

**Subject-specific regulations for the Master course "World Studies: Orders, Politics,
Cultures" of 4 June 2020 in conjunction with the amendments of 21 May 2021 and 14 April 2023**

- Reading version -

The versions published in the Bielefeld University Gazette - Official Announcements shall be binding.

Based on §§ 2 (4) and 64 (1) of the Higher Education Act of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (Higher Education Act – HG of 16 September 2014 (GV. NRW. p. 547), last amended by Article 10 of the Act for the consistent and solidary management of the COVID-19 pandemic in North Rhine-Westphalia and for the adaptation of the state law with regard to the effects of a pandemic of 14 April 2020 (GV. NRW. 2020. p. 217b), the Faculty of History, Philosophy and Theology, the Faculty of Linguistics and Literature, the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Sociology in conjunction with the examination and study regulations for the Master course (MPO fw. - study model 2011) at Bielefeld University of 1 September 2015 (Bielefeld University Gazette - Official Announcements – yr. 44 no. 15 p. 424), last amended on 15 December 2016 (Bielefeld University Gazette - Official Notices – yr. 45 no. 18 p. 427) enacted these subject-specific regulations (annex to § 1 (1) MPO fw.):

1. Master's degree (§ 3 MPO fw.)

The Faculty of History, Philosophy and Theology, the Faculty of Linguistics and Literature, the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Sociology jointly offer – subject to the organizational responsibility of the Faculty of History, Philosophy and Theology – the degree programme "World Studies: Orders, Politics, Cultures" with the degree "Master of Arts" (M. A.).

2. Further access requirements (§ 4 (1) – 4 MPO fw.)

The subject-specific regulations govern further access requirements in addition to the requirements resulting from § 49 of the NRW Higher Education Act and § 4 MPO fw. Applicants shall receive access if they meet all requirements; applicants shall not receive access if they do not meet all requirements.

(1) Further access requirements are proof of a previous qualified degree (§ 49 (6) sent. 2 HG NRW) in accordance with paragraph 2 and language skills in English at level B2 of the European Framework of Reference for Languages in accordance with the guidelines of Bielefeld University. German language skills are recommended for the general success of the study programme, but they are not mandatory.

(2) A degree shall be qualified if all of the following subject requirements are proven by academic achievements, i.e. one point is achieved in each case and a total of 3 points are achieved:

Knowledge in a humanities and social science subject discipline with the ability to analyse according to the methods of the respective subject and in compliance with the conventions of academic writing independently develop and evaluate a scientific question: 0-1 points;

Methodological competence in the areas of "text analysis", "hermeneutics" and "social science data analysis": 0-1 points,

Expertise in the field of "Global structures and processes in the past and present (global studies)": 0-1 points.

The following points are awarded:

0 points: no required competences.

1 point: the required competences are present.

The benchmark for the necessary knowledge and skills required for the Master course shall be the ones which are taught in the (Bachelor) courses in History, Sociology, Social Sciences, Political Science, Literature, Law at Bielefeld University, since the Master course concept is built on these.

Points are awarded for competences under consideration of the requirements for crediting (§ 21 of the examination regulations of Bielefeld University of 18 December 2020) and the associated applicable standards and guidelines, including those of the European Area of Recognition Project (<http://ear.enic-naric.net/emanual/>) in accordance with the following criteria:

- Quality of the universities or the degree (accreditation)
- Level of competences acquired (qualification framework)
- Workload
- Profile / alignment of the completed degree
- Specific learning outcomes under consideration of learning objective taxonomies

(3) Examination of the requirements and prerequisites for both the access and the admission procedure shall be performed based on the following documents, to be uploaded and entered into the corresponding application portal of Bielefeld University in time:

- a) Final certificate of a previous qualified degree and the corresponding final documents (transcript, transcript of records, diploma supplement, or similar) or provisional final certificate showing a provisional final grade.
- b) Module Guide or module descriptions for the completed modules

If no diploma supplement, transcript, or Module Guide or no module descriptions are available, corresponding descriptions that provide information on the completed degree programme, the competences acquired, the academic achievements and their evaluations, and on the individual subject profile of the completed degree programme are to be uploaded.

In addition, proof on the criteria in accordance with paragraph 2 being met and on language skills shall be provided in the application portal.

Only pdf files will be accepted in the application portal. They should be searchable.

Documents not submitted following the deadline for applications or by any other means will not be considered.

