

**The following translation of the Course and Examination Regulations for the Master's Program "North American Studies" is not legally binding. The legally binding version is the original "Prüfungsordnung" in German.**

The Department Faculty Committee of the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Cultures has issued the following Course and Examination Regulations on 04 December 2019, in accordance with §44 Clause 1 Hessisches Hochschulgesetz in the version dated 14 Dec., 2009 (GVBl. I No. 22/2009, p.666), last updated on 18 December 2017 (GVBl. I. p.482):

**Course and Examination Regulations for the Master's Program  
"North American Studies"  
to be completed with the degree  
"Master of Arts (M.A.)"  
Philipps-University Marburg  
04 December 2019**

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## **I. General Regulations**

### **§ 1 Field of Application**

The following “Course and Examination Regulations” regulate goals, contents, examinations, and structure of the Master’s Program “North American Studies,” to be completed with a degree of Master of Arts (M.A.). These regulations are based on the General Regulations for M.A. programs (in the following referred to as General Regulations) at the Philipps-University of Marburg, dated 13 September 2010 (official notification Philipps-University Marburg, no. 52/2010).

### **§ 2 Goals of the Program**

The M.A. program “North American Studies” deals with the complex literatures and cultures of North America (USA and Canada), and also with the contacts and connections between North America, the Caribbean, and Latin America and offers an interdisciplinary research-based curriculum. The focus lies on the multifaceted interculturality of those countries. The program includes newly developed and developing transnational methods and disciplines. Supported by modern technology and media, students learn to use this multifaceted spectrum of information in a critical and academic manner. Students acquire a deeper understanding of and gain insight into interdisciplinary work. Students are moreover encouraged to participate in exchange programs in the USA or Canada and to study abroad for one semester in order to comply with the international profile of the program. Alternatively, internships in a North American environment are recommended. By interlocking theory and practice, students will be able to place phenomena of U.S. and Canadian literature, culture and society in historical contexts and reflect critically on them.

Possible Fields of Occupation:

- Research and teaching in the field of North American literary and cultural studies
- Mediating positions in intercultural fields (language instruction as well as cultural mediation)
- Editorial positions (publishing, electronic media, print media, TV)
- Positions in administrative services
- Employment at international institutions (e.g. EU, UNO, embassies)
- Positions in internationally affiliated groups and global trade companies (for example in management, science management and public relations)

### **§ 3 Master’s Degree**

(1) The Master’s degree is completed when all modules of the different study areas, as regulated in § 6, have been successfully completed.

(2) After successful completion of the program in accordance with Clause 1, the Department of Foreign Languages and Cultures will award the student the academic degree “Master of Arts. (M.A.)”

## **II. Study-Related Regulations**

### **§ 4 Admission Requirements**

(1) To fulfill the general admission requirements for the M.A. program, students have to provide evidence of an academically relevant Bachelor’s degree in American

Studies, British Studies, or Anglophone Studies, or a comparable cultural/literary degree with professional qualifications acquired at a German or foreign university. The degree must have been completed in the fields mentioned above, among which 15 ECTS are required to have a focus on North American topics. In case the required focus on North American topics is not apparent in the diploma or transcript of records, the applicant must provide proof in an appropriate manner.

If a diploma including the final grade cannot be handed in before the deadline, enrolling in the university is still possible under the following conditions. If the application is based on a Bachelor's program with a total of 180 CP, the applicant needs to hand in current documentation proving that he or she has fulfilled at least 80% of the total number of credits necessary to enroll for the Master's program. Said proof must also contain an average grade which has been determined on the basis of the graded module examinations and module submodule examinations among the 80% of the credit points required for the Bachelor degree. Provisional enrollment is possible only if all graded examinations and study credits (pass/fail, "Studienleistung") concerning the Bachelor's degree have been completed before the start of the Master's program (deadline: 30 Sept. if the Master's program starts in the winter semester). The final degree must be supplied by the last day of classes in the first semester.

(2) The examination board decides whether the previous program is academically relevant as defined in Clause 1 (§16)

(3) The examination board decides on the comparability of degree programs as defined in Clause 1 (§16).

(4) The examination board (§16) can agree to an enrollment on the condition that additional exams (graded, "Prüfungsleistungen") and/or study credits (pass/fail, "Studienleistungen") of up to 12 CP have to be completed. In this case the period of study may be extended.

(5) The specific entry requirements are: English language proficiency at least on the C1 level, as defined by the "Language Policy Division of the European Council" ("Gemeinsamer europäischer Referenzrahmen für Sprachen" des Europarates).

## **§ 5 Student Advisory Service**

Student Advisory Service is offered by the "Zentrale Allgemeine Studienberatung" (ZAS) at the Philipps-University of Marburg. Academic advisory services are offered by all professors, lecturers, and other personnel during regular office hours.

## **§ 6 Studies: Structure, Content, Schedule of Studies, and Information**

(1) The Master's program "North American Studies" is subdivided into the following areas of study: Basic modules, advanced modules, specialization modules, practical module and final module.

