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Curriculum for the  
**Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies**  
at the Faculty of Humanities 2, University of Innsbruck

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## **§ 1 Classification of the study programme**

According to §54 of the Universities' Act 2002 the Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies is grouped among the Humanities and Cultural Sciences.

## **§ 2 Qualification profile**

In training future specialists in English and American Studies, apart from the transfer of profound expert knowledge and active written and oral language skills, the study programme focuses on the development of key qualifications guaranteeing intellectual openness and methodical flexibility for practicing rapidly changing job profiles.

### **(1) Subject-specific skills and preparatory scientific training**

- a) **Language-practical skills:** The language training within the curriculum is focused on the guidelines of the Common European Frame of Reference: Learning, Teaching, Assessment (CEFR) (target level C2 or more based on CEFR). Based on the level of competences, suitable descriptors on CEFR have been developed for the individual curricular language proficiency courses. The descriptors help to explicitly determine the teaching and learning objectives for a foreign language, in addition to the base level. The objective of university language teaching in the field of skills and competences is sophisticated language proficiency which is oriented towards the descriptions on CEFR. University language skills features the command of the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing which are prerequisites for communicative skills, intercultural action and examination of texts and which are to be transferred in an integrated form. Oral and written language competence is to be developed and extended systematically and progressively in fields such as text reception, text production, special languages and transmission (mediation) in order to correspond to scientific and vocational education. Principle: University language training represents an essential part of philological study qualification and cannot be transferred apart from the entire contents of the study programme. It is more than vocational training and aims to correspond to the general educational mandate of universities as defined according to CEFR. That means that university language training is not only restricted to the transfer of basic skills but also aims at acquiring professional and communicative competences in inter- and intracultural context. In terms of defining the educational objectives, university language training is oriented towards the requirements of professional practice and speech comprehension in a multilingual context.
- b) **Linguistic skills:** These are the competences which students acquire by the synchronous and diachronic study of the structures and functions of the different fields of the English language. Graduates of the Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies are able to analyse language on a system-linguistic and cognitive/psycholinguistic basis and to reflect on the language's situation-specific use (pragmatics, sociolinguistics). Students are able to contribute to the further development and evaluation of different linguistic fields and to apply their knowledge and skills acquired in terms of specific tasks. They understand the English language as a result of a varied historical development process.
- c) **Literary skills:** These are the competences which enable a critically use of literary texts of the English language and cultural area, whereas the term "literary" is broadly defined and thus also includes film, audio drama, comics or text music (e.g. musicals). Literary skills result from a differentiated language comprehension and also from a detailed knowledge of production conditions, historical-social contexts and traditions of literary work. These competences also include the ability to deal with the theories of literary consideration and to use literary methods exemplary and apply them to the analysis of concrete literary and non-literary texts.

- d) Cultural-scientific skills: These competences result from the acquisition of knowledge in terms of the cultural, political, social, economic and gender-specific context of the relevant English language area in past and present. Graduates also have the competence to critically deal with the issues concerning these language areas and to elaborate associated subjects according to scientific criteria.
  - e) Culture skills: This includes the competence to identify, define and describe the geographical, economic, historical, ethnic-religious, political, socio-cultural and gender-specific facts of the relevant English culture and language area. Graduates are aware of the varied conditions of the English-speaking culture area in comparison to their own culture, which leads to a norm- and convention-appropriate behaviour in the foreign culture area.
  - f) Intercultural skills: This is the competence to analyse and shape cultural interaction processes. The constant confrontation with socio-cultural realities of the relevant English language area during the study programme results in the practice to equally deal with the context of one's own and also the foreign culture and to flexibly consider the different views and traditions of thinking. This implies open-mindedness and tolerance.
  - g) Basic and orientation knowledge: The study programme conveys basic knowledge of cultural science (methods, subjects and objectives) and familiarity with basic issues (concept of culture, culture-theoretical approaches). It enables to understand the culture-scientific dimension of the special studies in its historical relativity and actuality.
  - h) Media skills: It features acquaintance with culture-scientific important text sorts and media (from the fields of literature, functional literature, popular culture, film, theatre, music, print and digital media) as well as knowledge in the use of media in general and media of the English-speaking target culture. Media skills also refer to theoretical-methodical competence in the field of inter-media contexts, in particular with regard to the relationships between literature and other art forms as well as in the field of different medial expression forms of discursive phenomena (e.g. text, image, sound).
- (2) Multi-disciplinary qualifications and soft skills: These are qualifications which students acquire in addition to their subject-specific competences and which qualify them to undertake vocational tasks in different occupational fields. Special emphasis is to be given to:
- a) Written and oral expression: Students of the BA Programme English and American Studies have to write numerous works in English, give presentations in courses and discuss work results. In this context, they also learn to present different contents, to outline complex issues in a comprehensive and convincing manner, to defend their own point of view, to criticize other views, to ask specific questions, and to give precise answers. One of the key qualifications is thus communicative competence.
  - b) The ability to clear rigid thought patterns by thinking in alternative ways and to be open for unconventional and creative solutions: Intense critically reflected dealing with specialist literature and different doctrines is particularly suitable for developing this ability.
  - c) Systematic approach to new tasks: In linguistics, literature and cultural science, texts are subject to a scientific analysis. The tasks for the students are not only the dealing with relevant theories but also the elaboration of individual, problem-related theoretical approaches. In this context, students of English and American Studies learn to specifically and individually solve problems and critically deal with individual solution strategies.
  - d) Thinking in contexts: By linking the subjects of English and American Studies with other science fields and neighbouring disciplines, students are able to think in contexts and to consider several aspects of the tasks to be accomplished.
  - e) Independence: During their studies, students of English and American Studies are supposed to find information and acquire knowledge autonomously. Independent scientific work requires and promotes the ability to organize one's own work efficiently and to accomplish it proactively.
  - f) Intercultural and transcultural skills: ability to appropriately deal with other cultures and to understand and interpret their cultural processes and products adequately.

