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HEIDELBERG
CENTER FOR
IBERO-AMERICAN
STUDIES



UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386

MASTER OF ARTS *COMMUNICATION AND SOCIETY IN IBERO-AMERICA*

HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF MODERN LANGUAGES

HEIDELBERG CENTER FOR IBERO-AMERICAN STUDIES

MODULE HANDBOOK

Program: Master of Arts *Communication and Society in Ibero-America*

Course load: Full time or part time

Launch Date: Winter semester 2021/22

Normal study length: four semesters (full-time option) (120 credit points)

Location: Heidelberg University, Faculty of Modern Languages, Heidelberg Center for Ibero-American Studies

Tuition fees: Fees according to the general regulations of Heidelberg University (<https://www.uni-heidelberg.de/en/study/management-of-studies/tuition-fees>)

Target audience: The target group of the program are German and international students with solid English and Spanish language skills (English C1 CEFR, Spanish B2 CEFR) and with a focus of interest on Ibero-America. Applicants have an above-average undergraduate degree or equivalent degree in which they have acquired specialized competencies in the humanities and social sciences (see admission regulations).

Status as of: 3.12.2020

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Legend

Learning formats:

IN, Internship

L, Lecture

LS, Lecture series

P, Practical

RC, Research colloquium

S, Seminar

T, Tutorial

Other abbreviations:

CT, Contact-Time

CP, Credit Point

Exam Prep./Eval., time for exam preparation and evaluation

MT, Master's thesis

OE, Oral exam

Prep./Follow-up, time for preparation and follow-up

1. Qualification goals, profile, and special features of the study program

1.1 Preamble — Learning objectives of Heidelberg University

In line with its guiding principles and constitution, Heidelberg University's study programs aim at academic, interdisciplinary, and career-oriented results by providing students with a comprehensive academic education and professional development. The profile of competencies that flows from this mission is valid for all disciplines. It is replicated in the separate module handbooks and implemented through the specific qualification objectives of each study program, their respective curricula and individual modules:

- Developing professional skills, with a strong emphasis on research
- Developing competency in interdisciplinary dialogue
- Fostering practical problem-solving abilities
- Developing interpersonal and social skills
- Promoting social responsibility through the use of these skills

1.2 Mission of statement of the Faculty of Modern Languages

The primary objectives of the teaching and research of Heidelberg University's Faculty of Modern Languages are in the fields of **language, literature, and culture**. Focus is placed on newer European languages and literatures, which have been researched and taught in combination with their cultural contexts from the Middle Ages to the present, and their transcultural diffusion caused by migration and colonialism - especially in German, English, French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Polish, Czech, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, and Bulgarian. This faculty offers in-depth language training in all the above languages.

The Faculty of Modern Languages conducts both theory-based, basic research, as well as application-oriented and experimental research. The scholarly focus is on the following areas:

- Literary Studies is devoted to the indexing and preservation of texts, to the interpretation of texts embedded in cultural studies and cross-cultural comparisons, and to literary theory.
- Language sciences/linguistics analyze linguistic structures based on theoretical models using corpus-based and computational methods and develop and research the machine processing of natural language. It also focuses on the increasing cultural and linguistic diversity in society.

In these outlined foci, the Faculty of Modern Languages is answering a call to address a range of **social developments** including:

- New, predominantly digital forms of language-based communication, which generate new communicative practices and ever-growing volumes of digitized linguistic information on the internet.
- Ever increasing replacement of experience- and knowledge-based individual judgment, argumentation, and reflection by opinion and slogans.
- Manipulation of language in advertising, media, and political propaganda.
- Changes in general levels of education and in the consensus on what constitutes an 'education'.
- Decline in historical knowledge and dwindling familiarity with the traditional literary canon.
- Changes in the status and real-world significance of literature in culture and society.
- New regional, ethno-national, and European identity formation processes and their appropriation of languages and literatures.
- Increase in the diversity of individual language biographies due to migration movements and the associated need to contribute to language-sensitive learning environments in schools.

Our **goal** is to confront these problems openly and constructively with methods from linguistics, literature, and cultural studies, to accompany social change in the field of language and literature in a reflective and critical manner on a historically informed basis, to recognize and explore the possibilities of productive social, technical, and media change, and to strengthen them for an enlightened and free society.

Resulting from the above-mentioned current and future developments and from the structure and shape of the participating institutes, which have grown over many decades, is the Faculty of Modern Languages' **concept of self** and **its mission** in research and teaching on transfer within society:

- (1) At our disposal are comprehensive scientific competences allowing for the adequate and constructive investigation of linguistic, literary, and cultural phenomena of the past and present, using them for the benefit of society.
- (2) Humans' ability to speak is a unique distinction that, at the same time, harbors the dangers of the ambivalence of language. Our research and teaching therefore aim not just at simplifying, but at a precise understanding of the diversity, complexity, and paradoxes of linguistic, literary, and social phenomena. We therefore always include different perspectives in our questions and support our students in the development of critical-analytical thinking in order to adequately grasp the complexity and multidimensionality of socio-cultural developments and interconnections expressed in language and literature.
- (3) We reflect on the meaning of language and literature in society on different levels, using different methods. We conduct research that is philological-hermeneutical and philosophical, sociologically grounded, as well as empirical and application-oriented, which is reflected in our teaching. Based on our disciplinary strengths, we seek interdisciplinary networking in research and teaching and do not shy away from issues that arise beyond our conventional subject responsibilities.
- (4) We seek to inspire our students and the non-academic public to engage in an intensive, critical study of language and literature. Through this, we wish to teach not only them, but ourselves, that this study, which includes distant pasts and remote regions, is essential for a comprehensive understanding of current and future processes in society and culture. Our research therefore always has didactic and pedagogical components.
- (5) We are aware that our faculty arose from the Eurocentric perspective of 'national philologies' and we take the critique of this paradigm into account. Thus, we reflect on and research this history of our subjects and increasingly - especially in association with the other humanities and social sciences at Heidelberg University - approach our objects of study and teaching decidedly from a transcultural, comparative perspective. Likewise, we bring our linguistic and literary expertise to the University's existing and developing field of '*Area Studies*'.
- (6) We seek to preserve the linguistic and literary past and keep it alive through publications, translations, commentaries, and handbooks. We explore the historical and cultural contexts of language and literature and recognize languages, linguistic monuments, and literary products of all kinds as global cultural heritage. The transfer of this knowledge into teaching and the non-university public is an important concern for us. Furthermore, our goal is to gain insights into the language(s) of the present from the study of the linguistic and literary past and to use these insights to address current and future developments.
- (7) Our mission is to contribute to a more equitable education system by preparing future generations of teachers for the increasing cultural and linguistic heterogeneity of students based on strong subject-related research skills and the knowledge of how to influence learning and development processes.
- (8) The Faculty of Modern Languages sees itself as a community of teachers and students - of scholars at different stages of their educational development and their academic careers. Many are only members of the faculty for short periods of time. This faculty as a place where every member is taken seriously and where scholarly teaching and learning, thinking and reasoning, reading and writing are of the utmost priority. This faculty is a space that facilitates individual research and scholarly conversation. It seeks to create both material (time, space, infrastructure) and non-material (collegial exchange and prudent cooperation) conditions that allow all faculty members to research, teach, and learn in accordance with their external and internal missions.

Heidelberg, November 2019

1.3 Profile of the Master's program *Communication and Society in Ibero-America*

The Master's degree *Communication and Society in Ibero-America* is a consecutive degree that focuses on the social dimensions of communication in the Ibero-American macro-region and the regions in contact with it. It imparts broad theoretical, methodological, and applied knowledge of the physical, abstract, and virtual spaces of Ibero-America, and of the social, cultural, linguistic, and environmental dynamics that constitute these spaces. Emphasis is placed on the building of specific knowledge and competencies on the social dimensions of communication in Ibero-America, incorporating and linking approaches from the humanities, cultural studies, and social sciences. Focus is placed on the possibility for students to form their own individual profiles in two qualifications: a research-oriented profile with a professional qualification for the academic environment and an application-oriented profile with a professional qualification for a non-academic professional field.