(2) The program consists of modules assigned to the different areas of study in accordance with Clause 1. The following table presents the program's structure including the estimated workload in credit points (CP; "Leistungspunkte" LP) as well as the required elective or compulsory character of the module:

	<i>Compulsory Module [CM] / Required Elective Module [REM]</i>	<i>Credit Points</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<b>Basic Modules</b>		<b>30</b>	
B1: Introduction to North American Studies	CM	12	
B2: Literary Studies	CM	12	
B3: Cultural Studies	CM	6	
<b>Advanced Modules</b>		<b>30</b>	
A1: Theoretical Approaches to North American Studies	CM	12	
A2: Key Concepts in North American Studies	CM	6	
A3: Media in North America	CM	12	
<b>Specialisation Modules</b>		<b>18</b>	
V: Interdisciplinary Studies	CM	12	
Import Module in accordance with appendix 3	REM	6	
<b>Practical Module</b>		<b>12</b>	
P: Practical Skills	CM	12	
<b>Final Module</b>		<b>30</b>	
Master's Thesis and Defense	CM	30	
<b>Total</b>		<b>120</b>	

(3) The Basic Modules serve as an introduction to the contents and methods of *North American Studies*. In addition to an introductory overview, academic writing and language skills will be deepened and introductory modules on literature and cultural studies will be offered.

(4) The Advanced Modules familiarize students with the fundamental theories of North American Studies (American and Canadian Studies) and their application. Central concepts that have shaped North America and the corresponding fields of research are at the center of the observations as well as analyses of North American media diversity.

(5) The Specialisation Modules introduce students to schools and practises of different disciplines which, apart from Literary and Cultural Studies, have shaped the research field of *North American Studies*. The modules aim at developing a consciousness for the interdisciplinary orientation of *North American Studies*.

(6) The Practical Module is intended to give students new insights and perspectives with regard to a further academic or alternative career, to consolidate the knowledge gained up to this point and to serve as preparation for the final thesis.

(7) In the Final Module, students show that, based on a specific research question, they are able to adequately reflect on literary, cultural and other social phenomena of the USA or Canada in written and oral form and to come to substantial results.

(8) The study program is a research-oriented program.

(9) An exemplary modularized timeline of studies is presented in the sample schedule (cf. Appendix. 1).

(10) General regulations and updated information is accessible on the program's website:

<http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb10/studium/studiengaenge/ma-nas>

The module handbook and the sample schedule are also available on the program's website. A list of the program's current import and export modules is also available on the website.

(11) The assignment of individual classes to the program's modules is listed in the course catalogue of the Philipps-University Marburg, which is available on the university's website.

### **§ 7 Standard Period of Study and Start of Studies**

(1) The standard period of study for the Master's program "North American Studies" is four semesters. Based on the Course and Examination Regulations at hand, the department guarantees to provide course offerings that will enable students to complete all of the necessary requirements including the final thesis in order to pass the study program within the prescribed period of study.

(2) Enrollment in the program is only possible in the winter semester.

### **§ 8 Studying Abroad**

(1) A voluntary semester abroad can be integrated into the program without extending the duration of studies. The study period intended for a semester abroad is the third semester. The modules scheduled for this semester (Appendix 1) are particularly suitable for being completed at a foreign university; credits can be transferred and accepted for the program at Philipps-University Marburg. In addition, the internship planned for the 3rd semester can also be completed abroad.

(2) The study abroad service of the department as well as the study abroad service of the Philipps-University provide information on various universities abroad, the subject-specific requirements, as well as opportunities for internships abroad, possibilities of credit transfer, and funding programs.

(3) In preparation for the semester abroad, the students agree on a study contract (the "Learning Agreement") with their department and the partner university abroad. The "Learning Agreement" determines the courses and/or modules that need to be completed during the semester abroad and the number of credit points awarded upon successful completion of a course or module. The students agree to completing the prearranged Learning Agreement as an inherent part of their studies abroad. The acquired credits will then be transferred and accepted by the department. The Learning Agreement is a binding contract for all parties involved. The department can only accept a Learning Agreement if the learning objectives and competences of the courses taken abroad are concordant with those of the master's program. Concordance in regard to content is not required.

(4) At the request of the student and in well-founded exceptional cases, it is possible to allow changes or adjustments in the Learning Agreement in consultation with the

department before and during the stay abroad. The approval of the partner university abroad is required as well.

(5) Deviations from the arrangements made in the Learning Agreement will be allowed retrospectively only if the student cannot be held responsible for them and if the corresponding paper work is submitted.

### **§ 9 Structural Model of Program**

The Master's program "North American Studies" meets the structure of a one-subject course of studies.

### **§ 10 Modules, Credit Points, and Definitions**

The regulations of § 10 General Regulations apply.

### **§ 11 Practical Modules and Profile Modules**

(1) The framework of the Master's program "North American Studies" incorporates an external practical unit (internship) in the area "Practical Module" in accordance with § 6 of the Course and Examination Regulations at hand. If students are unable to find an internship position despite proven efforts (usually ten rejected applications in a suitable occupational field according to § 2), the department will try to help to find a suitable external internship position within a reasonable time frame. If these efforts are unsuccessful as well, another import module or modules in the total amount of 12 CP can replace the external internship.

(2) The regulations of § 11 General Regulations apply to all else.

### **§ 12 Module Registration**

(1) A binding registration for modules and courses is generally required.

