

The English version of the curriculum for the „Master of Arts programme in German Philology” 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 83, No. 276. 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 German Philology
at the Faculty of Humanities 2 of the University of Innsbruck**

§ 1 Programme objective and qualification profile

- (1) The Master of Arts programme in German Philology is included in the group of study programmes of Humanities and Cultural Sciences.
- (2) Educational objectives: The objective of the Master of Arts programme in German Philology is scientific examination of German language and literature, its development and functions in present and history as well as the cultural, social and anthropological-symbolic processes they are embedded in. Thus, language and literature are understood as comprehensive cultural phenomena that help us recognise, understand and form them and foster reflection about social and cultural processes, also in view of future development; a special emphasis is put on the gender aspects that also characterise language and literature in our culture. Thus, besides sound knowledge of historical, systematic and pragmatic aspects of language and literature and an insight into conveyance of literature in practice, knowledge of the media, their structures, action mechanisms and creative possibilities require considerable space within the Master of Arts programme in German Philology. Studying the fundamentals and characteristics of oral and written communication and acquisition of high level oral and written language skills are other high priority objectives of the Master of Arts programme in German Philology. According to the comprehensive nature of the subject, a large diversity of theories is to be taken into account. The Master of Arts programme in German Philology is science-oriented.
- (3) The Master of Arts Programme in German Philology includes a specialisation in one of the following areas: Linguistics/Applied Linguistics, Medieval Studies, or Literary Studies/Conveyance of Literature.
- (4) The Master of Arts programme in German Philology is the basis for a further Doctorate or PhD programme.
- (5) Qualification profile:
 1. In general: The professional activities a Master of Arts programme in German Philology prepares its graduates for are hard to categorise in a single field of occupation. Scientific analysis and theoretical reflection of linguistic and cultural evidence sensitises the graduates of this study programme for perception and examination of present and future social and cultural processes.
 2. Key qualifications: Scientific work on German language and literature leads to skills that allow flexibility and mobility in times of quickly changing job requirements. The examination of complex sign systems such as language and literature fosters the ability to give and receive criticism and to think about structures and alternatives, skills required for stringent

argumentation and coherent presentation of scientific findings and other facts and requires the development of communication and presentation techniques. Besides, the study programme provides information search and evaluation techniques (with state-of-the-art information technologies) and the skill to plan and structure organisational procedures. The study programme requires a high degree of initiative and self-organisation. The courses foster the development of social skills such as cooperation, teamwork, communication, criticism and the ability to accept the latter.

3. Subject-specific skills: Graduates of the Master of Arts programme in German Philology are expected to be proficient in standards of language, style and aesthetics as well as the competence to detect and correct non-compliance with these standards. Subject-specific skills will develop differently according to the specialisation: Language critique as the ability to judge style as well as theoretical reflection about text production and communication; understanding and interpretation of historical and social relations and understanding of alterity; insight into the conditions and practice of emergence and conveyance of literature.
4. Key qualifications and soft skills: These are qualifications that students of German Philology acquire besides their subject-specific skills and that allow them to cope with professional tasks in a diversity of fields of occupation. They include especially:

Written and oral expression skills (including the presentation of complex facts) are constantly exercised by elaborating papers, making presentations and taking part in discussions. Thus communicative skills are a key qualification.

Capacity to think out of the box, about alternatives and be open for unconventional and creative solutions: Intensive critical evaluation of scientific literature and its diversity of doctrines is very suitable for training students in this skill.

Thinking in context: By linking the disciplines of German Philology with other fields of knowledge and neighbouring disciplines, the students are enabled to think in larger context and to take into account various aspects when coping with their tasks.

Scientific skills: Besides research skills, graduates of this Master of Arts programme are trained in scientific attitudes such as precision, coherent argumentation, substantiation and social responsibility.

Independence: During the whole study programme, students of the Master of Arts Programme in German Philology are required to find and acquire necessary information autonomously. The elaboration of scientific papers fosters the skill of efficiently self-organising and proactively fulfilling one's work.