1.4 Subject-specific qualification goals of the program

Graduates of the master's program *Communication and Society in Ibero-America* perceive Ibero-America as a macro-region, with Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula as core areas and the regions associated with them for historical or socioeconomic reasons (especially the United States, Europe, and Asia). Students have approached the physical, abstract, and virtual spaces of Ibero-America and the social, cultural, and linguistic dynamics observable within them from a variety of complementary disciplinary perspectives. Through the intensive, interdisciplinary examination of these spaces and dynamics using selected examples, students have acquired in-depth specialized knowledge and, accordingly, advanced methodological competencies in the humanities and social sciences. Building on this, graduates of the research-oriented qualification profile (QP1) will have deepened their interdisciplinary research skills, specialized in the complex interrelationships between communication and society in the macro-region of Ibero-America, and set their own research priorities in this area. During their stay abroad, students will have been involved in research with a professional connection to their individual scientific profile. As a result, graduates of QP1 will be able to critically reflect on central subject-related issues and problems and meaningfully transfer them to related research and application contexts. Graduates of the application-oriented qualification profile (QP2) also possess a simultaneously profound and broad knowledge of the complex relationships between communication and society in the macro-region of Ibero-America; During their studies, they have concentrated their professional focus on issues with practical applications. Through the curricularly anchored stay abroad, students have also further developed their competence in the practical application of their acquired knowledge in a professional environment situated at the interface between society and communication. Building on this foundation, students will be able to critically analyze the realities and issues of the thematic field of communication and society in Ibero-America, generate further insights, and, in particular, draw practically relevant conclusions from them.

Graduates of the master's program will have developed a holistic understanding of the complex interactions of communication and society in the Ibero-American context, which they can critically evaluate and reflect upon based on their interdisciplinary concept of self. Through the interdisciplinary orientation of the program, graduates of the program will have acquired an awareness of the importance of the discipline's different perspectives in order to comprehend issues related to Ibero-America holistically.

1.5 Non-disciplinary qualification goals of the study program

The subject-related competencies that will have been acquired by graduates of the Master's program in the process of adopting, applying, and critically reflecting on subject-related content and methods are also relevant above and beyond disciplines in a variety of ways.

Beyond the subject-related and scientific competencies, graduates will have acquired non-disciplinary instrumental, interpersonal/communicative, and systemic competencies: Graduates of the program will possess the ability to critically reflect on scientific literature and will be able to acquire knowledge from it on their own. Students will be able to independently develop and formulate scientific questions about learning or research subjects. They will be able to describe, analyze, and present facts in an argumentative manner and discuss them orally and in writing. Students will be familiar with strategies for presenting problems in a manner appropriate for the target group. Due to graduates' distinct interpersonal

and communicative competence, they are able to communicate scientifically, efficiently, and comprehensibly with both field experts and laypersons on current and complex problems and approaches to solutions in the subject areas covered in the course of study. They will have also learned to operate and collaborate in a team in an intercultural and/or interdisciplinary context. They are able to confidently manage complementary scientific viewpoints, to independently address disciplinary and interdisciplinary research questions, and to integrate new findings into existing knowledge contexts. Graduates are able to plan, structure, and deliver academic and, depending on the chosen qualification profile, non-academic work assignments independently, purposefully, and on time. Students will have also built up a sound knowledge base on region-specific cultural aspects and, depending on the chosen qualification profile, additional research and professional skills (such as knowledge of another Ibero-Romance language, communication and presentation skills, knowledge transfer within and outside the university context). Graduates will have acquired diverse, socially responsible skills which will enable them to apply the knowledge acquired in the program to current problems relevant to society in a scientifically sound and goal-oriented manner and to enter into a transdisciplinary dialogue with affected stakeholders.

1.6 Occupational fields open to graduates of the program

Graduates will have obtained expert knowledge of the macro-region of Ibero-America and will be particularly sensitized to the complex relationships between communication and society. Due to the thematic orientation of the course content and the integrated stay in a particularly socio-culturally diverse region such as Ibero-America, graduates are able to assess the consequences of the theory and practice of their field of study for society and are specially prepared to assume social responsibility. Through participatory forms of teaching such as the research colloquium and the integrated stay abroad, graduates will have gained their first experience in the practice of international research and gained insights into possible non-academic occupations and fields of activity based on the knowledge acquired during their studies. Depending on the research/application orientation in the qualification profile, the regional expertise in combination with the specialization in "Communication and Society" enables graduates to take on demanding activities

in the public/private institutional sector:

- Universities and research institutions;
- Institutions for international cooperation;
- international organisations;
- Non-governmental organizations;
- Cultural institutions;
- Foundations and associations;
- Communications departments of public institutions;

in the private economic sector:

- Press, media, and public relations;
- Political communication consulting agencies;
- Opinion Research (Polling) Institutes;
- Corporate communications departments and private cultural institutions.

1.7 Special features of the study program

Justification for modules with a duration of more than two semesters

The courses in modules 7a and 7b span 4 semesters, since they are intended in particular for the parallel acquisition of other interdisciplinary instrumental competencies. The module is oriented by the student's course selection to promote his or her own qualification profile.

The courses in modules 8a and 8b span 4 semesters, as they particularly facilitate the parallel acquisition of practical and interdisciplinary knowledge for the application of subject-related content and methods. The module is oriented by the student's course selection to promote his or her own qualification profile.

Justification for cumulative examinations

Modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8: The types of courses in each module differ substantially from one another and there is freedom of choice within the modules. In addition, the acquisition of different competencies is reflected in different examination formats; therefore, cumulative examinations take place in these modules.

Module 5: This module provides for cumulative exams (3 for QP1, 2 for QP2), since there is a great freedom of choice in the selection of seminar topics, so that competencies acquired on different topics can be tested by several exams.

2. Teaching, Learning, and Examination Formats

Lecture (L): In lectures, content is primarily conveyed in the form of a presentation by the teacher. In the name of research-based learning, students are encouraged to critically examine pertinent, in-depth literature. This will allow students to identify problems in the subject area being dealt with and also promote the professional competencies required to be able to derive, develop, and formulate corresponding research questions. In lectures, the exams are typically given in written format. The exact examination modalities will be announced in the first session of the semester at the latest.

Lecture series (LS): In lecture series, different teachers or experts, mostly from different departments or universities, delve into a specific topic. The focus is on introducing students to the current state of research and innovative issues in the field. The course is usually concluded with a written examination and/or a short, written paper. The exact examination modalities will be announced in the first session of the semester at the latest.

Seminar (S): Seminars are designed around a variety of teaching and learning forms (in particular interactive forms of teaching and learning, project work, research-based learning, presentations, etc.). The teaching and learning forms chosen are based on the competencies imparted in the module. In seminars, examination formats usually consist of a presentation (carried out by the individual or as the result of group work) and/or an extensive written term paper, a research/project report, or an oral examination. The exact examination modalities will be announced in the first session of the semester at the latest.

Practical (P): In practicals, acquired knowledge of the content, methods, and approaches to the subject areas of the course are put into practice. Scientifically-sound, problem-solving-oriented skills of the students are promoted. The teaching format for practicals is also designed around the acquisition of competencies in a foreign language. Students are given tasks requiring independent preparation outside of class and the different solutions and approaches of which are critically discussed and elaborated upon together in class. Practicals utilize a variety of interactive forms of teaching and learning (individual and group work, project work, cooperative learning). Exams in practicals usually consist of a written finals and/or presentations. The exact examination modalities will be announced in the first session of the semester at the latest.

Block Courses (BC): Block courses take place on consecutive days and not on a weekly basis. These courses serve to deal with a specific topic intensively and are structured around a variety of teaching and learning forms. Block courses are used in the *Communication and Society in Ibero-America* master's course to promote internationalization, among other things, as they allow for a more flexible semester calendar, are compatible with the mobility window, and enable courses to be held by international guest lecturers. The examination format depends on the format of the course (seminar, research-based practical) and are announced in the first session of the block course at the latest.