- g) Team skills: they are developed and promoted by partner and group work.
- (3) Occupational profiles and career opportunities: Due to the special role of English as lingua franca of the contemporary world and the subject-specific skills and key competences acquired during the Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies graduates qualify for jobs in different occupational fields and with different profiles (publishing, librarianship, journalism, new media, culture management, adult education, public administration, diplomatic service, marketing etc.)
- (4) The Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies qualifies for registering for an advanced Master's Programme.

### § 3 Scope and duration

The Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies covers 180 ECTS-Credits. This corresponds to a duration of six semesters.

### § 4 Admission

The rectorate decides - based on the regulations of the Universities Act 2002 - on the admission to the Bachelor's Programme.

### § 5 Types of courses and maximum number of students per course

- (1) Courses without continuous performance assessment
1. **Lectures** (VO) are courses held in lecture format. They introduce the research areas, methods and schools of thought for a given subject.
  2. **Working groups** (AG) serve to treat a topic in collective fashion, examining the theories, methods and techniques of an area using group work. Maximum number of participants: 30
  3. **Studies orientation courses** (SL) provide an overview of the study programme and its structure. They give students an objective basis to assess their decision to pursue their chosen subject. Maximum number of participants: 25
- (2) Courses with continuous performance assessment:
1. **Introductory seminars** (PS) introduce students interactively to scientific literature through the treatment of selected issues. They convey knowledge and methods of academic work. Maximum number of participants: 30
  2. **Practical courses** (UE) focus on the practical treatment of concrete scientific tasks within an area. Maximum number of participants: 25
  3. **Lectures with practical elements** (VU) focus on the practical treatment of concrete scientific tasks that are discussed during the lecture parts of the course. Maximum number of participants: 30
  4. **Seminars** (SE) provide in-depth treatment of scientific topics through students' presentations and discussion thereof. Maximum number of participants: 30

## **§ 6 Allocation of places in courses with a limited number of participants**

In courses with a limited number of participants, course places are allocated as follows:

1. Students for whom the study duration would be extended due to the postponement are to be given priority.
2. If the criterion in Z 1 does not suffice, first, students of the Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies and of the Secondary School Teacher Accreditation Programme in English, for whom this course is part of a compulsory module are to be given priority, and second, students of for whom this course is part of an elective module.

## **§ 7 Stay abroad**

A stay abroad in an English-speaking country with a duration of at least four months is strongly recommended. The objectives of the stay abroad are broadening linguistic and cultural competence as well as gaining international experience.

## **§ 8 Programme structure**

- (1) Compulsory modules from the following competence areas covering 165 ECTS-Credits must be passed:
  - A. Command of Language (30 ECTS-Credits)
  - B. Linguistics (35 ECTS-Credits)
  - C. Literary Studies (35 ECTS-Credits)
  - D. Cultural Studies (15 ECTS-Credits)
  - E. Interdisciplinary Skills and Individual Choice of Specialisation (30 ECTS-Credits)
  - F. Bachelor's Thesis (20 ECTS-Credits)
- (2) Elective modules covering 15 ECTS-Credits must be passed, whereby the elective modules 4 or 5 and 6 or 7 from the area of competence in Cultural Studies must be passed.
  - A. Command of Language (10 ECTS -Credits)
  - B. Cultural Studies (5 ECTS-Credits)

## 9 Compulsory and elective modules

(1) The following compulsory modules covering 165 ECTS-Credits must be passed:

A. Area of Competence: Command of Language (30 ECTS-Credits)

1.	<b>Compulsory Module: Language System I: Focus on Language Constituents</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS-Credits</b>
<b>a.</b>	<b>UE Listening/Speaking I</b> Focus on pronunciation, intonation, stress in sentences; listening comprehension; active participation in discussions	2	2.5
<b>b.</b>	<b>SL Reading/Writing I</b> Sentence and paragraph structure; writing of clear and well-structured texts, e.g. letters, summaries etc; reading and understanding texts on current issues and problems	2	2.5
<b>c.</b>	<b>SL Language Awareness I</b> Reflection on language functions: grammar in context	2	2,5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7,5</b>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Spoken language skills, listening comprehension, text structures, grammar and language functions in context Target level B2+ (achievement of strong vantage)			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> none			

2.	<b>Compulsory Module: Language System II: Focus on Language in Context</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS-Credits</b>
<b>a.</b>	<b>UE Listening/Speaking II</b> Listening comprehension: complex contents, understanding of allusions, humour etc.; efficient oral imparting of one's own position in discussions	2	2.5
<b>b.</b>	<b>UE Reading/Writing II</b> Understanding of texts on a wide range of topics incl. allusions, humour, use of register. Writing of clear, well-structured texts that also reflect one's own position/opinion	2	2.5
<b>c.</b>	<b>UE Language Awareness II</b> Reflection of language: components of language: morphemes, words, collocations and semantic fields, phrases in context	2	2,5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7,5</b>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Expansion of grammatical competence; improvement of comprehension of spoken and written language in context (utterances, sentences, texts, notional and functional concepts). Target level C1 (achievement of effective operational proficiency)			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory module 1			

3.	Compulsory Module: Focus on Language Usage I	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	<b>UE Listening/Speaking III</b> Consolidation of the competences acquired in L/S I and L/S II; reading, maintaining one's position in discussions (discussion competence) and precise formulation of ideas and opinions in social and professional contexts. Listening comprehension: allusions, irony, sarcasm etc.	2	2.5
b.	<b>UE Reading/Writing III</b> Clear structure and appropriate style in essays (argumentative essays); Presentation of critical thoughts, principles of discourse; understanding of complex topics in different text types	2	2.5
c.	<b>UE Language Awareness III</b> Adequate interactions, articulacy, grammar in context	2	2,5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7,5</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Pragmatic competence and discussion competence; psychological and sociolinguistic appropriateness, text types and discourse principles; development of correct register use and sociolinguistic competence. Target level C1+ (extension of effective operational proficiency)		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory modules 1 and 2		

4.	Compulsory Module: Focus on Language Usage II	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	<b>UE Listening/Speaking IV</b> Successful participation in conversations and discussions; linguistic eloquence, idiomatic and colloquial expressions; reformulations, reading skills; listening comprehension and reproduction of contents on an advanced level	2	2.5
b.	<b>UE Reading/Writing IV</b> Writing of clear and stylistically appropriate summaries and comments, academic essays; reading and understanding literary texts and scientific texts	2	2.5
c.	<b>UE Language Awareness IV</b> inter- and intralingual mediation; selecting and structuring texts according to communicative aims	2	2,5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7,5</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Discourse competence. Target level C2 (achievement of mastery)		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory modules 1, 2 and 3		

B. Area of Competence: Linguistics (35 ECTS-Credits)

5.	Compulsory Module: Introduction: English Linguistics	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	<b>VO Introduction to English Synchronic Linguistics</b> Exemplary selection of topics with focus on the rules of the English language system on its different linguistic levels, from the core areas of phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics to applied linguistics, pragmatics, text linguistics, psycho- and sociolinguistics and in consideration of its varieties.	2	2.5
b.	<b>VO Introduction to the History of English</b> English as a hybrid language developed over the course of time; main focus lies on the phonological, lexical and syntactical-semantic development in consideration of the historic and cultural-historical background.	1	2.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Students understand the diversity of issues and topics in modern English linguistics and are familiar with its most important concepts, theories and methods.			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> none			

6.	Compulsory Module: Survey of English Linguistics	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	<b>VO Systemic Linguistics</b> Contents of this system-linguistic overview range from the smallest linguistic units (phoneme, morpheme) to text and discourse parameters. Main focus is on phonetics/phonology, lexis and grammar.	2	5
b.	<b>VO English Usage and/or Applied Linguistics</b> This lecture gives an overview of fields of applied linguistics and shows the many fields, in which English is of major importance today.	2	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Students are able to recognize, name and categorize linguistic phenomena, especially in the area of phonology, lexis and syntax. They are familiar with learning strategies that enable them to independently advance their sensorium for linguistic subtleties.			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> none			

