



# Handbook M.A. English Literatures and Cultures

Winter Semester 2021/2022

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

English Department



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### 1. Objectives of the Program

#### 1.1 Overview

The M.A. in English Literatures and Cultures is a consecutive and research-oriented program of study following up on B.A. degrees in English and American studies or other disciplines in literary or cultural studies. It is dedicated to the Anglophone literatures and cultures of the world and focuses on academic procedures of systematic knowledge acquisition. Of particular interest is the role literature has played across a range of cultural contexts throughout history, both in terms of its functions and achievements. Literature is therefore viewed as an integral part of modern culture and its increasing globalization. More recent developments, built on the concept of 'literary studies as a form of media studies and cultural studies', form the basis for exploring the relationship between literary texts and other types of text and media, thus creating a productive link between literary and cultural studies.

The program prepares students from diverse cultural and academic backgrounds to work independently on questions and problems related to English Literatures and Cultures and to present results in written and/or oral forms. To do so, the program begins with a common seminar introducing them to concepts and skills used in research at the department. The core curriculum focuses on literary and cultural studies but the program also contains an interdisciplinary profile module. The students also complete modules dedicated to the foundations of scholarly research and writing, and to professional experience.

The ability to critically analyze and reflect on texts of any kind is the core principle underlying the teaching and learning in the program. Graduates of the M.A. in English Literatures and Cultures are qualified for professional careers outside and inside academia. They have gained a profound understanding of the interaction between literary, cultural and media-related processes in an increasingly globalized world from the early modern age to the present. They are able to critically reflect on and evaluate cultural phenomena and the scholarly discourses devoted to it. They are furthermore capable of presenting their ideas in oral and written form according to scholarly conventions, and they have experience in communicating academic content inside and outside the university. The M.A. English Literatures and Cultures first and foremost prepares students for a PhD in the field. Beyond that, students have gained professional experience and know how the skills they have acquired can be made use of outside of academia. Outside of academia, a Master's degree in English Literatures and Cultures prepares students for jobs predominantly (but not exclusively) in the areas of public relations, adult education, intercultural communication, and similar career fields where a strong background in communicative and intercultural skills, in addition to excellent foreign language skills, plays a crucial role. The language proficiency of graduates of the M.A. program has developed beyond the C 1 level in the area of academic discourse, such as listening and reading for information, orientation, and argument; understanding and discussing scholarly presentations by others, and producing written and oral presentations of original research according to academic conventions of their field.

The MA English Literatures and Cultures can be pursued with a specialized profile in Digital Humanities. In that case Modules 06, 07 and 08 (30 ECTS) are replaced by Modules MA-DiHU-01, 02 and 03 (30 ECTS).

#### 1.2 Missing Prerequisites

Students with a BA in English Studies or affiliated disciplines apply with a recent academic writing sample in English, e.g. their BA Thesis. Based on this, some of them may have to pass Written Communication I (taken from Module 05) in their first semester as a prerequisite to the course MA Academic Writing. Similarly, students may be recommended the Introduction to

Literary Studies or the Introduction to Cultural Studies as part of the Interdisciplinary Module. This should ensure that by the end of the second semester, all students have a sufficient basis for working independently on research topics of their choice.

#### 1.3 Study Abroad

The application process for studying abroad takes more than a year. Students who want to integrate a stay abroad need to contact the International Office and a member of the English Literatures and Cultures program early during their initial enrolment.

Up to two modules from the core curriculum, seminars and lectures in the Interdisciplinary Profile, and the practice component in the Module Practices and Applications can be done abroad.

