

# Annex I

## Curriculum for the Programme “European Joint Master in English and American Studies”

### § 1 General Regulations

The curriculum for the Joint Master’s Programme has been designed jointly by eight partner universities under the auspices of the University of Graz, Austria. Students benefit from a highly internationally oriented programme with a mandatory mobility period included, which has been jointly developed and organized.

#### (1) Cooperation Partners

The consortium partners of the Joint Master’s Programme are the University of Graz (Austria), together with the University of Bamberg (Germany), The City College of The City University of New York (USA), the University of Pécs (Hungary), the Ca’ Foscari University of Venice (Italy), the Université Paris Diderot (France), the Jagiellonian University in Kraków (Poland) and the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain).

(Reference: Cooperation Contract §1)

#### (1.1) Degree Awarding Partners

Of the eight partners involved in developing and organising the programme the following universities constitute the “Degree Awarding Partners”:

- University of Graz
- University of Bamberg
- Ca’ Foscari University Venice
- Université Paris VII – Denis Diderot
- Jagiellonian University Kraków

#### (1.2) Non-Degree Awarding Partners - Mobility Partners

The following universities are partners in terms of mobility

- The City College of the City University of New York
- University of Pécs
- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

For details refer to the cooperation agreement as well as to Annex II (Degree details).

#### (2) Aim of the Master’s Programme in English and American Studies

This programme aims to make the language competences and cultures of English speaking countries accessible and to promote intercultural perspectives within a framework of general academic competences in the humanities.

Participants in the programme will receive a specialized academic training in the field of Anglophone studies. In the course of their studies, students will also gain theoretical and

practical competences in the English language and be given the opportunity to study other languages. Students will be given a wide range of employment opportunities upon completion of their studies. Despite the very different qualification profiles, many professional fields require a sophisticated understanding of and competence in languages as well as highly developed cultural and academic competences.

### **(2.1) Educational Goals**

According to the Dublin Descriptors the Master's degree will be awarded to students who

- have demonstrated knowledge and understanding that is founded upon and consolidates that typically associated with bachelor's level, and that provides a basis or opportunity for originality in developing and/or applying ideas, often within a research context.
- can apply their knowledge and understanding, and problem solving abilities in new or unfamiliar environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to their field of study.
- have the ability to integrate knowledge and handle complexity, and formulate judgements with incomplete or limited information, but that include reflecting on social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgements.
- can communicate their conclusions, and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these, to specialist and non-specialist audiences clearly and unambiguously, and have the learning skills to allow them to continue to study in a manner that may be largely self-directed or autonomous.

Further educational goals in the field of Anglophone studies are:

- a. The ability to engage in an open and critical examination of contemporary society and culture;
- b. Competence in understanding literary texts and media;
- c. Knowledge and understanding of the culture (in particular of the language, literature and intellectual history) of earlier periods (historical competence);
- d. Intercultural competence;
- e. The ability to produce oral and written texts within a range of media;
- f. The ability to express oneself orally and in writing in order to develop, complete and defend scientific papers and lectures;
- g. The ability to meet different professional demands in the fields of culture, education, media, business, etc.

An additional value of the programme is English language proficiency. The main objective of the practical language training is to increase the student's level of competence to C2 of the *Common European Framework of Reference*. Individual objectives are:

- a. Differentiated language use (i.e. the ability to use language confidently and correctly in a large number of situations and with regard to a large number of topics).
- b. Advanced language awareness (i.e. students should independently develop their language competence, and, at the same time, take current language transformation processes into account).
- c. Recognition of the demands of future job profiles (e.g. by means of specialised language courses for students focusing on business, media and other areas).

Within the Master's programme students can emphasize one of the following three focus areas:

### **(2.1.1) English Linguistics**

The education and training in linguistics has as its objective the consolidated understanding of the development and structure of the English language. Linguistics is understood as being both theory and application oriented, and, furthermore, takes aspects of cultural studies in the English-speaking world into consideration. In detail, these objectives include:

- a. Consolidation of knowledge of the history of the English language, as well as knowledge of national, regional, class-specific and functional varieties of English.
- b. Consolidation of knowledge of English phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, discourse analysis, sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics.
- c. Knowledge of the most important methods of linguistic analysis and the ability to apply them.
- d. Other relevant areas concerning linguistics, intercultural communication and cultural studies should also be taken into consideration, as appropriate, with regard to the desired professional qualification profiles.