Gender skills: Analytic handling of literary texts and other linguistic evidence also enables the students of German Philology to recognise and denominate gender aspects.

Inter- and cross-cultural skills: Students of German Philology acquire the skill to deal adequately with members of other cultures, understanding their cultural processes and products and interpreting them adequately.

Orientational skills: Knowledge of the media and literature business facilitates orientation on the labour market.

5. Fields of occupation: The Master of Arts programme in German Philology provides qualification for occupation in all fields of cultural life. Besides, it serves as preparation for a scientific career in the disciplines of Philology and Cultural Studies at universities and in close or non-academic research institutions (e.g. literary archives, language documentation, edition projects). Obvious fields of occupation for graduates of the Master of Arts programme in German Philology are senior positions in the publishing and media sector, in scientific libraries, editorial offices, and journalistic activities in print media, radio, TV and the new media. Other possible fields of activity are administration and conveyance of culture (cultural offices, theatres, museums etc.). Last but not least this study programme provides the possibility of professional activity in international cultural and educational exchange (e.g. as a lecturer or educational advisor) in Austrian or international educational and cultural institutions. The acquisition of additional skills, an additional career (in a for-

eign language, communication technology, media, data processing, Law, Economics etc) or relevant practice during the study programme increases the opportunities for an adequate entry into the labour market upon graduation.

§ 2 Duration of the programme

The Master of Arts programme in German Philology 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 German Philology 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 German Philology 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 German Philology 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. **Tutorials** (UE) are used for science-based transfer of skills (e.g. language practice) and/or application of scientific knowledge and methods. Maximum number of participants: 25
 3. **Lectures with tutorials** (VU) are used for systematic acquisition, application and consolidation of scientific content. Maximum number of participants: 30
 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 German Philology and of the Secondary School Teacher Accreditation programme in German 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 in form of a study visit of at least four months is strongly recommended. The objectives of the stay abroad are international experience as well as broadening linguistic and cultural competence by confrontation of the students' mother tongue with another language environment.

§ 7 Structure of the study programme

- (1) The following compulsory modules with a total of 45 ECTS-AP shall be taken:
 1. Scientific Work (5 ECTS-AP)
 2. Core Area: Linguistics (5 ECTS-AP)
 3. Core Area: Literary Studies (5 ECTS-AP)
 4. Core Area: Medieval Studies (5 ECTS-AP)
 5. Core Area: Applied Linguistics (5 ECTS-AP)
 6. Core Area: Conveyance of Literature (5 ECTS-AP)
 7. German Philology in Research Practice (12.5 ECTS-AP)
 8. Master Thesis Defense (2.5 ECTS-AP)
- (2) Two elective modules with a total of 20 ECTS-AP shall be taken from the following elective modules:
 1. In-Depth Study: Linguistics (10 ECTS-AP)
 2. In-Depth Study: Literary Studies (10 ECTS-AP)
 3. In-Depth Study: Medieval Studies (10 ECTS-AP)
- (3) One elective module with a total of 15 ECTS-AP shall be taken from the following elective modules:
 4. Core Theme: Linguistics (15 ECTS-AP)
 5. Core Theme: Literary Studies (15 ECTS-AP)
 6. Core Theme: Medieval Studies (15 ECTS-AP)
 7. Core Theme: Applied Linguistics/Media Linguistics (15 ECTS-AP)
 8. Core Theme: Literary Criticism and Conveyance and Media (15 ECTS-AP)
- (4) Elective modules with a total of 10 ECTS-AP shall be taken from the following elective modules:
 9. History of Contemporary German Literature (10 ECTS-AP)
 10. German as a Foreign Language/Second Language (5 ECTS-AP)
 11. Special Writing and Communication Skills (5 ECTS-AP)
 12. Gender Studies (Advanced)
 - 13./14. Module(s) from other Master Programmes (5 or 10 ECTS-AP respectively)
- (5) 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 45 ECTS-AP shall be taken:

