

The English version of the curriculum for the „Master of Arts programme in English and American Studies“ 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 88, No. 281. 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 University Organisation 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 30 September 2009, Issue 113, No. 438, the following is decreed:

Curriculum for the
Master of Arts programme in English and American Studies
at the Faculty of Humanities 2 of the University of Innsbruck

§ 1 Programme objective and qualification profile

- (1) The Master of Arts programme in English and American Studies is included in the group of study programmes of Humanities and Cultural Sciences.
- (2) The Master of Arts programme in English and American Studies deals with the languages, literatures and cultures of the Anglophone world. It includes the following Areas of Competence: Advanced Language Studies, English Linguistics and Culture, English Literature and Culture as well as American Literature and Culture. In these areas, a continuation and consolidation of the knowledge and skills acquired during the Bachelor's programme shall take place in order to prepare graduates for activities in a series of science, culture and media-oriented fields of work.
- (3) Graduates are able to perform independent scientific work, to review and critically select relevant material, to evaluate, discuss and analyse as well as to summarise and transfer it to others. Besides they have the open-mindedness and methodological flexibility required by the constantly changing job requirements of today's labour market. Productive discussion of Gender Studies issues is an intersectional subject which is relevant in all modules.
- (4) The objectives of education in the different Areas of Competence include:
 1. Advanced Language Studies: Consolidation of competence level C2 according to the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages); competence for recipient-specific and functional text transfer between English and German; explicit knowledge about the English language; experience and reflection-based language awareness and understanding of language; acquisition of specific competences that will be required in future professional life (e.g. strategies for language acquisition, elaboration of scientific texts, text editing).
 2. English Linguistics and Culture: Familiarity with essential theories and descriptive methods as well as the competence to apply them to selected fields of the English language; exemplary knowledge of the development of English language; knowledge about the conditions for successful communication in a foreign language or in the students' mother tongue as well as about traditional and new media as systems of mass communication; knowledge about selected fields of application of English Linguistics (e.g. regional, gender or class-specific varieties of English); familiarity with theories about language acquisition and multilingualism.
 3. English Literature and Culture: Consolidated understanding of the development and interdependence of English and Post-Colonial literatures and cultures except those of the USA; critical examination of literature, texts of different genres and the most diverse cultural phenom-

ena; insight to foreign culture areas with their intellectual, social and political relations, enhancement of intercultural understanding in context of the countries of the target language and the students' own culture; critical examination of present social and cultural phenomena (e.g. the gender issue) as a preparation for work in sectors such as communications, media, cultural management and tourism.

4. American Literature and Culture: Consolidated understanding of North American Literature and Culture in contemporary and historical context; autonomous analysis and interpretation of literary texts and other text types and media of relevance for Cultural Studies; consolidated insight into the manifold and complex interrelations of culture and literature in general and especially cultural, historical and social phenomena (e.g. the gender issue); critical analysis and evaluation of American Literature and Culture taking into account the students' own culture as a starting point; comprehensive understanding of the diversity and complexity of American society.
- (5) The competences trained include: Language, communication and presentation skills; scientific work in theory and practice; text comprehension and production; multimedia skills; cultural-historical, socio-political and intercultural skills; problem awareness and problem-solving skills; methodological skills; social skills and teamwork ability; independence and flexibility. Transfer of these competences is achieved via scientific discussion about the English language in its sub-disciplines and manifestations, literary texts in English and other text types and media of relevance for Cultural Studies. Another essential contribution is provided by fostering student mobility and internationality in form of stays abroad, exchange programmes, project work etc. Students are especially enabled to implement the specialised knowledge and skills acquired in the professional world.
- (6) The Master of Arts programme in English and American Studies is the basis for a further Doctorate or PhD programme. The Master of Arts programme in English and American Studies serves as scientific preparation for work in the following fields: science and research at universities and non-academic institutions; language and communications training (e.g. in adult education); literary translation, the publishing sector, bookselling trade and librarianship; the media (print media, radio, TV, film, video, internet); culture management and cultural politics; public administration and diplomatic service; economy and tourism.