#### 1.4 Final Grade for the Program

The final grade comprises the grades for the Core Curriculum (Modules 02-05; 50%) plus the MA Thesis and Oral Exam (Module 09; 50%). As a result, the final grade is composed in the following way:

Thesis: 33.33% Oral Exam: 16.67%

4 Modules 12.5 % each (with the Digital Humanities, the grade of one of the Core Modules

is replaced with the average grade of Modules MA-DiHu-01-03)

## 2. Course of Studies

#### 2.1 Overview: Modules

(corresponds to the overview of modules included in the study and examination regulations)

Program without Profile Digital Humanities

Module number	Obligatory/ Elective	Module Title	Recommended Semester	СР
ELC-MA 01	0	Central Concepts and Competences (CCC)	01	12
ELC-MA 02	0	Literary and Cultural History I	01	12
ELC-MA 03	0	Conceptualizing Literary and Cultural History I	02	12
ELC-MA 04	0	Literary and Cultural History II	02	12
ELC-MA 05	0	Conceptualizing Literary and Cultural History II	02 or 03	12
ELC-MA 06	0	Interdisciplinary Profile	01 and 02	12
ELC-MA 07	0	Topics for Candidates (Colloquium)	03	6
ELC-MA 08	0	Practice and Application	03	12
ELC-MA 09	0	Master Thesis and Oral Exam	04	30

Program with Profile Digital Humanities

Module number	Obligatory/ Elective	Module Title	Recommended Semester	СР
ELC-MA 01	0	Central Concepts and Competences (CCC)	01	12
ELC-MA 02	0	Literary and Cultural History I	01	12
ELC-MA 03	0	Conceptualizing Literary and Cultural History I	02	12
ELC-MA 04	0	Literary and Cultural History II	02/03	12
ELC-MA 05	0	Conceptualizing Literary and Cultural History II	02 or 03	12

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MA- DiHu-01	0	Grundlagen der Digital Humanties	01 and 02	9
MA- DiHu-02	0	Werkzeuge und Anwendungen der Digital Humanities (Text, Raum oder Objekt)	02 and 03	12
MA- DiHu-03	0	Praxis der Digital Humanities	03	9
ELC-MA 09	0	Master Thesis and Oral Exam	04	30

## 2.2 Overview: Course of Studies

Program without Profile Digital Humanities

Semester	СР	Core Cu	rriculum	Interdisciplinary Profile	Preparation of MA Thesis	Practice and Application
1	30	ELC-MA 01 (12 CP)	ELC-MA 02 (12 CP)	ELC-MA 06 (6 CP)		
2	30	ELC-MA 03 (12 CP)	ELC-MA 04 (12 CP)	ELC-MA 06 (6 CP)		
3	30	_	MA 05 CP)		ELC-MA 07 (6 CP)	ELC-MA 08 (12 CP)
4	30	_	MA 09 CP)			

## Program with Profile Digital Humanities

Semester	СР	Core Cu	rriculum	Profile Digital Humanities							
1	27	ELC-MA 01 (12 CP)	ELC-MA 02 (12 CP)	MA-DiHu-01 (3 CP)							
2	33	ELC-MA 03 (12 CP)	ELC-MA 04 (9 CP)	MA-DiHu-01 (6 CP)	MA-DiHu-02 (6 CP)						
3	30	ELC-MA 05 (12 CP)	(3 CP)		MA-DiHu-02 (6 CP)	MA-DiHu-03 (9 CP)					
4	30	ELC-N (30									

