

**Degree Program and Examination Regulations for the Master's Degree Program M.A.  
Global East Asia within the Department of History and Cultural Studies at Freie  
Universität Berlin**

**Disclaimer: Please note that only the German version of this document is legally binding. This translation is intended for the convenience of the non-German-reading public and is for informational purposes only.**

**Preamble**

On the basis of Section 14.1.1.2 of Freie Universität Berlin's supplemental rules and regulations (*Teilgrundordnung [Erprobungsmodell]*) from October 27, 1998, published in *FU-Mitteilungen* No. 24/1998 (the official bulletin of Freie Universität Berlin), the Department Council (*Fachbereichsrat*) of the Department of History and Cultural Studies at Freie Universität Berlin issued the following degree program and examination regulations for the master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia within the Department of History and Cultural Studies on November 16, 2022:<sup>1</sup>

**Table of Contents**

- Section 1 Scope
- Section 2 Learning Objectives
- Section 3 Curriculum Contents
- Section 4 General Academic Advising and Departmental Advising
- Section 5 Examination Board
- Section 6 Standard Time to Degree
- Section 7 Structure and Components; Distribution of Credit Points
- Section 8 Modes of Instruction
- Section 9 Master's Thesis
- Section 10 Retaking Exams and Assessments
- Section 11 Study Abroad
- Section 12 Degree Completion
- Section 13 Entry into Force and Interim Regulations

**Appendices:**

- Appendix 1: Module Descriptions
- Appendix 2: Standard Curriculum Plans
- Appendix 3: Transcript (template)
- Appendix 4: Degree Certificate (template)

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<sup>1</sup> The Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin approved these regulations on January 10, 2023.

## **Section 1 Scope**

(1) These regulations define the objectives, content, and structure of the master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia within the Department of History and Cultural Studies at Freie Universität Berlin. These regulations apply in conjunction with Freie Universität Berlin's framework regulations for degree programs and examinations (*Rahmenstudien- und Prüfungsordnung*, RSPO) as they outline the requirements and processes necessary to complete coursework and assessments toward completion of a master's degree program.

(2) The degree program is a consecutive master's degree as defined by Section 23.3.1.1a of the Berlin Higher Education Act (BerlHG) from July 26, 2011 (GVBl. p. 378), amended on July 5, 2022 (GVBl. p. 450). It is designed with a focus on research and is offered in English.

## **Section 2 Learning Objectives**

(1) Graduates of the master's degree program possess subject-specific and multidisciplinary skills in the application of various theories and methods. These enable them to tackle complex interdisciplinary problems and productively engage with "global East Asia" as a subject of study in terms of historical and present developments, as well as to reflect upon them using techniques of comparison.

(2) Graduates demonstrate the necessary methodological, interdisciplinary, and linguistic skills required for conscientiously engaging with their chosen country of specialization and with the entire region of East Asia as a whole. By dealing with a range of source material on the historical, political, economic, societal, cultural, and/or linguistic developments in the region, students strengthen their intercultural skills; their ability to work creatively, independently, and responsibly; and their openness toward research questions surrounding gender and diversity.

(3) Successful completion of the master's degree program qualifies students to commence a doctoral studies program and opens up access to additional fields of work related to East Asia. The international character of the master's program also increases graduates' chances on the global job market.

## **Section 3 Curriculum Contents**

(1) The degree program equips students with a variety of skills to help them acquire regional expertise in their chosen area of study and/or regional expertise for East Asia as a whole by presenting them with a range of approaches from the social sciences and cultural studies. The specific content of the curriculum helps students to better understand the region in a global and transnational context, as well as to acquire knowledge of East Asian politics, culture, economics, and history.

(2) Students are given the opportunity to expand upon their language skills as well as broaden their spectrum of subject-specific knowledge. They can also build upon their practical skills in a manner specific to East Asian studies.

## **Section 4**

### **General Academic Advising and Departmental Advising**

(1) The Center for Academic Advising and Psychological Counseling at Freie Universität Berlin provides general academic advising for students.

(2) Instructors who teach courses offered in the master's degree program provide departmental advising during office hours. Student aid is also available to offer additional advising support. Students are encouraged to attend an advising session when establishing their individual curriculum plan, particularly when selecting the modules in their complementary area.

## **Section 5**

### **Examination Board**

The examination board is appointed by the Faculty Council of the Department of History and Cultural Studies, Freie Universität Berlin. The board is responsible for organizing examinations and the other tasks stipulated by the framework regulations for degree programs and examinations (RSPO).

## **Section 6**

### **Standard Time to Degree**

The standard time to degree is four semesters.

## **Section 7**

### **Structure and Components; Distribution of Credit Points**

(1) Students must earn 120 credit points to complete the master's degree program. The various components of the master's degree program include:

- An integrative area totaling 35 credit points,
- A specialization area in either Chinese studies, Japanese studies, or Korean studies totaling 30 credit points,
- A complementary area totaling 30 credit points, and
- A master's thesis worth 25 credit points.

(2) The following modules are to be completed within the integrative area:

- Module: Introduction to Contemporary History and Discourses in East Asia (10 credit points),
- Module: Introduction to Research Fields in Global East Asia (10 credit points),
- Module: Interdisciplinary Methods (10 credit points), and
- Module: Research Project (5 credit points).

