

Unofficial translation of the Degree Program and Examination Regulations
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The Departmental Council of the Department of Social Sciences and Philosophy at Philipps-Universität Marburg adopted the following degree program and examination regulations on January 29, 2025 in accordance with § 50 (1) of the Hessian Higher Education Act (HessHG) in the version dated December 14, 2021 (GVBl. 2021, p. 931), last amended by Article 1 of the Act dated October 10, 2024 (GVBl. 2024 No. 56):

Degree program and examination regulations
for the degree program

***„International Political and Social Science
Research“***

leading to the degree
„Master of Arts (M.A.)“

Philipps-Universität Marburg

January 29, 2025

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I. General information

§ 1 Scope of application

In addition to the General Regulations for master's degree programs at Philipps-Universität Marburg dated 13 September 2010 (Amtliche Mitteilungen der Philipps-Universität Marburg, No. 52/2010) in the currently valid version - hereinafter referred to as the General Regulations - these degree program and examination regulations govern the objectives, content, structure and organization of the degree program as well as the requirements and procedures for examinations in the degree program "International Political and Social Science Research" leading to the degree "Master of Arts (M.A.)".

§ 2 Goals of the degree program

The Master of Arts "International Political and Social Science Research" offers comprehensive training in the analysis of political and social phenomena on the basis of solid methodological knowledge. The research-oriented degree program extends over four semesters and combines theoretical in-depth study with practice-oriented research. It systematically prepares students for a career with high analytical demands. Graduates are qualified for demanding positions in national and international public institutions and civil society organizations, social science research institutions, science management, political consulting, and the media. The degree program also prepares students for a doctorate and a further academic career.

The "International Political and Social Science Research" degree program offers a sound education in social science research methods and provides students with the ability to carry out independent research projects on social and political issues. The program is aimed at applicants with basic prior knowledge of descriptive and inferential statistics as well as research designs, data collection and the analysis of qualitative and quantitative data.

Starting with a tool kit for research methods, the degree program gradually introduces students to a differentiated range of methods. The focus is on quantitative and qualitative research designs, supplemented by specific methods such as statistical analyses, data visualizations, and qualitative discourse analyses.

In terms of content, the degree program combines methodological training with three thematic areas that deal with central social and political issues: 1. Inequality and Diversity - causes and consequences of social and political inequality, 2. Digital Societies - the effects of digitalization on society and politics, and 3. International Politics and Conflict - dynamics of international and local conflicts as well as challenges of global politics.

The degree program is research-oriented throughout and combines individual and collaborative research work. The program enables graduates to analyze complex issues in a systematic, empirically sound and theoretically reflected manner. By emphasizing

independent research projects, the degree program offers ideal preparation for a doctorate and lays the foundation for a further academic career.

§ 3 Master's degree

- (1) The master's examination is passed if all modules specified in § 6 have been successfully completed.
- (2) Upon successful completion of the degree program in accordance with (1), the Department of Social Sciences and Philosophy shall award the academic degree "Master of Arts (M.A.)".

II. Program-related provisions

§ 4 Admission requirements

- (1) The general admission requirement for the master's degree program is proof of a relevant Bachelor's degree in the field of social sciences or proof of a comparable domestic or foreign professionally qualifying university degree with an overall grade of at least 2.7. Proof must be provided that at least 10 credit points have been acquired in the field of social science methods, of which at least 5 credit points must be in the field of quantitative methods and/or statistics.

If no degree certificate with an overall grade is available by the application deadline, enrollment may be conditional. In the case of an underlying Bachelor's degree program with a scope of 180 credit points, the prerequisite is that proof of passed module examinations or partial module examinations amounting to at least 80% of the credit points required for the Bachelor's degree in question is provided. The proof must contain an average grade determined on the basis of the graded module examinations and partial module examinations within the scope of the 80% of the credit points required for the Bachelor's degree. Enrollment can only take place subject to the proviso that all coursework and examinations for the Bachelor's degree have been completed before the start of the master's degree program (deadline 30.09. for the start of the master's degree program in the winter semester) and proof of the degree certificate is provided by the end of the lecture period of the first semester.

- (2) The question of relevance of the previous studies within the meaning of (1) is decided by the examination committee (§ 16).
- (3) The examination committee (§ 16) also decides on the existence of the required credit points in accordance with (1).
- (4) The question of the comparability of the university degree within the meaning of (1) shall be decided by the examination committee (§ 16)

(5) In addition, sufficient knowledge of English (level at least C1 according to the "Common European Framework of Reference for Languages") must be demonstrated, as the degree program is taught exclusively in English.

(6) In addition to the general admission requirements for the degree program, participation in individual modules or module parts may be made dependent on the fulfillment of specific module admission requirements. In this case, the prerequisites are listed in the module list (Appendix 2) under "Prerequisites for participation".

(7) Particularly high-performing Bachelor's students may be permitted to complete modules from this consecutive master's degree program subject to available capacity. Up to two modules from the master's degree program amounting to a maximum of 12 LP can be recognized. The work completed must be recognized in the master's degree program upon application and submission of appropriate evidence.

