

**Study and examination regulations for the Double Master's programme in Global Communication and International Journalism of the Department of Politics and Social Sciences at the Freie Universität Berlin in collaboration with the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at St. Petersburg State University**

**Preamble**

On the basis of Section 14 paragraph 1 no. 2 of the Partial University Constitution (Trial version) of the Freie Universität Berlin of 27 October 1998 (FU Mitteilungen [Gazette of the Freie Universität Berlin] 24/1998), the Department Council of the Department of Politics and Social Sciences of the Freie Universität Berlin issued the following study and examination regulations for the Double Master's programme in Global Communication and International Journalism of the Department of Politics and Social Sciences at the Freie Universität Berlin in collaboration with the School of Journalism and Mass Communications of St. Petersburg State University on 11 December 2013:<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The executive board of the Freie Universität Berlin confirmed these regulations on 28 January 2014. Diese Ordnung ist vom Präsidium der Freien Universität Berlin am 28. Januar 2014 bestätigt worden.

## **Section 1**

### **Area of application**

(1) These regulations apply to the aims, content and structure of the English language Double Master's programme in Global Communication and International Journalism of the Department of Politics and Social Sciences at the Freie Universität Berlin in collaboration with the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at St. Petersburg State University (Master's programme) and the requirements and procedures for study and examination attainments (attainments) in the Master's programme as a supplement to the framework study and examination regulations of the Freie Universität Berlin (RSPO).

(2) It is a consecutive Master's programme in accordance with Section 23 para 3 no. 1 letter a) of the law regulating higher education institutions in Berlin (Berlin Higher Education Act – BerlHG) of 26 July 2011 (Law and Ordinance Gazette [GVBl] p. 378). The programme is research-oriented and interdisciplinary in structure.

## **Section 2**

### **Qualification aims**

(1) Students of the Master's programme have the methodological and analytical skills oriented on current research issues to independently examine phenomena and problems of international and transnational media communication in an ever-changing global media society. They have in-depth knowledge of the structures and dynamics of a range of media systems, focussing particularly on the German and Russian media systems and the professional fields of international journalism and communication management. The students have extensive and in-depth knowledge of the theories of public communication and the main findings of international media and communications research. They have acquired knowledge of empirical research methods and are therefore able to independently identify research issues, to classify them in the context of the theory and to build on these through their own autonomous research work. The students are able to understand media developments and communication processes across national borders under conditions of globalisation.

(2) They are familiar with the tasks and possibilities of public communication and are able to work professionally and independently in a transnational working environment, to take the opportunities offered by advancing digitalisation and to analyse the processes linked with it. Moreover, they also engage critically with the significance of globalisation and media innovation for political, cultural and economic communication. The students are able to analyse gender relationships and gender-specific implications, as well as media stereotypes in global, international and political media communication.

(3) Graduates of the Master's programme are prepared for a career as a journalist, an academic career in university or non-university research, management tasks in organisations and fields of global media communication and activities within communications-scientific media consultation, political education and intercultural communication.

## **Section 3**

### **Programme content**

(1) The Master's programme deepens and expands the fundamental knowledge of scientific work in relation to critical reflection on global public media structures and processes gained in a Bachelor's programme in media and communications studies, media studies or related humanities or social science Bachelor's programmes. The Master's programme focuses particularly on the German and Russian media systems.

Comparative international theoretical and empirical approaches which take sufficient account of social and media change are of particular importance in the programme.

(2) The Master's programme teaches the following theoretical, methodological and empirical knowledge:

- on journalistic communication and on the development of journalism as a professional field in the context of a radical media shift
- on the structures and framework of German and Russian media systems from comparative international and transnational points of view
- on forms and conditions of global media discourse and global media publicity

The Master's programme also teaches the skills and competencies required in professional and intercultural communication in social research, journalism and in particular, media management and international organisations. It also teaches comprehensive interdisciplinary communication, organisational and presentation skills. The programme's graduates are qualified to work both independently and as part of a team.

#### **Section 4**

##### **Academic advisory centre and departmental advisory service**

(1) General academic advice is provided by the central academic advisory centre and the psychological counselling service at the Freie Universität Berlin.