Research Colloquium (FC): The research colloquium promotes scientific exchange both among students, as well as between students, lecturers, and scientists from Germany and abroad. It promotes the development of skills required for research and the further development of interdisciplinary skills (especially interpersonal/communicative and instrumental competencies) that are required for the successful preparation and disputation of the master's thesis, as well as in later professional life. In the research

colloquium, theories, theses, and methods of scientific work are thematized and scientifically grounded discussions on more complex research questions and goals are encouraged. External guests from Germany and abroad may also be invited to the research colloquium on a regular basis in order to further expand the students' perspectives and to strengthen their awareness and sensitivity to other research and presentation traditions. In research colloquia, the examination consists of a preparation of an exposé or a scientific presentation (in individual or group work). Thematically, it should be about issues that are as closely related to the master's thesis as possible. The exact examination modalities will be announced in the first session of the semester at the latest.

Tutorial (T): Tutorials complement and support seminars and serve to explain and give depth to the content conveyed therein. In order to achieve the desired acquisition of competencies, students are required to actively participate in the form of posing specific questions or contributing to discussions, whereby students are actively participating in the design of the course.

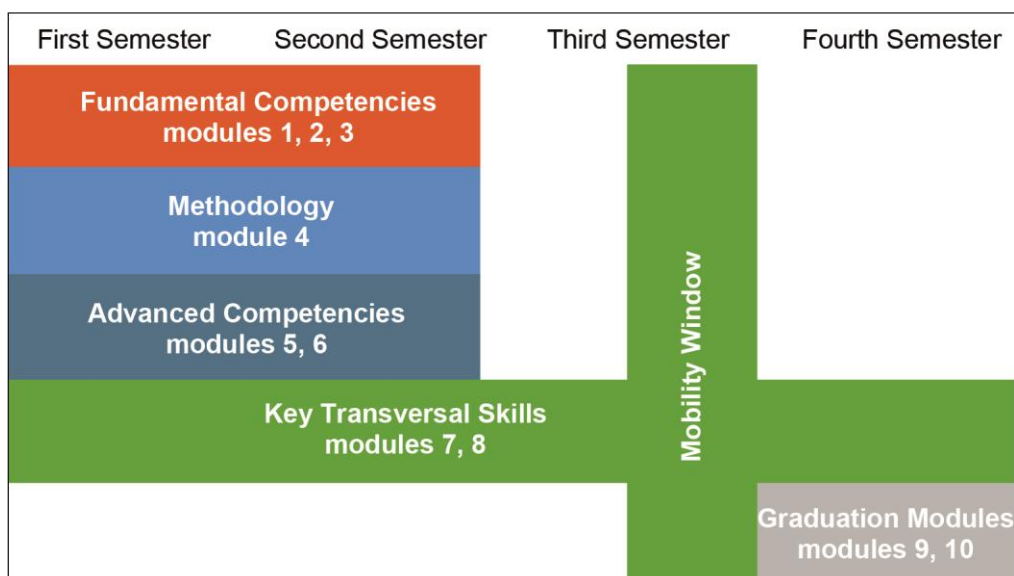
Internship (IN): With a focus on future professional activities, the internship serves to enhance application or research-related skills. The successful completion of the internship and the preparation of a written final report are required for credit points to be awarded.

3. Overview and modularization of the study program

3.1 Structure of the study program

The master's program *Communication and Society in Ibero-America* comprises 120 credit points, divided into four semesters. The program is divided into five sections, each of which consisting of modules separated into thematically and temporally self-contained teaching and learning units. The sections correspond to basic and advanced competencies:

- Section 1: Fundamental Competencies
- Section 2: Methodology
- Section 3: Advanced Competencies
- Section 4: Key Transversal Skills
- Section 5: Graduation Modules



To further promote the interdisciplinary nature of the program and to ensure a high degree of flexibility in course design, the Heidelberg Center for Ibero-American Studies (HCIAS) collaborates with other institutes at Heidelberg University. These institutes include the Institute for Translation and Interpreting, the Department of Romance Studies (both of the Faculty of Modern Languages), the Department of History (Faculty of Philosophy), the Institute for Political Science, the Institute for Sociology (both of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences), and the Institute of Geography (Faculty of Chemistry and Earth Sciences). Students' participation in courses offered by other institutions takes place after consultation and in close coordination with the academic advisor and study coordinator of the master's program *Communication and Society in Ibero-America*.

3.2 Mobility window

The master's program *Communication and Society in Ibero-America* is internationally oriented. It includes a mobility window for a stay abroad in a public or private institution in Ibero-America¹. The mobility window is anchored in the curriculum of the degree program and can thus be completed within the standard period of study. The second half of the third semester is generally planned for the research or practical stay abroad. The courses to be completed in the third semester can be offered in compact block formats during the first half of the lecture period (e.g. the seminars from modules 5a and 5b). On the other hand, location-independent course formats (online) make it possible to study throughout the entire lecture period of the third semester.

3.3 Qualification profiles and modularization

The master's program *Communication and Society in Ibero-America* allows for the building of **individual student profiles** and studies can be focused on one of two qualification profiles:

- **Qualification profile 1 (QP1): Research-oriented profile (academic professional field)**
- **Qualification profile 2 (QP2): Application-oriented profile (non-academic professional field)**

For the selection of the qualification profile as well as the subsequent stay abroad, students are assisted by a specialized study advisor from the beginning of their studies. The qualification profile should be decided upon at the beginning of the second semester, especially with regard to the organization of the stay abroad in the third semester. Both profiles are accounted for in the curriculum via the distribution of credit points in the “Advanced Competencies” and “Key Transversal Skills” sections. After determining the qualification profile, students complete modules 5a, 7a and 8a for qualification profile 1, and modules 5b, 7b and 8b for qualification profile 2.

FUNDAMENTAL COMPETENCIES				
Modules	Module Type	Semester	Learning Formats	CP Required
Module 1 Knowledge Focus 1 – Social, political, and economic spaces, and their communication dynamics in Ibero-America	Compulsory module	1-2	1 S (8) ² , 1 L (2)	10
Module 2 Knowledge Focus 2 – Cultures, peoples, and their environments in Ibero-America	Compulsory module	1-2	1 S (8), 1 L (2)	10

¹ In exceptional cases (especially physical limitations or justified interest in the content), the internship/research stay can take place in Germany upon request.

² Numbers in parentheses = CP per course format

Module 3 Knowledge Focus 3 – Language diversity, social cognition, and information society in Ibero-America	Compulsory module	1-2	1 S (8), 1 P (4)	12
METHODOLOGY				
Modules	Module Type	Semester	Learning Formats	CP Required
Module 4 Research resources	Compulsory module	1-2	1 S (8) 1 LS (2)	10
ADVANCED COMPETENCIES				
Module	Module Type	Semester	Learning Formats	CP Required
Module 5a Knowledge deepening QP1	Compulsory elective module, QP1	2-3	3 S (8)	24
Module 5b Knowledge deepening QP2	Compulsory elective module, QP2	2-3	2 S (8)	16
Module 6 Interdisciplinary convergence	Compulsory module	2	1 S (8) 1 T (1)	9
KEY TRANSVERSAL SKILLS				
Modules	Module Type	Semester	Learning Formats	CP Required
Module 7a Language and methodological skills QP1	Compulsory elective module, QP1	1-4	Choice of: diff. S (6-8 each) diff. P (2-4 each)	8
Module 7b Language and methodological skills QP2	Compulsory elective module, QP2	1-4	Choice of: diff. S (6-8 each) diff. P (2-4 each)	12
Module 8a Practical skills QP1	Compulsory elective module, QP1	1-4	Choice of diff. P (2-4 each) 1 IN ³ (6) (compulsory course)	10
Module 8b Practical skills QP2	Compulsory elective module, QP2	1-4	Choice of diff. P (2-4 each) 1 IN ⁴ (8) (compulsory course)	14
GRADUATION MODULES				
Modules	Module Type	Semester	Learning Formats	CP Required
Module 9 Master's thesis	Compulsory module	4	MT (20), RC (2)	22
Module 10 Examination module	Compulsory module	4	OE (5)	5
Total CP				120

