

The English version of the curriculum for the „Master of Arts programme in Comparative Literature” is not legally binding and is for informational purposes only. The legal basis is regulated in the curriculum published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin on 28 April 2009, issue 82, No. 275. Decision of the Curriculum Committee of the Faculty of Humanities 2 on 02.03.2009, approved by Senate Decree on 16.04.2009:

On the basis of § 25 para. 1 No. 10 Universities Act 2002, BGBl. I (Federal Law Gazette) No. 120, most recently amended by Federal Law BGBl. I (Federal Law Gazette) No. 134/2008 and § 32 Section "Regulations of Study Law", republished in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 3 February 2006, Issue 16, No. 90, most recently amended by the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 7 May 2008, Issue 42, No. 272, the following is decreed:

Curriculum for the  
**Master of Arts programme in Comparative Literature**  
at the Faculty of Humanities 2 of the University of Innsbruck

**§ 1 Programme objective and qualification profile**

- (1) The Master of Arts programme in Comparative Literature is included in the group of study programmes of Humanities and Cultural Sciences.
- (2) The Master of Arts programme in Comparative Literature enables its graduates for examination of theories on text, literature and culture both in connection with different literatures and in relation to phenomena of intermediality (taking into account literary texts and other forms of artistic and cultural expression of different nations and cultures, focusing on the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries). Besides, it provides qualification for comprehensive understanding of cultural phenomena and mediation of culture. Graduates have a broad overview of cultural knowledge and are capable of independent scientific work. This competence is, among other causes, due to the fact that part of the study programme is conceived as “guided self-study” (with punctual mentoring and supervision by teaching and student staff). The students learn to organise their work efficiently, obtain information quickly and rationally, select and scrutinise it critically, phrase it adequately and transfer it successfully.
- (3) Due to the close link between theoretical findings and practice-oriented tasks the students are instructed to check the scientific and theoretical findings and skills acquired within the study programme for their utility in concrete fields of occupation.
  1. The Master of Arts programme provides scientific training in the following core areas of Comparative Literature, focusing on the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries:
    - a) International literary phenomena;
    - b) Text, Literature and Culture Theory;
    - c) Intermediality (Literature/Film, Literature/Photography, Literature/Visual Arts, Literature/Music, Literature/Dance, Literature/Architecture, Literature/New Media);
    - d) Applied Literary Studies (practice-oriented towards the bookselling trade, publishing houses and editorial offices; journalistic work; expositions, museum educational service as well as culture and project management; theatre; independent cinemas).

2. The following key qualifications are trained:

Skills in the field of reception, interpretation and adaptation of (literary) texts; skills for elaborating sophisticated (scientific and other) texts (intercultural skills); skills for mediating one's own culture and fostering understanding of other cultures and gender-specific differences; skills for interdisciplinary work and design of organisational processes in social systems (information management, communication skills, mediation skills within scientific, political, cultural and economic organisations). When providing these key qualifications, the gender dimension is kept in mind.

- (4) The Master of Arts programme in Comparative Literature is the basis for a further PhD programme.
- (5) Opportunities on the labour market: Expert scientists at universities and in non-university institutions (e.g. museums, academies, as consultants, in specialised publishing houses); publishing work in the media sector (editorial departments; as authors of non-fiction books; journalistic and editorial activity in the print media sector, especially in learned journals and newspapers, but also on radio and TV; PR agencies; publishing in the field of fine arts and culture); archives and (specialised) libraries; educational policy and public relations (advisory functions in politics and economy; adult education; librarianship); cultural politics, administration and mediation (project management for museums and expositions; advisory functions for management and (cultural) politics; organisational and administrative tasks in public and private institutions and organisations [culture management]; in the theatre sector [dramaturgy]); as lecturers abroad, in cultural work for Austrian diplomatic missions abroad, tasks in (cultural) institutions (EU, UNO).

## § 2 Duration of the programme

The Master of Arts programme in Comparative Literature includes 120 ECTS credits (hereinafter abbreviated as ECTS-AP) and thus has a duration of four semesters.

## § 3 Admission

- (1) The admission requirement for the Master of Arts programme in Comparative Literature is having completed a relevant Bachelor's programme at a university or university of applied sciences or an equivalent study programme at a recognised post-secondary educational institution in Austria or abroad.
- (2) Any Bachelor's programme completed at the Faculty of Humanities 2 of the University of Innsbruck is considered a relevant study programme according to section 1.