### **(2.1.2) Literary Studies**

The education and training in literary studies deals with texts from the whole of the English-speaking world. The focus is mainly on British and American literature, but other literatures in the English language will also be examined, taking regional and cultural studies of the respective countries into consideration. The aims of the literature component in the programme include:

- a. Consolidation of how to independently deal with literary texts in English, and how to read, analyse and interpret them. Beyond dealing with the language of the texts, techniques in literary studies and in textual analysis (poetics, rhetoric, hermeneutics, stylistics, literary-theoretical terminology, questions of genres with their technical aspects) will be applied, and students' ability to embed literary texts in their respective cultural-historical contexts will be developed.
- b. Critical application of different methods of literary interpretation. This includes critical knowledge of the most important literary theories.
- c. An overview of the history of literatures in English (in particular, British and US-American) in its various genres from its beginnings up to the present.
- d. Besides canonical literature, other kinds of texts may also be taken into account. Here attention will be paid to the relationship between these kinds of texts and the overall culture as well as between canonical literature and other media.

### **(2.1.3) Cultural Studies**

This area will explore the culture, society, institutions and history of English speaking countries as these inform the development of linguistic and literary practices. Classes in cultural studies address recognition, analysis and evaluation of the target culture(s) by reflecting on one's own cultural context. Further, aspects of cultural theory and methodology will be examined.

Education and training in cultural studies deals with essential cultural, social, and historical characteristics of English speaking countries. The focus is mainly on Britain and the US but does not exclude specific cultural developments in other English language countries. Major aims of the cultural studies area include:

- a. Consolidation of study skills to recognise, analyse, and evaluate significant cultural resources of the target culture/s. This includes application of methods and theories of cultural studies, and the ability to reflect on one's own cultural point of view.

- b. Critical interpretation and understanding of cultural narratives in their manifestations, leading to an advanced intercultural competence that goes well beyond mere factual knowledge. Throughout, special emphasis is given to developing students' awareness of the complex networks that inform a culture's linguistic, literary, and media practices, which in turn shape the specific dynamics of development and change.

### **(2.2) Professional Fields: Relevance of the Programme for the Labour Market and further Academic Study**

Professional fields for which competences are developed include: education; archive and library services; diplomatic service; publishing; cultural sector; international co-operation; translating, mass communication; advertising; tourism; public relations; language-oriented professions; and preparation for further graduate study.

### **(3) Duration and Structure of the Programme**

Students are allocated ECTS credit points for the work done, which includes both self-study and contact hours.

The Master's Programme comprises 120 ECTS credits, which normally corresponds to a period of study of at least four semesters or two years, per the respective regulations governing the partner institutions.

60 ECTS credits have to be earned at the entrance university. Students are required to complete at least 30 ECTS credits at one of the partner universities. ECTS credits are allocated as follows:

	<b>ECTS</b>
<b>Compulsory subjects</b>	<b>38-48 ECTS</b>
	Module Linguistics
	Module Literary Studies
	Module Cultural Studies
	Module English Language Proficiency
<b>Restricted electives</b>	<b>Can be chosen from the following focus areas</b>
	Focus on Linguistics
	Focus on Literary Studies
	Focus on Cultural Studies
	English Language Proficiency
<b>Free electives</b>	<b>12 ECTS</b>
<b>Master's thesis (and defense)</b>	<b>30 ECTS</b>
	Master's thesis (& Defense/Exam)
	<b>120 ECTS</b>

### **(4) Academic Degree**

Students will receive one or two diplomas according to the regulations in Cooperation Contract §10 and Annex II.

## (5) Basis of Joint Programme

The following curricula/study plans at the respective institutions form the basis of this joint programme.

**University of Graz:** "Curriculum für das Masterstudium "European Joint Master's Degree in English and American Studies" published in Mitteilungsblatt der Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz, 31. Sondernummer am 9.5.2012

**Ca'Foscari University Venice:** Laurea magistrale in Lingue e Letterature Europee e Postcoloniali (LM-37) or Laurea magistrale in Scienze del Linguaggio (LM-39)

**University of Bamberg:** "Studien- und Fachprüfungsordnung für den Masterstudiengang „English and American Studies“ der Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg vom 26. Juli 2013, zuletzt geändert durch Änderungssatzung vom 31. März 2017"

**Université Paris VII – Denis Diderot:** LLCER: Etudes Anglophones - Joint degree in English and American studies

**Jagiellonian University Kraków:** Program studiów stacjonarnych II stopnia na kierunku neofilologia, specjalności filologia angielska

**Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona:** <http://www.uab.cat/web/our-post-graduate-degrees/master-s-degrees-offered-by-the-department-1332487370268.html>

**The City College of the City University of New York:** Master of Arts in English, International Perspectives in Language and Literature Track, and Master of Arts in Language and Literacy, International Perspectives in Language and Literacy Track, in The Graduate Bulletin of The City College of New York.

**University of Pécs:** Curriculum of "Master of Arts Degree in English Studies" [http://ies.btk.pte.hu/sites/ies.btk.pte.hu/files/oldal\\_mo/ma\\_in\\_english\\_studies\\_curriculum.xlsx#overlay-context=content/programmes](http://ies.btk.pte.hu/sites/ies.btk.pte.hu/files/oldal_mo/ma_in_english_studies_curriculum.xlsx#overlay-context=content/programmes)

## (6) Application and selection

Admission to this Master's Programme is granted to persons holding an academic degree of at least 180 ECTS credits (bachelor's degree or equivalent programme of at least 180 ECTS) in a field relevant to the Joint Master's Programme in the Humanities including graduates of modern and classical languages.