(3) In the specialization area, students must complete modules totaling 30 credit points, of which 20 credit points can be attained in a specific area of focus (Chinese, Japanese, or Korean studies):

- Module: Chinese Studies A (10 credit points),
- Module: Chinese Studies B (10 credit points),
- Module: Japanese Studies A (10 credit points),
- Module: Japanese Studies B (10 credit points),
- Module: Korean Studies A (10 credit points),

- Module: Korean Studies (10 credit points).

(4) In the complementary area, students select from among the following required elective modules to complete for a total of 30 credit points. It is recommended that students complete modules from other master's degree programs. Language modules from other bachelor's or master's degree programs can also be selected within this area. It is recommended that students seek out academic advising from their department before selecting the modules they wish to study in the complementary area.

(5) The module descriptions in Appendix 1 provide information on the prerequisites, the contents and learning objectives, the modes of instruction, the workload, the different types of active participation, the various assessments that students must take during the program, information on participation requirements in the different modes of instruction, the standard duration, and how often courses are offered. Please refer to the applicable degree program and examination regulations for further information on the modules in the complementary area of study.

(5) Appendix 2 is a standard curriculum plan for completing the master's degree program.

## **Section 8**

### **Modes of Instruction**

(1) The courses offered through the program include the following modes of instruction:

1. Lectures (V), including lecture series, impart knowledge to students about an area of study, research issues in that area, and the current relevance of the field. The main mode of instruction is a presentation prepared by the respective instructor followed by a discussion.

2. Practice sessions (Ü) instill practical knowledge and skills in students as well as techniques related to a specific subject area. Students learn how to independently work on a task according to academic/scientific criteria, present the results, and discuss the subject using critical thinking. Practice sessions encourage students to think through problems using a variety of approaches in order to expand their understanding thereof. Coursework consists predominantly of practice using methods and techniques to improve practical skills and language ability, as well as in-depth conversations, group work, and the practical application of subject-specific skills. Practice sessions are often offered in conjunction with a lecture or internship. The instructor leads students in the various activities and evaluates them.

2. Seminars (S) convey knowledge on a clearly defined subject area and teach students the skills of independently researching an issue, presenting the results, and discussing the subject using critical thinking. The main modes of instruction are seminar discussions conducted with the aid of learning materials, preparatory reading of specialist literature and sources, and group work.

3. Methodology practice sessions (MÜ) instill practical knowledge and skills in students as well as techniques related to a specific subject area. The main mode of instruction is the methodical reinforcement of different techniques and practical knowledge, as well as in-depth conversations, group work, and the practical application of subject-specific skills. Practice sessions are often offered in conjunction with a lecture or internship. The instructor leads students in the various activities and evaluates them.

4. Colloquia (Ko) give students the chance to present and discuss the results of their independent study, mainly regarding work on their master's thesis, as well as current topics in international research.

(2) The modes of instruction as outlined in Section 8.1 can be implemented through blended learning formats. Blended learning combines on-site education with digital, internet-based media (e-learning). In this context, certain educational activities can be offered through Freie Universität Berlin's central e-learning applications. Students can work on these activities individually or in groups. They can complete them on their own or with the guidance of an instructor. Blended learning can be used both as part of the active learning phase (discussing educational materials, sharing solutions to assignments, vigorous communication between instructors and students), and for follow-up activities (evaluating students' progress, applying and transferring knowledge).

## **Section 9**

### **Master's Thesis**

(1) The master's thesis is intended to demonstrate that a student has the ability to work independently on a research issue from the field of East Asian studies at an advanced academic level. They should be able to present their findings in a form that is appropriate to the topic and situate them within an academic context, as well as document their findings in writing and discuss them orally.

(2) Students will be admitted to work on a master's thesis by submitting a request, provided that

1. they were most recently enrolled in a master's degree program at Freie Universität Berlin, and
2. they have already completed the modules from the integrative area for a total of at least 30 credit points, as well as additional modules in the specialization area for a total of at least 20 credit points within the master's degree program.

(3) The admission request for the master's thesis must be accompanied by proper documentation of the prerequisites listed under Section 9.2, as well as confirmation from an instructor who is an authorized examiner that they are willing and able to act as supervisor for the master's thesis. The relevant examination board is responsible for approving requests. If the request does not include confirmation from a supervisor as described above, the examination board will appoint the student a supervisor.

(4) The examination board assigns the topic of the master's thesis in coordination with the thesis supervisor. The topic and assignment must be designed in such a way as to ensure the work can be completed by the deadline. The function of supervision is to guide students toward an understanding of and compliance with the rules of good scientific practice in the context of the specific requirements of the given field or subject area. The assignment and compliance with the submission deadline must be documented and kept on file.

(5) The master's thesis should be between 15,000 and 18,000 words in length. Students have 20 weeks to complete and submit the master's thesis. The thesis should be written in English. If a student is hindered from working on their master's thesis for more than three months due to mitigating circumstances, the examination board will decide whether the student must start the master's thesis process again. If the examination board demands that the master's thesis be submitted again, the previous steps in the master's thesis process shall not be counted as

an official examination attempt.

(6) The work period for the master's thesis begins with the date that the topic is assigned by the examination board. The topic can be declined once within two weeks of being assigned, in which case it will be deemed not issued. When the student submits their master's thesis, they must include a written statement confirming that they alone are responsible for the content of the thesis and that they only used the sources or references listed in the thesis. Students must submit three typewritten and bound copies of their master's thesis, as well as an electronic copy in Portable Document Format (PDF). The PDF file must be machine-readable and digitized. Furthermore, it may not be subject to any rights restrictions.