## 3. Module Descriptions

## 3.1. Core Curriculum

Number: ELC-MA 01	Module Title: Central Concepts and Competences (CCC)  Type of Module: Obligatory								
СР	12								
Work Load - Class Time - Self-Study	Workload: 360 h		Time: 4 CH			Self-S 300 h			
Duration	1 semester								
Frequency	Seminar in winter term only	, MA A	cademi	c Writir	ng each	semes	ster		
Language of Instruction	English								
Types of Class / Learning Methods	Seminar: "Concepts, Metho Coursework: e.g. presentat Seminar: "MA Academic W Coursework: e.g. completio Both components are cond	ions, re riting" on of nu	eading of	praction	cal exer	cises	work		
Content	In the seminar, incoming MA students will engage with concepts, methods and theories in the field of literary and cultural studies as used in the research conducted at the English Department. Selected samples from research conducted at the department will illustrate this. The seminar will be concluded with a 5-page term paper on a topic formulated by the student in consultation with the lecturer. The term paper will provide the opportunity to identify and address various writing techniques and methodologies for students from diverse academic backgrounds.  In the MA Academic Writing course, incoming students will perform a variety of writing exercises designed to explore the conventions of different text types. Students will be asked to analyze and produce a range of text types, paying close attention to target audience, structure and language; examples may include research papers, abstracts, proposals, conference reviews, or book/article reviews. The final written assignment will allow for different writing styles and techniques from students of diverse academic backgrounds to be identified and						ucted age er. iting nds. of		
Objectives	The module will provide in approaches, methodologies MA. At the same time, they cohort in a setting without there will also be students beyond the MA English Lite will prepare students for the beyond/in the workplace.	s and a will be student from th eratures	cademi able to s from e other s and C	c writin meet th other p MA pro ultures	g skills eir fello rogram ograms ). Work	necess w stude s (in M. of the ing with	sary for ents in t A Acado English n differe	pursuir his par emic W Depar ent text	ng the ticular riting, tment types
Requirements for Credit Points / Grade	Title	Type of Class	Status	CH	СР	Type of Exam	Duration of Exam	Type of Evaluation	Calculation of grade for Module
	Seminar 'Concepts, Methods, Theories'	S	0	2	6	TP	n/a	g	50
	MA Academic Writing	S	0	2	6	PF	n/a	g	50
Transfer	- Seminar: - MA Academic Writing: M.	A. Ame	rican S	tudies,	M.A. Er	nglish L	inguist	ics	

Requirements for Participation

None

Number: ELC-MA 02	Module Title: Literary and Cultural His	torv I					of Mo	dule:			
		tory r				Oblig	jutory				
СР	12	I				I					
Work Load - Class Time - Self-Study	Workload: Class Time: Self-Study: 300 h										
Duration	1 semester										
Frequency	Each semester										
Language of Instruction	English										
Types of Class / Learning Methods	- Lecture - Seminar Coursework: e.g. present - Normally, the oral exam, by the instructor of the sem	coverin inar.	g both	the lect	ure and	d the se	eminar,				
Content	cultural history, and a lectu cultural history. The classe positions or schools agains	The students attend a seminar that focuses on a specific aspect of literary and/or cultural history, and a lecture that addresses larger developments in literary and/or cultural history. The classes provide an in-depth analysis of individual theoretical positions or schools against the background of larger social, cultural and political developments. They also discuss different scholarly positions that emerge from the									
Objectives	The students possess deta cultural theory, and are fam able to analyze and conte positions. They are also fa history, and are able to se they have focused on. T secondary literature.	iliar witl extualiz imiliar v e conn	h the so e litera with sor ections	holarly ry or on ne of the and/or	discuss cultural he large differe	sion of t texts i er deve nces to	this asp n the li lopmer o the sp	ect. The ight of its in cu ecific a	ey are these ultural spect		
Requirements for Credit Points / Grade	Title	Type of Class	Status	СН	CP	Type of Exam	Duration of Exam	Type of Evaluation	Calculation of grade for Module		
	Seminar on Literary and/or Cultural Theory	S	О	2	9	0E	30	g	100		
	Lecture on Literary and/or Cultural Theory	L	0	2	3		30 g 10				
Transfer	- Components of th M.A. International										
Requirements for Participation	None										

Number: ELC-MA 03	Module Title: Conceptualizing Literary	and C	ultural	Histor	y I		of Mo	dule:	
СР	12	12							
Work Load - Class Time - Self-Study	Workload: Class Time: Self-Study: 360 h Self-Study: 300 h								
Duration	1 semester								
Frequency	Each semester								
Language of Instruction	English								
Types of Class/ Learning Methods	- 2 seminars Course work (e.g. present at the discretion of the ins - The first seminar will be second seminar will be constudents' choice.	tructor. conclu	ded wit	th 3 tei	m pap	er outli	nes (ur	graded	), the
Content	The students attend two sliterature or culture. The cl media, periods, and/or regi political developments. The	asses   ons aga	orovide ainst the	an in-e backg back	depth a ground (	nalysis of large	of auth r social	nors, ge , cultura	enres,
Objectives	The students possess det literature or culture, and a They are able to analyze, or related to this aspect. They literature. More practically outlines for term papers an	re fami context are als , stude	liar with ualize a o able t ents lea	n the so and cor o critica arn hov	cholarly ceptua illy eval v to de	discus lize lite uate the	ssion of rary or e existir suitable	this as cultural ng seco topics	spect. texts ndary
Requirements for Credit Points / Grade	Title	Type of Class	Status	СН	СР	Type of Exam	Duration of Exam	Type of Evaluation	Calculation of grade for Module
	Seminar on Anglophone Literature and/or Culture	s	0	2	6	PF		ne	0
	Seminar on Anglophone Literature and/or Culture	s	0	2	6	TP	n/a	g	100
Transfer	- Components of th M.A. International								
Requirements for Participation*	None		,					-	