1.	Compulsory Module: Scientific Work	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	UE Academic Writing How to recognise special problems of long texts (seminar paper, Master Thesis); exercises in written presentation of knowledge, phrasing exercises.	2	2.5
b.	UE Scientific Research Familiarisation with different possibilities of research; dealing with scien-	1	2.5

	tific literature at a higher level; training operations that convert knowledge, experience etc. into science.		
	Total	3	5
	Learning outcome of the module: Fundamental skills in issues of methodologically instructed acquisition of knowledge and scientific presentation.		
	Registration requirements: none		

2.	Compulsory Module: Core Area: Linguistics	SST	ECTS-AP
	VO German Linguistics The lecture deals with a main field of German Linguistics, providing an overview e.g. of Grammar, Semantics/Lexicology, Stylistics, Sociolinguistics/Linguistic Varieties, Psycholinguistics/Behavioural Linguistics, Trends in Contemporary Language.	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning outcome of the module: Sound and broad knowledge of a main field of German Linguistics and the skill for critical examination of special problems in this field.		
	Registration requirements: none		

3.	Compulsory Module: Core Area: Literary Studies	SST	ECTS-AP
	VO Fields of Work and Tasks in Literary Studies Acquisition of consolidated knowledge of the system of literature and its protagonists both from a historical and a systematic perspective, literary aesthetics and genres based on examples.	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning outcome of the module: Knowledge of the diversity of Literary Studies and its fields of work as well as of the complexity of accesses to Literature and literary life.		
	Registration requirements: none		

4.	Compulsory Module: Core Area: Medieval Studies	SST	ECTS-AP
	VO German Medieval Studies The lecture provides and overview of a main field of German Medieval Studies.	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning outcome of the module: The students are able to understand and interpret Medieval and Early Modern Literature, describe contexts and lines of development in Literary History and evaluate them in literary-historical and social context.		
	Registration requirements: none		

5.	Compulsory Module: Core Area: Applied Linguistics	SST	ECTS-AP
	VO Applied Linguistics The lecture deals with the main issues, approaches and methods in the field of Applied Linguistics and provides an overview of a selected topic such as Media Communications, Language in Politics and Society, Language Acquisition and Multilingualism, Knowledge Transfer and Technical Communication.	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning outcome of the module: Sound and broad knowledge of a main field of Applied Linguistics; critical examination of special problems in this field.		
	Registration requirements: none		

6.	Compulsory Module: Core Area: Conveyance of Literature	SST	ECTS-AP
	VO Conveyance of Literature The subject is theory and practice of work in German Philology: Critics write or speak about literature in the media; conveyors of literature in the strict sense work for publishing houses as editors or PR experts. Understanding literature as a medium means to take into account its value and its function in an increasingly differentiated media landscape.	2	5
	Total	2	5
	Learning outcome of the module: The students are enabled to deal with issues of literature business independently.		
	Registration requirements: none		

7.	Compulsory Module: German Philology in Research Practice	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	KO Theories and Methods of German Philology Discussion on selected theories and models of Linguistics and Literary Studies, methodological discussion; discussion of detailed issues from the main fields of German Philology.	2	7.5
b.	KO Preparation for the Master Thesis Analysis of special problems in working with large quantities of knowledge and acquisition of knowledge. Exercises in evaluation of material and secondary literature as well as application of theories to the material. Instruction in how to come from knowledge reception to knowledge production, presentation and transfer by thinking and writing.	2	5
	Total	4	12.5
	Learning outcome of the module: Skills: Further reflection on main issues of German Philology by consolidation of theoretical-methodological knowledge; refinement of scientific work, knowledge administration and organisation; enhancement of writing skills in terms of Academic Writing.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of compulsory modules 1–6 and of one elective module in the In-Depth Study Area.		