(7) The master's thesis is to be assessed by two authorized examiners appointed by the examination board, one of whom must be the supervisor of the thesis. Examiners have six weeks in which to submit their written evaluations. At least one of the evaluations should be from an instructor from the Department of History and Cultural Studies who is qualified to perform assessments and whose primary employer is Freie Universität Berlin.

(8) The master's thesis is considered passed if the overall grade awarded is "sufficient" (4.0) or higher.

(9) A student's work on a master's thesis elsewhere can be recognized/transferred to Freie Universität. The recognition request should be submitted to the examination board. In order for the master's thesis to be recognized, the examination conditions and the assignment of the submitted work must not differ substantially in terms of quality, level, learning outcomes, scope, and profile when compared to the examination conditions and the assignment of a master's thesis completed in this master's program, which characterize the type of professional qualification this master's degree program in particular provides.

## **Section 10 Retaking Exams and Assessments**

(1) If a student does not pass their master's thesis, they can attempt the assessment two more times. This also applies to all other exams and assessments in the program.

(2) Exams and assessments that receive a grade of "sufficient" (4.0) or better cannot be retaken.

## **Section 11 Study Abroad**

(1) Students are encouraged to study abroad. While studying abroad, students should pursue courses that can be accredited within their master's degree program

(2) A learning agreement is required in order to study abroad. This is drafted and approved by the student, the chair of the examination board for the degree program, and the responsible office at the host institution abroad. The learning agreement contains provisions on the duration of the study abroad, on the credits to be earned during the study abroad, which must be equivalent to those earned in the master's degree program here, and the number of credit points to be awarded for the coursework. Coursework completed in accordance with this agreement will be recognized.

(3) The third semester in the program lends itself well to study abroad, and students are

encouraged to study abroad then.

## **Section 12**

### **Degree Completion**

(1) In order to graduate, students must complete the coursework and assessments outlined in Sections 7 and 9.

(2) A student is not eligible for graduation if they have definitively failed some coursework or assessment or are involved in a pending examination procedure at another university in the same course of study or in a module that is identical or comparable to one of the modules to be completed in the master's degree program here and that will be taken into account when determining their overall grade.

(3) The application request for the award of a degree must be accompanied by documentation showing the student has completed the requirements mentioned in Section 12.1 as well as a guarantee that the applicant is not subject to any of the eligibility restrictions mentioned in Section 12.2. The relevant examination board is responsible for approving the application.

(4) Upon successful completion of the assessment, the student will receive a Master of Arts (M.A.) university degree. Students receive a degree certificate and a diploma (Appendices 3 and 4), in addition to a diploma supplement (English and German versions). In addition, a degree certificate supplement with details of the individual modules and their components (transcript) is prepared. They will also receive English versions of their degree certificate and diploma (Appendices 3 and 4).

## **Section 13**

### **Entry into Force**

These regulations enter into force on the day following their publication in *FU-Mitteilungen* (the official bulletin of Freie Universität Berlin).

# **Admission Regulations for the Master's Degree Program M.A. Global East Asia within the Department of History and Cultural Studies at Freie Universität Berlin**

## **Preamble**

On the basis of Section 14.1.1.2 of the supplemental rules and regulations (*Teilgrundordnung [Erprobungsmodell]*) of Freie Universität Berlin of October 27, 1998 (*FU-Mitteilungen 24/1998*) in conjunction with Section 15 of the Law on Admissions to Higher Education in the Federal State of Berlin for Programs with Admission Requirements (*Berliner Hochschulzulassungsgesetz, BerlHZG*), in the version of the announcement of the amended version of October 9, 2019 (GVBl. p. 695), last amended on July 5, 2022 (GVBl. p. 450) in conjunction with Section 10.5.2 of the Berlin Higher Education Act (*Berliner Hochschulgesetz, BerlHG*) in the version as it was made public on July 26, 2011 (GVBl., p. 378), last amended on July 5, 2022 (GVBl. p. 450), the Department Council (*Fachbereichsrat*) of the Department of History and Cultural Studies at Freie Universität Berlin issued the following regulations on September 16, 2022):

## **Section 1 Scope**

These regulations govern admission to the study program in accordance with Section 10.5.2 BerlHG and the selection procedure for the allocation of places in accordance with Section 15.1.1.1 BerlHZG for the master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia within the Department of History and Cultural Studies at Freie Universität Berlin. This is a consecutive master's program as defined under Section 23.3.1.1a BerlHG and is offered in English.

## **Section 2 Number of Available Places and the Application Process**

(1) The number of places available for the master's degree program for each admission cycle is stipulated in Freie Universität Berlin's General Admission Regulations.

(2) Applications for admission are to be submitted electronically to the Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin – Admissions Office using the online application system.

(3) The application deadline is May 31 of each year.

(4) In accordance with Section 3.1, applications for admission must be accompanied by an official certified copy of the applicant's first university degree (or equivalent professional certification) in the format specified by the Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin – Admissions Office.