§ 5 Academic advising

General academic advising is provided by the Central Student Counseling office (*Zentrale Allgemeine Studienberatung, ZAS*) of Philipps-Universität Marburg. Subject-specific academic advising is usually provided by the professors or by authorized persons.

§ 6 Degree program: structure, content, degree program curriculum and information

(1) The master's degree program "International Political and Social Science Research" is divided into the study areas Research Methods, Research Fields, Research Internship, Master Thesis.

(2) The degree program consists of modules that are assigned to the various study areas in accordance with (1). The following program structure results from the assignment of the modules, the degree to which they are compulsory and the calculated student workload in credit points (*Leistungspunkte, LP*):

	Compulsory [PF] / Compulsory elective [WP]	Credit points	Comment
Research Methods		24	
<i>Tool-Kit for Research</i>	PF	12	
<i>Methods I</i>	PF	6	
<i>Methods II</i>	PF	6	
Research Fields		60	
<i>Researching Inequality and Diversity</i>	WP	12	
<i>Researching Digital Societies</i>	WP	12	

<i>Researching International Politics and Conflict</i>	<i>WP</i>	12	<i>at least 2 of these 3</i>
<i>Research Project I</i>	<i>PF</i>	12	
<i>Research Project II</i>	<i>PF</i>	12	
<i>Profile Module(s)*</i>	<i>WP</i>	2 x 6 or 1 x 12	
<i>International Political and Social Science Research - study abroad I</i>	<i>WP</i>	6	
<i>International Political and Social Science Research - study abroad II</i>	<i>WP</i>	6	
<i>International Political and Social Science Research - study abroad III</i>	<i>WP</i>	6	
<i>International Political and Social Science Research - study abroad IV</i>	<i>WP</i>	6	
Research Internship		12	
<i>Research Internship</i>	<i>PF</i>	12	
Master Thesis		24	
<i>Master Thesis</i>	PF	24	
Total		120	

* Import module according to Appendix 3: Import module list

(3) In the Research Methods study area, the methods modules serve to teach specific scientific methods that are used in the research fields and as part of the master's thesis: They should enable students to translate questions into research designs and reflect on the application potential of advanced methods.

(4) The Research Fields study area serves to develop a profile, deepen the student's own subject knowledge, prepare the master's thesis and round off the degree program in an interdisciplinary/international manner. The modules of the compulsory elective area provide for an in-depth examination of central problem areas of the social sciences in the 21st century. In order to strengthen students' analytical skills and to enable them to approach relevant fields of research, two modules must also be completed as project work (Research Project), in which the application of advanced methods of empirical social research is practiced.

(5) The Research Internship study area serves to deepen the practical knowledge and skills acquired by applying them in the planning and implementation of research projects. Students develop their teamwork and project management skills and learn about a wide range of applications in social and political science research.

(6) The degree program is more research-oriented.

(7) The exemplary sequence of the modularized degree program is shown in the degree program curriculum (see Appendix 1).

(8) General information and regulations in their current form can be found on the program-related website at <http://www.uni-marburg.de/info-m-ipssr>. In particular, the module handbook and the degree program curriculum can also be viewed there. Furthermore, a list of the current import and export offers of the degree program is published.

(9) The assignment of the individual courses to the modules of the degree program can be found in the course catalog of Philipps-Universität Marburg, which is available on the university's website.

§ 7 General standard program duration, promotion of excellence and start of studies

(1) The general standard program duration for the master's degree program "International Political and Social Science Research" is 4 semesters. On the basis of these degree program and examination regulations, the department shall ensure a range of courses that enables students to complete all the coursework required to pass the degree program, including the completion of the thesis, within the general standard program duration.

(2) Students may only begin their studies in the winter semester.

§ 8 Study abroad

(1) A voluntary study abroad period of one semester can be integrated into the course of study without extending the program duration. The period of the third semester is intended for this purpose. The modules planned for this period in accordance with the degree program curriculum (Appendix 1) are particularly well suited to being completed at foreign universities and recognized for studies at Philipps-Universität Marburg.

(2) Advice on various target universities and internship opportunities abroad, subject requirements, recognition options and funding opportunities is provided by the department's study abroad advisory service and the offices responsible for study abroad at Philipps-Universität Marburg.

(3) Students shall complete a learning agreement with their department and the host university abroad prior to their stay abroad. Such a learning agreement must specify the study program to be completed abroad and the credit points to be awarded upon successful completion of a module or course. Students agree to complete the agreed study program at the host university as an integral part of their studies, and the department recognizes the credits earned. The learning agreement is binding for all parties involved. The decisive factor for the degree of a learning agreement is that the intended learning outcomes and competences largely coincide. It is not necessary for the content to match.

(4) In justified exceptional cases, the learning agreement can be amended or adapted before and during the stay abroad at the request of the student with the consent of the department. The consent of the host university abroad is required.