(2) The enrollment procedure as well as the enrollment dates in accordance with § 6, Clause 10 will be announced on the program's or department's website in due time. In case of limited capacities concerning the attendance of modules or courses, the allocation of spots will happen under the terms of the Course and Examination Regulations on hand.

### **§ 13 Access to Required Elective Modules or Courses with Limited Numbers of Participants**

(1) The Department Faculty Committee can set a maximum number of admissions for required elective modules, lectures, and seminars in order to ensure well-organized teaching and to guarantee that the educational objectives of the respective class be achieved. Any set maximum number of admissions will be announced in an appropriate manner before the required elective modules or courses start.

(2) Students are not eligible to participation in a required elective module or course with a maximum number of admissions as long as the students can be admitted to an alternative required elective module or course.

(3) If the number of applicants to a required elective module or course exceeds the available capacity of spots, a selection must be made. Lot will decide which applicants are accepted.

Within the scope of available capacity of spots, cases of hardship, especially belonging to priority group 1 in accordance with § 26 Clauses 1 and 2, as well as students with special participation interests (priority group 2) have to be given special consideration during the allocation to courses. The following list provides criteria for a student's special participation interest:

- The required elective module or course is compulsory due to a disciplinary specialization.
- The student's application for the course during the previous semester was declined although the degree plan scheduled this particular required elective module or course for this semester.
- An elective module or course has been failed and the repeated attendance is mandatory for re-examination.

If the available spots do not suffice to consider both priority groups, students within group 1 have priority. The course distribution within the groups will be decided by lot.

#### **§ 14 Use of Modules that Are Eligible for More than One Program of Studies**

(1) The program seeks to integrate modules that comply with the regulations of other programs in content and exam regulations ("import modules"). For further information on import modules, see appendix 3.

(2) Modules offered by the M.A. program "North American Studies" that can be completed by students of other study programs under the regulations of §20 Clause 4 of these Course and Examination Regulations as well as §14 General Regulations.

#### **§ 15 Ungraded Work (pass/ fail, "Studienleistung") and Obligatory Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory for all or certain events of a module, provided this is specified in the module list. Attendance in courses is not considered a course credit ("Studienleistung"); only the physical presence is checked. In this case, however, regular attendance is the prerequisite for admission to the module examination or for the awarding of credit points. Attendance must be recorded in a suitable manner. If attendance is compulsory, which is regulated in the module list, the maximum permissible absence is 20%. In the case of absences exceeding this, the examination board may, in cases of hardship, allow the missed time to be compensated for, for example, by making up for certain credits upon justified request.

In all remaining cases, §15 Clause 1 General Regulations applies.

### **III. Exam-Related Regulations**

#### **§ 16 Examination Board**

(1) The Department Faculty Committee appoints the Examination Board.

(2) Members of the Examination Board:

1. Three professors
2. One academic staff member ("wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiter\*in)
3. One student

A substitute member is to be elected for each member.

(3) § 16 of the General Regulations regulates the term of office, chair, quorum, and further aspects.

## **§ 17 Duties of Examination Board and Examination Office**

§17 of the General Regulations applies.

## **§ 18 Examiners, Co-Examiners/Committee Members**

§18 of the General Regulations applies.

## **§ 19 Transfer of Study Periods, Graded Exams (“Prüfungsleistungen”), and Ungraded Work (“Studienleistungen”)**

(1) Study periods, graded exams (“Prüfungsleistungen”), and study credits (“Studienleistungen”) are generally transferred and credited in accordance with the Lisbon Convention between programs of the treaty’s member states insofar as no substantial differences can be discerned in the competences that the student acquired. Substantial differences mainly concern grave discrepancies in regard to the requirements of the Philipps-University Marburg’s program in areas such as study periods, academic achievements, examinations, work-load, and qualification objectives. The focus here does not lie on a structural comparison but on an overall assessment, especially considering accomplished qualification objectives.

The transfer of credits follows a reversal of evidence. If the university fails to prove substantial discrepancies, study periods, academic achievements, and examination credits will be transferred.

The applicant is obligated to provide sufficient information in this matter (duty to inform).

(2) In all remaining cases (university transfer from a non-member state), study periods, graded exams (“Prüfungsleistungen”), and study credits (“Studienleistungen”) will be transferred and credited by the Philipps-University Marburg if equivalent. Equivalence means that the qualification objectives and requirements regarding academic achievements and examinations are comparable to the program offered by the Philipps-University Marburg. Otherwise Clause 1 Sentence 3 applies.

(3) Clause (1) in accordance with § 54 Clause 5 HHG applies to graded exams (“Prüfungsleistungen”) and ungraded exam (pass/fail, “Studienleistungen”) gained within state-approved distance learning programs, multimedia-supported study credits (pass/fail, “Studienleistungen”), and graded exams (“Prüfungsleistungen”) as well as study credits (pass/fail, “Studienleistungen”) and graded exams (“Prüfungsleistungen”) achieved by participants in an “Early Study” program. The same applies to the period of studies, study credits (pass/fail, “Studienleistungen”), and graded exams (“Prüfungsleistungen”) in exams at other educational institutions, especially in state or state-approved universities of cooperative education. Documented competences that are equivalent, but have been acquired outside the university field, can only account for half of the credit points that need to be acquired during the course of the study program.