7.	Compulsory Module: Focus on Special Fields of English Linguistics	h	ECTS-Credits
	<b>PS Synchronic and/or Diachronic English Linguistics</b> Exemplary selection of a clearly defined area of synchronic or diachronic linguistics resp.	2	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Application of specific methods and resources for the course subject; insight into the current state of research of the respective area; independent academic working skills; argumentation and effective bibliographical and presentation skills; pursuing ideas independently			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory module 5			

8.	<b>Compulsory Module: Focus on Method and Innovation in English Linguistics</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS-Credits</b>
	<b>PS Systemic and/or Applied English Linguistics</b> Contents of this course vary within the field of linguistic including applied linguistics. Possible themes are aspects of the theoretical controversies to very special fields, e.g. interdisciplinary introductory seminars. The unity of research and teaching will be especially clear and evident to the students.	2	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Knowledge of theories and methods of selected areas in Applied English Linguistics; introduction to the current state of research of the respective area; independent scientific reading; learning how to pursue independent scientific work; practising scientific reasoning and constructive presenting and compiling bibliographies; independent and critical scientific working		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory module 5		

9.	<b>Compulsory Module: English Linguistics: Review and Outlook</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS-Credits</b>
<b>a.</b>	<b>AG English Linguistics</b> Review and repetition of the contents of the Competence Area of Linguistics at a more advanced level as in the previous modules; instructions on developing well-grounded questions; imparting information on good learning materials	2	5
<b>b.</b>	<b>SE English Linguistics</b> Focus on individual research and a largely autonomous selection of research topics within a defined topical area; development of own research questions and exemplary analysis of specific data material by established linguistic methods in preparation for a pertinent MA-study programme; discussion and reflection of relevant scientific literature on the state of the research of the respective area	2	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Students are able to deal with selected topics of English linguistics independently. They are able to understand, present and apply suitable scientific methods and critically evaluate scientific literature.		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory modules 5 and 6 and 7 or 8		

C. Area of Competence: Literary Studies (35 ECTS-Credits)

10.	Compulsory Module: Literary Studies	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	<b>VO Introduction to British and Postcolonial Literary Studies</b> Overview of British and Postcolonial Literary Studies; introduction to methodological concepts and central themes of Postcolonial Studies; analysis, discussion, interpretation of selected key texts; developing of analytical and interpretational skills	2	2,5
b.	<b>VO Introduction to American Literary Studies</b> Overview of American Literature; introduction to methodological concepts and central themes; analysis, discussion, interpretation of selected texts; development of analytical and interpretational skills	2	2,5
<b>Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Competence in the critical treatment of literary texts from the US-American and English-speaking world; ability to deal with literary theories and to apply the methods of literary studies for the analysis of selected texts with special focus on use of the analysis for teaching; understanding the links between literature, society (especially the multicultural societies of the UK and USA) and politics;			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> none			

11.	Compulsory Module: Advanced: British and Postcolonial Literary Studies	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	<b>VO British and/or Postcolonial Literature and Culture</b> The lecture gives an in-depth insight into the development of English and Postcolonial Literatures and their interactions or in special aspects of English or Postcolonial Literatures or in themes, concepts and theories (e.g. interculturality, racism, cultural identity, gender issues, questions of identity in Australian, Caribbean, New Zealand literature). A reading list aims at expanding the knowledge gained in the course.	2	7,5
b.	<b>PS British and/or Postcolonial Literature</b> In-depth knowledge of the contents of the lecture; exemplary and focused examination (historical, present, comparative, interdisciplinary, thematic) with English and/or post-colonial literature, texts of different genres as well as different cultural phenomena.	2	2,5
<b>Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Analysis and interpretation of foreign cultures, including intellectual, social and political aspects; understanding and discussing of intercultural phenomena by dealing with modern multicultural societies and their phenomena; treatment of selected works and themes of English and/or postcolonial literature;			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory module 10			

12.	<b>Compulsory Module: Advanced: American Literary Studies</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS-Credits</b>
<b>a.</b>	<b>VO American Literature and Culture</b> The lecture gives an overview of the development of American literature, its genres, themes, concepts and theories in an intellectual, social and political context. A reading list aims at expanding the knowledge on the topics dealt with.	2	7,5
<b>b.</b>	<b>PS American Literature</b> In-depth dealing with the contents of the lecture; examination of selected works or key areas (historic, contemporary, comparative, interdisciplinary, thematic) of American literature and texts of different genres in the context of different cultural phenomena.	2	2,5
<b>Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Overview of the development of North American literature from the beginnings to the present; familiarity with various literary genres and major works; insights into the development of American literature, including intellectual, social and political aspects, with special attention to ethnic literature; treatment of selected works and themes of American literature			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory module 10			