(5) Deviations from the provisions made in the Learning Agreement are only permitted retrospectively if the student is not responsible for them and appropriate documentation is submitted.

§ 9 Structural variant of the degree program

The master's degree program "International Political and Social Science Research" corresponds to the structural variant of a "single-subject degree program".

§ 10 Modules and credit points

The provisions of § 10 General Regulations apply.

§ 11 Practical modules and profile modules

(1) The degree program "International Political and Social Science Research" does not include an internal practical module in accordance with § 6 of these degree program and examination regulations.

(2) As part of the degree program "International Political and Social Science Research", an external practical module (WP) is provided in the Research Internship area of study in accordance with § 6 of these degree program and examination regulations

If students are unable to find an internship despite their best efforts, an external internship must be replaced by the module not yet taken from the three compulsory elective modules Researching Inequality and Diversity, Researching Digital Societies, or Researching International Politics and Conflict.

(3) Special student involvement in self-administration or a comparable activity that serves to improve general employability (such as participation in specialist conferences) can be credited with 12 credit points in the "Research Internship" module upon submission of corresponding evidence and an internship report (approx. 10,800 characters/6 pages) or oral presentation (individual examination 15 min. or group examination 30 min.). The scope of the work is one to two weeks (in the sense of an actual examination duration). The total period of time provided for completion should cover a longer period of time

(4) In all other respects, the provisions of § 11 General Regulations apply.

§ 12 Module and course registration and module and course deregistration

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

(2) The registration and deregistration procedure as well as the registration and deregistration deadlines will be announced in good time on the program-related website in accordance with § 6 (8). Module or course spots are allocated in accordance with § 13 of these degree program and examination regulations if capacities are limited.

§ 13 Access to compulsory elective modules or courses with limited participation options

(1) Admission numbers may be set for compulsory elective modules and courses by resolution of the departmental council if this is absolutely necessary to ensure orderly teaching and study and to achieve the educational objective. Each fixed number of participants shall be announced in an appropriate manner in good time before the start of the compulsory elective module or course.

(2) In the case of a compulsory elective module or a course with limited capacity, there is no entitlement to participation if the study of at least one other alternative compulsory elective module or another course is open.

(3) If the number of registrations for a compulsory elective module or course exceeds the number of spots available, a selection must be made. The selection is made by drawing lots.

In any case, it must be ensured that hardship cases, in particular those within the meaning of § 26 (1) and (2) (priority group 1) and students with a special interest in participation (priority group 2) are considered in advance within the framework of the available capacities. A special interest exists in particular for those students,

- for whom the compulsory elective module or the course is compulsory due to an internal specialization,
- who did not receive a spot in a previous semester despite registering, although the degree program curriculum provided for the compulsory elective module,
- who have unsuccessfully participated in the compulsory elective module or course, if repeated participation is mandatory for the repeat examination.

If, in individual cases, the available spots are not sufficient to consider the two priority groups, students in priority group 1 are to be given priority for admission; within the groups, the decision is then made by lot.

§ 14 Application of modules across degree programs

(1) Modules that are based on the provisions of other degree programs in terms of their offerings and examination regulations ("import modules") are provided. Further details on these modules are summarized in Appendix 3.

(2) Modules from the master's degree program "International Political and Social Science Research", which can also be completed as part of other degree programs, are subject

to the provisions of § 20 (4) of these degree program and examination regulations and § 14 (2) General Regulations.

§ 15 Coursework and compulsory attendance

(1) If specified in the module list, attendance is compulsory for all or certain courses of a module. The physical presence of students ("attendance") in courses does not count as coursework. In this case, regular attendance is a prerequisite for admission to the module examination or for the awarding of credit points. Attendance must be determined in an appropriate manner. If attendance is compulsory, the maximum permitted absence rate is 20%. In the event of absences exceeding this, the examination committee may, in cases of hardship, grant the possibility of compensating for the absence upon justified request, for example by making up certain work.

(2) Otherwise, § 15 General Regulations applies.

III. Examination-related provisions

§ 16 Examination committee

(1) The departmental council appoints the examination committee.

(2) The examination committee shall consist of

1. six members of the group of professors,
2. two members of the group of research assistants and
3. three members of the student group.

A deputy member shall be elected for each member.

(3) The term of office, the chairmanship, the quorum and other aspects are governed by § 16 General Regulations.

§ 17 Tasks of the examination committee and the examination administration

The provisions of § 17 General Regulations apply.

§ 18 Examiners and observers

The provisions of § 18 General Regulations apply.

§ 19 Recognition of coursework and examinations

The provisions of § 19 General Regulations apply.

§ 20 Module list, import and export module list and module handbook

(1) The modules to be completed as part of the degree program are summarized in the module list (Appendix 2) and in the list of import modules (Appendix 3). The type of modules, their allocation to the various areas of the degree program, options between modules and within modules, the requirements for participation in the modules as well as the credit points to be earned, the examination type, the assessment and the competence objectives can be found in these lists and in § 6. In the case of import modules, this information can be found in the original module lists of the degree program offering them.