³ Research stay: 150 hours "Contact-Time", 30 hours evaluation (written final report)

⁴ Internship: 210 hours "Contact-Time", 30 hours evaluation (written final report)

Schematic representation of the modularization of the study program according to the qualification profiles:

Qualification profile 1 (QP1): research-oriented profile

	First semester	Second semester	Third semester	Fourth semester		
Module 1	Lecture (2 CP) Seminar (8 CP)		Mobility Window (stay abroad, 6 CP)			
Module 2	Lecture (2 CP) Seminar (8 CP)					
Module 3	Seminar (8 CP) Practical (4 CP)					
Module 4	Lecture series (2 CP) Seminar (8 CP)					
Module 5a		Seminar (8 CP) Seminar (8 CP) Seminar (8 CP)				
Module 6		Seminar (8 CP) Tutorial (1 CP)				
Module 7a	Seminars and Practicals (Σ 8 CP)					
Module 8a	Practicals (Σ 4 CP)					
Module 9					Master's thesis (incl. RC) (22 CP)	
Module 10					Final exam (5 CP)	
	First semester	Second semester	Third semester	Fourth semester	Σ 120	

Qualification profile 2 (QP2): Application-oriented profile

	First semester	Second semester	Third semester	Fourth semester		
Module 1	Lecture (2 CP) Seminar (8 CP)		Mobility Window (stay abroad, 8 CP)			
Module 2	Lecture (2 CP) Seminar (8 CP)					
Module 3	Seminar (8 CP) Practical (4 CP)					
Module 4	Lecture series (2 CP) Seminar (8 CP)					
Module 5a		Seminar (8 CP) Seminar (8 CP)				
Module 6		Seminar (8 CP) Tutorial (1 CP)				
Module 7a	Seminars and Pracicals (Σ 12 CP)					
Module 8a	Practicals (Σ 6 CP)					
Module 9					Master's thesis (incl. RC) (22 CP)	
Module 10					Final exam (5 CP)	
	First semester	Second semester	Third semester	Fourth semester	Σ 120	

4. Compulsory and compulsory elective modules (major)

FUNDAMENTAL COMPETENCIES

Module	Module 1
Title	Knowledge Focus 1: Social, political, and economic spaces, and their communication dynamics in Ibero-America
Form:	Compulsory module
Frequency:	Winter semester / summer semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	1 st - 2 nd semester / one to two semesters
Workload / Credit Points:	300 Hours = 10 CP: 1 L: 2 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Exam Prep./Eval. 1 S: 8 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Prep./Follow-up + 6 CP Exam Prep./Eval.
Learning Formats	1 Lecture 1 Seminar
Course contents:	<p>Module 1 provides specialized knowledge on the social, political and socio-economic areas of the Ibero-American macro-region in their physical, abstract, and virtual dimensions. Expanding upon this, students will deal with various regional and cross-regional topics, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Emergence and development of public institutions; – Intra- and transregional relationships; – Inequality and poverty; <p>Another central subject area focuses on the dynamics of communication in social contexts.</p> <p>The module consists of a seminar and a lecture. The focus of the lecture can be extended beyond Ibero-America to the contact areas of this macro-region, such as the connections between Ibero-America and the United States, Europe, and Asia. In addition to specialized knowledge, the seminar also conveys central theoretical and application-related knowledge on specific approaches in sociology, political science, and economic geography, which in particular supports the research and independent development of relevant questions on the part of the students.</p>
Learning outcomes:	<p>Using the knowledge acquired in Module 1 as a basis, the students are able to identify the fundamental and central social, political, and socio-economic dynamics of Ibero-America as well as those of its contact areas, understand the predominant complexity, and, by applying essential theoretical concepts of the disciplines to describe and analyze them, and to reflect on them in detail. In addition, the students have developed the sensibility to approach questions about these dynamics holistically and from multiple perspectives as well as to develop these questions independently. The students are able to classify and describe the dynamics of communication in social contexts in Ibero-America, as well as their emergence and development, and make comparisons with other global regions.</p> <p>Upon completion of the module, the students will have developed a command of the detailed, specialized literature, be able to reflect critically on it and its results, and in this way acquire knowledge independently.</p> <p>In the seminar, the students will also have strengthened and developed their methodological skills. They are able to select suitable</p>

	theoretical and methodological approaches for the elaboration of questions and to support their decision with scientific arguments. The students will have also strengthened and expanded their oral and written Spanish and/or English language skills as specialist languages: in this way they are able to deal critically with the specialized literature in these languages and exchange ideas surrounding them. They are also able to present the learned content in these languages in a differentiated manner, both written and orally.
Applicability of the module:	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major).
Prerequisites:	None.
Requirements for the awarding of CP:	Successful completion of (partial) assignments in each course. For the type of examination see also "Teaching and learning formats and examination types" in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	Lecture pass/fail; Final module grade is the grade of the seminar

Module	Module 2
Title	Knowledge Focus 2: Cultures, peoples, and their environments in Ibero-America
Form:	Compulsory module
Frequency:	Winter semester / summer semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	1 st - 2 nd semester / one to two semesters
Workload / Credit Points:	300 Hours = 10 CP 1 L: 2 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Exam Prep./Eval. 1 S: 8 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Prep./Follow-up + 6 CP Exam Prep./Eval.
Learning Formats	1 Lecture 1 Seminar
Course contents:	<p>Module 2 conveys specialized content on the cultures, peoples, and their natural environments in the Ibero-American macro-region with a focus on their physical, abstract, and virtual dimensions (possible topic complexes could be: the history of the Ibero-American countries or the macro-region Ibero-America, the emergence and development of cultural centers and peripheries, traditional dynamics, migration movements, etc.). Based on this, the students will deal with different regional and cross-regional topics, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Challenges posed to cultural and natural heritage by globalization; - Environmental changes and their effects on natural, social, and cultural spaces; - Development of the organizational forms of societies in dealing with cultural and natural heritage; - Dynamics of social communication in relation to culture and nature. <p>Module 2 consists of a seminar and a lecture. In addition to Ibero-America, the lecture also covers its areas of contact, in particular the connections with the United States, Europe, and Asia. In addition to specialized knowledge, the seminar also provides knowledge on specific approaches to cultural and historical sciences as well as human geography for researching relevant issues.</p>

Learning outcomes:	<p>After completing this module, the students will be able to identify how societies, their members, and institutions deal with their own cultural and natural heritage. They will also have a high level of knowledge regarding the current challenges with which the cultural and natural regions of Ibero-America are currently and will be confronted with in the future, insofar as they can name them, describe them, critically evaluate them, and reflect on the connectivity of possible solutions. In addition, they will have acquired the technical knowledge and ability to describe the complexity of the corresponding phenomena professionally and in detail using theoretical concepts. At the same time, they will have developed a sensitivity for cultural, ethnic, and environmental issues and can approach them holistically and from multiple perspectives. The students can present the dynamics of social communication in Ibero-America in relation to environment and culture as well as in connection with their respective developments and make comparisons with other global regions or in other areas. They are also able to reflect critically on the specialized literature and acquire knowledge from it independently.</p> <p>In the seminar, the students will have further developed their methodological skills. They are able to choose suitable methodological approaches for the elaboration of questions and to argue scientifically for their decision. The students will have also strengthened and expanded their oral and written Spanish and/or English language skills as specialist languages: in this way they are able to deal critically with the specialized literature in these languages and exchange ideas surrounding them. They are also able to present the learned content in these languages in a differentiated manner, both written and orally.</p>
Applicability of the module	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major).
Requirements for the awarding of CP:	For the type of examination see also "Teaching and learning formats and examination forms" in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	Lecture pass/fail; Final module grade is the grade of the seminar

