



SCHOOL OF LANGUAGE AND LITERARY STUDIES

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC EXAMINATION REGULATIONS FOR THE MASTER'S PROGRAM IN "ENGLISH AND AMERICAN STUDIES"

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Section 1 Applicability

¹The Master's program in "English and American Studies" is subject to the provisions of the General Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's programs at Osnabrück University in their up-to-date version. ²These regulations stipulate the further provisions for completing the Master's program in "English and American Studies".

Section 2 Program Aims and Purpose of the Examination

- (1) ¹During the Master's program, students will acquire advanced and extensive knowledge, abilities and methods in English linguistics, literary studies and cultural studies, and increase their proficiency in English as a foreign language. ²Master's graduates will acquire a solid overview of their subject, be capable of engaging in independent academic work, applying academic findings, and broadening their knowledge by accessing new approaches, and understanding the relevance of these to society and professional practice.
- (2) The purpose of the Master's examination is to establish whether the examination candidate has acquired the necessary knowledge and skills to meet the particular requirements of professional practice, has acquired a solid overview of the subject, is able to engage in independent academic work, to apply academic findings and to understand their relevance for society and professional practice.

Section 3 Examination Committee

The examination committee of the School of Language and Literary Studies is responsible for all examination-related issues.

Section 4 University Degree

Upon passing the Master's examination, the examination candidate is awarded the degree of "Master of Arts (M.A.) in "English and American Studies".

Section 5 Program Duration and Structure

¹The Master's program consists of 120 credit points (CP) in accordance with the European Credit Transfer-System (ECTS) and includes a mandatory component consisting of four modules to a total of 36 CP, a required electives component with 30 CP, a free elective component with 16 CP, an internship with 10 CP and a Master's thesis with 20 CP and a colloquium in defense of the Master's thesis worth eight CP.

Identifier	Module Title	Contact Hours	CP	Recom. Semester	Prerequisites
Mandatory Component					
ANG-F-SW	Advanced Graduate Module in Linguistics	4	10	1.-3.	--
ANG-F-LW	Advanced Graduate Module in Literary Studies	4	10	1.-3.	--
ANG-F-KW	Advanced Graduate Module in Cultural Studies	4	10	1.-3.	--

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ANG-PWD	Professional Writing and Discussions	4	6	1.+2.	--
	Total Mandatory Component	16	36		
Required Elective Component					
ANG-F-SP	Specialization and Professionalization	12	30	1.-3.	--
Free Elective Component					
ANG-F-FW	Free Elective Component (specialist Master's)	8-12.	16	1.-3.	--
	Total electives	20-24.	46		
ANG-F-FP	Specialized Internship	--	10	1.-3.	--
ANG-MAF	Master's Thesis for MA	--	20	4.	See § 9 (2)
ANG-F-KOL	Colloquium in Defense of the Master's thesis	--	8	--	ANG-MAF
	Total	36-40.	120	--	--

Section 6 Internship

- (1) During their studies, students are required to undertake a specialized internship.
- (2) The internship is to be undertaken in fields and professions such as journalism, general administration, library administration, archiving and adult education, and grant students
 - an insight into employment contexts in which English plays a critical role,
 - the opportunity to systematically observe and reflect upon professional practice in each particular field of employment,
 - an insight into the specific requirement profile of the profession in which their internship is located.
- (3) ¹As a rule, the internship shall last 300 hours and is worth ten CP. ²Students may undertake their internship at a time of their choosing between their first and fourth semester.
- (4) Students may replace their internship with a course project planned in consultation with a member of the full-time teaching staff.
- (5) ¹Students shall, prior to commencing their internship, present their intended internship to the internship coordinator. ²On the basis of this meeting, the internship coordinator will decide whether the student's intended internship fulfils the basic requirements for accreditation in accordance with subsection 2.
- (6) Completion of the internship shall be confirmed in writing by the relevant organization and/or the internship host.
- (7) ¹Accreditation of the internship will only take place following the submission of a written internship report. ²The internship report shall as a rule be 5-10 pages in length and document the overall circumstances of the internship and the essentials of what the internship entailed. ³The report will also include a review of the student's professional experience acquired during the internship related to the subject-specific expertise and methodical skills they have acquired during their studies.

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- (8) ¹The internship coordinator (and in case of doubt the examination committee) decides whether the internship shall be accredited based on the certification issued by the internship host and the internship report, and whether equivalents (e.g. vocational training, work experience) may be recognized as such. ²Should the decision be taken in favour of accreditation, the student will be issued with a certificate by way of confirmation.
- (9) The internship is not awarded a grade.

Section 7 Study Abroad

¹Students are required to complete a period of study abroad which is relevant to their studies in an English-speaking country. ²The examination committee in the School of Language and Literary Studies may grant exceptions to this stipulation for serious personal reasons upon application by the student. ³Students may undertake a period of study abroad during their Bachelor's or Master's programs and must confirm completion of their stay abroad at the latest prior to receipt of their Master's degree certificate.