(2) The offer of import modules is subject to the proviso that changes to the modules can be made by the teaching units offering them (in particular, for example, due to accreditation). This does not require an amendment to these degree program and examination regulations. Such changes will be announced by the examination committee in good time on the program-related website. In addition, the examination committee may decide that further modules may be admitted as import modules, either generally or in individual cases upon justified request, provided that the department or institution offering the course agrees.

(3) Further information with detailed module descriptions and the current range of import modules are published in a module handbook on the degree program website.

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

§ 21 Examinations

The provisions of § 21 General Regulations apply.

§ 22 Examination types and durations, completion times, scopes

(1) Written examinations shall take the form of

- Written exams, which may also be conducted in whole or in part as e-exams (*E-Klausuren*) (in accordance with Appendix 6 of the General Regulations) and in whole or in part as multiple-choice exams ("choose-an-answer examinations"; in accordance with Appendix 8 of the General Regulations),
- Term papers,
- Learning portfolios,
- Project outlines,
- Project reports,
- Internship reports,
- the Master's thesis.

(2) Oral examinations shall take the form of

- Individual examinations,
- Group examinations,
- Presentations.

(3) The following durations or completion times and scopes are assigned to the aforementioned forms of examination. In the case of written examinations that are not completed under supervision, the total time available for completion should cover a longer period of time. Written examinations should have a minimum completion time of two weeks and a maximum of four weeks (in the sense of an actual examination duration). Regulations on individual forms of examination not listed here can be found in Appendix 2 (module list).

(4) For the imported modules according to Appendix 3 or examinations provided for therein, the corresponding regulations of the degree program and examination regulations of the degree programs from which the modules are imported apply in their currently valid version.

(5) Multimedia-supported written examinations ("e-examinations") take place in accordance with the provisions in the General Regulations, Appendix 6.

(6) Multiple-choice examinations take place in accordance with the provisions in the General Regulations ("choose-an-answer examinations"), Appendix 8.

(7) In all other respects, the provisions of § 22 General Regulations apply.

§ 23 Master's thesis

(1) The master's thesis (final thesis) is a compulsory component of the degree program. Together with a colloquium, it forms a joint final module. The master's thesis must be written in English or can also be written in other languages in consultation with the examination committee.

(2) The master's thesis is an examination paper in which the candidate should demonstrate the ability to independently work on a defined problem from the field of social sciences using scientific methods within a specified period of time. The aim is for the candidate to demonstrate that she or he can develop a research design and apply methods of empirical social research. The final module comprises a total of 24 credit points. Of these, 21 are allocated to the master's thesis (examination) and 3 to an oral presentation (coursework), which must be completed in the colloquium of the final module.

(3) The master's thesis must be written as an individual thesis.

(4) Admission to the master's thesis requires that at least 60 LPs have been acquired.

(5) The candidate proposes an advisor and an authorized examiner as the first reviewer for the master's thesis. The candidate also has the right to nominate the second reviewer. The advisor and the first reviewer may be the same person. The proposals do not justify any claim. The first reviewer must be appointed by the examination committee.

for the assessment of master's theses. The topic of the master's thesis is submitted to the examination committee by the first reviewer and assigned by the examination committee. If the candidate is unable to find a advisor and a first reviewer, the chair of the examination committee shall appoint the advisor and the first reviewer and ensure that a topic for the master's thesis is issued in good time.

(6) The master's thesis must be completed within the completion time of 5 months. The topic of the thesis must be such that it can be completed within this period. An extension of the completion time by a maximum of 20% (e.g., due to unforeseen problems in the procurement of literature or data) is possible upon justified request by the candidate; it does not lead to the award of additional credit points. The completion time begins with the issuance of the topic; the time of issuance must be recorded. The topic should be issued in good time so that no extension of the completion time occurs even if an extension is granted.

(7) The master's thesis must be submitted on time to the examination committee or a body designated by it in two printed copies and in digital form in accordance with the examination committee's specifications. The time of submission must be recorded. When submitting the thesis, the candidate must confirm in writing that she or he has written the thesis independently and has not used any sources or aids other than those specified. If the master's thesis is not submitted on time, it is deemed to have been assessed as "insufficient" (0 points) in accordance with § 28 (2) General Regulations.

(8) The master's thesis is failed if the overall grade is not at least 5 points ("sufficient") in accordance with § 28 (2) General Regulations; it may be repeated once. The examination committee shall ensure that the candidate receives a new topic within six weeks of notification of the failure. The topic may only be returned within the period specified in § 23 (7) clause 1 General Regulations if the candidate did not make use of this option when writing the master's thesis for the first time. A second repetition of the master's thesis is excluded.

(9) Grade compensation for a failed master's thesis is not permitted.

(10) In all other respects, the provisions of § 23 General Regulations apply.

§ 24 Examination dates, examination registration and deregistration

(1) The examination committee shall announce the time periods for examinations and repeat examinations. Dates for written exams (*Klausuren*) and other examination dates that are equally valid for all participants in a module are announced in the course catalog. Examination dates to be agreed individually (e.g., presentations) are listed in the course catalog with the note "n. V."