Number: ELC-MA 04	Module Title: Literary and Cultural History II  Type of Module: Obligatory								
СР	12								
Work Load - Class Time - Self-Study	Workload: Class Time: Self-Study: 360 h 60 h / 4 CH 300 h								
Duration	1 semester								
Frequency	Each semester								
Language of Instruction	English								
Types of Class / Learning Methods	Seminar and lecture     Course work for the semininstructor.     Normally, the oral exam, conducted by the instructor.	coverin	g both t	he lect	•				
Content	Anglophone world through and/or regions against the	The students attend a seminar that addresses the history of literature in the Anglophone world through a focus on specific authors, genres, media, periods, and/or regions against the background of larger social, cultural and political developments and a lecture that addresses larger developments in literary and/or							
Objectives	The students possess deta in the Anglophone world an and in terms of theoretical p categories of periodization debates surrounding the detailed knowledge of one	d are a position from the modes	ble to co s. They ne early of writ	ontextu are ac mode ing lite	alize th quainte rn age rary hi	is know d with t to the p	rledge b he mos present	oth cult t widely and wi	urally used th the
Requirements for Credit Points / Grade	Title	Type of Class	Status	СН	CP	Type of Exam	Duration of Exam	Type of Evaluation	Calculation of grade for Module
	Seminar on Anglophone Literary History	s	0	2	9				
	Lecture on Anglophone Literary History	L	0	2	3	OE	30	g	100
Transfer	- Components of t M.A. International								rams:
Requirements for Participation	None	-	,			-			

Number: ELC-MA 05	Module Title: Conceptualizing Literary	and C	ultural	Histor	y II		of Mo	dule:	
СР	12								
Work Load - Class Time - Self-Study	Workload: Class Time: Self-Study: 330 h								
Duration	1 semester								
Frequency	Each semester								
Language of Instruction	English								
Types of Class / Learning Methods	instructor.  - The seminar is concluded  - As Independent Studies supervision of the instructor further detail or they particip  - Independent Studies are samples from the work such a map, or an annotated bib  - If students have been ask for attending MA Academi already attained the 3 ECT	Course work for the seminar (e.g., a presentation) is at the discretion of the instructor.  - The seminar is concluded with a fully developed term paper (15-20 pages).  - As Independent Studies students (or small groups of students), under the supervision of the instructor, explore different dimensions of the topic of the class in further detail or they participate in peer-learning projects on offer in the department.  - Independent Studies are completed with an obligatory report of 2500 words and samples from the work such as (optional) a presentation, a website, an exhibition, a map, or an annotated bibliography.  - If students have been asked to attend Written Communication I as a prerequisite for attending MA Academic Writing at the beginning of their studies, they have						ass in ment. s and pition, juisite have	
Content	The students attend a sem the media in the Anglopho authors, genres, media, pe social, cultural and political positions.	one wo eriods, a	rld. The and/or	e class regions	provid agains	es an st the b	in-deptl ackgro	n analy und of	sis of larger
Objectives	The students possess deta culture and/or media use, aspect. They are able to a spect. They are also able their workgroup, they have They are capable of relating class, and to present them page term paper marks the	and and analyze to critical explored the region in an	re fami and cally evalued ed one sults of	liar with ontextualuate the diment their wate and	n the solize control  he existing of the exist	cholarl ultural ting sec the cla up to the ssible fa	y discu texts re condary ass in f e overa	ssion of elated to literatu urther of ill topic The 15	of this or this ure. In detail. of the to 20
Requirements for Credit Points / Grade	Title	Type of Class	Status	HWS	СР	Type of Exam	Duration of Exam	Type of Evaluation	Calculation of grade for Module
	Seminar on Culture and/or the Media in the Anglophone World	S	0	2	9	TP	n/a	g	100
	Independent Studies	IS	0	n/a	3	n/a		ne	0
Transfer	- Components of t M.A. International								rams:
Requirements for Participation	None		·						