Module	Module 3
Title	Knowledge Focus 3: Language diversity, social cognition, and information society in Ibero-America
Form:	Compulsory module
Frequency:	Winter semester / summer semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	1 st - 2 nd semester / one to two semesters
Workload / Credit Points:	<p>360 hours = 12 CP</p> <p>1 S: 8 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Prep./Follow-up + 6 CP Exam Prep./Eval.</p> <p>1 P: 4 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Prep./Follow-up + 2 CP Exam Prep./Eval.</p>
Learning Formats	<p>1 Seminar</p> <p>1 Practical</p>
Course contents:	In module 3, specialized content on social, linguistic, and socio-cognitive phenomena and on phenomena of the information society in the physical, abstract, and virtual dimensions of the

	<p>Ibero-American macro-region are conveyed. Based on this, the students will deal with various regional and cross-regional issues, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Effects of intra- and interregional contacts from and between languages and cultures; – The linguistic environment of Ibero-America and its development in connection with migratory movements; – Border areas of Ibero-America and its contact areas: urban communities and linguistic realities of the original speakers; – Language contact: identity and perception of the linguistic reality of Ibero-America. <p>The module consists of a seminar and a practical. In addition to Ibero-America as a macro-region, the seminar also refers to its areas of contact, in particular to the realities and connections with the United States. The practical follows the principle of research-based learning, insofar as the students can use their acquired methodological knowledge and combine it with the specialized knowledge to be acquired. In this way, they will learn to develop questions in an application-based manner, formulate scientific hypotheses and, guided by the lecturer and in exchange with the student group, design their own research process.</p>
Learning outcomes:	<p>After completing this module, the students are able to understand, analyze, and critically reflect on the complexity and dynamics of social, linguistic, and sociocognitive phenomena in Ibero-America and its contact areas. In addition, they are able to describe them professionally and in detail on the basis of theoretical concepts. At the same time, they have developed the sensibility to develop and pursue corresponding questions holistically and from multiple perspectives.</p> <p>The students can reflect critically on the specialized literature and acquire knowledge from it independently. In the seminar, they have also strengthened and further developed their methodological skills. They are able to choose suitable methodological approaches for the elaboration of questions and to justify the decisions they have made with reference to scientific principles. In the module's practical, the students developed their ability to complete research-oriented tasks with the help of their theoretical and methodological knowledge. Together with other students, they have designed their own research process. This has also broadened their communicative and interpersonal skills and increased their ability to work as part of a team. The students will have strengthened and expanded their oral and written Spanish and/or English language skills as specialist languages.</p>
Applicability of the module	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major and minor)
Requirements for the awarding of CP:	Successful completion of (partial) assignments in each course. For the type of examination see also "Teaching and learning formats and examination forms" in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	Weighted grade point average of the corresponding courses (Seminar 8/12, Practical 4/12)

METHODOLOGY

Module	Module 4
Title	Research resources

Form:	Compulsory module
Frequency:	Winter semester / summer semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	1 st - 2 nd semester / one to two semesters
Workload / Credit Points:	300 Hours = 10 CP 1 LS: 2 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Exam Prep./Eval. 1 S: 8 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Prep./Follow-up + 6 CP Exam Prep./Eval.
Learning Formats	1 Lecture Series 1 Seminar
Course contents:	Module 4 provides the students with methodological knowledge on the research and application of societal and communication-related phenomena and dynamics in the Ibero-American area and the areas in contact with this region. The module consists of a seminar and a lecture series. In the lecture series, the students are introduced to the approaches, methods, and resources involved in area studies. It is held by researchers from Heidelberg University and from partner universities and research institutions. Through this, the students will also become familiar with the methodological approaches of researchers who, as part of the module, illustrate the principles of scientific work on the basis of their own research projects. In addition, the seminar deals with (empirical) research approaches, such as corpus work (creation and analysis), experiment design, statistical evaluation methods, surveys (creation and evaluation), cartography, data management, etc. In addition, central questions and aspects of scientific ethics will be discussed in both courses.
Learning outcomes:	After completing this module, the students are able to methodologically reflect on, process, and develop complex scientific questions. <u>Lecture Series</u> The students will have learned to recognize the variety of applied methods of area studies in scientific work and research results, to understand their application to the specific questions, and, in particular, to reflect critically on them. They are able to exchange ideas with other researchers about their own research projects and those of others. <u>Seminar</u> The students can independently determine an adequate methodological approach for specific questions and combine several methods with one another. Additionally, they are able to support their choice of method scientifically and explain this decision efficiently and comprehensibly and to justify it with arguments. They are able to conduct theoretical-descriptive as well as empirical research. The students are proficient in the rules of good scientific practice, can recognize, analyze, and reflect on them in external research and, in particular, apply them to their own research.
Applicability of the module	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major and minor)
Requirements for the awarding of CP:	Successful completion of (partial) assignments in each course. For the type of examination see also "Teaching and learning formats and examination forms" in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	Lecture series pass/fail; The final module grade is the grade for the seminar

ADVANCED COMPETENCIES

Compulsory elective module 5 - QUALIFICATION PROFILING

Select one of the two modules below:

- **Module 5a** leads to a **research-oriented qualification profile** (QP1, see also the applicable courses in modules 7 and 8)
- **Module 5b** leads to an **application-oriented qualification profile** (QP2, see also the applicable courses in modules 7 and 8)

Module	Module 5a
Title	Knowledge deepening QP1
Form:	Compulsory elective module
Frequency:	Summer semester / winter semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	2 nd - 3 rd semester / one to two semesters
Workload / Credit Points:	720 hours = 24 CP (3 S, 8 CP each) 3 S, 8 CP each = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Prep./Follow-up + 6 CP Exam Prep./Eval.
Learning Formats	3 Seminars
Course contents:	<p>Module 5a focuses on the aspects of knowledge deepening. To achieve this, the students with qualification profile 1 expand and deepen their specialized knowledge on the areas of communication and society in Ibero-America and its contact areas in two seminars. In these two seminars, key topics are set and specialist content is conveyed that relate, among other things, to the historical and current media landscape in Ibero-America, corporate communication, public and intercultural communication, and demolinguistics. Further aspects of this field may be found in the areas of contemporary trend research, the analysis of the media landscape as well as the information society in Ibero-America and its contact areas. Furthermore, they may be found in the research of societal and communication-related phenomena, such as the specific types and peculiarities of communication within Ibero-America as well as between Ibero-America and its contact areas.</p> <p>The students with research-oriented qualification profile 1 take a third seminar in one of the three Knowledge Foci according to their own study interests and career prospects.</p>
Learning outcomes:	<p>After completing this module, the students will be able to recognize highly complex aspects of the interface between society and communication in the Ibero-American macro-region, analyze them, describe them in a scientifically differentiated manner, and present them. The students will have also acquired in-depth knowledge on the linguistic environment and developments in the media landscape as well as the information society in Ibero-America and its contact areas. Through this, they will be able to understand the connections that exist here, reproduce them and the prevailing dynamics in a structured manner, and analyze and evaluate both. Furthermore, they will be able to make comparisons in this field with other global regions as well as with other social phenomena and reflect critically on these relationships. They will have developed and strengthened their ability to approach communicative and social phenomena and dynamics from different disciplines and perspectives. They will be able to transfer this fundamental competence to their own scientific work.</p>

	<p>During the third seminar, the students will have deepened their specialist knowledge and skills in the area of one of the three Knowledge Foci. They will have developed their ability to analyze the complexity of the objects of investigation in detail on the basis of the corresponding theoretical concepts and using the appropriate methods.</p> <p>In addition to the specific subject content, the students will have learned to deal critically with the relevant specialist literature. On the basis of their specialist skills, they are able to independently develop complex questions, evaluate different approaches to the topics dealt with, and exchange ideas with experts in a situation-appropriate manner. After completing module 5a, the students will have a more research-enabled knowledge base.</p> <p>They have also deepened and expanded their oral and written language skills in Spanish and/or English as specialist languages.</p>
Applicability of the module	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major).
Requirements for the awarding of CP:	Successful completion of (partial) assignments in each course. For the type of examination see also "Teaching and learning formats and examination forms" in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	Weighted grade point average of the corresponding courses (per seminar 8/24)