(2) The departmental advisory service is provided at regular fixed times by the professors who offer the teaching units in the modules of the Master's programme.

#### **Section 5**

##### **Examination committee**

The examination committee appointed for the Master's programme by the Departmental Council of the Department of Politics and Social Sciences at the Freie Universität Berlin is responsible for the organisation of the examinations and other tasks listed in the RSPO.

#### **Section 6**

##### **Usual period of study**

The usual period of study is four semesters.

#### **Section 7**

##### **Structure and organisation; scope of attainments**

(1) Study and examination attainments (attainments) of a total of 120 credit points (CP) are to be completed in the Master's programme, including the Master's thesis with the presentation of the findings totalling 25 CP.

(2) The following modules comprising a total of 95 CP are to be completed in the Master's programme:

Module 1: Introduction to communications studies and research (10 CP)

Module 2: Introduction to journalism research and journalistic practice (10 CP)

Module 3: Foreign languages in media and communication (10 CP)

Module 4: Comparative media systems research (10 CP)

Module 5: Political communication research (10 CP)

Module 6: Globalisation and the media (8 CP)

Module 7: International journalism cultures (9 CP)

Module 8: Media management (8 CP)

Module 9: Practical training (20 CP).

(3) The module descriptions of each module in Annex 1 give information for all the modules on

the Master's programme relating to admissions requirements, content, qualification aims, teaching and learning units, time required, forms of active participation, the examination attainments required, information on whether regular attendance at the teaching and learning units is compulsory, the credit points allocated to each module, the usual duration and how often the module is offered.

(4) The sample study schedule in Annex 2 gives information about the recommended study plan.

## **Section 8**

### **Teaching and learning units**

The following types of teaching and learning units are offered in the Master's programme:

1. Lectures: give either an overview of a larger area of the subject and its methodological and theoretical principles or knowledge of a specialised subject area and related research issues, presenting general correlations and theoretical principles. The main teaching unit is the lecture by each lecturer, who checks the level of knowledge at the end of the unit.

2. Seminars: used to teach knowledge of a defined subject area and to gain the skills required to work autonomously on an issue, to present the findings and to discuss them critically. The main forms of work are seminar discussions based on teaching materials, on reading material to be prepared (specialist literature and sources) or on work assignments or group work.

3. Student tutorials: give the opportunity to further deepen and discuss knowledge acquired in lectures and through independent study, under the guidance of older, specially trained students. The main form of work is the observation of the students by the tutors and helpful intervention in case of problems in independent study.

4. Workshops: a general term for all teaching locations such as laboratories, simulators or practice workshops where the aim is to convey insights into holistic, complex interrelationships. The main form of work is communicating practical professional skills or methodological research competencies and their application, using examples.

5. Language classes: aim to teach activity-related communicative skills in modern foreign languages. They demand active participation in discussion and include – depending on the student's level of proficiency, the type of text under discussion and the qualification aims – a range of forms of independent and cooperative language work, which students carry out in continuous feedback with the lecturer within and outside the attendance periods. The teaching and learning unit "language classes" comprises of 50% conversation practice and 50% course reading.

6. Supervised external practical training: gives the opportunity to work independently on issues and possible solutions on selected subjects using appropriate methods and enables students to learn practical and analytical skills. Under guidance, the students gain experience in applying the specialised knowledge and methods they have learnt and can test their suitability for particular professional fields. In units which may be part of practical training, the aim is to focus particularly on the teaching content in the practical training, to clear up any ambiguities and to reflect on experience gained in practical work.

## **Section 9**

### **Master's thesis**

(1) The Master's thesis is intended to demonstrate that the student is capable of working independently at an advanced academic level on an issue in the field of international communication or international journalism and to present the findings appropriately orally and in writing, to classify them scientifically and to document them.

(2) Students are admitted to the Master's thesis on application when they prove on application that they

1. have been recently registered on the Master's programme at the Freie Universität Berlin or at St Petersburg State University
2. have successfully completed modules of the Master's programme comprising a total of at least 60 CP.