Number: ELC-MA 09	Module Title: Master Thesis and Oral Exam						Type of Module: Obligatory			
СР	30	30								
Work Load - Class Time - Self-Study	Workload: Class Time: Self-Study: 900 h									
Duration	1 semester									
Frequency	Each semester									
Language of Instruction	English									
Types of Class / Learning Methods	- M.A. thesis - oral exam									
Content	The students write a thesis Anglophone literatures and special topics in the field of	culture	s in de	tail. Fo	r the or	al exan	n they p	orepare	three	
Objectives	The students are able to co in an appropriate and acce independently, albeit under secondary sources and sitt the oral exam they demonstrand literary history, theory choice against this background.	nduct a ssible f the su uate the trate that and c	larger lashion. Ipervisieir projett they have the hav	researd They a on of a ect with nave ac	h proje analyze in advis in curre quired	ct and t a body ser. The ent sch genera	o prese of princy oritic olarly d	ent the r nary ma ally eva iscours edge (co	esults aterial aluate es. In ultural	
Requirements for Credit Points / Grade (Weighted)	Title	Type of Class	Status	CH	CP	Type of Exam	Duration of Exam	Type of Evaluation	Calculation of grade for Module	
	Thesis	n/a	0	n/a	20	WE	n/a	g	20	
	Oral Exam	n/a	0	n/a	10	OE	60	g	10	
Transfer	n/a									
Requirements for Participation	Successful completion of E	LC-MA	01-05							

## 3.2. Interdisciplinary Profile

Number: ELC-MA 06	Module Title: Interdisciplinary Profile					Type of Module: Obligatory					
СР	12										
Work Load - Class Time - Self-Study	Workload: 360 h	Class Time: 60 h / 4 CH					Self-Study: 300 h				
Duration	2 semesters										
Frequency	Each semester										
Language of Instruction	English, German, French										
Types of Class / Learning Methods	- Two seminars from other disciplines - If they so choose, students can attend one seminar and two lecture courses - Students may take a maximum of one class from the MA American Studies in this module. If they have not done so before, Translation II or Written Communication II can constitute one of the two seminars - If deficits are diagnosed during the application process or, at the latest, at the end of ELC-MA 01, students can also attend the lecture courses 'Introduction to Literary Studies' and/or 'Introduction to Cultural Studies' as part of this module Required coursework is at the discretion of the instructors of the seminar/lectures.										
Content	The students attend classes (seminars or lectures) on culture, history or society or on theoretical considerations relevant for the program offered by other departments.										
Objectives	The students broaden their disciplinary perspective by looking beyond the Anglophone world. They are also able to discuss and evaluate different disciplinary approaches.										
Requirements for Credit Points / Grade	Title	Type of Class	Status	СН	CP	Type of Exam	Duration of Exam	Type of Evaluation	Calculation of grade for Module		
	Seminar Outside the Core Curriculum	s	0	2	6	n/a	n/a	ne	0		
	Seminar Outside the Core Curriculum	S	0	2	6	1,,,,	1,,0	110			
Transfer	n/a										
Requirements for Participation	None										

