

121 Curriculum for the master's programme *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* (Version 2020)

at the Faculty of Philology and Cultural Studies of the University of Vienna. Published in the official newsletter of the University of Vienna on 26.06.2020.

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§ 1 Programme objectives and qualification profile

(1) The master's programme *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* at the University of Vienna aims to equip students with the skills to carry out independent research on the literatures and cultures of the English-speaking world. The master's programme *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* especially prepares students for a future doctoral study in the field of literature and cultural studies.

(2) The master's programme *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* prepares graduates for professions dealing with the processing, editing, mediation, analysis, interpretation and/or research of topics regarding Anglophone literatures and cultures. Furthermore, graduates obtain professional qualifications in producing, disseminating and reading various text types.

(3) The graduates of the master's programme *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* at the University of Vienna have acquired advanced skills with respect to recognising and analysing complex phenomena in the Anglophone cultural regions, presenting them in a differentiated manner and applying these practically in trans-national and trans-cultural communication situations, as a result of their wide-ranging methodological and theoretical academic education. Additionally, graduates display a high competence in critically and reflectively perceiving, acknowledging and handling social and cultural differences. Graduates have an excellent oral and written command of the English language in academic and other types of text (productive and receptive). Furthermore, graduates have acquired relevant digital competences that are necessary for in-depth research, effective presentations, teaching science and reflection upon the latter. The curriculum allows for cultural and medial transfer processes and students can choose from alternative specialisations. Students are capable of independently (under supervision) formulating a self-chosen research question, mapping a research project, consulting scientific literature, structuring the project and carrying it out methodologically and linguistically adequately in form of their master's thesis.

(4) All courses of the master's programme *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* are taught in English.

§ 2 Duration and scope

(1) The workload for the master's programme *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* is 120 ECTS points. This corresponds to an intended programme duration of four semesters.

(2) The programme is complete when 80 ECTS credits have been earned in accordance with the provisions on the compulsory modules, 30 ECTS credits in accordance with the provisions on the master's thesis and 10 ECTS in accordance with the provisions on the master's defence.

§ 3 Prerequisites for admission

Admission to the master's programme *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* is subject to a university bachelor degree in a corresponding discipline or bachelor degree in such discipline from a university of applied sciences or other equivalent academic degree from a recognised national or foreign post-secondary educational institution.

The bachelor programme in *English and American Studies* at the University of Vienna fulfils the above requirement in any case.

If another degree is basically equivalent, but individual supplements are required for full equivalence, additional courses and examinations corresponding to max. 30 ECTS points may be prescribed by the directorate of studies in order to achieve full equivalence; these must then be completed during the master's programme. It is highly recommended to take these additional courses and exams in the first semester.

For the master's programme *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* at the University of Vienna, language skills at C1 level of the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages*, as stated in the university's regulations for English medium of instruction MA programmes, are

required. Graduates of the bachelor's programme *English and American Studies* at the University of Vienna are invariably entitled to admission to the master's programme *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* at the University of Vienna without further requirements.

§ 4 Academic degree

Graduates of the master's programme *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* are awarded the academic degree "*Master of Arts*" – abbreviated as MA. Graduates are entitled to add the letters MA after their name.

§ 5 Structure – modules with ECTS points allocation

(1) Overview

<p>M01 Obligatory module Literature, Cultural Studies and Theory 15 ECTS</p> <p>Literatures in English 5 ECTS Popular and Media Cultures 5 ECTS Literary and Cultural Theories and Concepts 5 ECTS</p>	<p>M02 Obligatory module Advanced Academic Skills 15 ECTS</p> <p>Toolkit for Research and Writing 5 ECTS English for Academic Purposes 5 ECTS English in a Professional Context: Advanced/Creative Writing 5 ECTS</p>
<p>M03 Obligatory module Advanced Literary and Cultural Studies 10 ECTS</p> <p>Literature Course 5 ECTS Cultural Studies Course 5 ECTS</p>	<p>M04 Obligatory module Specialisation 20 ECTS</p> <p>Literature/Cultural Studies Seminar 10 ECTS Literature/Cultural Studies Seminar 10 ECTS</p>
<p>M05 Obligatory module Internship & Electives 15 ECTS</p> <p>Internship and/or electives 15 ECTS</p>	<p>M06 Obligatory module Final Module 5 ECTS</p> <p>MA Seminar 5 ECTS</p>
<p>Master's thesis 30 ECTS</p>	
<p>Master's finals 10 ECTS defence and examination</p>	