(5) Applicants can still submit their application to the master's degree program even if they do not have the university degree referred to in Section 3.1 because certain assessment results are not yet available, as long as they otherwise have a good academic record based on previous assessment results, and if the university degree referred to in Section 3.1 will be obtained before the master's degree program begins and as long as the requirements stipulated in Sections 3.2 and 3.3 are also fulfilled in due time.

This expectation is fulfilled in particular if at least two-thirds of the total coursework has been evaluated, the application for the final thesis project has been submitted, and the work schedule for the thesis has been set so that it can be completed in due time before the start of the master's degree program. The applicant's grade point average will be considered as part of the application and factors into the selection process. The grade point average is based on the applicant's previous coursework as reflected in their current transcript, which they should submit with the application. In this case, the result of the university degree is irrelevant.

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\*) These regulations were approved by the Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin on January 2, 2023 and by the Berlin Senate Administration's department with responsibility for higher education on July 26, 2023.



- (6) Freie Universität Berlin has no obligation to investigate the facts of a case on its own initiative (*ex officio*).

### **Section 3 Admission Requirements**

- (1) The admission requirement for the master's program is a first university degree or an equivalent degree from an institution of higher education within or outside of Germany. The completed degree program should cover the equivalent of 180 credit points, of which at least 30 credit points should include content related to the study of Global East Asia, in particular Chinese, Japanese, or Korean studies (attendance of language courses that focus purely on acquisition of an East Asian language is insufficient).
- (2) Applicants who did not complete a university degree at an institution where coursework was conducted in English must demonstrate English language skills at C1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) or equivalent.
- (3) Applicants must also be able to demonstrate proficiency in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean to at least the B1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). This proficiency can be demonstrated by having successfully completed one of the following recognized tests: Chinese (at least HSK 4), Japanese (at least JLPT N3), or Korean (at least TOPIK 3).
- (4) Applicants are exempt from the requirement to provide proof of proficiency in German.
- (5) The examination board responsible for the master's degree program in the Department of History and Cultural Studies, Freie Universität Berlin, determines the equivalence of any documentation provided. Upon request, the equivalence of the documents can be examined by parties external to the application procedure, who may also provide recommendations concerning inadequate documentation.

### **Section 4 Quotas, Selection Criteria, Organizational Aspects**

- (1) 80% of the study placements that are still available after the preliminary quotas have been fulfilled will be allocated according to the selection process as outlined in this document (higher education quota). 20% of the study placements will be distributed according to Section 15.1.1.2 BerlHZG. 5% of the study placements are reserved for the quota stipulated in Section 15.1.3 BerlHZG.
- (2) Candidates are selected for the master's degree program in accordance with the following criteria:
1. The degree of qualification as demonstrated by the applicant's academic performance in their degree programs (Section 15.2.1.1 BerlHZG),
  2. Considerations of the applicant's academic background in their choice of degree program and academic interests that provide an indication of their specific motivation and suitability for the subject (Section 15.2.1.4 BerlHZG), and
  3. Other qualifications acquired outside of a university degree program (Section 15.2.1.5 BerlHZG).
- (3) As part of the selection process, points are awarded for the different criteria described in Sections 4.2.1 to 4.2.3. The maximum number of points that can be awarded is 100.
- (4) Applicants can receive up to 60 points (see Appendix 1) for the selection criterion in Section 4.2.1 based on their final grade point average from their previous degree program.
- (5) Applicants can receive up to 20 points (see Appendix 2) for the selection criterion in Section 4.2.2 based on the credits they have received in any of the following subjects: Chinese studies, East Asian studies, Japanese studies, Korean studies (listed alphabetically).
- (6) Applicants can receive up to 20 points for the selection criterion set out in Section 4.2.3 by

providing documentation of qualifications relevant to the proposed area of study from non-university contexts. Points are awarded based on the following:

1. A one-time award of 10 points for practical experience with work related to East Asia and performed for at least 8 months, for example, at a research institute, at an international organization or (non-)government organization, or in the field of translation;
2. A one-time award of 5 points for evidence of a qualification obtained through a continuing education provider that required at least 40 hours of study (e.g., through language certificates obtained from non-university educational institutions);
3. A one-time award of 5 points for at least one other documented qualification related to East Asian studies that speaks to the candidate's aptitude for a master's degree program.

(7) A ranking list calculated on the basis of the sum of these numbers, with the highest number being ranked first, shall be drawn up and used as the basis for candidate selection.

(8) At least two admissions officers will be appointed to supervise the selection process. The dean of the Department of History and Cultural Studies appoints these two people under the authority of Freie Universität Berlin's Executive Board. Both officers must be authorized examiners for the master's degree program and must be university employees with Freie Universität Berlin as their main employer. These positions may not be filled by substitutes or alternates.

### **Section 5 Admission Decision**

(1) The decision on which applicants are to be selected is made by the Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin – Admissions Office on the basis of how candidates have been ranked.

(2) The selected candidates receive a formal notification of admission stating the deadlines for their written acceptance and enrollment. Failure to meet these deadlines will result in the place being offered to another candidate.

(3) Candidates selected based on their transcripts are granted tentative admission and can enroll in the first semester of the program, but the duration of their enrollment is limited. Generally, the university degree required for admission as described in Section 3.1 must be submitted by the end of the first semester of study, together with relevant documentation proving that any other requirements associated with the degree have also been met. If the necessary documents are not submitted on time, the student's admission will be retracted.