(4) If ungraded work (pass/fail, “Studienleistungen”) and graded exams (“Prüfungsleistungen”) are equivalent and therefore credited, the grades are transferred and included in the final grade in accordance with §28. The credited academic achievements will be awarded with the proper amount of credits foreseen by the Course and Examinations Regulations. If grading systems are incommensurable,

the course will be registered as “passed.” Transferred and credited achievements appear in the diploma as well as in the transcript of records.

(5) The applicant must supply the examination board with the required documents. The documents must list the awarded number of credits, grade and examination date of all previously taken examinations in another study program or at a different university. Failed examinations or ungraded work (pass/fail, “Studienleistungen”), which were not retaken, are also to be listed.

(6) Examinations that were failed at another university are taken into account as long as they would have been credited in the case of passing the exam.

(7) If the prerequisites mentioned in Clauses 1 and 2 in connection with Clause 4 are fulfilled, the applicant possesses a legal claim to have credits transferred. The transfer of study periods, ungraded work (pass/fail, “Studienleistungen”), and graded exams (“Prüfungsleistungen”) acquired in Germany is effected ex officio.

(8) The process of crediting academic achievements may involve obligating the applicant to take additional examinations or achieve additional ungraded work (pass/fail, “Studienleistungen”) in order to have credits transferred. Requirements regarding the crediting process as well as their due date must be submitted to the applicant in written form.

## **§ 20 List of Modules, Import and Export Module List, and Module Handbook**

(1) The modules that must be completed during the course of studies are summarized in the list of modules (appendix 2) as well as in the list of import modules (appendix 3). In addition to §6, these lists provide information regarding type of module, assignment to the different fields of study, elective options between and within modules, module participation prerequisites, assigned number of credits, form of examination, assessment, and aspired competence objectives.

(2) The range of offered import modules is under the proviso that instructors may undertake alterations (especially due to accreditations). In this case an alteration of the Course and Examination Regulations is not necessary. Alterations of this sort will be published on the program-related website in due time. Furthermore, the examination board can determine the recognition of additional modules as import modules in well-founded cases or as a general regulation, provided that the department or institution offering the module agrees.

(3) Further information containing detailed module descriptions as well as the current offer of import modules is available in the module handbook and on the program-related website.

(4) The export modules are listed in Appendix 4.

## **§ 21 Graded Examinations**

The regulations of §21 of the General Regulations apply.

## **§ 22 Types of Graded Examinations**

(1) Assessment will be based on

- exams
- term papers
- portfolios
- projects
- written internship record
- master's thesis

(2) Oral exams are carried out in the form of

- individual exams
- thesis defense

(3) Term papers, portfolios, projects and internship reports should amount to an average work period of two weeks (in the sense of an examination period), although a larger time span is generally provided to complete the work.

(4) Further aspects are regulated by §22 of the General Regulations.

### **§ 23 Master's Thesis**

(1) The final paper (master's thesis) is an obligatory component of the program. In combination with the oral defense, the thesis constitutes the final module. The master's thesis is to be written in English.

(2) In the master's thesis, the candidate is to show that they are able to develop a well-defined academic argument in independent study in the field of North American Studies and that they have to complete this task within a given time-frame. Candidates are to demonstrate that they

- have mastered the techniques of academic work,
- are proficient in the form and structure of academic reasoning,
- can develop scholarly problems theoretically and methodically in accordance with the current state of research,
- are able to comprehend new fields of knowledge without instruction and to intellectually develop critical perspectives.

The master's thesis accounts for 24 CP. The thesis defense accounts for 6 CP in the final module.

(3) The master's thesis has to be prepared as an individual work.

(4) Students must have successfully completed at least 60 CP in the other modules of the program to be admitted to the master's thesis.

(5) The candidate proposes a supervisor and an authorized examiner as primary examiner for the thesis. The candidate may propose a second supervisor also. Supervisor and primary examiner may be the same person. However, the proposals are not binding. The primary examiner is appointed by the Examination Board. The topic of the master's thesis is presented to the Examination Board by the primary examiner and thereafter announced to the candidate by the Examination Board. Should the candidate be unable to find a supervisor or primary examiner, the chair of

the examination board appoints a supervisor and primary examiner and guarantees that a thesis topic will be handed out in due time.

(6) The master's thesis has to be completed within a time period of 5 months. The topic has to be designed in a way that allows the candidate to complete it within the given time. The deadline may be extended by a maximum of 20% (e.g., due to unforeseen difficulties in literature and data research) based on a justified request. This does not lead to an awarding of additional credit points. The time period, within which the thesis has to be completed, begins at the moment the topic is given to the student and has to be put on records. The announcement of the topic should occur at a moment early enough to ensure that, in the case of a granted extension, the total period of study must not be extended.

(7) The master's thesis is to be submitted to the examination board or to the otherwise appointed authority in the form of 2 printed copies as well as in a digital format that follows the examination board's specifications. The submission date is to be recorded. Upon submission, the candidate must confirm in writing that he or she completed the work independently and utilized no sources or aid other than those indicated. Should the master's thesis not be submitted by the deadline, it will count as "insufficient" (0 points) in accordance with § 28 Clause 2 General Regulations.