(2) Description of modules

M01	Literature, Cultural Studies and Theory (Obligatory module)	15 ECTS
Prerequisites for participation	none	
Module outcomes	<p>This module allows students to expand and consolidate their elementary knowledge gained in the bachelor's programme which provided an overview of relevant research fields, historical developments and theoretical approaches to questions on the literatures and cultures of the English-speaking world.</p> <p>After completing this module, students will have a thorough knowledge</p>	

	of established paradigms and recent concepts as well as academic traditions dominating the discourse on literatures and cultures of the English-speaking world. This knowledge is taught exemplarily through specific regional and/or historic contexts. Additionally, students acquire (critical) media literacy that allows them to critically question processes of naturalisation (e.g. stereotypes) and medialisation and to identify and demonstrate the complexity of historically and culturally conditioned aspects of aesthetic representations and discursive formations.
Module structure	VO Literatures in English, 5 ECTS, 2 hrs. (npi) VO Popular and Media Cultures, 5 ECTS, 2 hrs (npi) VO Literary and Cultural Theories and Concepts, 5 ECTS, 2 hrs (npi)
Assessment and award of credits	Successful completion of all courses with non-continuous assessment (npi) in this module (15 ECTS in total)

M02	Advanced Academic Skills (Obligatory module)	15 ECTS
Prerequisites for participation	none	
Module outcomes	Students who have completed this module have acquired the skills to analyse and produce academic texts as well as professionally-relevant texts. They understand themselves as being part of an academic discourse community and have learned to give and receive constructive feedback. They are able to develop adequate academic questions, find relevant secondary literature and explore theories and incorporate them into their own argumentation in a critical manner. They are able to structure texts logically and adequately according to the conventions of their field. Students can identify the features specific to the genre in academic and other professionally-relevant texts and apply the insights gained thereby in the production of their own texts. They have developed competences in selecting, planning, conducting and presenting research projects in literature and cultural studies and are therefore well prepared for writing longer academic papers and especially their master's thesis.	
Module structure	KU Toolkit for Research and Writing, 5 ECTS, 2 hrs (pi) UE English for Academic Purposes, 5 ECTS, 2 hrs (pi) UE English in a Professional Context: Advanced OR Creative Writing, 5 ECTS, 2 hrs (pi)	
Assessment and award of credits	Successful completion of all courses with continuous assessment (pi) in this module (15 ECTS in total)	

M03	Advanced Literary and Cultural Studies (Obligatory module)	10 ECTS
Prerequisites for	none	

participation	
Module outcomes	<p>Students who have completed this module have acquired theoretical and methodological knowledge and competences in specific research fields and topics concerning the literatures and cultures of the English-speaking world that prepare them for their specialisation and their master's thesis.</p> <p>Students have consolidated and expanded their knowledge on literature, cultural studies and critical media analysis and can apply their knowledge to their chosen specialisations as well as clearly differentiate contexts. This allows them to conduct research in established and/or newly emerging research fields and traditions, such as American Studies, British Cultural Studies or New English Literatures.</p> <p>Students develop an (inter)disciplinary awareness and are therefore able to make further theory-based analyses of cultural-historical, regional-academic and present-day cultural phenomena of the English-speaking world. Through the usage of various sorts of text and media as objects of analysis, the students learn about different approaches of how to scientifically analyse and interpret various forms of representations even multi-modal or trans-medial types. They are aware that the objects of analysis constitute and negotiate social norms and structures in their cultural, literary, artistic and medial dimensions. Cultural creations of meaning are apprehended within their institutional anchoring, whereby in particular social rank and power relationships like those between the sexes, the ethnic groups, generations and social classes, as well as post- and neo-colonial, post-imperial, transnational and intersectional relations are being discussed. In doing so, students reflect upon critical historical as well as recent phenomena of globalisation, the role of media cultures and English as a (post-)imperialistic lingua franca.</p> <p>On completion of this module, students are capable of analysing, interpreting and critically discussing various cultural artefacts in different medial representations. Having extended their knowledge, students are able to conduct research on a specific topic and present it adequately. The students know relevant theoretical approaches and are acquainted with the techniques of independent academic work.</p>
Module structure	<p>AR Literature Course, 5 ECTS, 2 hrs (pi)</p> <p>AR Cultural Studies Course, 5 ECTS, 2 hrs (pi)</p>
Assessment and award of credits	Successful completion of all courses with continuous assessment (pi) in this module (10 ECTS in total)
M04	Specialisation (Obligatory module) 20 ECTS
Prerequisites for participation	modules 1 and 2
Module outcomes	Students can specialise by completing two seminars of their choice.