§ 2 Duration of the programme

The Master of Arts programme in English and American Studies 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 English and American Studies 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) In any case, the Bachelor's programme in English and American Studies at the University of Innsbruck is considered a relevant study programme according to section 1.

§ 4 Types of courses and maximum number of participants

- (1) **Lectures** (VO) deal with main and/or specific topics of English and American Studies as well as relevant methods and doctrines.
- (2) 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. **Introductory seminars (PS)** are used to transfer basic knowledge of scientific work, as an introduction to scientific literature and in order to deal with exemplified problems of English and American Studies via presentations, discussions and minor written work (of about 3500 words) or equivalent performances. Maximum number of participants: 30
3. **Tutorials (UE)** are used for science-based transfer of skills (e.g. foreign language acquisition) and/or application of scientific knowledge and methods. Maximum number of participants: 25
4. **Conversation classes (KO)** are used for consolidation of doctrines, research approaches, theories or research subjects via reception and discourse. 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 of the Master of Arts programme in English and American Studies and of the Secondary School Teacher Accreditation programme in English 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 Stay abroad

A stay abroad, i.e. a study visit in an English-speaking country is strongly recommended. The objectives of the stay abroad are broadening linguistic and cultural competence as well as gathering international experience.

§ 7 Programme structure

- (1) Compulsory modules with a total of 60 ECTS-AP shall be taken in the following Areas of Competence:
 - Advanced Language Studies (15 ECTS-AP)
 - English Linguistics and Culture (15 ECTS-AP)
 - English Literature and Culture (15 ECTS-AP)
 - American Literature and Culture (15 ECTS-AP)
- (2) Elective modules with a total of 30 ECTS-AP shall be taken in the following Areas of Competence:
 - Advanced Language Studies
 - English Linguistics and Culture
 - English Literature and Culture
 - American Literature and Culture
 - Additional and Complementary Skills
- (3) A Master Thesis with a total of 30 ECTS-AP shall be elaborated.

§ 8 Compulsory and elective modules

- (1) The following compulsory modules with a total of 60 ECTS-AP shall be taken in the following Areas of Competence:

A. Area of Competence: Advanced Language Studies (15 ECTS-AP)

1.	Compulsory module: Advanced Language Studies	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	UE Awareness I Consolidation and proof of language level C2+ (achievement of mastery).	2	5
b.	UE Awareness II Examination of different text types in English; consolidation and broadening of productive skills, especially taking into account mediation skills and pragmatic aspects.	2	5
c.	UE Awareness III Examination of a broad range of written texts in English in diverse communicative contexts, especially taking into account text production skills (e.g. composition writing, academic essay writing).	2	5
	Total	6	15
	Learning outcome of the module: Acquisition of advanced language awareness (both in English and in the students' mother tongue) and of the competence to communicate adequately in different situations, i.e. use language safely and correctly by taking into account the (academic) communicative context.		
	Registration requirements: none		

B. Area of Competence: English Linguistics and Culture (15 ECTS-AP)

2.	Compulsory module: English Linguistics and Culture	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	VO English Linguistics and Culture (with Reading List) The lecture is intended as an overview of selected sub-disciplines of English Linguistics and Cultural Studies. The focus is on theoretical, practical and methodological issues. The reading list broadens the contents of the lecture and gives the students room for an individual focus.	2	7.5
b.	SE English Linguistics and Culture The seminar deals in depth with a fundamental topic in the field of contemporary and/or historical English Linguistics (especially taking into account issues of Cultural Studies).	2	7.5
	Total	4	15
	Learning outcome of the module: Methodologically reflected work with topics of the object of research. Examination of literature on the different sub-disciplines of synchronic, diachronic and applied English Linguistics (especially taking into account issues of Cultural Studies such as language and gender) and the corresponding scientific theories and research methods. A special emphasis is put on broadening competence for independent scientific work.		
	Registration requirements: none		