(4) Applicants who are not admitted will receive a rejection letter that states the reasons for the decision.

(5) The documents submitted for the selection procedure are to be kept until the decision is final; in the case of legal proceedings, they are to be kept until a legally binding decision has been made.

### **Section 6 Entry into Force**

These regulations shall enter into force on the day after their publication in *FU-Mitteilungen* (the official bulletin of Freie Universität Berlin).

**Appendix 1**  
**(see Section 4.4):**

Allocation of selection points based on the grade point average as recorded in the documentation for the first university degree:

Grade	Selection Points
1.0	60
1.1	58
1.2	56
1.3	54
1.4	52
1.5	50
1.6	48
1.7	46
1.8	44
1.9	42
2.0	40
2.1	38
2.2	36
2.3	34
2.4	32
2.5	30
2.6	28
2.7	26
2.8	24
2.9	22
3.0	20
3.1	18
3.2	16
3.3	14
3.4	12
3.5	10
3.6	8
3.7	6
3.8	4
3.9	2
4.0	0

**Appendix 2**  
**(see Section 4.5):**

Distribution of points based on the credits received for coursework in particularly relevant subjects as referred to in Section 4.5.

Credits received for particularly relevant subjects	Selecti on Points
120	20
105	15
90	10
75	5

## **Appendix 1: Module Descriptions**

### Explanatory notes:

These module descriptions address the following aspects for each module in the master's program unless otherwise noted that another set of regulations applies:

- The name of the module,
- The person responsible for the module (module coordinator),
- The prerequisites needed to take a particular module,
- The module's content and learning objectives,
- Modes of instruction used in the module,
- The amount of work required by students to complete a module successfully,
- Types of active participation,
- Types of assessments,
- Whether or not regular attendance is required,
- Credits awarded for the module,
- Standard duration of the module,
- Frequency,
- Applicability.

The information provided on student workload takes the following factors into account:

- Active participation during class sessions,
- Time needed to complete small assignment during class sessions,
- Time needed for students' preparations before class and follow-up work,
- Work on study units in online learning sections,
- Preparation time required specifically for assessments,
- The time needed for the assessment/examination itself.

The amount of time indicated for independent study (including preparing for class, follow-up work, preparing for an exam) are only approximations meant to help students organize their time when planning their workload for modules. The information on the workload corresponds to the number of credit points assigned to the respective module, which serves as a unit of measurement for the amount of work required to complete the module successfully. One credit point equals 30 hours.

If regular attendance is required for the specific type of instruction, then regular attendance, along with active participation in the instruction and successful completion of assessments, is necessary to receive credit points for the specific module. Regular attendance means that a student has attended at least 85% of the instruction in the module. If regular attendance is not required in a module, students are still strongly encouraged to attend classes regularly. Instructors teaching courses in which regular attendance is merely encouraged cannot decide that attendance should be required. For modules that include alternative forms of active participation, the type of participation, which must correspond to the student workload allotted for active participation in the respective semester, must be determined by the responsible instructor on the first day of class at the latest.

To complete each module, the student must complete the module assessment for that module if the module has one. Assessed modules are complete with only one examination performance (module examination)/ to finish a module, only one assessment (module assessment) must be completed. The module assessment is based on the module's learning objectives and serves to test whether the objectives have been achieved. The scope of the assessment covers the components necessary to this end. For modules that include alternative assessment forms, the assessment for the respective semester must be determined by the responsible instructor on the first day of class at the latest.

Active and (if applicable) regular participation in the instruction and successful completion of assessments are necessary to receive credit points for the specific module. If a module does not involve a module assessment, then active and regular participation in the instructions is necessary to receive credit points for the specific module.

## 1. Integrative Area

<b>Module:</b> Introduction to Contemporary History and Discourses in East Asia			
<b>University/department/teaching unit:</b> Freie Universität Berlin/Department of History and Cultural Studies/Japanese Studies			
<b>Module coordinator:</b> Degree program coordinator			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> none			
<b>Learning objectives:</b> Students are able to view the history of East Asia in a trans- or international context.			
<b>Content:</b> The module provides a broad overview of the evolution of international relations in the region as well as trans-regional economic, cultural, and social developments since the inter-war period. Special attention is paid to the structural features that constitute East Asia as a unified space or the political, economic, and cultural barriers that have hindered further integration.			
<b>Modes of instruction</b>	<b>Contact hours</b> (hours per week during the semester)	<b>Types of active participation</b>	<b>Workload (in hours)</b>
Lecture	2	Participation in class discussions, academic/scientific note-taking, reading	Attendance (lecture) Preparation and follow-up (lecture) 30 60
Methodology practice session	2	Discussion, group work, oral and written assignments, individually or in groups, research tasks, academic/scientific note-taking, reading sources and literature, written work	Attendance (methodology practice session) Preparation and follow-up (methodology practice session) 30 120 Assessment preparation and assessment 60
<b>Module assessment</b>		Written exam (approx. 90 minutes); the module assessment is graded on a pass/fail basis only.	
<b>Module language</b>		English	
<b>Regular attendance required</b>		yes	
<b>Total workload</b>		300 hours	10 credit points
<b>Duration</b>		One semester	
<b>Frequency</b>		Every winter semester	
<b>Applicability</b>		Master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia	