13.	<b>Compulsory Module: Seminars in Literary and Cultural Studies</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS-Credits</b>
<b>a.</b>	<b>SE British and Postcolonial Literatures, Cultures and Media</b> The seminar deals with a central theme from the area of English literature, culture and media science. Focus is on in-depth treatment of selected themes or foci (historic, contemporary, comparative, interdisciplinary, thematic, gender-specific) by studying a selected corpus and the pertinent theories and research methods.	2	5
<b>b.</b>	<b>SE American Literature, Culture and Media</b> This seminar deals with a central theme from the area of North American literature, culture and media science. Focus is on in-depth treatment of selected themes or foci (historic, contemporary, comparative, interdisciplinary, thematic, gender-specific) by studying a selected corpus and the pertinent theories and research methods.	2	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> In-depth dealing with concepts and theories of literary, culture and media science; (inter)cultural competence in the area of literary, cultural and media science regarding to the study programme of English and American Studies, this means in-depth knowledge of specific socio-cultural contexts and the ability to critically and objectively examine cultural, social and political problems of cultures of the English-speaking world in a well-grounded way.			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory modules 10, 11 and 12			

D. Area of Competence: Cultural Studies (15 ECTS-Credits)

14.	Compulsory Module: Introduction: Cultural Studies	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	<b>VU Introduction to British and Anglophone Cultures</b> Introduction to theories, methods and contexts of Cultural Studies; main focus lies on the geographic, historic, political, sociocultural and gender-specific circumstances in the respective Anglophone cultural area; their interactions are examined based on theories.	2	2,5
b.	<b>VU Introduction to American Cultures</b> Introduction to theories, methods and contexts of Cultural Studies; main focus lies on the geographic, historic, political, socio-cultural and gender-specific circumstances in the respective Anglophone cultural area; their interactions are examined based on theories.	2	2,5
<b>Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Overview of the basic concepts and contexts of this competence area, which are examined based on texts and themes on British, Anglophone and American Cultural Studies			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> none			

15.	Compulsory Module: Fundamentals of Media Studies	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	<b>VO Introduction to Media Studies</b> Terms of media and models of media communication, media system, media reality, media language, media history, impact of the media, media criticism;	1	2,5
b.	<b>VU Introduction to Media Analysis</b> Fundamentals of media analysis with the examples of print media, film or the new media; fundamentals of analysis of print media: history of print media; types of text; text design; intertextuality, communicative and aesthetic aspects; fundamentals of film and TV analysis; basic terms, analysis of genres or forms; film perception (as compared to literary); popular culture; fundamentals of analysis of the new media; multimediality; hyper-texts and hypermedia; forms of interactivity	1	2,5
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Knowledge of the basic concepts of media studies; overview of main issues, approaches and results of media research; examples of the use of media analysis methods			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> none			

<b>16.</b>	<b>Compulsory Module: Gender Studies</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS-Credits</b>
	<b>VU Gender Studies</b> Analysis of the social semiotics of gender, its politics and history and their reflection in the depiction of current discourse (e.g. literary works, films, advertisements); introduction to gender theory and exploration of the question of personal and gender identity within the socio-cultural context; aspects of gender identity in a socio-cultural context; semiotics of gender reflected in narrative discourse	2	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Knowledge of basic issues of gender theory; insights into the links between gender identity and socio-cultural context		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> none		

E. Interdisciplinary Skills and Individual Choice of Specialisation (30 ECTS-Credits)

<b>17.</b>	<b>Compulsory Module: Interdisciplinary Skills</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS-Credits</b>
	Providing the availability of places, courses corresponding to 10 ECTS- Credits can be freely chosen from the curricula of the Bachelor and/or Diploma Programmes at the University of Innsbruck.		10
	<b>Total</b>		<b>10</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Expansion of the study programme and acquiring of additional qualifications		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> The prerequisites specified by the respective curricula must be met.		

**18. Individual Choice of Specialisation (20 ECTS-Credits)**

For individual specialisation modules of the curricula of the bachelor and/or diploma programmes of the University of Innsbruck corresponding to 20 ECTS-Credits are to be chosen according to §54 par.1 of the Universities Act. The prerequisites specified by the respective curricula must be met.

F Bachelor's Theses (20 ECTS-Credits)

<b>19.</b>	<b>Compulsory Module: Bachelor's Thesis I</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS-Credits</b>
	<b>VU Bachelor's Thesis I</b> Theoretical and methodological discussion of research questions in English and American Studies; Within the scope of the course a Bachelor's Thesis must be written.	1	2,5 +7,5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Students must show that they are able to independently apply the theoretical and methodological instruments used in English and American Studies for discussing a specific question.		