8.	Compulsory Module: Master Thesis Defense	SST	ECTS-AP
	Final oral defense of the Master Thesis in front of an examination board.		2.5
	Total		2.5
	Learning outcome of the module: Examination of the Master Thesis in the overall context of the Master of Arts programme in German Philology.		
	Registration requirements: Positive evaluation of the modules required as well as of the Master Thesis		

- (2) Two elective modules with a total of 20 ECTS-AP shall be taken from the elective modules 1–3 (In-Depth Study).

1.	Elective Module: In-Depth Study: Linguistics	SST	ECTS-AP
	SE Language Analysis The seminar deals with a field of Linguistics, e.g. Grammar, Semantics/Lexicology, Stylistics, Sociolinguistics/Linguistic Varieties, Psycholinguistics/Behavioural Linguistics, History of Language, Applied Linguistics/Media Linguistics.	2	10
	Total	2	10
	Learning outcome of the module: The skill to analyse new and/or old texts; consolidated problem awareness by critical examination of special fields of Linguistics.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of compulsory modules 1 and 2		

2.	Elective Module: In-Depth Study: Literary Studies	SST	ECTS-AP
	SE History of Literature and Literary Life in Present Times Elaboration of special issues in History of German Literature and literary life, exemplified on epochs, authors, genres and interpretation models.	2	10
	Total	2	10
	Learning outcome of the module: The skill to interpret texts in German language Literature taking into account (inter)cultural, social and historical relations independently and according to scientific standards.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of compulsory modules 1 and 3		

3.	Elective Module: In-Depth Study: Medieval Studies	SST	ECTS-AP
	SE German Medieval Studies The seminar “German Medieval Studies” deals in depth with an exemplary topic of Old High German, Middle High German or Early New High German Literature.	2	10
	Total	2	10
	Learning outcome of the module: The students consolidate their text, language and interpretation skills.		

Registration requirements: positive evaluation of compulsory modules 1 and 4

- (3) One elective module with a total of 15 ECTS-AP shall be taken from the elective modules 4–8 (Core Theme).

4.	Elective Module: Core Theme: Linguistics	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	SE Contemporary Language The seminar puts a thematic focus on a field of Linguistics, e.g. Grammar, Semantics/Lexicology, Stylistics, Sociolinguistics/Linguistic Varieties, Psycholinguistics/Behavioural Linguistics, Trends in Contemporary Language, German as a Foreign Language.	2	10
b.	VU Linguistics in Theory and Practice The course deals with practical application of scientific knowledge and methodology as well as joint work on concrete issues from a field of Linguistics, e.g. Grammar, Semantics/Lexicology, Stylistics, Sociolinguistics/Linguistic Varieties, Psycholinguistics/Behavioural Linguistics, Trends in Contemporary Language, German as a Foreign Language.	2	5
	Total	4	15
	Learning outcome of the module: Ability of critical reflection on a special field of Linguistics and independent scientific work on a topic of Linguistics.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of elective module 1		

5.	Elective Module: Core Theme: Literary Studies	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	SE Literary Studies Transfer of scientific knowledge and skills based on a selected topic from a field of occupation of Literary Studies (e.g. Literary History, Edition, Intermediality, Literary Theory and Aesthetics).	2	10
b.	VU Literary Studies Practical application of scientific knowledge and methodology as well as joint work on concrete issues from a field of Literary Studies.	2	5
	Total	4	15
	Learning outcome of the module: Further skills in historical and systematic examination of German language Literature.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of elective module 2		

6.	Elective Module: Core Theme: Medieval Studies	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	SE Old Germanic/Old German Transfer of basic knowledge of the most important phenomena of Historical and Comparative Grammar of Old Germanic languages as well as History and Grammar of a single language.	2	10
b.	VU Lecture and Interpretation Lecture and linguistic interpretation of texts in Old Germanic or Old German.	2	5

	Total	4	15
	Learning outcome of the module: The students consolidate their text and language skills up to a degree that allows independent lecture of texts in Old Germanic or Old German.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of elective module 3		