<b>Module:</b> Introduction to Research Fields in Global East Asia			
<b>University/department/teaching unit:</b> Freie Universität Berlin/Department of History and Cultural Studies/Korean Studies			
<b>Module coordinator:</b> Degree program coordinator			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> none			
<b>Learning objectives:</b> Students are able to independently deal with the subject of research in East Asia. They can identify theories and methods suitable for the analysis of the object of research.			
<b>Content:</b> The module provides a broad overview of research on East Asia. The focus is on paradigms and theories that are particularly crucial for the study of the political, economic and social interrelationships of East Asia. In particular, relevant methods of the respective regional areas will be presented and practiced as well as possibilities of combining regional areas for the purpose of interdisciplinary research will be discussed			
<b>Modes of instruction</b>	<b>Contact hours</b> (hours per week during the semester)	<b>Types of active participation</b>	<b>Workload (in hours)</b>
Seminar	2	Discussion, group work, oral and written assignments (individually or in groups), reading of sources and literature, assignments for preparing and following up on subjects covered in class, independent research and elaboration upon contributions made to class discussions, (oral) presentation	Attendance (seminar) Preparation and follow-up (seminar) 30 60
Methodology practice session	2		Attendance (methodology practice session) Preparation and follow-up (methodology practice session) 30 120 Assessment preparation and assessment 60
<b>Module assessment</b>		Written assignment (approx. 5,000 words)	
<b>Module language</b>		English	
<b>Regular attendance required</b>		yes	

<b>Total workload</b>	300 hours	10 credit points
<b>Duration</b>	One semester	
<b>Frequency</b>	Every summer semester	
<b>Applicability</b>	Master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia	

<b>Module:</b> Interdisciplinary Methods			
<b>University/department/teaching unit:</b> Freie Universität Berlin/Department of History and Cultural Studies/Chinese Studies			
<b>Module coordinator:</b> Degree program coordinator			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> Successful completion of the modules "Introduction to Contemporary History and Discourses in East Asia" and "Introduction to Research Fields in Global East Asia"			
<b>Learning objectives:</b> Students have detailed knowledge of the most important methods from the fields of regional studies and their chosen focus (e.g., social or cultural sciences).			
<b>Content:</b> The module teaches students key methods for researching topics relevant to contemporary East Asia from a transnational and global perspective. The module focuses on providing an overview of the various methodological approaches and their applicability for investigating the object of research. Students compare the effects of interdisciplinary processes with regard to East Asia in a nuanced way. They practice independently analyzing problems from a multidisciplinary and transregional perspective and the application of interdisciplinary theories and methods.			
<b>Modes of instruction</b>	<b>Contact hours</b> (hours per week during the semester)	<b>Types of active participation</b>	<b>Workload (in hours)</b>
Seminar	2	Participation in discussions, discussions, group work, oral and written assignments (individually or in groups)	Attendance (seminar) Preparation and follow-up (seminar)
			30 60
Methodology practice session	2		Attendance (methodology practice session) Preparation and follow-up (methodology practice session)  Assessment preparation and assessment
			30 120  60
<b>Module assessment</b>		Written assignment (approx. 5,000 words)	
<b>Module language</b>		English	
<b>Regular attendance required</b>		yes	
<b>Total workload</b>		300 hours	10 credit points
<b>Duration</b>		One semester	
<b>Frequency</b>		Every winter semester	
<b>Applicability</b>		Master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia	

<b>Module:</b> Research Project			
<b>University/department/teaching unit:</b> Freie Universität Berlin/Department of History and Cultural Studies/Chinese Studies, Japanese Studies, Korean Studies			
<b>Module coordinator:</b> Degree program coordinator			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> none			
<b>Learning objectives:</b> Students can present the approaches and results of a scientific paper clearly, comprehend the structure behind the researcher's work design, and implement good scientific practice guidelines.			
<b>Content:</b> Students present and discuss the process behind writing a scientific paper, supported by suitable specialist literature and methodological research on the topic. They then develop their own research question and prepare a hypothesis and research proposal. Important fundamental skills such as research, data management, good scientific practice and the preparation of a literature review are developed and independently applied to the students' own scientific work.			
<b>Modes of instruction</b>	<b>Contact hours</b> (hours per week during the semester)	<b>Types of active participation</b>	<b>Workload (in hours)</b>
Colloquium	2	Reading, participation in discussions, presentation of a topic, question and hypothesis, research proposal	Attendance (colloquium) Preparation and follow-up (colloquium)
			30 120
<b>Module assessment</b>		none	
<b>Module language</b>		English	
<b>Regular attendance required</b>		yes	
<b>Total workload</b>		150 hours	5 credit points
<b>Duration</b>		One semester	
<b>Frequency</b>		Every summer semester	

<b>Applicability</b>	Master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia, Graduate School of East Asian Studies (GEAS)
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## 2. Specialization Area