Admission to the Joint Master's Programme does not guarantee admission to any particular entrance university, where additional local criteria may be operative. At the same time, graduates from different forms and fields of studies can be admitted if the completed programme is judged to be equivalent in the regular admission procedure of the entrance university to which the student applies.

Since the medium of instruction in the Master's Programme is English, students must demonstrate a high level competence in English in the form of a language certificate. Exceptions are made for students who are native or near-native speakers of English (C2, CEFR). Verification of C2 level will be at the discretion of the consortium coordinators.

The following minimum scores are required in these English language tests:

Cambridge CAE (Certificate of Advanced English): PASS

Michigan ECPE (Examination for the Certificate of Proficiency in English): PASS

Trinity ISE 3 (Integrated Skills in English): PASS

Pearson PTE Academic: minimum score 76

IELTS: minimum overall score 7

TOEFL Internet-based test: minimum score 98

## § 2 Structure of the Programme

### (1) Compulsory subjects

The **compulsory subjects (38-48 ECTS credits)** must include the following areas:

- English Linguistics (10-12 ECTS)
- Literary Studies (10-12 ECTS)
- Cultural Studies (10-12 ECTS)
- English Language Proficiency (8-12 ECTS)

Students who are native speakers or near native speakers of English (C2, CEFR) may replace the minimum 8-12 ECTS credits in the compulsory module “English Language Proficiency” with credits in languages other than English.

### (2) Restricted electives

Students have to complete additional **30-40 ECTS credits of restricted electives**. They are required to earn at **least 24 ECTS** chosen from one of the following areas (in addition to the 10-12 compulsory ECTS):

- Area 1: English Linguistics
- Area 2: Literary Studies
- Area 3: Cultural Studies

Furthermore students can take additional classes in the area of English Language Proficiency over and above the 8-12 ECTS credits required in the compulsory subjects, up to a maximum of 8 additional ECTS points.

### (3) Free electives

**Free electives** are classes that complement the compulsory classes and the restricted electives. They are worth **12 ECTS credits** in total. They can be accumulated at any accredited university. It is highly recommended that students who are not native speakers of the main working language of the country of their entrance university take classes in the language of that country.

## § 3 Assessment

### (1) Assessment types and procedures

Assessment may take the form of examination and continuous assessment.

### (2) Examination methods

Student achievement is assessed by a variety of methods including examination and written and oral assignments per the respective regulations governing the partner institutions. Criteria must be identified for students in the syllabus distributed at the beginning of a course.

### **(3) Master's thesis and final examination**

The Master's thesis and final exam consist of 30 ECTS credits. The thesis reflects the student's capacity for independent study and research, and should be 25,000 to 35,000 words in length and written in English. Theses of comparable quality that do not conform to these word limits must receive prior approval from the academic coordinator of the student's entrance university. The thesis must include a summary per the regulations of the respective entrance university.

Students must determine their Master's thesis topic in consultation with an advisor from the entrance university. Students have the right to suggest the topic or choose from a number of suggestions from the advisor. The thesis project must be designed in such a way that it can be executed within a period of six months.

The thesis will be assessed by two readers, one of whom is the advisor and the other a faculty member of one of the partner universities. The second reader will provide a short assessment (about half a page) to indicate whether the thesis merits a pass.

Final examination (held in English):

The final examination is taken as per the regulations of the student's entrance university.

### **Grading systems**

The grading system of the individual institutions is used for assessment. The grading of the achievements accomplished during the mobility period will be transferred to the degree awarding institution according to the grade conversion table as agreed by the consortium.

The curriculum of students in the International Tracks of the MA programs at CCNY who spend mobility semesters at partner institutions is governed by the Graduate Bulletin of the City College of New York.

### **§ 4 Obligatory Study Abroad**

When applying students will list in order of preference the universities at which they wish to undertake the obligatory study abroad. Places are allocated according to available resources.

Given the international nature of the programme students will be required from the outset to draw up a detailed learning agreement with the programme coordinator at their entrance university. It is assumed that the general and specific university academic entrance requirements are satisfied upon nomination by the entrance university.

### **§ 5 Additional Study Abroad**

Students may spend an additional study period at any of the partner universities, whether for a semester of registered coursework or for a short period of study for research reasons. Financial subsidies can be applied for through existing mobility programmes and grants.

### **§ 6 Coming into Effect of the Curriculum**

The in annex I outlined agreement on the structure and the content of the Joint Master's Programme which will have to be implemented at the eight partner universities comes into effect together with the cooperation agreement.