	In their seminar papers, students demonstrate their ability to work independently on complex academic questions and to write extensive academic texts that comply with international academic conventions. Being able to gain relevant experience in their academic fields, students are being prepared for independently working on their master's thesis.
Module structure	SE Literature / Cultural Studies Seminar, 10 ECTS, 2 hrs (pi) SE Literature / Cultural Studies Seminar, 10 ECTS, 2 hrs (pi)
Assessment and award of credits	Successful completion of all courses with continuous assessment (pi) in this module (20 ECTS in total)

M05	Internship and Electives (Obligatory module)	15 ECTS
Prerequisites for participation	none	
Recommended modules	modules 1 and 2	
Module outcomes	On completion of this module, the students will have consolidated and expanded their trans-disciplinary knowledge in the field of literary and cultural studies and will also have rounded off and further distinguished their individual research interests. During their internship students will have thought about their possible career development and will have reflected upon the opportunities and risks thereof.	
Module structure	<p>This module enables the students to individually arrange a meaningful supplement to their degree programme.</p> <p>The following options are available:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. internships (one or two) amounting to 6 ECTS that are closely related to the objectives of this master curriculum, and the practical course UE Internship, 1 ECTS, 1 hr (pi). The practical course has to be completed in connection with the internship. The internships comprise 150 hours in total. 2. courses from other degree programmes of the University of Vienna or other Austrian universities at a master level. 3. equivalent courses that are completed during international study visits <p>The choice must be clarified in prior consultation with the competent academic authority. A selection of approved courses will be published by the directorate of studies in the course directory of the University of Vienna. The internship and courses that are not on this list have to be approved by the directorate of studies in advance.</p>	
Assessment and award of credits	Successful completion of all courses with continuous assessment (pi) and non-continuous assessment (npi) in this module and/or the internship(s) (15 ECTS in total)	

Language	English or German
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M06	Final Module (Obligatory module)	5 ECTS
Prerequisites for participation	modules 1 and 2	
Recommended modules	modules 3 and 4 It is recommended to start planning the master's thesis before the start of the MA seminar.	
Module outcomes	The final module consists of an MA seminar that is based on the students' MA projects. After completing this module, students are prepared to independently plan and complete their master's thesis under the guidance of a supervisor.	
Module structure	SE MA Seminar, 5 ECTS, 2 hrs (pi)	
Assessment and award of credits	Successful completion of the course with continuous assessment (pi) in this module (5 ECTS in total)	

§ 6 Master's thesis

(1) In their master's thesis, the students will demonstrate their ability to handle academic topics independently and with content-related and methodological competence. Completing the master's thesis should be feasible within six months, which should be considered at the stage of the task selection.

(2) The topic for the master's thesis must be chosen from the field of the alternative obligatory modules. Should another subject be chosen, or if there is a lack of clarity regarding the categorisation of the chosen topic, the competent academic authority shall decide as to the admissibility thereof.

(3) The master's thesis counts for 30 ECTS points.

§ 7 Master's defence

(1) Prerequisite for the admission to the master's defence is a pass in all prescribed modules and examinations as well as a positive mark for the master's thesis.

(2) The MA defence comprises a defence of the master's thesis including an examination on the scientific field of the thesis as well as an examination on an additional, significantly different field which has to be chosen from the obligatory modules. The assessment is made in accordance with the provisions of the statutes.

(3) The MA defence comprises 10 ECTS, 5 ECTS for each of the two parts of the examination.

§ 8 Mobility in the master's programme

Study visits especially in the course of international student mobility programmes are highly recommended. Obligatory module 5, in particular, offers the possibility to be completed during an international study visit.

Courses and examinations taken during studies abroad may be recognised by the competent academic authorities.

§ 9 Classification of courses

(1) The following course type without continuous assessment (npi) is offered as part of the programme:

Vorlesung (VO) – lecture

Lectures serve the presentation of topics, subjects and theories in the master's programme, in critical consideration of different schools of thought. Assessment is made on the basis of a written or oral final examination. Interactive elements of both analogue and digital type and 'flipped classroom' elements are used to encourage active student participation.

(2) The following course types with continuous assessment (pi) are offered:

Arbeitsgemeinschaft (AR) – study group

Study groups are research-oriented courses which are dedicated to specific academic problems within the discipline; the focus lies on reflecting on the interactive process of methodology and theory. Assessment is made on the basis of several written and/or oral assignments.