<b>Module:</b> Chinese Studies A			
<b>University/department/teaching unit:</b> Freie Universität Berlin/Department of History and Cultural Studies/Chinese Studies			
<b>Module coordinator:</b> Module instructors			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> none			
<b>Learning objectives:</b> Students demonstrate the skills necessary for carrying out independent academic research on China. They have specialized knowledge of current concepts as well as expertise in Western and Chinese research discourses and debates and can apply their specialized and methodological competence to representative objects of study.			
<b>Content:</b> The module provides in-depth knowledge of aspects of China from a social sciences and cultural studies perspective. In doing so, it pursues representative questions for examining central topics and discourses in current cultural studies or social science-based studies of China.			
<b>Modes of instruction</b>	<b>Contact hours</b> (hours per week during the semester)	<b>Types of active participation</b>	<b>Workload (in hours)</b>
Seminar	2	Independent reading of sources and specialist literature, assignments for preparing and following up on subjects covered in class, independent research and elaboration upon contributions made to discussions, presentation, academic/scientific note-taking	Attendance (seminar) Preparation and follow-up (seminar)
			30 90
Seminar	2		Attendance (seminar) Preparation and follow-up (seminar)
			30 90
			Assessment preparation and assessment
			60
<b>Module assessment</b>		Written assignment (approx. 4,500 words)	
<b>Module language</b>		English	
<b>Regular attendance required</b>		yes	
<b>Total workload</b>		300 hours	10 credit points
<b>Duration</b>		One semester	
<b>Frequency</b>		Every winter semester	
<b>Applicability</b>		Master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia	

<b>Module:</b> Chinese Studies B			
<b>University/department/teaching unit:</b> Freie Universität Berlin/Department of History and Cultural Studies/Chinese Studies			
<b>Module coordinator:</b> Module instructors			
<b>Prerequisites:</b> Language skills Chinese B1 CEFR			
<b>Learning objectives:</b> Students demonstrate the skills necessary for carrying out independent academic research on China. They have specialized knowledge of current concepts as well as expertise in Western and Chinese research discourses and debates and can apply their specialized and methodological competence to representative objects of study.			
<b>Content:</b> The module provides in-depth knowledge of aspects of China from a social sciences and cultural studies perspective. In doing so, it pursues representative questions for examining central topics and discourses in current cultural studies or social science-based studies of China. Students practice independent scientific work, applying theories and methods, analyzing Chinese sources and texts, and presenting their results in written and oral form.			
<b>Modes of instruction</b>	<b>Contact hours</b> (hours per week during the semester)	<b>Types of active participation</b>	<b>Workload (in hours)</b>
Seminar	2	Independent reading of sources and specialist literature, assignments for preparing and following-up on subjects covered in class, independent research and preparation of contributions toward class discussions, presentation, academic/scientific note-taking	Attendance (seminar) Preparation and follow-up (seminar)
			30 90
Practice session	2		Attendance (practice session) Preparation and follow-up (practice session)
			30 90
			Assessment preparation and assessment
			60



<b>Module assessment</b>	Written assignment (approx. 4,500 words)	
<b>Module language</b>	English/Chinese	
<b>Regular attendance required</b>	yes	
<b>Total workload</b>	300 hours	10 credit points
<b>Duration</b>	One semester	
<b>Frequency</b>	Every summer semester	
<b>Applicability</b>	Master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia	

<b>Module:</b> Japanese Studies A				
<b>University/department/teaching unit:</b> Freie Universität Berlin/Department of History and Cultural Studies/Japanese Studies				
<b>Module coordinator:</b> Module instructors				
<b>Prerequisites:</b> none				
<b>Learning objectives:</b> Students demonstrate the skills necessary for carrying out independent academic research on Japan. They have specialized knowledge of current concepts as well as expertise in Western and Japanese research discourses and debates and can apply their specialized and methodological competence to representative objects of study.				
<b>Content:</b> The module provides sound factual knowledge of aspects of Japan from a social sciences or cultural studies perspective. In doing so, it pursues representative questions for examining central topics and discourses in current cultural studies or social science-based studies of Japan.				
<b>Modes of instruction</b>	<b>Contact hours</b> (hours per week during the semester)	<b>Types of active participation</b>	<b>Workload (in hours)</b>	
Seminar	2	Independent reading of sources and specialist literature, assignments for preparing and following up on subjects covered in class, independent research and preparation of contributions toward class discussions, presentation, academic/scientific note-taking	Attendance (seminar)	30
			Preparation and follow-up (seminar)	90
Seminar	2		Attendance (seminar)	30
			Preparation and follow-up (seminar)	90
			Assessment preparation and assessment	60
<b>Module assessment</b>		Written assignment (approx. 4,500 words)		
<b>Module language</b>		English		
<b>Regular attendance required</b>		yes		
<b>Total workload</b>		300 hours	10 credit points	
<b>Duration</b>		One semester		
<b>Frequency</b>		Every winter semester		
<b>Applicability</b>		Master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia		

<b>Module:</b> Japanese Studies B				
<b>University/department/teaching unit:</b> Freie Universität Berlin/Department of History and Cultural Studies/Japanese Studies				
<b>Module coordinator:</b> Module instructors				
<b>Prerequisites:</b> Language skills Japanese B1 CEFR				
<b>Learning objectives:</b> Students demonstrate the skills necessary for carrying out independent academic research on Japan. They have specialized knowledge of current concepts as well as expertise in Western and Japanese research discourses and debates and can apply their specialized and methodological competence to representative objects of study.				
<b>Content:</b> The module provides sound factual knowledge of aspects of Japan from a social or cultural studies perspective. In doing so, it pursues representative questions for examining central topics and discourses in current cultural studies or social science-based studies of Japan. Students practice independent academic work, applying theories and methods, analyzing Japanese sources and texts, and presenting their results in written and oral form.				
<b>Modes of instruction</b>	<b>Contact hours</b> (hours per week during the semester)	<b>Types of active participation</b>	<b>Workload (in hours)</b>	
Seminar	2	Independent reading of sources and specialist literature, assignments for preparing and following up on subjects covered in class, independent research and preparation of contributions toward class discussions, presentation,	Attendance (seminar)	30
			Preparation and follow-up (seminar)	90
Practice session	2		Attendance (seminar)	30
			Preparation and follow-up (seminar)	90
			Assessment preparation	