(3) The application for admittance to the Master's thesis must include proof of the fulfilment of the conditions in accordance with paragraph 2 as well as written confirmation by an authorised examiner in the Master's programme of his/her willingness to take on the supervision of the Master's thesis. The application for admittance to the Master's thesis must be submitted to the examination committee within two weeks of the topic being agreed with the supervisor. The final decision on the topic of the Master's thesis and the supervisor is to be made by 1 October of the second academic year of the programme. The relevant examination committee will decide on the application. If written confirmation that the supervisor is willing to take on the supervision of the Master's thesis in accordance with sentence 1 is not provided, the examination committee will appoint a supervisor.

(4) The examination committee issues the topic of the Master's thesis in consultation with the supervisor. The topic and scope of work must be such that the thesis can be completed within the time permitted. The issue of the topic and completion to the deadline are to be put on record.

(5) The Master's thesis should be about 24,000 words long. The time permitted for its completion is 23 weeks. It is to be written in English. If a student is prevented from working on his/her thesis for more than three months for a good reason, the examination committee decides if the Master's thesis must be repeated. The examination attainments relating to the Master's thesis are considered not to have been completed if the examination committee requires them to be repeated.

(6) Supplementary to the Master's thesis, a research colloquy in the scope of the module Practical Training is to be completed, which prepares and runs alongside the writing of the Master's thesis. Within the research colloquy, the students present and debate the planning and interim findings of their Master's thesis. The research colloquium is compulsory. No grades are awarded for it.

(7) The date for the start of work on the master's thesis is the date on which the topic was issued by the examination committee. The topic may be returned once within the first three weeks and is considered not to have been issued in this case. When they submit their thesis, students must also confirm in writing that they have written the thesis personally and independently and have used no aids other than the sources and aids listed. Three bound copies of the master's thesis and a digital copy in Portable Document Format (PDF) are to be submitted.

(8) The master's thesis is to be evaluated in the form of a written statement within four weeks by two authorised examiners appointed by the examination committee.

(9) The findings of the Master's thesis are to be presented in the oral section of the Master's thesis (approx. 10 - 15 minutes) and defended in a scientific discussion (approx. 30 minutes). The date is set by the examination committee immediately after submission of the Master's thesis and the candidate is informed in a suitable manner. The oral section of the Master's thesis is examined by two authorised examiners. They are to be the same examiners who examined the Master's thesis. The grade for the oral section of the Master's thesis is the arithmetic average of the two individual grades.

(10) The grade for the oral section of the Master's thesis counts for one tenth and the grade for the written section of the Master's thesis counts for nine tenths of the overall grade for the Master's thesis.

(11) The Master's thesis is awarded a pass if the overall grade is at least "sufficient" (4.0). If this grade is not reached, the Master's thesis may be retaken once.

## **Section 10 Study abroad**

(1) In the course of the Master's programme, students study at St. Petersburg State University during the first and third semesters and at the Freie Universität Berlin during the second semester. The fourth semester is spent at the Freie Universität Berlin or the St Petersburg State University, depending on which university the supervisor of the Master's thesis is linked to.

(2) The attainments achieved during the period of study abroad are part of the Master's programme. The supervisors responsible for the Master's programme support the students in planning and preparing for their period of study abroad. They inform the students of possible sources of financial support for travel and living expenses.

## **Section 11 Final degree**

(1) The prerequisite for the award of the final degree is proof that the attainments required in accordance with Sections 7 and 9 have been achieved.

(2) The award of the final degree is not possible if the student has irrevocably failed to achieve the required attainment or has irrevocably failed the examination or is in a pending examination procedure at another university in the same programme of studies or in a module which is identical to, or comparable with, a module to be taken in the Master's programme and for which the grade is to be included in the final grade.

(3) The application for confirmation of the final degree must include proof of the fulfilment of the requirements according to paragraph 1 and a statement that none of the cases according to paragraph 2 applies to the applicant. The relevant examination committee will decide on the application.

(4) Based on the successful examination, the university degree of Master of Arts (M.A.) is awarded. The students receive

1. a certificate of academic record and a degree certificate from the Freie Universität Berlin (annex 2 and 3)
2. a certificate of academic record and a degree certificate from St Petersburg State University
3. a joint diploma supplement (in English and German).

A supplement to the certificate of academic record containing information on individual modules and their parts (transcript) will also be issued. English versions of the certificate of academic record and the degree certificate will be issued.