Module	Module 5b
Title	Knowledge deepening QP2
Form:	Compulsory elective module
Frequency:	Summer semester / winter semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	2 nd - 3 rd semester / one to two semesters
Workload / Credit Points:	480 hours = 16 CP (2 S, 8 CP each)
	2 S, 8 CP each = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Prep./Follow-up + 6 CP Exam Prep./Eval.
Learning Formats	2 Seminars
Course contents:	Module 5b focuses on the aspects of knowledge deepening. To achieve this, the students with qualification profile 2 expand and deepen their specialized knowledge on the areas of communication and society in Ibero-America and its contact areas in two seminars. In these two seminars, key topics are set and specialist content is conveyed that relate, among other things, to the historical and current media landscape in Ibero-America, corporate communication, public and intercultural communication, and demology. Further aspects of this field may be found in the areas of contemporary trend research, the analysis of the media landscape as well as the information society in Ibero-America and its contact areas. Furthermore, they may be found in the research of societal and communication-related phenomena, such as the specific types and peculiarities of communication within Ibero-America as well as between Ibero-America and its contact areas.
Learning outcomes:	After completing this module, the students will be able to recognize highly complex aspects of the interface between society and communication in the Ibero-American macro-region, analyze them, describe them in a scientifically differentiated manner, and present them. The students will have also acquired in-depth knowledge on

	<p>the linguistic environment and developments in the media landscape as well as the information society in Ibero-America and its contact areas. Through this, they will be able to understand the connections that exist here, reproduce them and the prevailing dynamics in a structured manner, and analyze and evaluate both. Furthermore, they will be able to make comparisons in this field with other global regions as well as with other social phenomena and reflect critically on these relationships. They will have developed and strengthened their ability to approach communicative and social phenomena and dynamics from different disciplines and perspectives. They will be able to transfer this fundamental competence to their own scientific work.</p> <p>In addition to the specific subject content, the students will have learned to deal critically with the relevant specialist literature. On the basis of their specialist skills, they are able to independently develop complex questions, evaluate different approaches to the topics dealt with, and exchange ideas with experts in a situation-appropriate manner.</p> <p>They have also deepened and expanded their oral and written language skills in Spanish and/or English as specialist languages.</p>
Applicability of the module	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major).
Requirements for the awarding of CP:	Successful completion of (partial) assignments in each course. For the type of examination see also "Teaching and learning formats and examination forms" in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	Weighted grade point average of the corresponding courses (per seminar 8/16)

Module	Module 6
Title	Interdisciplinary convergence
Form:	Compulsory module
Frequency:	Summer semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	2 nd semester / one semester
Workload / Credit Points:	<p>270 Hours = 9 CP</p> <p>1 S: 8 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Prep./Follow-up + 6 CP Exam Prep./Eval.</p> <p>1 T: 1 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time</p>
Learning Formats	<p>1 Seminar</p> <p>1 Tutorial</p>
Course contents:	<p>Module 6 imparts technical, practical, and methodological knowledge on topics of the three Knowledge Foci that are related to communication and society in Ibero-America. This includes nationalist and populist discourses, trans-ethnic communication dynamics, social transformations and their presentation in public, mobility, and protection of and access to cultural and natural heritage. The realities and circumstances prevailing in Ibero-America are also associated with those of its contact areas as well as other global regions. In the tutorial, the contents and topics dealt with in the seminar are specifically deepened depending on the needs and the specific questions of the students.</p>

Learning outcomes:	Starting from Module 6 the students will be able to scientifically analyze and describe complex discourses from a socio-political and linguistic perspective. They will be able to relate the communication dynamics of Ibero-America and those of its contact areas to the realities and facts of these regions. Students will also understand the scientific added value of inter- and transdisciplinary perspectives and be able to assess the ways in which research and knowledge transfer benefit from this. They will be able to recognize the potential of an interdisciplinary approach to the issues of Area Studies and will be able to apply such an approach independently to their own research projects.
Applicability of the module	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major).
Requirements for the awarding of CP:	Successful completion of (partial) assignments in each course. For the type of examination see also "Teaching and learning formats and examination forms" in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	The final module grade is the grade of the seminar

KEY TRANSVERSAL SKILLS (Modules 7-8)

Compulsory elective module 7 - QUALIFICATION PROFILING

Select one of the two modules below:

- **Module 7a** leads to a **research-oriented qualification profile** (QP1, see also the applicable courses in modules 5 and 8)
- **Module 7b** leads to an **application-oriented qualification profile** (QP2, see also the applicable courses in modules 5 and 8)

Module	Module 7a
Title	Language and methodological skills QP1
Form:	Compulsory elective module
Frequency:	Winter semester / summer semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	1 st - 4 th semester / up to 4 semesters
Workload / Credit Points:	A total of 240 hours = 8 CP Choice of: diff. S = 6-8 CP each diff. P = 2-4 CP each
Learning Formats	You can choose between seminars and/or practicals
Course contents:	Module 7a conveys interdisciplinary instrumental skills to the students and focuses in particular on the acquisition and development of methodological, linguistic and intercultural knowledge. The content of the module depends on the course selection made by the students and is geared towards strengthening the research-oriented profile. Accordingly, the content of the courses is differentiated into qualitative and quantitative research methods as well as communication and information technologies or foreign languages and interculturality.
Learning outcomes:	In Module 7a, the students will have deepened and expanded their knowledge in their selected areas through their choice of courses and thus sharpened their individual research-oriented qualification

	<p>profile. This enables them to act competently, confidently, and adequately in an intercultural environment. Depending on the course selection, they will have primarily</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – expanded and deepened their proficiency in dealing with specific qualitative and quantitative research methods and expanded their methodological skills accordingly; – deepened their media and IT skills and are able to apply these skills in research; – or acquired basic knowledge of another foreign language or expanded their existing foreign language skills.
Reasoning behind module duration > 2 semesters	A targeted, individualized profile formation requires that the acquisition of the respective competencies extends over the entire course of study.
Applicability of the module	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major).
Requirements for the awarding of CP:	Successful completion of (partial) assignments in each course. For the type of examination see also “Teaching and learning formats and examination forms” in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	Average grade of the selected courses weighted according to credit points.

Module	Module 7b
Title	Language and methodological skills QP2
Form:	Compulsory elective module
Frequency:	Winter semester / summer semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	1 st - 4 th semester / up to 4 semesters
Workload / Credit Points:	<p>A total of 360 hours = 12 CP</p> <p>Choice of: diff. S = 6-8 CP each diff. P = 2-4 CP each</p>
Learning Formats	You can choose between seminars and/or practicals
Course contents:	Module 7b conveys interdisciplinary instrumental skills to the students and focuses in particular on the acquisition and development of linguistic, intercultural, and methodological knowledge. The content of the module depends on the course selection made by the students and is geared towards strengthening their application-oriented profile. Correspondingly, the content of the courses is differentiated into foreign languages and interculturality (e.g. Portuguese, German as a foreign language, indigenous languages of Latin America, intercultural communication, etc.) as well as communication and information technologies or even research methods.
Learning outcomes:	<p>In Module 7b, the students will have deepened and expanded their knowledge in their selected areas through their choice of courses and thus sharpened their individual application-oriented qualification profile. This enables them to act competently, confidently, and adequately in an intercultural environment. Depending on the course selection, they will have primarily</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – acquired basic knowledge of another foreign language or expanded their existing foreign language skills;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – deepened their media and IT skills and are able to apply these skills in research; – or expanded and deepened their proficiency in dealing with specific qualitative and quantitative research methods and expanded their methodological skills accordingly.
Reasoning behind module duration > 2 semesters	A targeted, individualized profile formation requires that the acquisition of the respective competencies extends over the entire course of study.
Applicability of the module	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major).
Requirements for the awarding of CP:	Successful completion of (partial) assignments in each course. For the type of examination see also “Teaching and learning formats and examination forms” in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	Average grade of the selected courses weighted according to credit points.