	<b>Prerequisites:</b> If the theme of the Bachelor's Thesis falls into the competence area of Literary Studies: successful completion of compulsory modules 10, 11 and 12; if the theme of the Bachelor's Thesis falls into the competence area of Linguistics: successful completion of compulsory modules 5, 6 and 7 or 8; if the theme of the Bachelor's Thesis falls into the competence area of Cultural Studies: successful completion of compulsory module 14 and of a pertinent elective module (4, 5, 6, 7); if the theme of the Bachelor's Thesis falls into the competence area of Command of Language: successful completion of the compulsory modules 1, 2 and 3
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20.	Compulsory Module: Bachelor's Thesis II	h	ECTS-Credits
	<b>VU Bachelor's Thesis II</b> Theoretical and methodological discussion of research questions in English and American Studies; Within the scope of the course a Bachelor's Thesis must be written.	1	2,5 +7,5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Students must show that they are able to independently apply the theoretical and methodological instruments used in English and American Studies for discussing a specific question.		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> If the theme of the Bachelor's Thesis falls into the competence area of Literary Studies: successful completion of compulsory modules 10, 11 and 12; if the theme of the Bachelor's Thesis falls into the competence area of Linguistics: successful completion of compulsory modules 5, 6 and 7 or 8; if the theme of the Bachelor's Thesis falls into the competence area of Cultural Studies: successful completion of compulsory module 14 and of a pertinent elective module (4, 5, 6, 7); if the theme of the Bachelor's Thesis falls into the competence area of Command of Language: successful completion of the compulsory modules 1, 2 and 3		

- (2) Elective modules from the area of competence in Command of Language corresponding to 10 ECTS-Credits and from the area of competence in Cultural Studies corresponding to 5 ECTS- Credits must be passed, whereby elective modules 4 or 5 and 6 or 7 must be passed from the area of competence in Cultural Studies.

A. Area of Competence: Command of Language (10 ECTS-Credits)

1.	Elective Module: Professional Language Skills: Interlingual Mediation	h	ECTS-Credits
	<b>UE Interlingual Mediation</b> Increasing the awareness for problems of translating English into German and vice versa.	2	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Development of language skills for professional purposes and academic work with special attention to translation from English to German and German to English		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory modules 1, 2 and 3		

<b>2.</b>	<b>Elective Module: Professional Language Skills: Editing and Proofreading</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS- Credits</b>
	<b>UE Editing and Proofreading</b> Focus on correctness and appropriateness in academic texts and business communication	2	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Development of language skills for occupational and academic purposes, with special attention to linguistic correctness and appropriateness		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory modules 1, 2 and 3		

<b>3.</b>	<b>Elective Module: Professional Language Skills: Professional and Academic Writing</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS- Credits</b>
	<b>UE Professional and Academic Writing</b> Academic writing skills and business communication skills	2	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Development of language skills for occupational and academic purposes, with special attention to academic and other professional writing skills		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory modules 1, 2 and 3		

B. Area of Competence: Cultural Studies (5 ECTS-Credits)

<b>4.</b>	<b>Elective Module: Critical Area Studies I</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS- Credits</b>
	<b>PS Critical Area Studies: British and Anglophone Cultures</b> Examination of cultural structures, institutions and phenomena of English-speaking cultural areas (with the exception of the USA); based on the competences acquired in compulsory module 14 and on theory, their inter- actions with historic, social, political, aesthetic and gender-specific circumstances in consideration of global interdependencies are examined.	2	2,5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2,5</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Competences in critical treatment of cultural facts and the different manifestations of media in the English-speaking cultural area (with the exception of the USA); ability to deal with cultural theories and to apply methods of cultural studies in a results-oriented fashion for the analysis and interpretation of selected data; intercultural skills		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory module 14		

<b>5.</b>	<b>Elective Module: Critical Area Studies II</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>ECTS- Credits</b>
	<b>PS Critical Area Studies: American Cultures</b> Examination of cultural structures, institutions and phenomena of American cultural areas; based on the competences acquired in compulsory module 14 and on theory, their interactions with historic, social, political, aesthetic and gender-specific circumstances in consideration of global interdependencies are examined.	2	2,5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2,5</b>

	<p><b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Further development of cultural understanding, particularly in terms of interculturality and transculturality; identification and assessment of cultural phenomena and their construction within the context of American studies</p>
	<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory module 14</p>

6.	Elective Module: Cultural Studies I	h	ECTS-Credits
	<p><b>PS Cultural Studies: British and Anglophone Cultures</b> Examination of cultural structures, institutions and phenomena of English-speaking cultural areas (with the exception of the USA); based on the competences acquired in compulsory module 14 their interactions with historic, social, political, aesthetic and gender-specific circumstances are put up for discussion. Main focus is on socio-cultural phenomena and institutions especially in the area of contemporary, everyday and popularculture</p>	2	2,5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2,5</b>
	<p><b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Further development of knowledge and competence in cultural studies; ability to deal with cultural theories and to apply the methods of cultural studies in a results-oriented fashion for the analysis and interpretation of selected data from the Anglophone areas; advanced intercultural skills</p>		
	<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory module 14</p>		