## **Section 12 Coming into effect**

These regulations come into effect on the day after their publication in the FU Mitteilung [Gazette of the Freie Universität Berlin].

## **Annex 1: Module descriptions**

### Explanation:

The following module descriptions give information about each module of the Master's programme, including

- Module name
- The person responsible for the module
- Module admissions requirements
- Module content and qualification aims
- Module teaching and learning units
- Students' study time estimated as necessary to complete the module successfully
- Forms of active participation
- Examination forms
- Compulsory regular attendance
- Credit points allocated to the module
- Usual duration of the module
- How often the module is offered
- Application of the module

The statements on students' study time required take into account the following in particular

- Active participation in the compulsory attendance phase
- Students' study time required to complete small tasks in the compulsory attendance phase
- Time for independent preparation and follow-up
- Preparation time for examinations
- Examinations.

The notional times given for independent study (including preparation, follow-up and preparation for examinations) are intended as guidance to help the students in managing the time required for the module-related work. The statements on study hours correspond to the number of credit points allocated to the module as a unit of measurement for the student's approximate study hours required to complete the module successfully. One credit point is equivalent to 30 hours.

Where attendance is compulsory for the teaching and learning units, it is a prerequisite for the award of the credit points allocated to the module, alongside active participation in the teaching and learning units and successful completion of the module examination. Regular attendance is achieved when the student has attended at least 85% of the teaching and learning units in the module's compulsory attendance phase. If regular attendance at a teaching or learning unit is not compulsory, it is nevertheless strongly recommended.

The module examination allocated to each module – if required – must be taken. Graded modules can only be completed with an examination (module examination). The module examination is to relate to the qualification aims of the module and examines whether the module aims have been achieved using examples. The scope of the examination is limited to what is necessary. In modules for which alternative examination forms are provided, the form of examination for each semester is to be fixed by the lecturer responsible in the first teaching unit at the latest.

Active participation, regular attendance at the teaching and learning units, if required, and successful completion of the examinations in a module are all prerequisites for gaining the credit points allocated to each module. For modules without an examination, the prerequisites for gaining the credit points allocated to the module are active participation and regular attendance at the teaching and learning units.

<b>Module 1:</b> Introduction to communication studies and research			
<b>University/Department/Institute:</b> Freie Universität Berlin / Department of Politics and Social Sciences / Institute of Media and Communications Studies			
<b>Responsible for the module:</b> Division Media Analysis / Research Methods and Division Research of Media Use			
<b>Admission requirements:</b> none			
<p><b>Qualification aims:</b> The students are familiar with a range of forms of media and communications research in the context of global mediatised worlds. They have the knowledge of principles relevant to their studies and have an overview of the various research approaches of the collaborating faculties.</p> <p>The students are able to apply a range of methods of data collection and analysis to their own research projects. They gain knowledge in the fields of production and communications research, media content research, media reception and media use research and can apply it to their own research issues. This lays the basis for appropriately evaluating existing studies and analyses and for the development and implementation of their own data collection. The students also gain skills in the field of critical data analysis and can therefore undertake secondary analysis of earlier complex studies and analyse and interpret their own material independently.</p>			
<p><b>Content:</b> In lectures, the students gain an overview of a range of research approaches in media and communication studies. General principles are introduced, focussing on international and transnational approaches and related issues in the field of global communication. The lectures raise their awareness of various phenomena of international and transnational communication in ever-changing media worlds. Research findings in the two collaborating countries and core studies from other countries are discussed.</p> <p>In the following semester, fundamental knowledge in the field of qualitative and quantitative empirical research methods in media and communication studies are studied in a seminar. Forms of production analysis, content and discourse analysis are discussed, as well as various methods of media reception and media use research. The skills thus gained in data collection and analysis are examined in a term paper at the end of the module, which may take the form of the student's own case study or a critical secondary analysis of existing studies.</p>			
Teaching and learning units	Compulsory attendance (Semester hours per week = SH)	Forms of active participation	Study time (hours)
Lecture	2	Preparation and follow-up of relevant specialist literature, final test	Attendance study phase 90
Seminar	2	Preparation and follow-up of relevant specialist literature, independent research, oral and written exercises, individual and group work, presentation in the form of a paper	Preparation and follow-up 90 Preparation for examination, 120 Examination
Tutorial	2	In-depth study of relevant topics in individual study and in the tutorial	
<b>Module examination</b>		Term paper (approx. 6,000 words)	
<b>Language of instruction</b>		English	
<b>Compulsory regular attendance</b>		Lecture and seminar: yes; tutorial: attendance recommended	
<b>Study time, total hours</b>		300 hours	10 CP
<b>Duration of module</b>		Two semesters	
<b>Module offered</b>		Lecture: every winter semester; seminar: at least every summer semester	
<b>Application</b>		Master's programme Global Communication and International Journalism	