(8) The master's thesis will be failed if the overall assessment does not total up to at least 5 points ("sufficient") in accordance with § 28 Clause 2 General Regulations; the thesis may be repeated one time. The defense of the Master's thesis may also be repeated one time. The examination board ensures that the candidate obtains a new topic within 6 weeks of having been given notice of his or her failure. If the candidate has not already done so on the first attempt, the topic may be returned by the deadline set by Clause 7 Sentence 1 General Regulations. A third attempt is not permitted.

(9) If the student fails the master's thesis, he or she may not use other grades to compensate the failed grade. Grade compensation is likewise not permitted for the master's thesis defense.

(10) Regulations of § 23 of the General Regulations apply to all else.

## **§ 24 Examination Dates and Registration for Exams**

(1) The examination board announces the timeframes for examinations and repeat examinations in the course catalog. Dates for written exams and other examinations are likewise announced, and these dates apply to all module participants. Examination dates that have to be arranged individually (e.g., reports) are indicated with "n.V (nach Vereinbarung)" in the course catalog.

(2) Examinations take place either within the course of the module or directly after its conclusion. Those examinations administered at the conclusion of the module generally take place within two to three weeks of the end of the semester, or are offered at some point in the semester break. As a general rule, written examinations in the form of tests take place on the same day and at the same time as the lecture or seminar takes place. The instructor can schedule assignments (e.g., papers) also during the semester break.

(3) If the first attempt at retaking a test results in a passing grade, the student's participation in the following semester is guaranteed.

(4) Students must register for the examinations in order to participate in them. The examination board announces the registration process and deadlines at least 4 weeks before the registration time period begins. Admittance to examinations is withheld if the registration deadlines are not adhered to or if admission requirements are not fulfilled.

(5) Binding registration for examinations can be withdrawn by the applicant without specifying as to the reasons, provided that this occurs within the deadlines designated by the examination board. Deadlines for the deregistration process are provided together with the corresponding regulations for the registration process.

### **§ 25 Submission Deadlines for Graded and Ungraded Assignments ("Prüfungsleistungen" and "Studienleistungen")**

There are no pre-set deadlines for assignments; deadlines are determined by the instructors.

### **§ 26 Family Support and Disadvantage Compensation**

(1) Consideration is to be shown in university courses and examinations for those who are pregnant and/or raising children, for those supporting family members, and for those students with disabilities or chronic diseases. It is the responsibility of the student to demonstrate the type and severity of the encumbrance to the person(s) in charge of the university function or examination (in most cases, the instructor) with appropriate documents and in a timely manner. In case of doubt and upon written request, the examination board will have the final decision. In case of illness, the examination board may request a physician's written confirmation. It is possible to utilize laws pertaining to maternity and parental protection periods.

(2) If a student makes plausible that he or she is not capable of completing assignments fully or partially in the scheduled form and time, and this is due to disability, chronic disease, supporting a family member in need of care, pregnancy, or raising children, then the examination board will make certain compensations (e.g., due date extensions, rescheduling tests, etc.).

(3) Provided that the examination regulation assignment deadlines are in accordance with § 25, then upon request, the deadlines will be extended in regards to maternity and parental protection periods. Furthermore, extensions on assignment deadlines can be granted when proven encumbrances in accordance with Clause 1 are present.

### **§ 27 Unexcused Absence, Withdrawal, Conceit, Infringement of Guidelines**

(1) Graded work ("Prüfungsleistung") counts as "insufficient" (0 points) in accordance with § 28 Clause 2 General Regulations if the candidate misses an examination without a valid reason or if the student withdraws from an examination that he or she had signed up for. The same applies if graded work (Prüfungsleistung) is not turned in on time.

(2) The reason for absence or withdrawal must be provided immediately in written form, and these claims have to be substantiated. In the case of illness, a physician's written

confirmation has to be submitted. If parts of the assignment have already been fulfilled, the results have to be counted toward the final grade.

(3) Should the candidate attempt to influence his or her graded work ("Prüfungsleistung") results by cheating or by other unauthorized means, then the respective graded work ("Prüfungsleistung") will count as "insufficient" (0 points) in accordance with § 28 Clause 2 General Regulations. The candidate that disrupts the examination procedure may be dismissed from the test by the instructor or supervisor in charge of administering the exam; in this case the test counts as "insufficient" (0 points) in accordance with § 28 Clause 2 General Regulations. In severe cases, the examination board may bar the candidate from further tests, such that the right to retake tests in the course of study is terminated.

(4) The candidate must be informed about decisions in accordance with Clauses 1 through 3 immediately and in written form, with justification for the reason as well as information on the candidate's statutory rights.

### **§ 28 Evaluation and Grading Procedure**

(1) Deviating from § 28 Clause 2 General Regulations, the module "Practical Skills" will not be graded with points.

(2) The overall assessment in points of the Master's examination (final Master's grade) in accordance with Column (a) in the chart in § 28 Clause 6 General Regulations is calculated by taking the average of all the module grades. Ungraded modules (modules not graded with points) are not taken into account.

(3) Regulations of § 28 of the General Regulations apply to all else.

### **§ 29 Free Attempt**

There are no free attempts at examinations.

### **§ 30 Repeat Exams**

(1) Exams that have been passed cannot be retaken.