Compulsory elective module 8 - QUALIFICATION PROFILING

Select one of the two modules below:

- **Module 8a** leads to a **research-oriented qualification profile** (QP1, see also the applicable courses in modules 5 and 7)
- **Module 8b** leads to an **application-oriented qualification profile** (QP2, see also the applicable courses in modules 5 and 7)

Module	Module 8a
Title	Practical skills QP1
Form:	Compulsory elective module
Frequency:	Winter semester / summer semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	1 st - 4 th semester / up to 4 semesters
Workload / Credit Points:	A total of 300 hours = 10 CP 1 IN = 6 CP (compulsory) Choice of diff. P = 4 CP in total
Learning Formats	1 Internship (compulsory) 1-2 Practical(s)
Course contents:	In module 8a, practical and general knowledge about the application of specialist content and methods is conveyed and practiced. This module consists of a stay abroad ⁵ spanning several weeks, which is integrated into the curriculum as a mobility window, and one or more practicals in the field of overarching competencies, which can be taken as elective courses. The choice of practicals is geared towards strengthening the student's research-oriented profile. The exercises will develop comprehensive, i.e.: instrumental, interpersonal/communicative, and systemic competencies for professional practice in research. They will be concentrated on a distinctly international and intercultural research environment. The courses are differentiated into scientific writing, visualization and presentation of scientific results, or strategic communication.

^{5/6} In exceptional cases (especially physical limitations or justified interest in the content), the internship can take place in Germany upon request.

	<p>During the internship, the students should be involved in an ongoing project carried out by a cooperating university or research institution in Ibero-America⁶. The projects must be related to one or more of the Knowledge Foci and be located at the interface between society and communication. The duration of the stay depends on the weekly workload (= contact time at the research institution/university), whereby a 30-hour week is generally assumed. During the research stay, the students will apply their technical and methodological research skills intensively in practice and get to know other research traditions and cultures.</p>
Learning outcomes:	<p>In the selected courses and in the internship, the students will have primarily</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – learned to present their research results in an innovative way; – strengthened and expanded their academic writing and presentation skills in their own language or in a foreign language; they will be able to illustrate and convey the results of their research in a way that is understandable and accessible to the public; – learned to work on schedule and in a goal-oriented manner; – learned how to optimize their own work process; – learned to work in a team as well as to make independent decisions and act autonomously. <p>The students will be able to participate in research projects in an intercultural and international team. They will be able to apply their methodological and technical research competence in practice. In addition, they will have developed the sensitivity to approach the research of complex phenomena of communication and society in and with Ibero-America with an open mind, taking into account different strategies. In addition, they will have established their first scientific networks. The students can also reflect on their own practical research in a differentiated and critical manner and present the result of their reflection in a professional manner, both written and orally. Where applicable, the students will have enhanced their language skills in Spanish and/or English as academic languages.</p>
Reasoning behind module duration > 2 semesters	A targeted, individualized profile formation requires that the acquisition of the respective competencies extends over the entire course of study.
Applicability of the module	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major).
Requirements for the awarding of CP:	Passing the (partial) evaluations of the individual courses as well as preparing a written final report on the stay abroad. For the type of examination see also "Teaching and learning formats and examination types" in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	Internship ungraded; The final module grade is the grade average of the selected courses weighted according to credit points

Module	Module 8b
Title	Practical skills QP2
Form:	Compulsory elective module
Frequency:	Winter semester / summer semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	1 st - 4 th semester / up to 4 semesters

Workload / Credit Points:	A total of 420 hours: 14 CP 1 IN = 8 CP (compulsory) Choice of diff. P = 6 CP in total
Learning Formats	1 Internship (compulsory) 1-2 Practical(s)
Course contents:	<p>In module 8b, practical and general knowledge about the application of specialized content and methods is conveyed and practiced. The module consists of a stay abroad⁷ spanning several weeks, which is integrated into the curriculum as a mobility window, and one or more practicals in the area of overarching competencies, which can be taken as elective courses.</p> <p>The choice of practicals is geared towards strengthening the student's application-oriented profile. The practicals will develop comprehensive, i.e.: instrumental, interpersonal/communicative, and systemic competencies for professional practice outside academia. They mainly focus on a distinctly international and intercultural environment.</p> <p>The courses are differentiated, for example, into project management, strategic communication, or the preparation and visualization of scientific results for a general audience.</p> <p>The students complete their internship in an institution or in a company in Ibero-America⁸. They will take on tasks that are related to one or more of the Knowledge Foci, e.g. in communication or public relations, strategic communication or communication-related advice. The duration of the stay depends on the weekly workload (= contact time at the institution/in the company), whereby a 30-hour week is generally assumed. The students will apply their technical and methodological skills intensively in professional practice and get to know other working traditions and cultures.</p>
Learning outcomes:	<p>In the selected courses as well as during the internship, the students will have primarily</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – focused on strengthening and expanding their presentation skills in their own language or in a foreign language; They can illustrate and convey research results in a way that is understandable and appropriate for the public; – learned to work on schedule and in a goal-oriented manner; – learned how to optimize their own work process; – learned to work in a team as well as to make independent decisions and act autonomously. <p>The students will be able to become involved in intercultural and international teams. They will be able to apply their methodological and technical competence at the interface between society and communication in a manner targeted towards professional practice. Furthermore, they have developed a sensitivity to deal openly and flexibly with different communication dynamics and social forms and to contribute to them. The students will have built their first networks and have become familiar with working methods and cultures, sometimes different from their own. They will also be proficient in reflecting critically and in a differentiated manner on the processes and results of their work and in presenting this reflection in a professional manner, both orally and in writing. Where applicable,</p>

⁷ In exceptional cases (especially physical limitations or justified interest in the content), the internship can take place in Germany upon request.

⁸ In exceptional cases (especially physical limitations or justified interest in the content), the internship can take place in Germany upon request.

	the students will have enhanced their language skills in Spanish and/or English for the workplace.
Reasoning behind module duration > 2 semesters	A targeted, individualized profile formation requires that the acquisition of the respective competencies extends over the entire course of study.
Applicability of the module	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major).
Requirements for the awarding of CP:	Passing the (partial) evaluations of the individual courses as well as preparing a written final report on the stay abroad. For the type of examination see also "Teaching and learning formats and examination types" in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	Internship ungraded; The final module grade is the grade average of the selected courses weighted according to credit points

GRADUATION MODULES

Module	Module 9
Title	Master's thesis
Form:	Compulsory module
Semesters offered:	Summer semester / winter semester
Recommended semester / duration of the module:	4 th semester / one semester
Workload / credit points:	660 Hours = 22 CP MT: 20 LP = self-study RC: 2 CP = 1 CP contact-time + 1 CP synopsis / brief presentation of the master's thesis
Learning formats:	1 master's thesis: self-study, individual mentoring 1 research colloquium
Examination type(s)	see examination regulations
Module Contents:	<u>Master's thesis</u> The master's thesis is an independent research paper on a topic related to one or more of the Knowledge Foci. It is written under the supervision of two professors from the master's course. <u>Research colloquium</u> The research colloquium supports the students in writing their master's thesis. It is held during the semester and consists mainly of scientific exchange taking place among the students, but also between the students and invited researchers. It is based on the respective topics that are dealt with in the master's thesis and in the final oral exams. A central component of the research colloquium is the preparation of a short presentation by the students in which the interim results of their own research work are presented and critically discussed.
Learning objectives:	Students are able to deal scientifically and competently with complex issues relating to the subject content of the course, and to scientifically pierce, analyze, and reflect on these issues using the methodological skills they have acquired. They are able to develop and present research questions and hypotheses, to select adequate methods for their research, and also to apply them to a scientific framework. They are able to proficiently and competently present the results of their research in writing (and orally). In addition to this, they have acquired the ability to critically and productively approach specialized literature.