<b>Module 2:</b> Introduction to journalism research and journalistic practice	
<b>University/Department/Institute:</b> St. Petersburg State University	
<b>Responsible for the module:</b> School of Journalism and Mass Communications	
<b>Admission requirements:</b> none	
<p><b>Qualification aims:</b> The students gain fundamental theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of journalism, practical skills in writing texts in a range of journalistic genres and the ability to analyse and edit media texts. They are able to work creatively in a team and gain familiarity with editorial and production processes for various media texts (from the fields of print journalism, radio, TV). They also gain basic normative knowledge of the principles of international media law and the</p>	

ways it is applied.

The students are thus able to identify current, relevant journalistic topics and to engage with different types of media and theoretical approaches of journalism research. They engage critically with core topics relating to writing for various media, both individually and in group work.

**Content:** In lectures, the students gain an overview of contemporary media typologies and of approaches and topics currently relevant in the field of journalism in different media systems. The focus is on common factors and differences in national and transnational approaches to political, economic, social and cultural topics in the global mediated world. Independent student research takes place, taking one of the topics mentioned as an example.

The seminar is related to the lectures in content: students present their research individually or in groups and prepare themselves jointly for the module examination through the activity described and through seminar discussions.

One core area of the module also takes the form of practical workshops in which the students work in journalism, focusing particularly on print media. One edition of the student faculty newspaper is issued as a group task, the emphasis being above all on teamwork and professional role allocation as well as management competence and research and writing skills.

Teaching and learning units	Compulsory attendance (Semester hours per week = SH)	Forms of active participation	Study time (hours)	
Lecture	1	Follow-up work on relevant research literature, collaboration on a research report	Attendance study phase	150
			Preparation and follow-up	60
Seminar	2	Follow-up work on relevant news and media texts, independent research, oral exercises, individual and/or group work, presentations	Preparation for examination,	90
			Examination	
Workshop	7	Creative exercises in various genres of news journalism, print media laboratory, producing an issue of the faculty newspaper, work exercises in the faculty's TV and radio studios		
<b>Module examination</b>		Oral examination (approx. 20 minutes) in the seminar and results from the workshops as a portfolio		
<b>Language of instruction</b>		English		
<b>Compulsory regular attendance</b>		Attendance recommended		
<b>Study time, total hours</b>		300 hours		10 CP
<b>Duration of module</b>		One semester		
<b>Module offered</b>		Lecture: every winter semester; seminar: at least every summer semester		
<b>Application</b>		Master's programme Global Communication and International Journalism		

**Module 3:** Foreign languages in media and communication

**University/Department/Institute:** St. Petersburg State University

**Responsible for the module:** School of Journalism and Mass Communications

**Admission requirements:** none

**Qualification aims:** In this module, the students gain the knowledge of a foreign language which is relevant for their work in an international media environment, with the main focus on media cultures in English-speaking, German-speaking and Russian-speaking areas. Their language skills include general language proficiency (understanding media and academic texts, competence in writing in the relevant foreign language) and English for special purposes in the field of media practice.

**Content:** Language acquisition takes place in the form of practical language practice courses. The course "English in the media" includes exercises in the field of text comprehension and text production at an advanced level; the relevant specialist vocabulary for the media field is also included.

Russian or German are taught as foreign languages in the scope of each university's own respective language department. This also includes reading short media texts and chapters of books in the course of the second semester.