Section 8 Form and Content of the Master's Examination

The Master's examination consists of

- the coursework examinations arising from the modules and the individual courses and
- the Master's thesis and its defense in a colloquium (in accordance with Section 10 subsection 5).

Section 9 Admission to the Master's Thesis

- (1) ¹Candidates must submit a written application for admission (registration) to the Master's thesis to the examination committee within the deadline set by the examination committee. ²Registration deadlines set by the examination committee may be extended or retroactively extended if a candidate puts forward reasonable grounds for doing so, especially when it would be unreasonable to allow the legal consequences to come into being that would otherwise arise by allowing the deadline to pass.
- (2) Candidates are admitted to the Master's thesis if they
- have successfully completed modules ANG-F-SW, ANG-F-LW, ANG-F-KW and ANG-PWD and
 - have been enrolled at Osnabrück University in the Master's program in "English and American Studies" for at least one semester before applying for registration to the Master's thesis.
- (3) ¹Candidates must include the following with their application for admission to the Master's thesis:
- documentation showing they have passed the coursework examinations,
 - an enrolment certificate for the semester in which the application for registration is being made,
 - a statement indicating whether they have already failed a Master's examination or parts of any such examination in a program of "English and American Studies" at another university or equivalent higher education institution,
 - proposals for their examiners,
 - the topic of their Bachelor's thesis.

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²If it is not possible for the candidate to submit one of the required documents in the manner set down in accordance with sentence 1, the examination committee may permit the candidate to submit alternative documentation.

- (4) ¹The examination committee decides whether to grant a candidate admission. ²A candidate is refused admission if
- they do not fulfil the admission requirements,
 - their documentation is incomplete or
 - they have already definitively failed a Master's program in "English and American Studies" or an equivalent program at another university or equivalent higher education institution.
- (5) ¹Notification of admission including examination dates as well as refusal of admission take place in accordance with Section 41 of the Administrative Procedure Act (VwVfG). ²Section 23 General Examination Regulations (APO) must be adhered to.
- (6) Candidates may withdraw their admission application up to the point in time at which the topic of the Master's thesis is issued.

Section 10 Master's Thesis and Master's Colloquium

- (1) ¹The Master's thesis demonstrates the candidate's ability to work independently on a problem in one of the three subfields of linguistics, literary studies or cultural studies using scholarly methods and within a prescribed time period. ²The topic of the Master's thesis and the nature of the assignment must comply with the purpose of the examination (Section 2) and the allocated period of time for its completion in accordance with Section 10 subsection 2. ³The kind of task and the nature of the assignment must be defined together with the topic of the thesis.
- (2) ¹Candidates shall submit their thesis no later than 6 months after the examination committee has issued the topic of the Master's thesis. ²The topic may only be handed back once and only within the first third of the period of time allocated for its completion in accordance with sentence 1. ³The Master's thesis must be submitted to the relevant examinations office by the set deadline; the date of submission must be officially recorded and kept on file. ⁴In individual cases and upon justified application, the examination committee may as a rule extend the period of time for completion of the thesis to a maximum gross completion period of nine months.
- (3) As a rule, a Master's thesis consists of 22,000 to 26,000 words.
- (4) When submitting their thesis, the candidate shall confirm in writing that the thesis – or in the case of group work that section of the project that is marked accordingly – has been written by the candidate themselves and that the candidate used no sources or resources other than those cited.
- (5) ¹During the one-hour long colloquium in defense of the Master's thesis, the candidate will demonstrate to two examiners that they are able to present the essential findings of their Master's thesis to an expert audience, locate their findings in the broader research landscape, and defend their findings against objective opposition. ²In addition, the candidate will demonstrate that they have acquired the skills and knowledge taught to them during the Master's program in "English and American Studies" and are familiar with issues surrounding the concepts, categories and methods in the fields of linguistics, literary studies and cultural studies, and have a good command of the English language. ³The colloquium is held in English.

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Section 11 Final Grade of the Master's Examination

- (1) The final grade for the modules ANG-F-SW, ANG-F-LW, ANG-F-KW, ANG-PWD and ANG-F-SP is calculated from the average of the unrounded grades of the modules weighted by credit points.
- (2) The Master's thesis and the colloquium constitute 60% and 40% of the overall grade for the Master's thesis and colloquium respectively.
- (3) The overall final grade consists of the final grade for modules ANG-F-SW, ANG-F-LW, ANG-F-KW, ANG-PWD and ANG-F-SP (see subsection 1) with a weighting of 60%, and the final grade for the Master's thesis and the colloquium, weighted at 40%.

Section 12 Entry into Force, Transitional Provisions

- (1) ¹These examination regulations enter into force on 01.04.2022. ²Students who commenced their studies prior to the entry into force of these examination regulations continue to study under the examination regulations valid on 31.03.2022.
- (2) ¹The previous examination regulations shall ultimately cease to be in force on 30.09.2024. ²Students studying in accordance with subsection 1 sentence 2 automatically become subject to the currently applicable examination regulations as of 01.10.2024. ³In cases of hardship, especially in cases under Section 26 General Examination Regulations [protective regulations governing parental leave], the examination committee may approve the use of the previous examination regulations.

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