		academic/scientific note-taking	and assessment	60
<b>Module assessment</b>	Written assignment (approx. 4,500 words)			
<b>Module language</b>	English/Japanese			
<b>Regular attendance required</b>	yes			
<b>Total workload</b>	300 hours	10 credit points		
<b>Duration</b>	One semester			
<b>Frequency</b>	Every summer semester			
<b>Applicability</b>	Master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia			

<b>Module:</b> Korean Studies A				
<b>University/department/teaching unit:</b> Freie Universität Berlin/Department of History and Cultural Studies/Korean Studies				
<b>Module coordinator:</b> Module instructors				
<b>Prerequisites:</b> none				
<b>Learning objectives:</b> Students demonstrate the skills necessary for carrying out independent academic research on Japan. They have specialized knowledge of current concepts as well as expertise in Western and Korean research discourses and debates and can apply their specialized and methodological competence to representative objects of study.				
<b>Content:</b> The module provides sound factual knowledge of aspects of Korea from a social sciences or cultural studies perspective. In doing so, it pursues representative questions for examining central topics and discourses in current cultural or social science-based studies of Korea.				
<b>Modes of instruction</b>	<b>Contact hours</b> (hours per week during the semester)	<b>Types of active participation</b>	<b>Workload (in hours)</b>	
Seminar	2	Independent reading of sources and specialist literature, assignments for preparing and following up on subjects covered in class, independent research and preparation of contributions toward class discussions, presentation, academic/scientific note-taking	Attendance (seminar) Preparation and follow-up (seminar)	30 90
Seminar	2		Attendance (seminar) Preparation and follow-up (seminar)  Assessment preparation and assessment	30 90  60
<b>Module assessment</b>	Written assignment (approx. 4,500 words)			
<b>Module language</b>	English			
<b>Regular attendance required</b>	yes			
<b>Total workload</b>	300 hours	10 credit points		
<b>Duration</b>	One semester			
<b>Frequency</b>	Every winter semester			
<b>Applicability</b>	Master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia			

<b>Module:</b> Korean Studies B				
<b>University/department/teaching unit:</b> Freie Universität Berlin/Department of History and Cultural Studies/Korean Studies				
<b>Module coordinator:</b> Module instructors				
<b>Prerequisites:</b> Language skills Korean B1 CEFR				
<b>Learning objectives:</b> Students demonstrate the skills necessary for carrying out independent academic research on Japan. They have specialized knowledge of current concepts as well as expertise in Western and Japanese research discourses and debates and can apply their specialized and methodological competence to representative objects of study.				
<b>Content:</b> The module provides sound factual knowledge of aspects of Korea from a social sciences or cultural studies perspective. In doing so, it pursues representative questions for examining central topics and discourses in current cultural studies or social science-based studies of Korea. Students practice independent scientific work, applying theories and methods, analyzing Korean sources and texts, and presenting their results in written and oral form.				
<b>Modes of instruction</b>	<b>Contact hours</b> (hours per week during the semester)	<b>Types of active participation</b>	<b>Workload (in hours)</b>	
Seminar	2	Independent reading of sources and specialist literature, assignments for preparing and following up on subjects covered in class, independent research and preparation of contributions toward	Attendance (seminar) Preparation and follow-up (seminar)	30 90
Practice session	2		Attendance (practice session)	30 90

		class discussions, presentation, academic/scientific note-taking	Preparation and follow-up (practice session) Assessment preparation and assessment	60
<b>Module assessment</b>		Written assignment (approx. 4,500 words)		
<b>Module language</b>		English/Korean		
<b>Regular attendance required</b>		yes		
<b>Total workload</b>		300 hours	10 credit points	
<b>Duration</b>		One semester		
<b>Frequency</b>		Every summer semester		
<b>Applicability</b>		Master's degree program M.A. Global East Asia		

## Appendix 2) Standard Curriculum Plan

Semester	Integrative area 35 credit points	Specialization area with three regional studies 30 credit points	Complementary area 30 credit points
<b>1</b> <b>30 credit points</b>	Module Introduction to Contemporary History and Discourses in East Asia 10 credit points	Module Chinese Studies A or B or Korean Studies A or B or Japanese Studies A or B 10 credit points	Compulsory elective modules 10 credit points
<b>2</b> <b>30 credit points</b>	Module Introduction to Research Fields in Global East Asia 10 credit points	Module Chinese Studies A or B or Korean Studies A or B or Japanese Studies A or B 10 credit points	Compulsory elective modules 10 credit points
<b>3</b> <b>30 credit points</b>	Module Interdisciplinary Methods 10 credit points	Module Chinese Studies A or B or Korean Studies A or B or Japanese Studies A or B 10 credit points	Compulsory elective modules 10 credit points
<b>4</b> <b>30 credit points</b>	Module Research Project 5 credit points	Master's Thesis 25 credit points	