Teaching and learning units	Compulsory attendance (Semester hours per week = SH)	Forms of active participation	Study time (hours)	
Language practice exercise I	2	Reading and writing media texts, independent research of the relevant specialist terminology	Attendance study phase	150
Language practice exercise II	4	Active participation in foreign language introductory course (German or Russian), exercises	Preparation and follow-up	90
Language practice exercise III	2	Study of advanced grammar and lexicology of the selected second foreign language, reading media texts and chapters of books	Preparation for examination, Examination	60
<b>Module examination</b>		Language texts in the Russian/German courses; the module examination is not graded; it is evaluated simply with a pass/fail		
<b>Language of instruction</b>		English and German / Russian (depending on the course selected)		
<b>Compulsory regular attendance</b>		Language practical exercises I and II: attendance recommended; language practical exercises III: yes		
<b>Study time, total hours</b>		300 hours		10 CP
<b>Duration of module</b>		Two semesters		
<b>Module offered</b>		Language practical exercises I and II: in the winter semester at the St. Petersburg State University; Language practical exercises III: in the summer semester at the Freie Universität Berlin		
<b>Application</b>		Master's programme Global Communication and International Journalism		

<b>Module 4:</b> Comparative media systems research				
<b>University/Department/Institute:</b> Freie Universität Berlin / Department of Politics and Social Sciences / Institute for Media and Communications Studies				
<b>Responsible for the module:</b> Division Communication Policy / Media Economics				
<b>Admission requirements:</b> none				
<b>Qualification aims:</b> The students have gained in-depth knowledge of processes which apply to the development of the Russian and German media systems within their political, economic, legal and cultural contexts. They can apply this knowledge in the context of comparative research approaches (e.g. comparison of Germany and Russia).				
<b>Content:</b> Seminar I in St Petersburg gives an introduction to the Russian media landscape, focusing particularly on political and cultural topics. Building on this, the lectures in Berlin places the German media system in its context with a particular focus on political, economic and legal structures and processes. The linked seminar II covers the media systems and processes mentioned from the viewpoint of comparative research and focuses on interrelated current changes and challenges. The term paper which concludes the module covers this topic field.				
Teaching and learning units	Compulsory attendance (Semester hours per week = SH)	Forms of active participation	Study time (hours)	
Seminar I	2	Preparation and follow-up of relevant research literature, independent research, oral and/or written exercises, individual and/or group work	Attendance study phase	90
			Preparation and follow-up	90
Lecture	2	Preparation and follow-up of relevant research literature, preparation of oral statements	Preparation for examination, Examination	120

Seminar II	2	Preparation and follow-up of relevant research literature, independent research, oral and/or written exercises, individual and/or group work		
<b>Module examination</b>		Term paper (approx. 4,500 words)		
<b>Language of instruction</b>		English		
<b>Compulsory regular attendance</b>		Seminar I: attendance recommended, lecture and seminar II: yes		
<b>Study time, total hours</b>		300 hours	10 CP	
<b>Duration of module</b>		Two semesters		
<b>Module offered</b>		Seminar I: every semester at St. Petersburg State University, lecture and seminar II: every summer semester at the Freie Universität Berlin		
<b>Application</b>		Master's programme Global Communication and International Journalism		