Seminar (SE) – seminar

Seminars serve the development of theoretical and methodological academic competences as well as the reflection and discussion of specific academic issues at an advanced stage of the programme. The focus is on independent academic work and the appropriate presentation of the results (written and oral).

Übung (UE) – practical course

Practical courses serve the acquisition, practice and perfection of knowledge, skills and abilities, especially in the field of language use. The focus is on guided but independent individual or group work. Assessment is made on the basis of several written and/or oral assignments.

Kurs (KU) – advanced course

Advanced courses serve the guided work and perfection of advanced competences, the development of complex research questions and solution strategies as well as the application of acquired skills for specific academic problems. Assessment is made on the basis of several written and/or oral assignments.

Praktikum (PR) – internship

Internships serve professional orientation and the application of knowledge and skills acquired during the studies. They can be done at or outside the University of Vienna and are not supervised by lecturers. Internships are accompanied by the mandatory practical course *UE Internship*. It is compulsory to hand in a written confirmation of the successful completion of the internship as well as a report on the internship. Assessment in case of passing will be ‘successfully completed’ and in case of failing ‘unsuccessfully completed’.

The type of performance measurement and assessment criteria for courses with continuous assessment (pi) will be disclosed by the course instructor at the beginning of the respective course.

§ 10 Restrictions on participation and course registration

(1) The following restrictions on participation apply to courses:

Study group AR: 25

Seminar SE: 20

Practical Course UE Internship: 20, all other practical courses UE: 25

Practical course KU: 20

(2) The terms for course and examination registration as well as for the allocation of course places follow the provisions of the university’s statutes.

§ 11 Examination rules

(1) Proof of academic achievement in courses

The course instructor must announce all pertinent details in accordance with the provisions of the university's statutes.

(2) Scope of examination

The examination material relevant for the preparation and holding of examinations must be in proportion to the scope of ECTS points accredited. This also applies to module examinations.

(3) Exam proceedings

Exam proceedings must be in accordance with the provisions of the university's statutes.

(4) Prohibition on double recognition and prohibition on double use

Credits for courses and examinations that have already been completed for the three-year bachelor's degree counted as a prerequisite for admission cannot be recognised again for the master's programme. Courses and examinations which have already been completed for a different compulsory or elective module cannot be used again in another module of the same programme. This also applies during recognition procedures.

(5) Credits awarded for examinations have to be allocated to the appropriate module with the ECTS value announced in advance; distribution of such credits between several modules is not permitted.

§ 12 Entry into force

This curriculum enters into force after its promulgation in the official newsletter of the University of Vienna, on 1 October 2020.

§ 13 Transitional provisions

(1) This curriculum applies for all students who begin their degree programme from winter semester 2020/2021 onwards.

(2) If, at a later stage of the programme, courses that were compulsory in the original degree programme or curriculum are no longer offered, the competent academic authority according to the organisational regulations of the University of Vienna (i.e. directorate of studies) shall decide which courses and examinations are to be completed in lieu of the original courses, acting ex officio (equivalence regulation) or upon application of the student.

(3) Students who have entered the master's programme *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* prior to that semester may at any time submit to the provisions of this curriculum of their own volition by simple notification.

(4) Students who at the time of entry into force of this curriculum were subject to the master curriculum *Anglophone Literatures and Cultures* (Vienna University Gazette on 16.06.2008, part 30, no. 199, last amendment published in Vienna University Gazette on 29.01.2016, part

12, no. 59), in force prior to the adoption of this curriculum, are entitled to complete their programme until 30.04.2022 at the latest.

From this date onwards, students who are subject to the aforementioned curriculum will be subjected to this version of the curriculum, independent of their academic progress.

(5) The competent academic authority according to the organisational regulations is entitled to determine in general or in individual cases which of the completed courses and examinations are to be recognised for this curriculum.

On behalf of the senate:
The head of the Curriculum Committee
Krammer

Addendum

Recommended path through the programme:

Semester	Module	Courses	ECTS	Total ECTS/Semester
1	M01	3 VOs	15	30
	M02	3 pi	15	
2	M03	2 ARs	10	30
	M04	2 SE	20	
3	M05	Internship/electives	15	20
	M06	SE	5	
4	Master's Thesis		30	40
	Master's Defence		10	

It is recommended to start with the master's thesis already in the third semester.