7.	Elective Module: Cultural Studies II	h	ECTS-Credits
	<b>PS Cultural Studies: American Cultures</b> Examination of cultural structures, institutions and phenomena of American cultural areas; based on the competences acquired in compulsory module 14 and on theory their interactions with historic, social, political, aesthetic and gender-specific circumstances are put up for discussion. Main focus is on socio-cultural phenomena and institutions especially in the area of contemporary, everyday and popular culture	2	2,5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2,5</b>
	<b>Learning Outcomes:</b> Further development of knowledge and competence in cultural studies; ability to deal with cultural theories and to apply the methods of cultural studies in a results-oriented fashion for the analysis and interpretation of selected data from the American area; advanced intercultural skills		
	<b>Prerequisites:</b> successful completion of compulsory module 14		

### § 10 Studies induction and orientation stage

- (1) Within the scope of the Studies and Orientation Period, which takes place in the first semester, the following course examinations must be passed:
  1. SL Reading/Writing I (CM 1 lit. b/2 hrs. /2.5 ECTS-Credits),
  2. SL Language Awareness I (CM 1 lit. c/2 hrs./2.5 ECTS-Credits),
  3. VO Introduction to English Synchronic Linguistics (CM 5 lit. a/2 hrs. /2.5 ECTS-Credits),
  4. VO Introduction to British and Postcolonial Literary Studies (CM 10 lit. a/2 hrs./2.5 ECTS-Credits),
  5. VO Introduction to American Literary Studies (CM 10 lit. b/2 hrs./2.5 ECTS-Credits).
- (2) Successful passing of all exams of the Studies Induction and Orientation Period entitles to passing all further courses and examinations and to writing the Bachelor's Thesis.
- (3) Before successful completion of the Studies Induction and Orientation Period courses amounting to 17.5 ECTS-Credits may be passed. The registration requirements listed in the curriculum must be adhered to.

### § 11 Bachelor's Theses

- (1) Two Bachelor's Theses with a total of 7.5 ECTS-Credits each are to be completed. Both theses are to be written in English and have to be subject-specific.
- (2) The Bachelor's Theses are to be completed within the scope of courses using continuous performance assessment of the compulsory modules 19 and 20. The performance of the Bachelor Theses is to be delivered in addition to the relevant bachelor's theses courses.
- (3) The Bachelor's Theses are to be submitted in paper form and in digital version. The form of the submission of the digital version is to be determined by the Director of Studies.

### § 12 Examination regulations

The assessment of performance of a module (module examination) is to be carried out by course examinations. Course examinations are:

1. Examinations that assess the knowledge and skills covered by an individual lecture, working groups or courses of the studies induction and orientation stage and where the performance is assessed by a single examination at the end of the course. If there is a reading list for a lecture, the list is also part of the examination. The course lecturer must communicate the examination method (written or oral) before the start of the course.
2. Courses with continuous performance assessment, for which the performance assessment is based on regular written and/or oral contributions by the participants. The course lecturer must communicate the assessment criteria before the start of the course.

### **§ 13 Academic degree**

Graduates of the Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies are awarded the academic degree „Bachelor of Arts“, abbreviated “BA”.

### **§ 14 Coming into force**

- (1) This curriculum comes into force on 1 October 2015.
- (2) §10 comes out of force at the end of 31 December 2015.
- (3) §10 in the version of the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 31 March 2016, Issue 17, No. 292 comes into force on 1 October 2016 and is to be applied to all students commencing their study programme as of the 2016/2017 winter semester and to all students, who have not yet passed the courses of the studies induction and orientation stage according to the previous regulations.
- (4) §12 no. 1 in the version of the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 31 March 2016, Issue 17, No. 292 comes into force on 1 October 2016 and is to be applied to all students.

### **§ 15 Transitional provisions**

- (1) This curriculum applies to all students, who are admitted to the Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies from the winter semester of 2015/16 onwards.
- (2) Regular students, who have started the Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies based on the curriculum of 2009, University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 28 April 2009, Issue 76, No. 269, before 1 October 2015 are entitled to finish this study programme within eight semesters at the most from this time onwards.
- (3) If the Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies based on the curriculum of 2009 is not finished in time, the students are subject to the curriculum for the Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies in the version published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 26 May 2015, Issue 46, No. 429. Students are also entitled to voluntarily change to the curriculum for the Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies of 2015.
- (4) The recognition of examinations is regulated in the appendix.
- (5) For students, who have started their study programme before the 2016/2017 winter semester, the limitation of ECTS-Credits that may be passed before completion of the studies induction and orientation period according to §10 par. 3 in the version of the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 31 March 2016, Issue 17, No. 292 is not to be applied until 30 November 2017. After that point in time more courses and examinations may only be taken after successful completion of the whole studies induction and orientation period

For the Curriculum Committee:

