

# Communication from the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

## ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> President <input type="checkbox"/> Registrar	<b>Study Regulations</b> for the consecutive degree programme in <i>Media Ecologies</i> leading to a Master of Arts		issued 01/2024
	Processing Dept./Unit Fac. M	Telephone 3700	Date 10 April 2024

In accordance with § 3 par 1, and in conjunction with § 38, par. 3 of the Thuringian Higher Education Act (Thüringer Hochschulgesetz) effective 10 May 2018 (Journal of Laws and Ordinances / Gesetz- und Verordnungsblatt, p. 149), last amended by Article 1 of the Act on 07 December 2022 (Journal of Laws and Ordinances p.483), the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar hereby issues the following study regulations based on the President's approval of the examination regulations for the Master of Arts (MA) degree programme in Media Ecologies.

These regulations were approved by the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Media on 13 December 2023 and were adopted on 10 April 2024 with the approval of the President of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.

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## **§ 1 – Scope of studies**

The following study regulations govern the objectives, content and structure of the English-language Master's degree programme in Media Ecologies. Upon completion of the degree, candidates are awarded a Master of Arts (M.A.) degree in accordance with the corresponding examination regulations.

## **§ 2 – Duration of studies**

The standard study period is four semesters. The Faculty is responsible for ensuring that candidates complete all the requirements of the degree programme within the prescribed period. Part-time study is possible.

## **§ 3 – Admissions requirements**

(1) In order to be eligible for admission to this programme, candidates must have been awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in Media Culture or Media Studies with an above-average final grade of at least 2.3\*, or an officially recognised first university degree qualifying for entry to a profession in a relevant subject, also with an above average final grade of at least 2.3\*

\*based on the German grading system, whereby 1.0 is the highest grade, and 4.0 represents a pass. See under § 13 of the Examination Regulations (Prüfungsordnung) - Assessment of examinations, grade calculation (1)

(2) The relevance of degrees in Cultural Studies, Media Studies and other media-related programmes is determined on a case-by-case basis. In cases where a degree programme is not deemed sufficiently relevant, the examinations committee may attach additional conditions for admission, which the candidate must meet.

(3) In order to be eligible for admission to the programme, a candidate must provide proof of English-language proficiency of at least B2 level as set out by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) in the form of:

either

1. proof of mastery of the language as a native speaker (certification proving either a higher education entrance qualification or a first university degree qualifying for entry to a profession from an English-speaking country)

or

2. one of the following certificates:

- IELTS score of 6.5 or above
- TOEFL (internet-based score of 85 or above)
- Cambridge Certificate (FCE) B2
- an equivalent certificate.

(4) A letter of motivation (in English) of approximately 1-2 pages must be submitted with the application. This letter of motivation should include an overview of the applicant's previous academic and professional/practical education, such as media-related projects and/or internships, study experience abroad, academic extracurricular and/or other academic activities. Proof of these activities must be included in the application. Additionally, individual future (research) goals should be presented with reference to the focal points of the degree programme.

(5) After applications have been received, an examinations committee appointed by the Faculty Board and consisting of at least one university lecturer and one academic staff member, meets to select applicants who fulfil the formal requirements in accordance with paragraphs 1 to 4. The criteria applied in the committee's assessment are the grade of the first degree qualifying for entry to a profession in a relevant subject, proof of English language skills, aptitude and suitability for the programme, as demonstrated by the letter of motivation.

#### **§ 4 – Content and objectives**

(1) The overall goal of the degree programme is to provide students with in-depth scientific and academic knowledge and skills in the field of Media Ecologies (i.e. media as ecologies, media in ecology). Students should also develop the ability to deal with social and cultural problems and issues which is necessary for the development and acquisition of academic knowledge and which includes analytical-critical, historical, theoretical, organisational and practical skills. In particular, independent, co-operative, responsible and innovative (research) activity is encouraged. In addition, students should be encouraged to make academically sound decisions on the basis of incomplete or limited information and to take into account social and ethical insights resulting from the application of their knowledge and their decisions.