(2) Examinations shall take place as part of the respective module courses or immediately following them. If examinations take place following module courses, they should generally be offered in a two to three-week examination period at the end of the lecture period or at the beginning or end of the subsequent lecture-free period. As a rule, written

exams (*Klausuren*) should take place on the same day of the week and at the same time as the corresponding module course.

The examiner should also provide for the preparation of examination papers, such as term papers, during the lecture-free period.

(3) The first date for retaking examinations must be set in such a way that successful participation ensures continued study in the following semester.

(4) Binding registration is required to participate in an examination. The examination committee shall announce the deadlines and the form of registration in an appropriate manner at least 4 weeks before the start of the registration period. Admission to the examination shall be refused if the registration deadline is not met or if admission requirements are not met.

(5) A binding examination registration can be withdrawn without giving reasons, provided this is done within the deadline set by the examination committee. These deadlines and the form of withdrawal will be announced together with the corresponding regulations for registration.

(6) Upon reasoned request to the examination committee, alternative dates will be set for examinations that cannot be taken due to religious work bans. Proof of membership of the relevant religious community must be submitted with the application. The application must be submitted at least four weeks before the examination date.

§ 25 Time requirements to earn credits

The provisions of § 25 General Regulations apply.

§ 26 Family support, accommodations for hardships and informal part-time study

(1) In courses and examinations, consideration must be given to stress caused by pregnancy and the upbringing of children, by the care for relatives in need of care and by a disability or chronic illness of the student. The nature and severity of the burden must be proven by the student in good time to the person responsible for the course or the chairperson of the examination committee with suitable documentation. In cases of doubt, the examination committee shall decide upon written application. In cases of illness, the examination committee may request a medical certificate from a public health officer. It must be possible to take advantage of the statutory maternity protection periods and parental leave periods.

(2) If a student can credibly demonstrate that she or he is unable to take the examination in the intended form in whole or in part due to a disability, a chronic illness, the care for relatives in need of care, pregnancy or the upbringing of children, the examination committee shall compensate for this disadvantage by taking appropriate measures, such as extending the completion time or changing the examination procedure.

(3) In accordance with the applicable legal regulations, the degree program can be carried out in whole or in part as informal part-time studies upon application. In the case of an approved informal part-time study program, there is no entitlement to the provision of a special teaching and study program. In any case, academic advising is strongly recommended before taking up informal part-time studies.

§ 27 Absence, withdrawal, fraud, violation of regulations

(1) Coursework is deemed to not have been passed or an examination is deemed to be "insufficient" (0 points) in accordance with § 28 (2) General Regulations if the candidate misses an examination date that is binding for her or him without good cause or if she or he withdraws from coursework or an examination that has already been started without good cause. The same applies if coursework or an examination is not completed within the specified completion time.

(2) The important reason asserted for the absence or withdrawal must be reported immediately in writing and made credible. In the event of illness, a medical certificate must be submitted. In this case, the existing examination results are recognized.

(3) If the candidate attempts to influence the result of coursework or examinations by means of fraud or unauthorized aids, the coursework in question is deemed to not have been passed or the examination in question is deemed to be "insufficient" (0 points) in accordance with § 28 (2) General Regulations. A candidate who disrupts the orderly completion of coursework or an examination may be excluded from continuing with the coursework or examination by the examiner or the supervising person; in this case, the coursework is also deemed to not have been passed or the examination is deemed to be "insufficient" (0 points) in accordance with § 28 (2) General Regulations. In serious cases, the examination committee may exclude the candidate from taking further examinations, so that the right to take examinations in the degree program expires.

(4) Decisions in accordance with (1) to (3) must be communicated to the candidate immediately in writing, stating the reasons and providing information on legal remedies.

§ 28 Grading and grade composition

(1) The modules "Research Internship" and "Tool-Kit for Research" are not assessed with points in deviation from § 28 (2) General Regulations.

(2) The overall assessment of the master's examination in points in accordance with column (a) of the table in § 28 (6) General Regulations is calculated from the average of the module assessments weighted according to credit points. Modules not graded with points (ungraded) are not taken into account.

(3) In all other respects, the provisions of § 28 General Regulations apply.

§ 29 Nonbinding examination option

A nonbinding examination option is not provided.

§ 30 Repetition of examinations

- (1) Passed examinations cannot be repeated.
- (2) Examinations that have not been passed may be repeated twice.
- (3) It is permissible to change a compulsory elective module that has been definitively failed once.
- (4) § 23 (12) clauses 1 and 2 General Regulations (master's thesis and colloquium) and § 21 (3) clause 4 General Regulations (compensated partial module examinations) remain unaffected.

§ 31 Loss of the right to take the examination and final failure

- (1) The right to take examinations in the degree program in which the student is enrolled is permanently lost, in particular if
 - 1. an examination has not been passed after all retake attempts have been exhausted, unless it is an examination in a module pursuant to § 30 (3);
 - 2. there is a serious case of deception pursuant to § 27 (3) clause 3.
- (2) A notice of final failure and the associated loss of the right to take the examination will be issued, which must be accompanied by information on legal remedies.