C. Area of Competence: English Literature and Culture (15 ECTS-AP)

3.	Compulsory module: English Literature and Culture	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	<p>VO English Literature and Culture (with Reading List) The lecture provides a profound insight into the development of British and Post-Colonial Literatures and Cultures, their interrelations and/or sub-aspects as well as relevant topics, concepts and theories (e.g. interculturality, racism, cultural identity, gender relations). The reading list broadens the contents of the lecture and gives the students room for an individual focus. It includes works from different eras and genres and consolidates the understanding of topics, concepts and theories in the context of History of British and Post-Colonial Literature and Culture.</p>	2	7.5
b.	<p>SE English Literature and Culture The seminar deals in depth with a fundamental topic in the field of British and/or Post-Colonial Literature and Culture, providing an exemplary or focused (historical, present-related, comparative, interdisciplinary, thematic) examination of British and/or Post-Colonial Literature, texts from different genres and different cultural phenomena.</p>	2	7.5
Total		4	15
<p>Learning outcome of the module: Profound insight into fundamental topics, concepts and contexts of British and Post-Colonial Literature and Culture; competence in Literary Studies, Cultural Studies and (inter)cultural competence. A special emphasis is put on broadening competence for independent scientific work.</p>			
<p>Registration requirements: none</p>			

D. Area of Competence: American Literature and Culture (15 ECTS-AP)

4.	Compulsory module: American Literature and Culture	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	<p>VO American Literature and Culture (with Reading List) The lecture is intended as an overview of a fundamental topic, a genre and/or an era of North American Literature and Culture. Based on selected works, literary texts and other texts of relevance for Cultural Studies are analysed, discussed and interpreted in their intellectual, social and political context. The reading list broadens the contents of the lecture and gives the students room for an individual focus. It includes works from different eras and genres and consolidates the understanding of topics, concepts and theories in the context of History of American Literature and Culture.</p>	2	7.5
b.	<p>SE American Literature and Culture The seminar deals in depth with a fundamental topic in the field of North American Literature and Culture, providing an exemplary or focused (historical, present-related, comparative, interdisciplinary, thematic) examination of a selected corpus as well as the theories and research methods the topic is based on.</p>	2	7.5
Total		4	15
<p>Learning outcome of the module:</p>			

	Comprehensive overview of the most important topics, concepts and contexts of North American Literature and Culture; competence in Literary Studies, Cultural Studies and (inter)cultural competence. A special emphasis is put on broadening competence for independent scientific work.
	Registration requirements: none

- (2) Elective modules with a total of 30 ECTS-AP shall be taken from the following Areas of Competence:

A. Area of Competence: Advanced Language Studies

1.	Elective module: Professional Communication Skills I	SST	ECTS-AP
	UE Presentation and Mediation Skills Consolidation of skills in mediating and presenting academic and other professional contents as well as preparing and structuring information and positions, i.e. consolidation of discourse skills.	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning outcome of the module: Skills required for understanding, elaborating and presenting scientific papers and contents in general.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 1		

2.	Elective module: Professional Communication Skills II	SST	ECTS-AP
	UE Translation and Mediation Skills Fostering problem awareness in language mediation in English as well as in translation from English to German and vice versa as well as development of relevant skills.	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning outcome of the module: Skills in the field of inter- and intra-lingual mediation with the aim of effective communication in a professional environment.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 1		

3.	Elective module: Professional Text Skills I	SST	ECTS-AP
	UE Advanced Text Skills Examination of scientific and non-scientific texts and training of the ability to understand such texts and elaborate them within the areas of competence of the study programme as well as to structure and present them adequately.	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning outcome of the module: Elaboration of scientific and other texts, also in view of a possible publication; text analysis in terms of contents, language and form.		

	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 1
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4.	Elective module: Professional Text Skills II	SST	ECTS-AP
	UE Advanced Editing and Proofreading Skills Consolidation and broadening of the competence to evaluate adequacy and correctness of academic and non-academic texts and to apply relevant criteria in practice; establishment of the competence for efficient analysis and interpretation of language.	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning outcome of the module: Analysis, editing and proofreading of texts in terms of contents, language and form; development of skills for effective text work.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 1		

B. Area of Competence: English Linguistics and Culture

5.	Elective module: Present-Day and Historical English	SST	ECTS-AP
	SE Present-Day and Historical English The seminar deals in depth with a fundamental topic in the field of contemporary and/or historical English Linguistics (especially taking into account issues of Cultural Studies). The focus is on exemplary examination of a certain topic and the relevant scientific theories and research methods. In the context of English Linguistics, the students are instructed to perform independent scientific work.	2	10
	Total	2	10
	Learning outcome of the module: Consolidation of competences in view of selected topics and methods of English Linguistics and Cultural Studies.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 2		