(2) Failed exams may be retaken twice.

(3) Students may change their compulsory module once if they have exhausted the permitted number of attempts at passing.

(4) § 23 Clause 8 Sentences 1 and 2 (Master Thesis and Defense) as well as § 21 Clause 3 Sentence 3 of the General Regulations (partial module exams that balance each other out) remain unaffected.

### **§ 31 Revocation of Right to Examination and Failure to Complete Studies**

(1) The student's right to examination in the course of study for which he or she is enrolled will be revoked specifically when:

1. All repeat attempts of an examination have been exhausted, unless it concerns an examination in a module in accordance with § 30 Clause 3.
2. A severe case of cheating in accordance with § 27 Clause 3 Sentence 3 is present.

(2) Notice will be given to the student regarding his or her failure to complete studies and the associated revocation of the right to examination. Provided with this notice is information on legal remedies.

**§ 32 Invalidity of Exams**

Regulations in accordance with § 32 of the General Regulations apply.

**§ 33 Diploma**

Regulations in accordance with § 33 of the General Regulations apply.

**§ 34 Certificate**

Regulations in accordance with § 34 of the General Regulations apply.

**§ 35 Diploma Supplement**

Regulations in accordance with § 35 of the General Regulations apply.

**§ 36 Transcript of Records and Complete Record of Achievements**

Regulations in accordance with § 36 of the General Regulations apply.

**IV. Final Provisions**

**§ 37 Access to Examination Documents**

Regulations in accordance with § 37 General Regulations apply.

**§ 38 Coming into Effect and Transitional Provisions**

(1) This examination regulation takes effect the day after it has been published in the university's official notifications. At that point, the examination regulations for the course of study "North American Studies" with the degree "Master of Arts" (M.A.) that were published on 06 March 2014 (official notification 18/2014) will no longer apply.

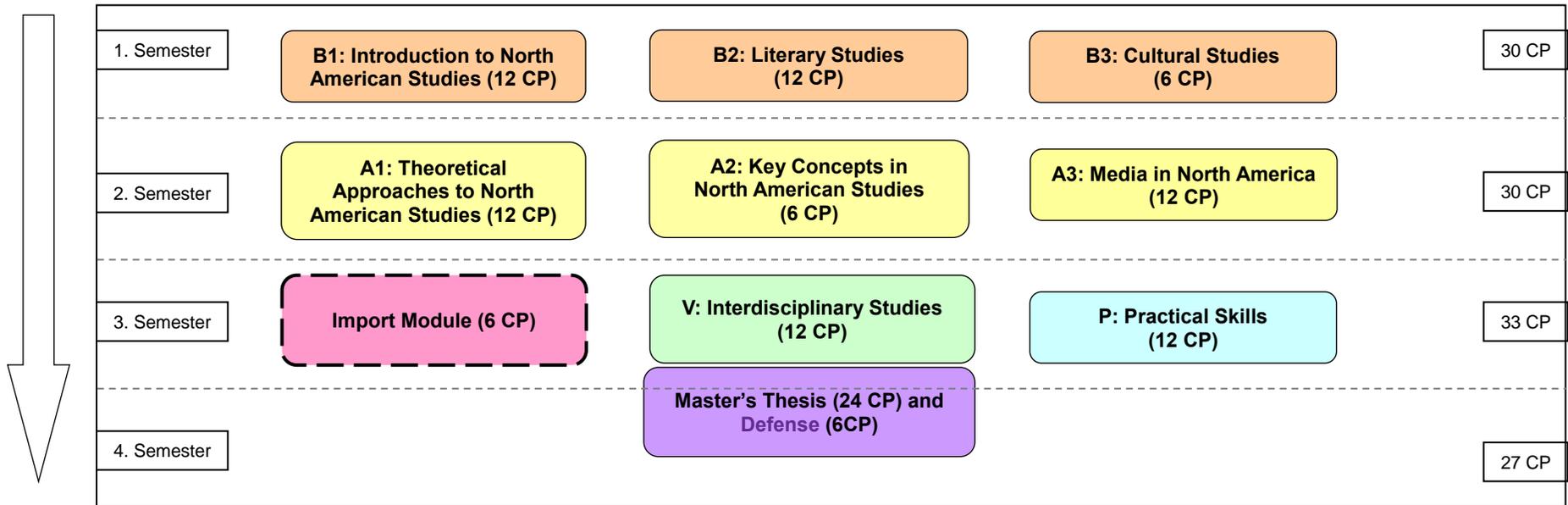
(2) These examination regulations apply to all students starting their course of studies in the winter semester of 2020/2021.

(3) Students who started their course of study before the 2014/2015 examination regulations took effect can take their final master's examination in accordance with the examination regulations published on 06 March 2014 by the summer semester of 2025. During the course of the transitional period, the examination board is entitled to issue regulations to promote a voluntary transition to the 2014/2015 examination regulation. The transition to the 2014/2015 examination regulation requires a written application and is irreversible.