(2) Students are encouraged to define their own specialist topics in the course of their studies. This is supported by freedom of choice in terms of project and study modules and by the opportunity to include both one project module from courses offered by other Master's degree programmes at the Faculty of Media and one study module from the entire range of courses offered by the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.

(3) The conferral of the academic degree of "Master of Arts" confirms that all the required goals, including all examinations, the Master's thesis and the defence thereof, have been achieved.

(4) The Master's degree programme qualifies graduates for further research in media studies or the humanities and for further academic qualification through a doctoral or PhD programme. The degree programme also opens up career prospects in a broad range of media-related areas such as politics, culture and business, curatorial and editorial work in museums, archives and universities, conceptual planning and organisational work in public and private institutions, and much more besides.

#### **§ 5 – Structure of degree programme**

(1) The degree programme starts at the beginning of each Winter Semester. It comprises a series of modules (study modules, project modules and a final module) totalling 120 credit points (ECTS\*) (see Appendix 1). One ECTS point\* corresponds to a workload of around 30 hours of course attendance, self-study and examination preparation/completion. One study module is generally worth 6 ECTS points\* and consists of a maximum of 2 courses, whereby the combination of 2 lecture courses is not permitted.

\*ECTS = European Credit Transfer System

(2) The examination should demonstrate that students have acquired in-depth knowledge and expertise, as well as skills that enable them to carry out academic work and reflect critically. Students can also obtain additional international experience by studying abroad. Examination work carried out during the programme (as part of a compulsory study or project module) should be completed by the end of the semester in which the module(s) is/are taken.

(3) The degree programme consists of the basic compulsory module *Perspectives on Media Ecologies*, three project modules and two study modules (see Appendix 1). One of the project modules may be

selected, taken and incorporated as a compulsory elective module (Wahlpflichtmodul) from the courses offered as part of the Faculty of Media's other Master's degree programmes. One of the study modules may be selected, taken and incorporated from the entire range of courses offered by the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar; this also includes English and German language courses offered by the Language Centre of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar. The 4th semester is usually reserved for the Master's thesis and its defence. The final module comprises a colloquium (6 ECTS\* points), the Master's thesis (18 ECTS\* points) and its defence (6 ECTS\* points).

\*ECTS = European Credit Transfer System

(4) The language of instruction of the degree programme is English. The final project and its defence must be carried out in English. Non-English-language courses of up to 6 ECTS points\* may also be taken as part of the elective module.

\*ECTS = European Credit Transfer System

(5) For admission to the Master's thesis, English language knowledge of competence level C 1 as set out by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) is mandatory and must be documented in the form of:

- a) proof of mastery of the language as a native speaker (certification proving either a higher education entrance qualification or a first university degree qualifying for entry to a profession from an English-speaking country)

or

- b) one of the following certificates:
  - IELTS score of 7.0 or above
  - TOEFL (internet-based score of 95 or above)
  - Cambridge Certificate (FCE) C1
  - an equivalent certificate.

German language knowledge of competence level of A1 as set out by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) must be demonstrated in the form of:

- a) proof of mastery of the language as a native speaker (certification proving either a higher education entrance qualification or a first university degree qualifying for entry to a profession from a German-speaking country)

or

- b) proof of successful completion of an A1 language course based on a certificate, e.g. from the Language Centre of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.

Students have the opportunity to obtain these certificates prior to writing their Master's thesis by attending English or German courses and taking the corresponding examination at the Language Centre of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.

## § 6 – Compensation for disadvantage

(1) Applicants with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses may request compensation for disadvantage when applying. The disadvantage must be credible, hence a doctor's note or, in justified individual cases, an official medical certificate may be required.

(2) Support and advice for chronically ill and disadvantaged students, including advice on all questions relating to potential reconciliation of disadvantage, are provided by general student counselling service, as well as by the Thuringian Student Union (Studierendenwerk Thüringen).

