignments, final paper |
| Ageing society and development |  | 2 | 20 | 132 | 152 | 4 | essay |
| Issues of Contemporary Russian Politics |  | 1,2 | 56 | 96 | 152 | 4 | essay |
| Analysis of Advertising and Mass Communications | 1,2 | 32 | 158 | 190 | 5 | research proposal, essay (2-3000 words), oral presentation |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | \* each semester consists of two modules: moduel 1+2 = 1. Semester, module 3+4 = 2. Semester |