§ 32 Invalidity of examination results

The provisions of § 32 General Regulations apply.

§ 33 Certificate

The provisions of § 33 General Regulations apply.

§ 34 Diploma

The provisions of § 34 General Regulations apply.

§ 35 Diploma Supplement

The provisions of § 35 General Regulations apply.

§ 36 Transcript of Records and complete grade record

The provisions of § 36 General Regulations apply.

IV. Final provisions

§ 37 Inspection of the examination documents

The provisions of § 37 General Regulations apply.

§ 38 Effective date and transitional provisions

(1) These regulations come into force on the day after their publication in the Official Notices of Philipps-Universität Marburg.

(2) These degree program and examination regulations apply to all students beginning their studies from the winter semester 2025/26.

Marburg, March 31, 2025

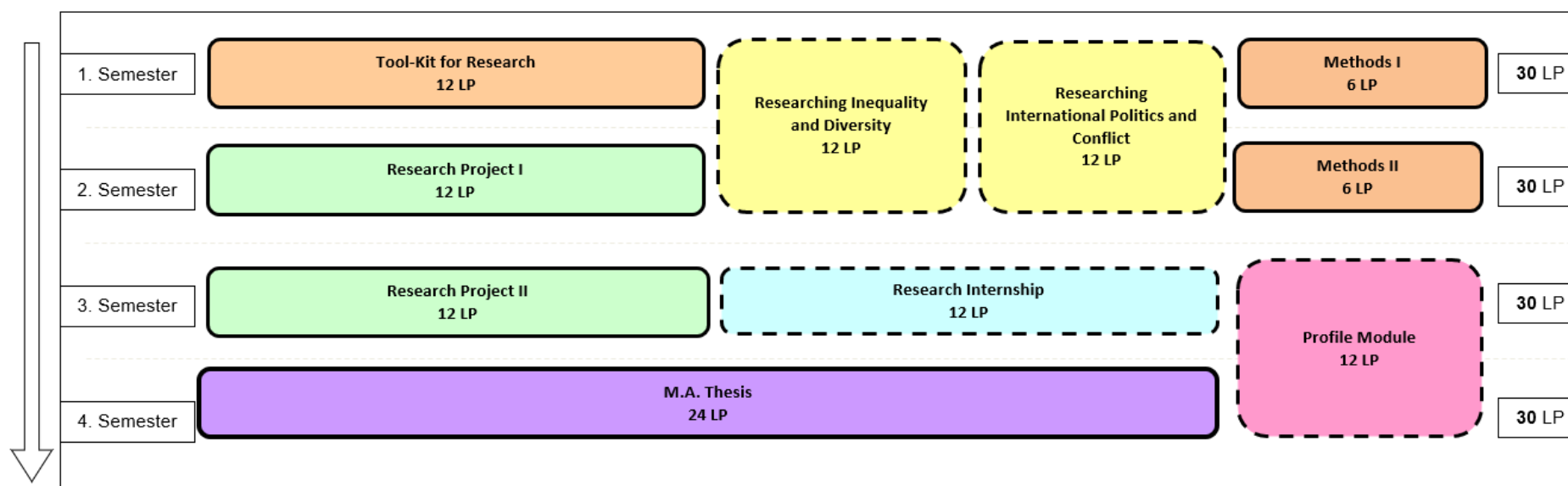
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Appendix 1: Exemplary degree program curriculum

Master International Political and Social Science Research (IPSSR)

Exemplarischer Studienverlaufsplan für den **Master-Studiengang**
mit Beginn zum Wintersemester



Exemplarischer Studienverlaufsplan für den Master-Studiengang mit Beginn zum Wintersemester

Exemplary degree program curriculum for the master's degree program beginning in the winter semester

Pflichtmodule	Compulsory modules
Wahlpflicht	Compulsory elective
Basis	Basic
Aufbau	Advanced
Vertiefung	Specialization
Praxis	Practical
Profil	Profile
Abschluss	Final

Appendix 2: Module list

Module name	LP	Degree of obligation	Level	Qualification goals	Prerequisites for participation	Prerequisites for the awarding of LPs
Tool-Kit for Research	12	PF	Basic	After completing the module, students will be able to compare which methodological approaches and research designs are suitable for which political and social science questions; to determine which survey and evaluation procedures are useful depending on these methodological approaches; to methodologically evaluate existing literature.	None	Compulsory attendance Coursework: a) Portfolio of exercises and b) Presentation (individual or group presentation) Module examination: (E-)exam (60-120 min.) Ungraded module
Methods I	6	PF	Basic	After completing the module, students will be able to independently implement a selection of advanced data collection and evaluation methods. These include methods of multivariate analysis of quantitative data, including their mathematical and scientific theoretical foundations, as well as advanced methods for collecting and analyzing qualitative data.	None	Coursework: Presentation (individual or group presentation) Module examination: a) Term paper (36,000-39,600 characters / – 20-22 pages) – or b) Learning portfolio (36,000-39,600 characters / – 20-22 pages) – or