Requirements for participation:	see examination regulations (minimum CP acquired)
Requirements for receiving CP:	Active participation in the research colloquium, holding a presentation; timely and proper preparation of the master's thesis (see examination regulations)
Calculation of the final module grade	Grade of the master's thesis Evaluation by two examiners (see examination regulations); RC ungraded

Module	Module 10
Title	Examination module
Form:	Compulsory module
Semesters offered:	Summer semester / winter semester
Recommended semester / duration of the module:	4 th semester / one semester
Workload / credit points:	150 Hours = 5 CP 1 OE: 5 LP = self-study and oral examination
Learning formats:	1 academic final examination held orally
Module Contents:	<u>Academic final examination held orally</u> The final examination is held orally and consists of two segments: – the defense of the master's thesis (10 minute presentation, 20 minute discussion); – the discussion being related to a research topic within the knowledge foci of the degree program. The topic of the oral examination may not overlap with the focus of the master's thesis (15 minutes).
Requirements for receiving CP:	Successful completion of the oral final examination
Calculation of the final module grade:	Grade of the oral final examination

5. Compulsory and compulsory elective modules (minor)

Module	Module 1 (minor)
Title	Knowledge Focus 3: Language diversity, social cognition, and information society in Ibero-America
Form:	Compulsory module
Frequency:	Winter semester / summer semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	1 st – 3 rd semester / up to three semesters
Workload / Credit Points:	360 hours = 12 CP 1 S: 8 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Prep./Follow-up + 6 CP Exam Prep./Eval.

	1 P: 4 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Prep./Follow-up + 2 CP Exam Prep./Eval.
Learning Formats	1 Seminar 1 Practical
Course contents:	<p>In this module, specialized content on social, linguistic, and socio-cognitive phenomena and on phenomena of the information society in the physical, abstract, and virtual dimensions of the Ibero-American macro-region are conveyed. Based on this, the students will deal with various regional and cross-regional issues, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Effects of intra- and interregional contacts from and between languages and cultures; – The linguistic environment of Ibero-America and its development in connection with migratory movements; – Border areas of Ibero-America and its contact areas: urban communities and linguistic realities of the original speakers; – Language contact: identity and perception of the linguistic reality of Ibero-America. <p>The module consists of a seminar and a practical. In addition to Ibero-America as a macro-region, the seminar also refers to its areas of contact, in particular to the realities and connections with the United States. The practical follows the principle of research-based learning, insofar as the students can use their acquired methodological knowledge and combine it with the specialized knowledge to be acquired. In this way, they will learn to develop questions in an application-based manner, formulate scientific hypotheses and, guided by the lecturer and in exchange with the student group, design their own research process.</p>
Learning outcomes:	<p>After completing this module, the students are able to understand, analyze, and critically reflect on the complexity and dynamics of social, linguistic, and sociocognitive phenomena in Ibero-America and its contact areas. In addition, they are able to describe them professionally and in detail on the basis of theoretical concepts. At the same time, they have developed the sensibility to develop and pursue corresponding questions holistically and from multiple perspectives.</p> <p>The students can reflect critically on the specialized literature and acquire knowledge from it independently. In the seminar, they have also strengthened and further developed their methodological skills. They are able to choose suitable methodological approaches for the elaboration of questions and to justify the decisions they have made with reference to scientific principles. In the module's practical, the students developed their ability to complete research-oriented tasks with the help of their theoretical and methodological knowledge. Together with other students, they have designed their own research process. This has also broadened their communicative and interpersonal skills and increased their ability to work as part of a team. The students will have strengthened and expanded their oral and written Spanish and/or English language skills as specialist languages.</p>
Applicability of the module	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major and minor)
Requirements for the awarding of CP:	Successful completion of (partial) assignments in each course. For the type of examination see also "Teaching and learning formats and examination forms" in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	Weighted grade point average of the corresponding courses (Seminar 8/12, Practical 4/12)

Module	Module 2 (minor)
Title	Research resources (minor)
Form:	Compulsory module
Frequency:	Winter semester / summer semester
Recommended semester/duration of module:	2 nd – 3 rd semester / one to two semesters
Workload / Credit Points:	300 Hours = 10 CP 1 LS: 2 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Exam Prep./Eval. 1 S: 8 CP = 1 CP Contact-Time + 1 CP Prep./Follow-up + 6 CP Exam Prep./Eval.
Learning Formats	1 Lecture Series 1 Seminar
Course contents:	This module provides the students with methodological knowledge on the research and application of societal and communication-related phenomena and dynamics in the Ibero-American area and the areas in contact with this region. The module consists of a seminar and a lecture series. In the lecture series, the students are introduced to the approaches, methods, and resources involved in area studies. It is held by researchers from Heidelberg University and from partner universities and research institutions. Through this, the students will also become familiar with the methodological approaches of researchers who, as part of the module, illustrate the principles of scientific work on the basis of their own research projects. In addition, the seminar deals with (empirical) research approaches, such as corpus work (creation and analysis), experiment design, statistical evaluation methods, surveys (creation and evaluation), cartography, data management, etc. In addition, central questions and aspects of scientific ethics will be discussed in both courses.
Learning outcomes:	After completing this module, the students are able to methodologically reflect on, process, and develop complex scientific questions. <u>Lecture Series</u> The students will have learned to recognize the variety of applied methods of area studies in scientific work and research results, to understand their application to the specific questions, and, in particular, to reflect critically on them. They are able to exchange ideas with other researchers about their own research projects and those of others. <u>Seminar</u> The students can independently determine an adequate methodological approach for specific questions and combine several methods with one another. Additionally, they are able to support their choice of method scientifically and explain this decision efficiently and comprehensibly and to justify it with arguments. They are able to conduct theoretical-descriptive as well as empirical research. The students are proficient in the rules of good scientific practice, can recognize, analyze, and reflect on them in external research and, in particular, apply them to their own research.
Applicability of the module	This module is part of the MA <i>Communication and Society in Ibero-America</i> (major and minor)

Requirements for the awarding of CP:	Successful completion of (partial) assignments in each course. For the type of examination see also “Teaching and learning formats and examination forms” in this module handbook.
Breakdown of the final grade:	Lecture series pass/fail; The final module grade is the grade for the seminar

6. Sample course of study

Possible course of study and workload (major subject)

Qualification profile 1: Research-oriented profile

Module	First Semester	Second Semester	Third Semester	Fourth Semester
Module 1	Lecture (2 CP)	Seminar (8 CP)		
Module 2	Seminar (8 CP)	Lecture (2 CP)		
Module 3	Seminar (8 CP) Practical (4 CP)			
Module 4	Seminar (8 CP)	Lecture Series (2 CP)		
Module 5a		Seminar (8 CP)	Seminar (8 CP)*	
Module 6		Seminar (8 CP) Tutorial (1 CP)	Seminar (8 CP)*	
Module 7a	e.g. Practical (2 CP)		e.g. Practical (4 CP)*	e.g. Practical (2 CP)
Module 8a		e.g. Practical (2 CP)	e.g. Practical (2 CP)*	
Module 9				Master's Thesis (20 CP) Research Colloquium (2 CP)
Module 10				Final Exam (5 CP)

Mobility Window (Module 8a, 6 CP)

Qualification profile 2: Application-oriented profile

Module	First Semester	Second Semester	Third Semester	Fourth Semester
Module 1	Lecture (2 CP)	Seminar (8 CP)		
Module 2	Seminar (8 CP)	Lecture (2 CP)		
Module 3	Seminar (8 CP) Practical (4 CP)			
Module 4	Seminar (8 CP)	Lecture Series (2 CP)		
Module 5b		Seminar (8 CP)	Seminar (8 CP)*	
Module 6		Seminar (8 CP) Tutorial (1 CP)		
Module 7b	e.g. Practical (2 CP)		e.g. Practical (4 CP)* e.g. Practical (4 CP)*	e.g. Practical (2 CP)
Module 8b		e.g. Practical (2 CP)	e.g. Practical (2 CP)* e.g. Practical (2 CP)*	
Module 9				Master's thesis (20 CP) Research Colloquium (2 CP)
Module 10				Final Exam (5 CP)

Mobility Window (Module 8b, 8 CP)