## 3.3. Preparation of MA Thesis

Number: ELC-MA 07	Module Title: Topics for Candidates (Colloquium)					Type of Module: Obligatory				
СР	6									
Work Load - Class Time - Self-Study	Workload: Class Time: Self-Study: 360 h 30 h / 2 CH 330 h									
Duration	1 semester									
Frequency	Each semester									
Language of Instruction	English, German, French									
Types of Class / Learning Methods	- Research colloquium and research project - Coursework: presentation of the project									
Content	The students attend a research colloquium where they discuss their ideas for their MA theses. They develop a research project which they present to and discuss with the class.									
Objectives	The students are able to develop a research project and situate it within current scholarly debates. They are capable of presenting the project in an appropriate manner and to react appropriately to the feedback of peers and faculty. They are also able to understand and provide feedback on other students' projects.									
Requirements for Credit Points / Grade	Title	Type of Class	Status	СН	СР	Type of Exam	Duration of Exam	Type of Evaluation	Calculation of grade for Module	
	Research Colloquium	s	0	2	6	n/a	n/a	ne	0	
Transfer	n/a									
Requirements for Participation	Successful completion of two of the modules ELC-MA 02 to ELC-MA 05.									

## 3.4 Practice and Application

Number: ELC-MA 08	Module Title: Practice and Application	Type of Module: Obligatory							
СР	12								
Work Load - Class Time - Self-Study	Workload: 360 h								
Duration	1 semester								
Frequency	Each semester								
Language of Instruction	English	English							

The module is subdivided into two major parts:

#### • Project: Applied English Literatures and Cultures (3 ECTS):

Students complete a project in applied English Literatures and Cultures evolving from a seminar they attend in one of the core modules (3 ECTS): they apply the content of a seminar in exhibitions, festivals, schools, and other forms of outreach (e.g. Webpage, Wikipedia article, podcast, public posters, guiding a tour, art catalogue, interview)

#### • Practice (9 ECTS):

Students choose a focus on professional practice inside or outside the university. Accordingly, they take "Practice I" or "Practice II":

#### Practice I (Professional): Internship (9 ECTS):

For a focus on practice outside the university, students do an Internship of at least nine weeks (full-time) with a company or institution and hand in a report on it of c. 1.500 words (9 ECTS). Students are free to follow their own professional interests; they find the opportunity for an internship by themselves.

## Types of Class / Learning Methods

**Practice II (Academic)** (9 ECTS): For focus on practice inside the university, students may perform tasks in academic life:

They can teach a tutorial (6) or work in the Research & Writing Center for one semester if they are found suitable by the faculty and attend a class in teaching skills (6 - 9 ECTS).

They can organize & advertise small conferences or workshops either by themselves or in assisting events of the department. (3 - 6 ECTS)

They can attend to tasks in the appearance of the Dept. in social media. (3 - 6 ECTS)

They can work as a mentor in a peer-learning group, such as Annotating Literature, for one semester if they are found suitable by the facultry (6 - 9 ECTS).

They can work as an editorial assistant for one semester on a journal of book edited by faculty if found suitable (6 ETS).

They can do classes offered by the career center or the Foreign Language Center for additional skills needed in their program. The course 'Written Communication 2' at the English Department is also accepted here (3 ETCS)

#### Content

The students gain practical experience by doing an internship with a company or institution. Students who consider an academic career and who are considered suitable by the faculty can decide to teach a tutorial for B.A. students instead or work in the research and writing center. All students can acquire organizing and communicating skills in events at the Dept. and in their outreach project in "Applied English Literatures and Cultures".

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	Students who did an internship outside the university know how the skills they have acquired during their studies can be transferred to fields outside academia and which skills they may still lack. They have a better idea which line of work they might want to pursue after graduation.								
Objectives	Students who taught a tutorial or worked in the Research and Writing Center of the English Dept. or as a mentor in a peer-learning group have gained pedagogical skills.								
	Students who applied the content of seminars in workshops, schools, museums etc. have learned to present knowledge in an accessible fashion and adequate to the occasion. They have gained insight into cultural and/or academic management.								
Requirements for Credit Points / Grade	Title	Type of Class	Status	CH	CP	Type of Exam	Duration of Exam	Type of Evaluation	Calculation of grade for Module
	Project Applied ELC	n/a	0	0	3	n/a	n/a	ne	0
	Internship/Tutorial	n/a	0	0	9	n/a	n/a	ne	0
	Classes at Career Centre and/or Foreign Language Centre	n/a	0	0	3	n/a	n/a	ne	0
	Cultural and Academic Management	n/a	0	0	3-6	n/a	n/a	ne	0
Transfer	n/a								
Requirements for Participation	None								