Ass.-Prof. Mag. Dr. Werner Marxgut

For the Senate:

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Ivo Hajnal

## Appendix: Recognition of Examinations

The successfully completed examinations within the scope of the Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies at the University of Innsbruck (curriculum as published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 29 April 2009, Issue 76, No. 269 in the version of the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 13 June 2014, Issue 27, No. 487) below count acc. to §78 para. 1 Universities Act as equal towards the Bachelor's Programme English and American Studies at the University of Innsbruck (curriculum published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 26 May, 2015, Issue 46, No. 429) as follows:

Positive assessed examination	Recognised as
VO Introduction to Philological Cultural Studies (1 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	Interdisciplinary Skills (10 ECTS-Credits) to a corresponding extend  and/or  Individual Choice of Specialisation (20 ECTS-Credits) to a corresponding extend
SL Introduction to Philological Cultural Studies (1 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	
VO Fundamentals of Linguistics (2 h /5 ECTS- Credits)	
VO Fundamentals of Literary Studies (2 h/5 ECTS- Credits)	
SL Listening/Speaking I (2 h/1.5 ECTS-Credits)	UE Listening/Speaking I (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Reading/Writing I (2 h/3 ECTS-Credits)	SL Reading/Writing I (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Awareness I (2 h/3 ECTS-Credits)	UE Language Awareness II (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Listening/Speaking II (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	UE Listening/Speaking II (2 h /2.5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Reading/Writing II (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	UE Reading/Writing II (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Awareness II (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	SL Language Awareness I (2 h /2.5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Listening/Speaking III (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	UE Listening/Speaking III (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Reading/Writing III (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	UE Reading/Writing III (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Awareness III (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	UE Language Awareness III (2 h / 2.5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Listening/Speaking IV (2 h/2 ECTS-Credits)	UE Listening/Speaking IV (2 h /2.5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Reading/Writing IV (2 h/3 ECTS-Credits)	UE Reading/Writing IV (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Awareness IV (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	UE Language Awareness IV (2 h/2.5 ECTS-
VO Introduction to English Synchronic Linguistics (1 h/3 ECTS-Credits)	VO Introduction to English Synchronic Linguistics (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)

VO Introduction to the History of English (1 h/2 ECTS-Credits)	VO Introduction to the History of English (1 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
VO Systemic Linguistics (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	VO Systemic Linguistics (2 h /5 ECTS-Credits)
VO English Usage and/or Applied Linguistics (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	VO English Usage and/or Applied Linguistics (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)
PS Synchronic and/or Diachronic English Linguistics (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	PS Synchronic and/or Diachronic English Linguistics (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)
PS Systemic and/or Applied English Linguistics (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	PS Systemic and/or Applied English Linguistics (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)
AG English Linguistics (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	AG English Linguistics (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)
VO Introduction to British and Postcolonial Literary Studies (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	VO Introduction to British and Postcolonial Literary Studies (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
VO Introduction to American Literary Studies (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	VO Introduction to American Literary Studies (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
VO British and/or Postcolonial Literary Studies + Reading List (2 h/7.5 ECTS-Credits )	VO British and/or Postcolonial Literature and Culture (2 h/7.5 ECTS-Credits)
PS British and/or Postcolonial Literature (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	PS British and/or Postcolonial Literature (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
VO American Literary Studies + Reading List (2 h/7.5 ECTS-Credits)	VO American Literature and Culture (2 h/7.5 ECTS-Credits)
PS American Literature (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	PS American Literature (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
VU Concepts, Contexts, Theories of Cultural Studies: British and Anglophone Cultures (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	VU Introduction to British and Anglophone Cultures (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
VU Concepts, Contexts, Theories of Cultural Studies: American Cultures (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	VU Introduction to American Cultures (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
VO Introduction to Media Studies (1 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	VO Introduction to Media Studies (1 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
VU Introduction to Media Analysis (1 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)	VU Introduction to Media Analysis (1 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
VU Gender Studies (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	VU Gender Studies (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Interlingual Mediation (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	UE Interlingual Mediation (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)
UE Editing and Proofreading (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	UE Editing and Proofreading (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)

UE Professional and Academic Writing (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	UE Professional and Academic Writing (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)
PS Discourse/Identity: British/Anglophone Cultures (2 h /5 ECTS-Credits)	PS Critical Area Studies: British and Anglophone Cultures (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
PS Discourse/Identity: American Cultures (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	PS Critical Area Studies: American Cultures (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
PS Critical Interfaces: British/Anglophone Cultures (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	PS Cultural Studies: British and Anglophone Cultures (2 h/2.5 ECTS-Credits)
PS Critical Interfaces: American Cultures (2 h/5 ECTS-Credits)	PS Cultural Studies American Cultures (2 h / 2.5 ECTS-Credits)