(3) The teaching and learning formats used in the various study programmes must take into account the specific requirements of students who are restricted in their opportunities for organising their studies (for example, disabled or chronically ill students). Students must not experience any disadvantages from utilising maternity, parental or care leave. Advice on these matters is provided by the academic advice service.

(4) The responsible examinations committee shall decide on the compensation for disadvantage based on the student's application. The student may propose a particular form of compensation. The application is to be made, the decision notified, and any refusal justified in writing.

## **§ 7 – Academic advice service**

(1) At the start of the first semester, an introductory event takes place in which an overview of the first-semester courses and of the degree programme as a whole is provided.

(2) Students receive general academic advice and counselling from a Faculty Advisor.

(3) Professors and members of the Faculty of Media's academic staff provide individual subject-specific advice for students..

(4) After the start of the academic year, a programme spokesperson holds discussions with students about the content and structure of the degree programme.

## **§ 8 – Appeal process**

(1) Decisions to reject an application reached in accordance with these study regulations must be made and justified in writing, accompanied by written instructions on how to appeal. An appeal may be lodged with the examinations committee within one month of receipt of the decision.

(2) If the examinations committee does not provide remedy for the appeal, the Dean issues the notice of appeal.

## **§ 9 – Equal opportunities clause**

Designations made under these regulations apply equally to all genders.

## **§ 10 – Statement of effect**

These regulations come into effect on the first day of the month following their public announcement by the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar. They are applicable as of the Winter Semester 2025/26.

Approved by resolution of the Faculty Board on 13 December 2023

Prof. Dr. Lorenz Engell

Dean of the Faculty of Media

These statutes are approvable.

Dr. Steffi Heine  
Legal advisor

approved  
Weimar, 10 April 2024

Prof. Peter Benz  
President

## Appendix 1: course and examinations schedule

All modules are subject to examinations. The type and scope of these examinations can be found in the course catalogue/prospectus (Modulkatalog) in its currently valid version.

### 1st Semester

1 Project module from the <i>Media Ecologies</i> course catalogue* (WP)	24 ECTS* points
1 Basic compulsory module <i>Perspectives on Media Ecologies</i> (P)	6 ECTS* points

### 2nd Semester

1 Project module from the <i>Media Ecologies</i> course catalogue * (WP)	24 ECTS* points
1 Study module from the <i>Media Ecologies</i> course catalogue ** (W)	6 ECTS* points

### 3rd Semester

1 Project module from the <i>Media Ecologies</i> course catalogue * (WP)	24 ECTS* points
1 Study module from the <i>Media Ecologies</i> course catalogue ** (W)	6 ECTS* points

### 4<sup>th</sup> Semester

Final module <i>Media Ecologies</i>	30 ECTS* points
(comprising: colloquium 6 ECTS* points / Master's thesis 18 ECTS* points / defence thereof 6 ECTS* points)	
Total	120 ECTS* points

\*ECTS = European Credit Transfer System

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### Legend:

P - Pflichtmodul/Compulsory Module (conducted in English)

WP - Wahlpflichtmodul/Compulsory Elective Module (conducted in English)

W - Wahlmodul/Elective Module (usually conducted in English; if not, only after consultation with Academic Advisor)

\* One of the project modules may be selected, taken (in English), and incorporated as a compulsory elective module (Wahlpflichtmodul) from the courses offered as part of the Faculty of Media's other Master's degree programmes. Should this compulsory elective module amount to less than 24 ECTS\* points, the remainder of the credit points must be gained by completing the requisite number of study modules from the *Media Ecologies* course catalogue/prospectus.

\*ECTS = European Credit Transfer System

\*\* One of the study modules (6 ECTS\* points) may be selected, taken (in English), and incorporated as an elective module (Wahlmodul) from the entire range of courses offered by the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.

\*ECTS = European Credit Transfer System