(4) Access shall be evaluated from case to case by an authorised examiner. Applicants shall be informed about the result of the access procedure in an electronic notice. If the applicant raises an objection to the evaluation, including reasons, within one week, the decision shall be reviewed; two additional authorised examiners shall be called in for this purpose. The evaluation shall be corrected if necessary. Irrespective of this, legal protection shall be available. It will be communicated in the instruction on the legal right to appeal the notice.

(5) The competent body in accordance with § 14 MPO fw. shall decide on whether the access requirements are met; it shall also stipulate any further details of the procedure, appoint the authorised examiners, set the deadlines for applications, and make all decisions in connection with the access procedure.

3. Admission procedure (§ 4 (4) MPO fw.)

- not applicable -

4. Starting a study programme before acquiring the access requirements (§ 4 (5) MPO fw.)

– not applicable –

5. Course start (§ 5 (1) MPO fw.)

The study programme can only be taken up in the winter semester.

6. Curriculum (§ 7 MPO fw.)

Abbreviation	Module title	Recommended Subject related semester, start date	CP	Access requirements
22-WS-BM	Basic Module	1	10	
29-WS-GSG	Global Structures and Governance	1	15	
30-WS-GTI	Global Trade and Inequality	2	15	
23-WS-GE	Global Entanglements	3	15	
Compulsory elective area: Either the modules 30-WS-WSL or 22-WS-CSH must be studied.				
30-WS-WSL	World Society and Law	3	15	
22-WS-CSH	Global Processes and Global Interactions: Perspectives from Cultural Studies and History	3	15	

22-WS-MT	Master Thesis	4	30	
Individual subsidiary subjects (§ 7 p. 3, § 12 MPO fw.) Individual module elements (usually courses) totalling up to 12 CP can be included in the individual subsidiary subjects.		1–3	20	
Total amount			120	

Further information on the modules can be found in the module structure table under 7. and in the module descriptions.

7. Module structure table

Abbreviation	Title	CP	Access requirements	Number Study requirements	Number of graded (partial) Module Examinations	Weighting Module Examinations	Number of ungraded (partial) Module Examinations
22-WS-BM	Basic Module	10		2			1
29-WS-GSG	Global Structures and Governance	15		3	1		
30-WS-GTI	Global Trade and Inequality	15		3	1		
23-WS-GE	Global Entanglements	15		3	1		
30-WS-WSL	World Society and Law	15		3	1		
22-WS-CSH	Global Processes and Global interactions: Perspectives from Cultural Studies and History	15		3	1		
22-WS-MT	Master Thesis	30			1		

8. Further information on the module examinations, partial module examinations and study requirements as well as the Master's thesis

(1) Module examinations or partial module examinations shall be taken in one of the following forms:

- Presentation: Students present their study project in consultation with their mentors and develop a suitable form of presentation. The project is presented orally by the group during the mentoring session.
- Seminar paper of 40-50,000 characters.

Other forms, in particular those for the demonstration of interdisciplinary competences including media competence, are possible. The workload and qualification requirements must be comparable. Further details can be found in the module descriptions.

(2) Study requirements in the World Studies degree programme are to ensure

- a reflective and discursive attitude and have a practising and deepening character
- the ability to express oneself orally,
- the preparation for examinations.

The following may be considered as study requirements:

- Two to three smaller exercises in preparation for the examination as determined by the teaching staff.
- Creation of a concept for the study project (group work).
- As specified by the teaching staff: Colloquium journal in which the topics of the colloquium sessions attended are documented and for five meetings own questions and/or comments on the presentation are noted in keywords or minutes of a colloquium session.
- Oral presentation or small written paper as specified by the teaching staff.
- Several smaller written papers on the self-study unit as determined by the teaching staff.

Other forms are possible. When choosing other forms, the objective of the study requirements and the specified scope must be considered. Further details can be found in the module descriptions.

(3) The Master's thesis shall be written in English, shall refer to the current state of research on the topic and integrate methods and questions from different disciplines. The length of the thesis shall be between 140,000 to 160,000 characters. It shall be given and supervised by an authorised examiner from one of the participating Faculties. It shall be evaluated by this person and another authorised examiner from one of the participating Faculties. The student makes suggestions regarding the topic and the supervisors. The processing time shall be six months. The thesis must be submitted three times.

9. Entering into effect and scope of application

These subject-specific regulations shall apply to all students enrolling in the Master course World Studies from the Winter semester 2020/21 onwards.