## § 4 Types of courses and maximum number of participants:

Courses assessed via continuous assessment:

1. **Seminars (SE)** are courses for advanced scientific discussion. The participants are required to perform scientific work independently, particularly in form of a presentation and a written piece of work or equivalent performances. Maximum number of participants: 30
2. **Tutorials (UE)** are used for science-based transfer of skills and/or application of scientific knowledge and methods. Maximum number of participants: 30
3. **Lectures with tutorials (VU)** are used for systematic acquisition, application and consolidation of scientific content. Maximum number of participants: 30

## § 5 Allocation procedure for courses with a limited number of participants

Admission to courses with a limited number of participants is allocated as follows:

1. Students who would suffer a prolongation of their studies if not admitted shall be admitted preferentially.
2. If criterion 1 is insufficient in order to regulate admission to a certain course, students for whom the course in question is part of a compulsory module shall take precedence over students of the aforementioned programmes for whom the course is part of an elective module.

## § 6 Compulsory and elective modules

(1) The following compulsory modules with a total of 77.5 ECTS-AP shall be taken:

| 1.        | <b>Compulsory Module: Fundamentals of Comparative Literary Studies</b>   | SST      | ECTS-AP   |
|-----------|--|----------|-----------|
| <b>a.</b> | <b>VU Fundamentals of Comparative Literary Studies</b><br>Introduction to issues and problems of Comparative Literary Studies; explanation of terms such as “text”, “literature”, “national literature”, “world literature”, “culture”, “transculturality and interculturality”, “literary criticism” and “literary history”; insight into the specificities of minority literatures; fundamental information for analysis, interpretation and translation of literary texts; insight into job opportunities.  | 2        | 5         |
| <b>b.</b> | <b>VU Literary Theories</b><br>Knowledge of Literary Theories from different countries, focusing on current theoretical development; problem awareness of issues of importance and impact of literature in the context of Cultural Studies; insight into gender-specific issues; overview of methods in Literary Studies.  | 2        | 5         |
|           | <b>Total</b>   | <b>4</b> | <b>10</b> |
|           | <b>Learning outcome of the module:</b><br>The students acquire knowledge in the field of Literary Theories from different countries, focusing on current theoretical development. They develop problem awareness of issues of importance and impact of literature in the context of Cultural Studies as well as of gender-specific issues. Besides, they are provided with an overview of the diversity of relations between literature and other art forms. The students acquire basic text skills, both in terms of literary and scientific texts. |          |           |
|           | <b>Registration requirements:</b> none   |          |           |

| 2.        | <b>Compulsory Module: Literature, Reasoning, Arts</b>   | SST | ECTS-AP |
|-----------|---|-----|---------|
| <b>a.</b> | <b>VU Literature, Reasoning, Arts I</b><br>Historical fundamentals of Literary Studies and cultural thought (from the beginning to Baroque); profound insight into the development of Western thought in Philosophy, Literature, Fine Arts and Sciences; epochs of Literary History; in-depth examination of fundamental works of World Literature. | 2   | 5       |
| <b>b.</b> | <b>VU Literature, Reasoning, Arts II</b><br>Historical fundamentals of Literary Studies and cultural thought (from Ba-  | 2   | 5       |

|  |   |          |           |
|--|---|----------|-----------|
|  | roque to present times); profound insight into the development of Western thought in Philosophy, Literature, Fine Arts and Sciences; epochs of Literary History; in-depth examination of fundamental works of World Literature.   |          |           |
|  | <b>Total</b>  | <b>4</b> | <b>10</b> |
|  | <b>Learning outcome of the module:</b><br>The students are able to put current literary and social phenomena in theoretical and historical context. They develop historical fundamentals in terms of development of Western thought in Culture, Philosophy, Literature, Fine Arts and Sciences. |          |           |
|  | <b>Registration requirements:</b> none  |          |           |