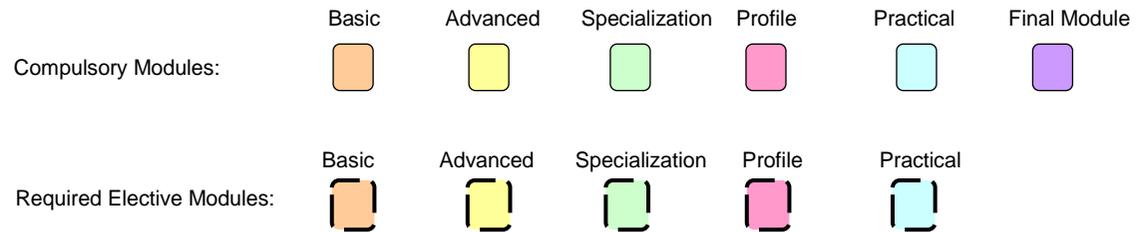
Marburg, 29.01.2020  
signed

Prof. Dr. Carmen Birkle  
Dean of the Department of Foreign Literatures and Cultures  
of Philipps-University Marburg

## Appendix 1: Sample Schedule



### Key



## Appendix 2: List of Modules

<b>Module Item</b>  <i>(The module abbreviations serve structuring purposes and are not part of the official module item's title)</i>	<b>CP</b>	<b>Compulsory or Required Elective</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Qualification Goals</b>	<b>Requirements for Participation</b>	<b>Requirements for Receiving Credit Points</b>
<b>B1: Introduction to North American Studies</b>	<b>12 CP</b>	Compulsory Module	Basic Module	<p>This module introduces students to the scholarly work of American Studies. It also offers the opportunity to examine students' language skills with the help of free language tests and to improve and consolidate them in a targeted manner for the addressee.</p> <p>Students command the basic principles of academic work as a basis for their further studies. They are also able to place their practical language skills and improve them independently.</p>	No prerequisites	<p><b>Obligatory Attendance for the Entire Module</b></p> <p><b>Ungraded Work (Pass/Fail; "Studienleistung"):</b> Portfolio and 2 language tests</p> <p><b>Module Examination:</b> Exam (90 min.)</p>
<b>B2: Literary Studies</b>	<b>12 CP</b>	Compulsory Module	Basic Module	<p>After completion of the module, students are able to apply working techniques of literary analysis based on the fundamentals acquired in the bachelor's program and to independently produce texts on this basis. They are able to relate the national literatures of the USA and Canada in a historical, comparative, integrative and contrastive way and to critically question concepts such as nation, culture, ethnicity, environment, social class and gender on the basis of literature.</p>	No prerequisites	<p><b>Ungraded Work (Pass/Fail; "Studienleistung"):</b> Oral presentation or minutes</p> <p><b>Graded Examination:</b> Oral Exam (max. 30 mins.)</p>
<b>B3: Cultural Studies</b>	<b>6 CP</b>	Compulsory Module	Basic Module	<p>After completion of the module, students will be able to apply the methods introduced for the observation and analysis of various cultural phenomena (e.g., film, art, music, performance, architecture, sport and movement, clothing, body art, digital media, etc.) in the context of a</p>	No prerequisites	<p><b>Obligatory Attendance for the Entire Module</b></p> <p><b>Ungraded Work (Pass/Fail; "Studienleistung"):</b> Presentation or minutes</p>

				differentiated approach to the concept of culture. They are able to reflect on the ways in which the concept of culture has changed through history and theory.		<b>Module Examination:</b> Term Paper (4,000-5,000 words)
<b>A1: Theoretical Approaches to North American Studies</b>	<b>12 CP</b>	Compulsory Module	Advanced Module	After completing the module, students are able to describe complex cultural theories, apply them to examples, and discuss them.	No prerequisites	<b>Ungraded Work (Pass/Fail; "Studienleistung"):</b> Oral presentation or minutes <b>Module Examination:</b> Exam (90 min.)
<b>A2: Key Concepts in North American Studies</b>	<b>6 CP</b>	Compulsory Module	Advanced Module	After completion of the module, students will be able to describe selected aspects of North American cultures and their development in a general manner and discuss them in terms of central categories such as ethnicity, gender, class, sexuality and nation, as well as concepts of the American Dream, American exceptionalism, manifest destiny and Westward movement.  Students can analyze central phenomena and concepts of North American societies and histories from a historical perspective and recognize their relevance for the present.	No prerequisites	<b>Ungraded Work (Pass/Fail; "Studienleistung"):</b> Presentation <b>Module Examination:</b> Portfolio (4,000 – 5,000 words)
<b>A3: Media in North America</b>	<b>12 CP</b>	Compulsory Module	Advanced Module	With the help of methods from cultural studies, the focus will primarily lie on the significance of North America's media diversity and its relevance for historical, cultural, social, and political developments.  Students will become aware of the cultural significance and diversity of traditional and new media in both historical and theoretical contexts and will be able to question them. They develop a media-critical awareness within the framework of North American Studies.	No prerequisites	<b>Ungraded Work (Pass/Fail; "Studienleistung"):</b> Presentation or minutes <b>Module Examination:</b> Term Paper (6,000-7,000 words)
<b>V: Interdisciplinary Studies</b>	<b>12 CP</b>	Compulsory Module	Specialization Module	After completing the module, students are able to actively experience the interdisciplinary nature of the field of North American Studies. They have	No prerequisites	<b>Ungraded Work (Pass/Fail; "Studienleistung"):</b> Presentation