<b>Module 5: Political communication research</b>			
<b>University/Department/Institute:</b> Freie Universität Berlin / Department of Politics and Social Sciences / Institute for Media and Communications Studies			
<b>Responsible for the module:</b> Division Journalism Studies			
<b>Admission requirements:</b> none			
<p><b>Qualification aims:</b> The students are able to analyse current topics in the field of political journalism and in other forms of political communication within transnational communication spaces. They plan their own scientific analyses of political journalism and carry them out independently. The students can critically evaluate areas of conflict and processes of tension between politics and journalism. They gain in-depth knowledge in relation to existing studies in this field and can reflect critically on the processes analysed in them. They are also able to identify current developments in the field of political communication management, place them in context and reflect critically on them. On the basis of theoretical approaches and relevant research findings on the actors, processes and instruments of strategic political communication, the students can explain political communication management from both a normative and a functional perspective. They are familiar with various ways of processing political information from a historical, interdisciplinary and comparative perspective and are thus able to scrutinise these processes critically and to prepare their own independent research work on topics linked to this area.</p>			
<p><b>Content:</b> The core of this module comprises on the one hand, political communication and on the other, concepts of international and transnational public audiences and public opinion. The focus is both on the analysis of existing comparative studies and on carrying out the students' own research in the context of a global media society. The topics of political audiences are subjected to a critical analysis both on empirical and theoretical levels. Research fields for the student analyses include both forms of political journalism and forms of political information and propaganda by parties and other political institutions. Political journalism takes place in various changing contexts and professional processes, related to structural and technological innovation processes. The relationship between politics and the media is also changing continuously. Therefore, in order to understand global mediatised spaces and processes, it is necessary to carry out in-depth analyses of the current conditions under which political journalism takes place, the work it performs and its status in society, its inherent gender structures and the constant change it is subjected to. Topics discussed include aspects of globalisation, social effects on and caused by media innovation, processes of demographic change in general and gender topics related to it in particular. The module also introduces students to various topics from the field of communication management, including the relevant sub-topics of campaign work, lobbying, public affairs management and public diplomacy. Professional and gender roles, processes of professionalization and differentiation in political communication are discussed, focusing on the interdependence of political actors, political journalists and political news management.</p>			
<b>Teaching and learning units</b>	<b>Compulsory attendance</b> (Semester hours per week = SH)	<b>Forms of active participation</b>	<b>Study time</b> (hours)
Seminar I	2	Preparation and follow-up of relevant research literature, independent research,	Attendance study phase 60

Seminar II	2	presentations, oral or written individual or group work	Preparation and follow-up for Examination	110 130
<b>Module examination</b>		Term paper (approx. 6,000 words)		
<b>Language of instruction</b>		English		
<b>Compulsory regular attendance</b>		yes		
<b>Study time, total hours</b>		300 hours	10 CP	
<b>Duration of module</b>		One semester		
<b>Module offered</b>		Every summer semester		
<b>Application</b>		Master's programme Global Communication and International Journalism		

<b>Module 6: Globalisation and the media</b>			
<b>University/Department/Institute:</b> St. Petersburg State University			
<b>Responsible for the module:</b> School of Journalism and Mass Communications			
<b>Admission requirements:</b> none			
<b>Qualification aims:</b> The students are able to orient themselves in the global and regional topic fields which dominate the international and national news agendas. They learn to deconstruct one-sided tendencies within reporting on various topics, to evaluate the role of social elites for media gatekeeping and agenda-setting functions and to follow current debates on selected topics. They gain an overview of tried and tested practices in topic-oriented reporting.			
<b>Content:</b> In the lectures, the students engage on the one hand with the structures of current global topics such as international politics, international organisations, wars and crises, economic recessions, environmental topics, multiculturalism and diversity. They also gain an overview of the type of reporting on these topics by international news media. The seminar focuses particularly on media and politics in European societies and the critical media reporting linked to it. Main topics include the influence of dominant media organisations (public broadcasting, quality and tabloid newspapers) on elections, public debate and the development of European public opinion. Two theoretical concepts are particularly in focus here: the mediocracy and the shaping of publicity. The role of the media as a driver and/or obstacle to European democracy is scrutinised in depth.			
<b>Teaching and learning units</b>	<b>Compulsory attendance</b> (Semester hours per week = SH)	<b>Forms of active participation</b>	<b>Study time</b> (hours)
Lecture	2	Preparation and follow-up of relevant research literature, preparation of oral statements	Attendance study phase 60 Preparation and follow-up 90
Seminar	2	Preparation and follow-up of relevant research literature, independent research, oral and/or written exercises, individual and/or group work, economic simulation game	Preparation for Examination 90
<b>Module examination</b>		Oral examination (approx. 45 minutes)	
<b>Language of instruction</b>		English	
<b>Compulsory regular attendance</b>		Attendance recommended	
<b>Study time, total hours</b>		240 hours	8 CP
<b>Duration of module</b>		One semester	
<b>Module offered</b>		Every winter semester	
<b>Application</b>		Master's programme Global Communication and International Journalism	