| <b>3.</b> | <b>Compulsory Module: Intermediality and Interculturality (Basics)</b>  | <b>SST</b> | <b>ECTS-AP</b> |
|-----------|---|------------|----------------|
| <b>a.</b> | <b>VU Intermediality</b><br>Introduction to the field “Literature and other Arts/Intermediality” (Literature and Music / Painting / Architecture / Photography / Film / Dance / Video / Installations / New Media); discussion of case studies; overview of the manifold relations between literature and other forms of art and media; explanation of terms (“Interartes”, “Intermediality”, “Literature and other Arts”, “Intertextuality”).  | 2          | 5              |
| <b>b.</b> | <b>VU Literary Studies as Cultural Studies</b><br>Fundamental knowledge of the relationship between literature and other forms of cultural articulation (Philosophy, Religion, Economy, Law, Politics, Society, Ecology); insight into issues, topics and methodological concepts of Cultural Studies; analysis of concepts of culture; examination of hybrid forms of culture; discussion on Gender Studies; insight into cultural theories and theories of cultural contact as well as phenomena and problems of delimitation (such as high vs. low culture; majority vs. minority cultures). | 2          | 5              |
|           | <b>Total</b>  | <b>4</b>   | <b>10</b>      |
|           | <b>Learning outcome of the module:</b><br>The students develop fundamentals in the field of intermediality and interculturality research and acquire knowledge in the fields of Literature and Music / Painting / Architecture / Photography / Film / Dance / Video / Installations / New Media as well as Literature and Philosophy / Religion / Economy / Law / Politics / Society / Ecology.   |            |                |
|           | <b>Registration requirements:</b> none  |            |                |

| <b>4.</b> | <b>Compulsory Module: Intermediality (In-Depth Study)</b>  | <b>SST</b> | <b>ECTS-AP</b> |
|-----------|--|------------|----------------|
| <b>a.</b> | <b>UE Literature and Intermediality I</b><br>Discussion on Intermediality Theories; fundamentals of Aesthetics; exemplary examination of at least one of the fields of intermediality research: Literature and Music / Painting / Architecture / Photography / Film / Dance / Video / Installations / New Media. | 2          | 5              |
| <b>b.</b> | <b>UE Literature and Intermediality II</b>   | 2          | 5              |

|  |  |          |           |
|--|--|----------|-----------|
|  | Exemplary examination of at least one of the fields of intermediality research: Literature and Music / Painting / Architecture / Photography / Film / Dance / Video / Installations / New Media; the tutorial is related to practice, e.g. in the fields of publishing, bookselling and editorial work; theatre, theatrical dramaturgy, textbooks, translation; independent cinema; expositions, curatorship, museum educational service as well as culture and project management; archives, libraries and work in documentation centres; journalistic activity (for daily news or scientific journals) in print media, radio, TV and online media. |          |           |
|  | <b>Total</b>   | <b>4</b> | <b>10</b> |
|  | <p><b>Learning outcome of the module:</b><br/> The students consolidate their theoretical knowledge in the field of intermediality research. On the one hand they broaden their theoretical knowledge by exemplary examination of the fields Literature and Music / Painting / Architecture / Photography / Film / Dance / Video / Installations / New Media while on the other hand they prove their knowledge and skills actively in a practical field of application (e.g. publishing, expositions, theatre, cinema, culture and project management, journalism).</p>   |          |           |
|  | <b>Registration requirements:</b> none   |          |           |

| 5. | Compulsory Module: Interculturality (In-Depth Study)  | SST      | ECTS-AP   |
|----|---|----------|-----------|
| a. | <p><b>UE Phenomena of Cultural Contact</b><br/> Exemplary examination of at least one field of research in Cultural Studies and interculturality research on the example of texts and works of art from different cultures; issues of representation, hybridity and cultural memory; phenomena of cultural contact in times of globalisation and from the different perspectives of gender, ethnicity and social affiliation.</p>   | 2        | 5         |
| b. | <p><b>UE Cultural Contact in Concrete</b><br/> Implementation of theoretical knowledge acquired to the example of concrete cultural work at regional, national and international level as well as its analysis and evaluation (e.g. cultural work and legislation; cultural work and gender, minority and memorial policy; cultural work and literary mediation / translation).</p>   | 2        | 5         |
|    | <b>Total</b>  | <b>4</b> | <b>10</b> |
|    | <p><b>Learning outcome of the module:</b><br/> The students consolidate their knowledge of the relationship between literature and other forms of cultural articulation (Philosophy, Religion, Economy, Law, Politics, Society, Ecology). They gather issues, topics and methodological concepts of Cultural Studies, which enable them to analyse concepts of culture and for examination of “hybrid forms” of culture. This knowledge and these skills are actively used in a practical field of application (such as cultural work, work in cultural clubs).</p> |          |           |
|    | <b>Registration requirements:</b> none  |          |           |