6.	Elective module: Applied English Linguistics	SST	ECTS-AP
	SE: Applied English Linguistics The seminar deals in depth with a fundamental topic in the field of applied English Linguistics. The focus is on the examination of essential theories and descriptive methods of Applied Linguistics. The aim of the seminar is to instruct the students in independent and critical work on selected topics of Applied Linguistics. The seminar may also be held in form of a project seminar following an interdisciplinary approach on a more detailed topic.	2	10
	Total	2	10
	Learning outcome of the module: In-depth knowledge about research methods and theories of applied English Linguistics; competence in languages for special purposes and intercultural competence by analysis of language-related problems at socio-political level; familiarity with theories about language acquisition and multilingualism.		

	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 2
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7.	Elective module: Research and Master Thesis/English Linguistics and Culture	SSt	ECTS-AP
	KO Research and Master Thesis This course is intended for reception and consolidation by discourse of doctrines, research approaches, theories or research subjects taking into account the students' research interest and work based on fundamental topics from one of the modules English Linguistics and Culture, Present-Day and Historical English and Applied English Linguistics.	2	10
	Total	2	10
	Learning outcome of the module: Focus on the area of research chosen by the student for his/her Master Thesis; independent scientific work; preparation for and/or supervision of the Master Thesis; reflection and understanding of research in practice and methods and theories of Linguistics.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 2		

C. Area of Competence: English Literature and Culture

8.	Elective module: Literatures in English	SST	ECTS-AP
	SE Literatures in English The seminar deals in depth with a fundamental topic in the field of British and/or Post-Colonial Literary Studies, providing an exemplary or focused (historical, present-related, comparative, interdisciplinary, thematic) examination of British and/or Post-Colonial Literature, texts from different genres and different cultural phenomena. A special emphasis is put on broadening competence for independent scientific work.	2	10
	Total	2	10
	Learning outcome of the module: Profound insight into fundamental topics, concepts and contexts of British and Post-Colonial Literary Studies; competence in Literary Studies, Cultural Studies and (inter)cultural competence.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 2		

9.	Elective module: Anglophone Cultures	SST	ECTS-AP
	SE Anglophone Cultures The seminar deals in depth with a fundamental topic in the field of British and/or Post-Colonial Cultural Studies based on a corpus of selected texts, with 'text' including all kinds of materials (sound, image, writing, performance etc.). Based on exemplary or focused (historical, present-related, comparative, interdisciplinary, thematic) examination of this text corpus as well as the relevant theories and research methods for the topic, a special emphasis is put on broadening the students' competence for independent scientific work (in the field of Cultural Studies).	2	10
	Total	2	10

	Learning outcome of the module: Profound insight into fundamental topics, concepts and contexts of British and Post-Colonial Cultural Studies; competence in Cultural Studies and (inter)cultural competence.
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 3

10.	Elective module: Research and Master Thesis/English Literature and Culture	SST	ECTS-AP
	KO Research and Master Thesis This course is intended for reception and consolidation by discourse of doctrines, research approaches, theories or research subjects taking into account the students' research interest and work based on fundamental topics from one of the modules English Literature and Culture, Literatures in English und Anglophone Cultures.	2	10
	Total	2	10
	Learning outcome of the module: Focus on the area of research chosen by the student for his/her Master Thesis; independent scientific work; preparation for and/or supervision of the Master Thesis; reflection and understanding of research in practice and methods and theories of Literature and Culture.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 3		

D. Area of Competence: American Literature and Culture

11.	Elective module: American Literature	SST	ECTS-AP
	SE American Literature The seminar deals in depth with a fundamental topic in the field of North American Literary Studies, providing an exemplary or focused (historical, present-related, comparative, interdisciplinary, thematic) examination of a selected corpus as well as the theories and research methods the topic is based on. In the context of American Studies, the students are instructed to perform independent scientific work.	2	10
	Total	2	10
	Learning outcome of the module: Consolidation of knowledge about literary genres, periods, concepts and theories; competence in North American Literary Studies.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 4		

