

Modules

Module A: Theoretical Foundations

Objectives:

- o Theoretical and methodological foundations of Western Hemispheric Studies
- o Inter-American Mapping
- o Transdisciplinary references

Courses:

1. Theories and Methods of Western Hemispheric Studies (4 ECTS)
2. Inter-American and Hemispheric Mapping (6 ECTS)
3. Survey of Cultural Studies Approaches (4 ECTS)
4. Hemispheric Historiography (6 ECTS)
5. Further courses according to the Western Hemispheric Studies course offers

To complete module A, a total of at least 20 ECTS credits must be completed successfully.

Module B: Advanced Research Skills

Objectives:

- o Consolidation of the knowledge acquired in module A
- o Acquisition of applied research techniques

Courses:

1. Analytical Methods in the Humanities and Archival Work (6 ECTS)
2. Qualitative Empirical Methods in the Humanities and Social Sciences (6 ECTS)
3. Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences (6 ECTS)
4. Research Project Management and Networking (6 ECTS)
5. Further courses according to the Western Hemispheric Studies course offers

To complete module B, a total of at least 24 ECTS credits must be completed successfully.

Module C: Thematic Focus

Objectives:

- o In-depth examination of the different regions of the Western Hemisphere
- o Processing of hemispherical and global issues

Courses:

1. Inter-American and Hemispheric History (6 ECTS)
2. Inter-American and Atlantic Media, Literature, and Culture (6 ECTS)
3. Inter-American and Atlantic Social & Economic Relations (6 ECTS)
4. Inter-American and Atlantic Area Studies (6 ECTS)
5. Inter-American and Atlantic Law and Society (6 ECTS)

To complete module C, a total of at least 30 ECTS credits must be completed successfully.

Module D: Practical Internships

Objectives:

- o Gaining practical experience in research and organizational matters
- o Acquisition of local and practical knowledge as part of an excursion

Courses:

1. Internship Research Project (8 ECTS)
2. Internship Scientific Event or Training College (8 ECTS)
3. Excursion (8 ECTS)
4. Final Thesis (8 ECTS)

To complete module D, a total of at least 16 ECTS credits must be completed successfully.

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Center for Inter-American Studies (C.IAS)
<https://interamerikanistik.uni-graz.at/de>

Master Module

Western Hemispheric Studies in the Humanities

Communication, Culture, Geopolitics

Certified Study Specialization and Additional Qualification

Content

Understanding and explaining international transformation processes and their effects on ecological, economic and social fields requires networked thinking and interdisciplinary knowledge.

At the University of Graz, numerous departments (e.g. American Studies, Romance Studies, Inter-American Studies, History, Sociology, Geography and Geology, Cultural Anthropology and European Ethnology, Art History) offer relevant teaching in the field of Western Hemispheric Studies. The master's module Western Hemispheric Studies in Humanities offers master students at the University of Graz the opportunity to acquire a certified additional qualification as part of their free electives.

Western Hemispheric Studies is an interdisciplinary and postgraduate master's module (additional training) at the University of Graz. The range of courses in different disciplines is aimed at master's students from all fields of study, who would like to acquire postgraduate training in a specific hemisphere in order to be able to deal with current issues of globalization and its ecological effects as well as political, social, cultural and economic developments in the past, present and future.

Goals

The aim of the master's module in Western Hemispheric Studies is to impart specialized knowledge and promote reflection abilities. Besides regional, national and hemispherical boundaries and disciplinary restrictions, mindsets that develop an understanding of different cultures and worldviews from relational perspectives are promoted – and thus form the basis for acquiring intercultural skills.

Participants of the module develop the following skills:

- o Fact-based understanding of the interdependencies of hemispherical and inter-American processes (especially regarding international institutions and organizations)
- o Knowledge about structural disadvantages as well as international and intra-social power asymmetries and their causes
- o Interdisciplinary approaches and concepts for social innovation with regard to structural disadvantages
- o A critical view of one's own Eurocentric perspective and identity as well as intercultural competencies through dealing with other cultures and their values. Participants in their master's module learn to use foreign experiences for dialogues

Module Overview

The master module **Western Hemispheric Studies in Humanities** comprises three basic modules and one practical module.

Basic Modules (74 ECTS credits):

1. Module A – Theoretical Foundations (20 ECTS credits)
2. Module B – Advanced Research Skills (24 ECTS credits)
3. Module C – Thematic Focus (30 ECTS credits)

Practical Modules (16 ECTS credits):

4. Module D – Practical Internships (16 ECTS credits)

Total: 90 ECTS credits

Degree

The master module ends with one of the following degrees:

- o Certificate "Basic module Western Hemispheric Studies" (for completing the three basic modules, 90 ECTS)
- o Certificate "Master module Western Hemispheric Studies" (for completing the three basic modules and the practical modules with a total of 70 ECTS credits)

The examination certificates are to be presented to the head of the "Western Hemispheric Studies", who checks and confirms the ECTS performance and a correct course completion.

Steering Group Master Module

The „Master Module: Western Hemispheric Studies in Humanities“ steering group is responsible for quality assurance of the master's module. It is comprised of an interdisciplinary basis and consists of:

- o Members of the C.IAS Board of Directors
- o Members of the C.IAS Advisory Boards
- o Members of the CuKo Commission Inter-American Studies at the University of Graz

Ao. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Roberta Maierhofer (Center for Inter-American Studies) is in charge of the „Western Hemispheric Studies“ steering group.

The steering group selects the courses for the master's module in Western Hemispheric Studies from the courses offered by the University of Graz for one academic year and is responsible for quality development and control.