Module name	LP	Degree of obligation	Level	Qualification goals	Prerequisites for participation	Prerequisites for the awarding of LPs
						c) Individual oral examination (15 min.)
Methods II	6	PF	Basic	After completing the module, students will be able to carry out advanced data analyses independently. For example, they can apply, implement and interpret machine learning, methods from computational social sciences and other related approaches such as social network analysis, inferential statistics and extensive mixed methods designs.	None	Coursework: Presentation (individual or group presentation) Module examination: a) Term paper (36,000-39,600 characters / – 20-22 pages) – or b) Learning portfolio (36,000-39,600 characters / – 20-22 pages) – or c) Individual oral examination (15 min.)
Researching Inequality and Diversity	12	WP	Advanced	After completing this module, students will be able to name and examine the causes and consequences of political and social inequality; name and critically question the main controversies and key players in dealing with diversity; formulate their own research questions and carry out smaller projects on topics of inequality and diversity.	None	Coursework: a) Presentation (individual or group presentation) – and b) Presentation (individual or group presentation) Module examination: a) Term paper (36,000-39,600 characters / – 20-22 pages)

Module name	LP	Degree of obligation	Level	Qualification goals	Prerequisites for participation	Prerequisites for the awarding of LPs
						– or b) Learning portfolio (36,000-39,600 characters / 20-22 pages) – or a) Individual oral examination (15 min.)
Researching Digital Societies	12	WP	Advanced	After completing the module, students will be able to reproduce and discuss various approaches and theories on the effects of digitalization on politics and society. They will be able to apply theories and methods to a given topic and reflect on it critically. In addition, students learn to classify and interpret specific phenomena of digitalization and to analyze and present them in a methodologically sound manner. They can identify gaps in research and develop their own questions.	None	Coursework: a) Presentation (individual or group presentation) – and b) Presentation (individual or group presentation) Module examination: c) Term paper (36,000-39,600 characters / 20-22 pages) – or d) Learning portfolio (36,000-39,600 characters / 20-22 pages) – or a) Individual oral examination (15 min.)

Module name	LP	Degree of obligation	Level	Qualification goals	Prerequisites for participation	Prerequisites for the awarding of LPs
Researching International Politics and Conflict	12	WP	Advanced	After completing this module, students will be able to analyze the dynamics and causes of international and local conflicts as well as the challenges of global politics by applying qualitative and quantitative research methods; use current research findings and case studies to make well-founded assessments of complex political situations and examine them scientifically; critically question and reflect on existing theories and strategies. They will be able to identify gaps in research and develop their own questions in this subject area.	None	Coursework: a) Presentation (individual or group presentation) – and b) Presentation (individual or group presentation) Module examination: a) Term paper (36,000-39,600 characters / 20-22 pages) – or b) Learning portfolio (36,000-39,600 characters / 20-22 pages) – or c) Individual oral examination (20-30 min.)
Research Project I	12	PF	Specialization	After completing this module, students will be able to independently formulate relevant questions and summarize the current state of research; classify the question in an appropriate theoretical and methodological context; distinguish and evaluate competing explanatory approaches in theoretical	None	Coursework: Presentation (individual or group presentation) Examination: a) Project outline (14,400-18,000 characters / 8-10 pages) (3 LP)

Module name	LP	Degree of obligation	Level	Qualification goals	Prerequisites for participation	Prerequisites for the awarding of LPs
				and/or methodological terms and understand their logic analytically.		– and b) Project report (36,000 - 39,600 characters / 20-22 pages) (9 LP)
Research Project II	12	PF	Specialization	After completing the module, students will be able to evaluate how the results of the project work can be classified in relation to the current state of research, critically reflect on their own approach and argumentation and assess the advantages and disadvantages of competing explanatory approaches with regard to their research interest.	None	Coursework: Presentation (individual or group presentation) Examination: b) Project outline (14,400-18,000 characters / 8-10 pages) (3 LP) – and b) project report (36,000 - 39,600 characters / 20-22 pages) (9 LP)
International Political and Social Science Research - study abroad I	6	WP	Advanced	After completing this module, students will be able to name current research questions in the social and political sciences and analyze the relevant literature. They will be able to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of different methodological approaches to researching these issues. The module is carried out as part of the study abroad program.	None	Module examination: Learning portfolio (36,000-39,600 characters / 22-22 pages)