12.	Elective module: American Film, Media and Culture	SST	ECTS-AP
	SE American Film, Media and Culture The seminar deals in depth with a fundamental topic in the field of North American Film, Media and Cultural Studies, providing an exemplary or focused (historical, present-related, comparative, interdisciplinary, thematic) examination of a selected corpus of films and texts as well as the theories and research methods the topic is based on. In the context of American Studies, the students are instructed to perform independent scientific work.	2	10

	Total	2	10
	Learning outcome of the module: Consolidation of knowledge about concepts and theories of Film, Media and Cultural Studies; (inter)cultural competence in American Film and Cultural Studies.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 4		

13.	Elective module: Research and Master Thesis/American Literature and Culture	SST	ECTS-AP
	KO Research and Master Thesis This course is intended for reception and consolidation by discourse of doctrines, research approaches, theories or research subjects taking into account the students' research interest and work based on fundamental topics from one of the modules American Literature and Culture, American Literature and American Film, Media and Culture.	2	10
	Total	2	10
	Learning outcome of the module: Focus on the area of research chosen by the student for his/her Master Thesis; independent scientific work; preparation for and/or supervision of the Master Thesis; reflection and understanding of research in practice and methods and theories of Literature and Culture.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of Compulsory module 4		

E. Area of Competence: Additional and Complementary Skills

14.	Elective module: Language and Gender	SST	ECTS-AP
	PS Sexus and Genus Linguistic fundamentals of old and new gender discourses; contrastive and translation-relevant analysis of grammatical and pragmatic aspects of (linguistic) marks of gender in the languages of the world both from diachronic and synchronic perspective.	2	5
	Total:	2	5
	Lernziele des Moduls: Understanding of interactions among language and perception as well as social and linguistic change; sensitisation for differences between scientific and ideological argumentation.		
	Registration requirements: none		

15.	Elective module: Gender Studies (Advanced)	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	KO Gender and Culture The capacity to reflect on gender and gender relations in language, its representations in the media and cultural texts is enhanced on the basis of exemplary topics and from a subject-specific point of view.	2	3.5
b.	VO The Gender Aspect in Cultural Sciences The lecture deals with a general topic of Cultural Sciences (e.g. childhood, beauty, sexuality, death, war, [transport] technology, dichotomy of body and soul) taking into account the gender aspect.	1	1.5

	Total:	3	5
	Lernziele des Moduls: Capacity to describe and reflect on 'gender', gender relations and gender differences in language, its representations in the media and cultural texts.		
	Registration requirements: none		

16./17.	Elective module: Module from other Master Programmes	SST	ECTS-AP
	A maximum of two modules with a total of 5 ECTS-AP each or one module with a total of 10 ECTS-AP may be taken from the Master of Arts programmes of the Faculty of Humanities 2 of the University of Innsbruck. Modules dealing with gender aspects are especially recommended.		
	Total		5/5
	Learning outcome of the module: According to the learning outcome defined for the module, an insight to another discipline is gathered.		
	Registration requirements: The registration requirements established in the relevant curricula shall be complied with.		

§ 9 Master Thesis

- (1) Within the Master of Arts programme in English and American Studies, a Master Thesis with a total of 30 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. The Master Thesis shall be written in English.
- (2) The topic of the Master Thesis shall be chosen from the compulsory modules and/or the elective modules taken.
- (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.

§ 10 Examination Regulations

- (1) A module is completed by successful completion of the courses included.
- (2) Course examinations are:
 1. Examinations that prove the knowledge and skills provided by a certain lecture, with the assessment taking place in a single examination at the end of the lecture. If a reading list is specified for the lecture, it shall be part of the examination subjects. Before starting the course, the course lecturer shall specify and declare which type of examination (written and/or oral) will take place.
 2. Courses assessed via continuous assessment, which are 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.

§ 11 Academic Degree

The academic degree "Master of Arts", abbreviated as "MA" shall be conferred upon graduates of the Master of Arts programme in English and American Studies.

§ 12 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