7.	Elective Module: Core Theme: Applied Linguistics/Media Linguistics	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	SE Language, Media and Communication The seminar deals with an example of relations between language, media and communication, e.g. the language of the media, issues of media design, reception and impact of the media, changing forms of communication, language criticism and public use of language.	2	10
b.	VU Communication Analysis The course deals with practical application of scientific knowledge and methodology. Fundamental principles and patterns of communication design are discussed by analytical examination of texts and images.	2	5
	Total	4	15
	Learning outcome of the module: Broadened skills for exemplary analysis and independent examination of theories and models; critical handling of methods of empirical Communication Analysis.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of compulsory module 5 and elective module 1		

8.	Elective Module: Core Theme: Literary Criticism and Conveyance and Media	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	SE Conveyance of Literature and Media Examination of methodological and theoretical aspects of Conveyance of Literature, taking into account different forms and media. The main focus is on Contemporary Regional and National Literature in the area of conflict of production and reception processes.	2	10
b.	VU Conveyance of Literature in Practice Exemplary analysis of forms and institutions of Conveyance of Literature in view of their actual functions, strategies and methods as well as practical implementation.	2	5
	Total	4	15
	Learning outcome of the module: Sound, broad knowledge of main issues of Conveyance of Literature and critical examination of its practice.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of compulsory module 6 and elective module 2		

(4) Elective modules with a total of 10 ECTS-AP shall be taken from the elective modules 9–14.

9.	Elective Module: History of Contemporary German Literature	SST	ECTS-AP
	VO Paradigms of History of Contemporary German Literature	1	10

	Exemplary transfer of literary historical developments in Contemporary German Literature and an insight to concepts and problems of literary historiography and canonisation processes. A reading list is used for broadening the contents discussed.		
	Total	1	10
	Learning outcome of the module: Sound knowledge of important developments in History of German Literature and its historical and cultural relations based on fundamental works of Contemporary German Literature.		
	Registration requirements: none		

10.	Elective Module: German as a Foreign Language/Second Language	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	VU Methodology and Didactics of German as a Foreign Language/Second Language Overview of the discipline and current focuses, positions in Foreign Language Didactics based on the <i>Common European Framework of Reference for Languages</i> and core themes of communicative, action- and learner-oriented foreign language teaching for different fields of occupation. Methodological and didactical analysis of current teaching material and media.	2	3
b.	VU Teaching German as a Foreign Language/Second Language and Intercultural Learning in Practice Insight into the practice of teaching German as a Foreign Language/Second Language by visiting classes and exercising descriptive criteria for class; class planning and preparation of teaching sequences; training in teaching techniques, e.g. for understanding and explaining meanings and for proofreading.	2	2
	Total	4	5
	Learning outcome of the module: The students have an insight of the field of application German as a Foreign Language/Second Language; they familiarise with the specificities of this field of occupation and gather their first practical teaching skills.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of compulsory module 2		

11.	Elective Module: Special Writing and Communication Skills	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	VU Writing Skills in Special Fields Academic Writing Phrasing and optimisation of different scientific texts; functional style in science; handling of terminology or: Journalistic Writing Adaptation to the medium/media; functional style in journalism and the press; reader-oriented rhetoric on the example of topics of public relevance or: Creative Writing Functional style in literature; linguistic design of aesthetic types of text; genre-specific writing.	2	2.5
b.	VU Communication Skills in Special Fields	2	2.5

	Presentation of subject-specific and other topics (e.g. structuring and moderating larger pieces of information); talking and discussion culture (e.g. concise questions in interviews and academic discussions); negotiation techniques; speaking culture and oratory.		
	Total	4	5
	Learning outcome of the module: Consolidation, in-depth study and specialisation of writing and communication skills already acquired by linking them to subject-specific skills.		
	Registration requirements: positive evaluation of compulsory module 1		

12.	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
	Learning outcome of the module: 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		

13./14.	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 Mater Thesis

- (1) Within the Master of Arts programme in German Philology, 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.
- (2) The Master Thesis shall be elaborated in the field of one of the elective modules 1 to 8 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) All modules except the module Master Thesis Defense are 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.
- (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.

§ 11 Academic Degree

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

§ 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