Module name	LP	Degree of obligation	Level	Qualification goals	Prerequisites for participation	Prerequisites for the awarding of LPs
International Political and Social Science Research - study abroad II	6	WP	Advanced	After completing the module at an international partner university, students will have acquired in-depth knowledge of sociology, political science or methods that are not offered at Marburg University. After completing the module, students will be able to name current and emerging topics in the social and political sciences. They can analyze theories and empirical methods used in these fields of research and evaluate which theories and research designs are suitable for which questions. Based on this, they are able to develop their own questions and situate them methodologically and theoretically in the field of research. In addition, they acquire intercultural competence by dealing with new topics in an international environment.	None	Module examination: Learning portfolio (39,600-45,000 characters / 22-22 pages)
International Political and Social Science Research - study abroad III	6	WP	Specialization	After completing this module, students will be able to name current research questions in the social and political sciences with reference to the country in which they are studying abroad. They will be able to analyze and classify the	None	Module examination: Learning portfolio (39,600-45,000 characters / 22-22 pages)

Module name	LP	Degree of obligation	Level	Qualification goals	Prerequisites for participation	Prerequisites for the awarding of LPs
				relevant research literature and evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of different methodological approaches to researching these issues. The module is carried out as part of the study abroad program.		
International Political and Social Science Research - study abroad IV	6	WP	Specialization	After completing the module at an international partner university, students will have acquired in-depth knowledge of sociology, political science or methods that are not offered at Marburg University and that are related to the country in which they are studying abroad. After completing the module, students will be able to name current and emerging topics in social and political sciences from their country of residence. They will be able to analyze theories and empirical methods used in these fields of research and evaluate which theories and research designs are suitable for which questions. They develop intercultural competence both by working in an international environment and by	None	Module examination: Learning portfolio (39,600-45,000 characters / 22-22 pages)

Module name	LP	Degree of obligation	Level	Qualification goals	Prerequisites for participation	Prerequisites for the awarding of LPs
				engaging with research fields with an international dimension.		
Research Internship	12	PF	Practical	In this module, students gain practical experience. After completing the module, you will be able to name professional fields of application in social and political science research and critically reflect on your own professional perspectives. They will be able to work in teams in research-related contexts, define their own role and plan and carry out projects.	None	Module examination: a) Internship report (approx. 10,800 characters / 6 pages) – – or – b) Oral presentation (individual exam 15 min. or group exam 30 min.) ungraded module
Master Thesis	24	PF	Final	After completing the module, students will be able to develop and implement a social science research design, apply methods and reflect on the research process as well as structure a scientific argument and follow the standards of scientific work.	60 completed LP	Coursework: Individual oral presentation Examination: Master's thesis (72,000 - 108,000 characters / 40-60 pages)

* Module abbreviations used are a structuring element and are not part of the name

Appendix 3: Import module list

The module offerings listed below can be selected at the time of the resolution on these degree program and examination regulations. Alternatively or additionally, courses from the Marburg Skills study area can be selected. In accordance with § 14 (1) General Regulations, these modules are subject to the specifications of the degree program and examination regulations within which the modules are offered (in particular with regard to qualification objectives, prerequisites, credit points and examination modalities). The possible combinations of modules may be determined by the teaching unit offering them.

The catalog of selectable offerings can be changed or supplemented by the examination committee, especially if the range of offerings provided by the departments at Philipps-Universität Marburg changes. Such changes will be published by the examination committee on the respective degree program website. In individual cases or in general, taking up the offerings listed below may be subject to prior academic advising or binding registration. In the event of capacity restrictions, the respective provisions of the degree program and examination regulations apply. Otherwise, no guarantee is given that the offerings listed below will actually be provided and can be attended.

Upon justified application by the student, it is permissible to approve additional import modules beyond the regular offer in individual cases; this requires the consent of the department or body providing the offerings.

The current import offerings are published as an export offer on the program website of the department offering the module.

Students should take advantage of the relevant information and advisory services offered by the department offering the module before taking up the offering.

Any participation requirements or recommendations as well as combination rules must be observed. If the module provider has specified combination rules and created export packages, there is effectively only a limited range of modules available, depending on the scope of your own import window.

At the time of the last resolution in the departmental council on the present degree program and examination regulations, an agreement existed for the following modules:

The following modules can be used for the <i>„Research Fields“ study area (compulsory elective) 12 LP</i>		
Offer from the degree program	Module title	LP

B.Sc. „Economics, Institutions, and Behavior“ (FB 02)	All export modules of the exporting degree program	
M.Sc. Sustainable Development (FB 19)	All export modules of the exporting degree program	

Appendix 4: Export module list

The current export offerings are published as an export offer on the program website of the department offering the module.

Any participation requirements or recommendations as well as combination rules must be observed. If the module provider has specified combination rules and created export packages, there is effectively only a limited range of modules available, depending on the scope of your own import window.

The list represents the export offerings at the time of the resolution on these degree program and examination regulations. The catalog of the export offerings can be changed or supplemented by the examination committee, in particular if the export offerings change. Such changes will be published by the examination committee on the degree program website in accordance with § 6.

§ 1 Export of curricular modules to other degree programs

The following modules in accordance with Appendix 2 can also be completed as part of other degree programs, provided that this has been agreed with the department or departments in whose degree program or programs these modules can be selected.

Export module package „internal“:
Tool-Kit for Research
Methods I
Methods II
Export module package „external“:
Researching Inequality and Diversity
Researching Digital Societies
Researching International Politics and Conflict