| 6. | Compulsory Module: Intermediality (Specialisation)   | SST      | ECTS-AP   |
|----|--|----------|-----------|
|    | <b>SE Seminar on Intermediality</b><br>Discussion on intermedial issues, specialisation and putting knowledge in a broader context, thematic and structural analysis of selected case studies; written elaboration of an independent contribution to research in form of a seminar paper.  | 3        | 10        |
|    | <b>Total</b>   | <b>3</b> | <b>10</b> |
|    | <b>Learning outcome of the module:</b><br>The students specialise in selected fields of intermediality research and the corresponding theories and are competent in linking issues in the field of research “intermediality” interdisciplinarily with issues of Literary and Cultural Studies. The students acquire skills required for elaboration of an independent written contribution to research on a special issue within the module’s field. |          |           |
|    | <b>Registration requirements:</b> positive evaluation of compulsory module 1   |          |           |

| 7. | Compulsory Module: Interculturality (Specialisation)  | SST      | ECTS-AP   |
|----|---|----------|-----------|
|    | <b>SE Seminar on Interculturality</b><br>Specialisation in the field of theoretical and practical examination of phenomena of cultural contact; specialisation in at least one of the following fields: possibilities and limits of the concept of interculturality and intercultural dialogue; selected approaches in intercultural philosophy in relation to literature and fine arts; relationship between interculturality, intermediality and interdisciplinarity as well as interdependency between literature, culture, society and technology; written elaboration of an independent contribution to research in form of a seminar paper. | 3        | 10        |
|    | <b>Total</b>  | <b>3</b> | <b>10</b> |
|    | <b>Learning outcome of the module:</b><br>The students specialise in selected fields of interculturality research and the corresponding theories and are competent in linking issues in the field of research “interculturality” interdisciplinarily with issues of Literary Theory and Intermediality. The students acquire skills required for elaboration of an independent written contribution to research on a special issue within the module’s field.   |          |           |
|    | <b>Registration requirements:</b> positive evaluation of compulsory module 1  |          |           |

| 8. | Compulsory Module: Project and Social Competence  | SST | ECTS-AP |
|----|---|-----|---------|
|    | <b>UE Project and Social Competence</b><br>Perception, discussion and presentation of fundamental issues of professional activity including the gender-specific dimension; insight into fundamental skills for job-related negotiations (agreement on objectives, feedback, appraisal interview, critical interview, advisory interview, negotiation); conscious handling of power, responsibility, solidarity and loyalty. | 2   | 5       |

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|--|---|----------|----------|
|  | <b>Total</b>  | <b>2</b> | <b>5</b> |
|  | <b>Learning outcome of the module:</b><br>By target-oriented training in project and social competence, the students are prepared for their entry into professional life. |          |          |
|  | <b>Registration requirements:</b> none  |          |          |

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|-----------|--|------------|----------------|
| <b>9.</b> | <b>Compulsory Module: Master Thesis Defense</b>  | <b>SST</b> | <b>ECTS-AP</b> |
|           | Final oral defense of the Master Thesis in front of an examination board   | -          | 2.5            |
|           | <b>Total</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>2.5</b>     |
|           | <b>Learning outcome of the module:</b><br>Examination of the Master Thesis in the overall context of the Master of Arts programme in Comparative Literature, with special focus on theoretical comprehension, methodological issues, communication of findings of the Master Thesis and presentation skills. |            |                |
|           | <b>Registration requirements:</b> positive evaluation of all other compulsory modules, of the elective module and of the Master Thesis   |            |                |

- (2) Either one of the following elective modules or an internship according to § 7 with a total of 15 ECTS-AP shall be taken:

|           |   |            |                |
|-----------|---|------------|----------------|
| <b>1.</b> | <b>Elective Module: Literary Business Administration</b>  | <b>SST</b> | <b>ECTS-AP</b> |
| <b>a.</b> | <b>UE Cultural Business Administration</b><br>Exemplary insight into economic issues within literary and cultural enterprises (e.g. public cultural enterprises, public entities and foundations under public law; non-profit cultural enterprises under private law; commercial or private cultural enterprises).  | 2          | 5              |
| <b>b.</b> | <b>UE Cultural Law</b><br>Exemplary insight into legal issues related to the field of Comparative Literary Studies (such as issues of culture administration, personal rights, copyright, internet law, public subsidies, culture sponsoring, donations, foundation law, protection of cultural heritage, collecting societies, freedom of religion and ideology, censorship).  | 2          | 5              |
| <b>c.</b> | <b>UE Conveyance of Literature</b><br>Insight into issues of literary criticism and conveyance of literature (print media, TV and new media); cultural journalism; insight into economic, legal and cultural issues in general in case of publishing activity (literary management), especially when editing books (publisher's management, programme planning, editorial work, production, public relations, distribution, electronic publishing). | 2          | 5              |
|           | <b>Total</b>  | <b>6</b>   | <b>15</b>      |
|           | <b>Learning outcome of the module:</b><br>The students acquire skills required in order to evaluate events and relations between produc-  |            |                |