				<p>developed an awareness of the fact that scholarly questions are complex and that they can be viewed in their complexity in trans- or interdisciplinary manners.</p> <p>They have learned to independently develop academic, interdisciplinary questions that are relevant to the field of North American Studies and to actively conduct trans- or interdisciplinary research in their work.</p>		<p><b>Module Examination:</b> Project: (6,000-7,000 words)</p>
<b>P: Practical Skills</b>	<b>12 CP</b>	Compulsory Module	Practical Module	<p>The internship as a student project is to be based on the understanding of <i>Service Learning</i>. Prior to the start of the internship, goals, contents, expectations, and contexts should be reflected upon and linked with knowledge about the people and locations involved. The choice of the specific internship should be related to the student's own personality in order to clarify its relevance for the future. During the internship, these considerations will be continually addressed in a blog so that they can be included in the final report after the completion of the internship.</p>	No prerequisites	<p><b>Ungraded Module</b></p> <p><b>Ungraded Work (Pass/Fail; "Studienleistung"):</b> Presentation in colloquium</p> <p><b>Module Examination:</b> Internship Report (5,000 words)</p>
<b>Master's Thesis and Defense</b>	<b>30 CP</b>	Compulsory Module	Final Module	<p>The Master's thesis is an examination paper or an independent project in which the student will demonstrate the ability to work on a problem from the study program's subject matter in an independent and scholarly manner and within a specified amount of time.</p> <p>In the oral examination, students should be able to discuss the thesis as well as present its relevance in the larger context of North American Studies.</p>	The students must have completed at least 60 CP.	<p><b>Module Examination Components:</b></p> <p><b>Master's Thesis</b> (24 CP): 25,000-30,000 words (60-70 Pages)</p> <p><b>Oral Defense</b> (6 CP): 60 min.</p>

## **Appendix 3: List of Import Modules**

In the “Import Module”, students enrolled in the Master's degree program “North American Studies” acquire additional and broader scholarly knowledge. Students can additionally develop their interdisciplinary professional profile through course offerings from at least one further discipline which provides relevant theoretical and empirical knowledge from a related field of study. This import consists of 6 CP which can be selected from modules of the import-export agreements. If a module with a higher CP number is completed, only 6 CP can be recognized.

At the resolution of these Examination Regulations, students can choose to transfer (import) modules from the below-mentioned range of courses. General Regulations from §14 Clause 1 General Provisions apply to these modules and the corresponding course of study that applies to the “imported” module (especially concerning qualification goals, prerequisites, credit points, and examination modalities). If necessary, the compatibility of the modules is to be determined by the professor(s) in charge of the module(s) in question.

The examination board is entitled to alter or expand the catalog of the eligible range of studies when the range of courses of studies offered by the faculties of the university changes. Such alterations are published on the website on the respective course of study. The implementation of the range of courses mentioned below may require (in general or in individual cases) interaction with study guidance and a binding registration. In case of limited capacities for certain modules, the corresponding Examination Regulations are to be consulted.

It is by no means guaranteed that the below-mentioned range of courses is offered each semester. In case of substantiated claims, imports from further modules can be permitted; this requires the approval from the department offering the particular module.

**The current import offerings are available on the website of the department offering the module.**

**Students should take advantage of the relevant information and consulting services offered by the department offering the module before beginning the study program.**

**Any prerequisites for participation or recommendations for participation as well as combination regulations must be adhered to. If the module provider has specified combination regulations and has created export packages, only a limited number of modules are available, depending on the scope of the import window.**

At the time of its most recent resolution, the Department Faculty Committee agreed on the following modules concerning the examination regulation at hand:

<b>Suitable for the Import Module</b>	<b>Required Elective Modules for Specialization</b>
<b>Offer from Study Program (Teaching Unit)</b>	<b>Title of Module</b>
B.Sc. Intercultural Business Studies (FB02)	All export modules of the exporting study program.
M.A. Peace and Conflict Studies (International Joint Degree) (FB03)	All export modules of the exporting study program.
B.A. German Studies and Literature (FB09)	All export modules of the exporting study program.
M.A. German Literature (FB09)	All export modules of the exporting study program.
M.A. Media and Cultural Praxis (FB09)	All export modules of the exporting study program.
M.A. Concepts of Fine Arts (FB09)	All export modules of the exporting study program.
M.A. Modern Arabic Society, Politics, and Culture	All export modules of the exporting study program.
Center for Gender Studies and Feminist Future Studies	All modules of the study program.

## Appendix 4: Export Modules

The following modules can also be completed within other programs, as long as this is agreed upon in the department(s) for which these modules are available. All modules are freely selectable.

<b>Module Name</b>
<b>Module B1: Introduction to North American Studies (12 CP)</b>
<b>Module B2: Literary Studies (12 CP)</b>
<b>Module B3: Cultural Studies (6 CP)</b>
<b>Module A1: Theoretical Approaches to North American Studies (12 CP)</b>
<b>Module A2: Key Concepts in North American Studies (6 CP)</b>

The listing displays the courses offered for export available at the time of the resolution of these Examination Regulations. The examination board can change or expand the catalog of export offers if the courses offered for export themselves change. The examination board will announce the type of change on the website of the study program.