

English Studies

- Culture and Literature / Linguistics and Applied Linguistics - Master of Arts

1. General information

The Master of Arts English Studies has a strong research orientation and offers two areas of specialisation as well as the possibility to study with no specialisation:

- **Culture and Literature:** this field enables students to combine specially designed courses on literary and cultural history and theory with a broad range of interdisciplinary modules. Clearly situated in historical approaches, Culture and Literature rests on two central columns of the humanities: the history of ideas and discourse analysis. Areas of expertise include:
 - Cultural studies: focus on cultural history and popular culture with a particular emphasis on the intersections of culture with economics and politics. Besides, this focus concentrates on cultural and medial translation.
 - Literary studies: relations between literature and other disciplines such as philosophy, religion & politics.
Furthermore, students can adapt the course to their own personal career orientation. The module *Wild Card* allows students to either select an in-depth focus in their chosen field, to work in an interdisciplinary context or to have internships recognised as part of the course.
- **Linguistics and Applied Linguistics:** this field focuses on the description and analysis of the English language in the light of current linguistic theories and teaching approaches. The following topics are covered in the course:
 - the idiomatic element of language: construction grammar, valency theory, research on collocation and idiomaticity
 - foreign language teaching: lexicography, grammar, contrastive linguistics, speech perception and production, literacy development, bilingualism and bilingual education
 - first and second language acquisition and research on learner language
 - corpus linguistics: the English language: history & variation
 - special advanced language classes
A number of places for studying at other European universities are available.
- **No specialisation:** students may also choose to study a combination of the two major fields, dedicating an equal amount of their studies to both fields.

These areas of research are embedded into a number of well-established research centres, e.g. the Interdisciplinary Centre for Contemporary Literature and Culture (www.schauinsblau.de), the Interdisciplinary Centre for Research on Lexicography, Valency and Collocation (www.lexi.uni-erlangen.de), and the Postgraduate Programme Literature and Culture (PhD).

Aims and Competences

- Excellent academic education via innovative teaching concepts (student conference) as well as integration of work experience

- In-depth knowledge in all disciplines of English Studies
- Media and intercultural competence
- Communicative skills (near native speaker competence)
- Soft skills (presentation and moderation skills, problem-solving strategies, the ability to do selfdirected research by acquiring skills in the collection, organisation and presentation of complex issues in linguistic, literary and cultural topics)

Career options

Graduates will have a wide range of career options, e.g. in the following fields: journalism, public relations, cultural management, publishing, marketing, higher education, PhD programmes/ academic career [7].

2. Programme format

MA English Studies is a consecutive two-year full-time course (or four-year part-time course) with a total of 120 ECTS points. The course of study is modularised and encourages a specialisation in one of the two fields 'Culture and Literature' or 'Linguistics and Applied Linguistics' or no specialization (=a combination of the two fields). We recommend students to explore the general structure of the programme on our website [1] and to have a look at the examination regulations (FPO) which comprises model courses in the two fields [3].

3. Application and admission [4]

The MA English Studies is open to graduates with a BA *English and American Studies* with a final grade 2.5 or better (exceptions may be made in well-substantiated cases and on the basis of a short letter of motivation and a 15 to 20-minute interview for those students who achieved a final grade ranging up to 3.5). Graduates of other BA programmes with a focus on English philology (60 ECTS credits) are also invited to apply for places
At the time of application, students are required to provide certificates for their English language proficiency (C1).
The programme generally begins each winter semester. Application deadline is July 15th.

4. General contact

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Programme advisors

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Further Information

- [1] Homepage English Studies: <https://www.angam.phil.fau.de/degree-programs/ma-english-studies/>
- [2] Degree programme regulations and examination offices: <https://www.fau.eu/study/current-students/examination-matters/>
- [3] More information on Master's degree programmes: <http://www.master.fau.eu>
- [4] Student Advisory Service of FAU: Zentrale Studienberatung der FAU - Informations- und Beratungszentrum (IBZ): www.ibz.fau.de
- [5] Student Service Center of the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Theology: www.studienservicecenter.phil.fau.de
- [6] University Calendar: www.vorlesungsverzeichnis.fau.de
- [7] Information on career options (in German): www.phil.fau.de/kompetenzen-master
- [8] Career Service of FAU: www.career.fau.eu