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|  | tion (authors), reception (readers), conveyance (e.g. literary critics) and processing (embedding of phenomena of literary business in an overall cultural context) and transfer the knowledge acquired. They are especially enabled to understand and solve economic and legal problems in a literary context as well as fundamental issues of conveyance of literature. |
|  | <b>Registration requirements:</b> none  |

| 2. | Elective Module: Literary Studies (In-Depth Study)  | SST      | ECTS-AP   |
|----|---|----------|-----------|
| a. | <b>UE Literary, Media and Cultural Theories</b><br>In-depth study of different literary theories (Discourse Analysis, Post-Structuralism, Critical Theory, System Theory, Feminist Theory, Queer and Gender Studies); discussion on current research in Comparative Literary Studies and methodological problems; studying the possible ‘application’ of theories and methods to literary texts and other cultural products (in “other fine arts”); in-depth study of theories of Media Studies; the perspective of Cultural Studies on (literary) communication processes conveyed by the media. | 2        | 5         |
| b. | <b>UE World Literature and Translation Issues</b><br>Analysis of relations, similarities and differences of different literatures in terms of form and contents; history of literatures; understanding and conveyance of literature and culture from other cultural areas taking into account the gender dimension; work on minority literatures; work on issues of literary translation.   | 2        | 5         |
| c. | <b>UE Gender Studies</b><br>In-depth study of issues of Feminist Theory, Gender and Queer Studies as well as their methodology; examination of the terms and constructions of “sex”, “gender”, “subject”, “identity”; examination of gender-specific aspects in literary, linguistic, cultural and social context, (de)construction of gender difference.   | 2        | 5         |
|    | <b>Total</b>  | <b>6</b> | <b>15</b> |
|    | <b>Learning outcome of the module:</b><br>The students consolidate their knowledge in the field of text, literary and cultural theories and broaden their skills for fertilising these findings for concrete literary and (inter)cultural phenomena. Besides, the students acquire the skill to critically evaluate media phenomena and their problems as well as issues of translation of literary texts and ‘cultural phenomena’ (“culture as text”).   |          |           |
|    | <b>Registration requirements:</b> none  |          |           |

## § 7 Internship

- (1) In order to test and apply the knowledge and skills acquired or as an orientation on the conditions of professional practice as well as in order to achieve additional qualifications, the students of the Master of Arts programme in Comparative Literature have the opportunity of taking an internship with a total of 360 hours and 15 ECTS-AP instead of an elective module (15 ECTS-AP). The internship may also be taken during the vacation period. It is recommended to take it abroad.



- (2) The internship may not be taken earlier than after having completed the second semester. Before starting the internship, permission of the Director of Studies shall be applied for.
- (3) The internship shall be taken in institutions according to § 1 (5).
- (4) A certificate of the institution stating duration, scope and content of the practical work performed shall be submitted; besides, a report shall be elaborated.

#### **§ 8 Master Thesis**

- (1) A Master Thesis with a total of 27.5 ECTS-AP shall be elaborated. The Master Thesis is a scientific piece of work that proves the ability to work on a scientific topic independently and in a justifiable way in terms of content and methodology.
- (2) The topic of the Master Thesis shall be taken from the modules specified in the curriculum.
- (3) The student has the right to propose a topic for his/her Master Thesis or choose a topic out of a number of proposals.

#### **§ 9 Examination Regulations**

- (1) All modules except the module Master Thesis Defense are completed by successful completion of the courses included.
- (2) Courses assessed via continuous assessment will be assessed according to the participants' regular written and/or oral contributions. Before starting the course, the course lecturer shall specify and publish the assessment criteria.
- (3) The assessment of the final module Master Thesis Defense shall take place in form of an oral examination in front of an examination board of three examiners.

#### **§ 10 Academic Degree**

The academic degree "Master of Arts", abbreviated as "MA" shall be conferred upon the graduates.

#### **§ 11 Coming into force**

This curriculum comes into force on 1 October 2009.

For the Curriculum Committee:  
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Sigurd Scheichl

For the Senate:  
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Ivo Hajnal