<b>Module 7:</b> International journalism cultures			
<b>University/Department/Institute:</b> St. Petersburg State University			
<b>Responsible for the module:</b> School of Journalism and Mass Communications			
<b>Admission requirements:</b> none			
<b>Qualification aims:</b> In this module, the students focus on one of three areas of specialisation. They gain in-depth knowledge in two of a total of six subject areas. The students discuss current developments in the field of journalistic practice. They can evaluate topics and work on them in particular areas of the various sub-disciplines.			
<b>Content:</b> In the lectures, six different subject areas are offered in the following three areas of specialisation: <p>The first area of specialisation brings forms of economic and cultural journalism into focus and engages with the principles of global and Russian economic reporting. It addresses structures of economic news and analysis, research methods in relation to economic and financial topics and the working contact to the field of economic public relations. The alternative subject area of the first area of specialisation covers in-depth knowledge of global, national and hyper-local cultural journalism. The focus here is on the fundamental framework of the global information flow alongside consequences of new forms of visual communication and cultural hybridity.</p> <p>The second area of specialisation discusses the field of scientific reporting. The students engage with the principles of environmental reporting at both global and national (Russian) level. Topics of discussion are how to deal with scientific information, communication with experts in various scientific fields and presenting and discussing complex scientific topics. One core aspect is the climate discourse in contemporary international politics and the economy. The alternative subject area of the second area of specialisation covers wider approaches of scientific journalism, including historical traditions within European journalism and the discussion of current scientific media in Russia, of a range of journalistic formats which present and discuss scientific research findings and controversies related to them within the scope of scientific communication.</p> <p>The third area of specialisation addresses various modern media products which are considered special cases in the field of media cultures. The students gain an overview of different TV and radio formats and a range of online media. They examine the organisational structures and professional roles in audio-visual media companies, including the analysis of the work of foreign correspondents. The alternative subject area of the third area of specialisation focuses on forms of citizen journalism and the influence of the “blogosphere” on news media, information provision and media ethics is critically discussed.</p>			
<b>Teaching and learning units</b>	<b>Compulsory attendance</b> (Semester hours per week = SH)	<b>Forms of active participation</b>	<b>Study time</b> (hours)
Lecture	1	Follow-up work on relevant news and media texts, independent research, oral exercises, individual and/or group work, presentations	Attendance study phase 90 Preparation and follow-up 90
Seminar	5	Follow-up work on relevant news and media texts, independent research, oral exercises, individual and/or group work, presentations	Preparation for examination, 90 Examination
<b>Module examination</b>		Oral examination (approx. 45 minutes)	
<b>Language of instruction</b>		English	
<b>Compulsory regular attendance</b>		Attendance recommended	
<b>Study time, total hours</b>		270 hours	9 CP
<b>Duration of module</b>		One semester	
<b>Module offered</b>		Every winter semester	
<b>Application</b>		Master's programme Global Communication and International Journalism	

<b>Module 8:</b> Media management			
<b>University/Department/Institute:</b> St. Petersburg State University			
<b>Responsible for the module:</b> School of Journalism and Mass Communications			
<b>Admission requirements:</b> none			
<b>Qualification aims:</b> The students gain an overview of core areas of content and editorial management and various			

methods of generating content for digital media. They are able to analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of different models in the fields of both online and offline production. Knowledge which the students have gained is applied in the course of developing an independent multi-language online media product which can be implemented using open source software. In this way, students learn the skills of time management and use of limited resources. They develop their ability to work in a team and are able to include the internet public in the discussion of relevant topics.

**Content:** The lectures give an overview of developments in global media companies, focusing in particular on forms of content and editorial management. Issues of media use, specific target groups and presentation forms are discussed. The content is addressed primarily through the analysis of innovative approaches of content production and the production of target-group appropriated media production in the context of media technology innovation. Journalistic transformation processes and the maintenance of its core function in society are also topics of discussion.

The seminars and workshops take the form of a model editorial department. The students design projects and implement them appropriately. The content is focused on a selected relevant topic area in the field of international relations.

Teaching and learning units	Compulsory attendance (Semester hours per week = SH)	Forms of active participation	Study time (hours)	
Lecture	1	Preparation and follow-up of relevant research literature, preparation of oral statements	Attendance study phase	90
			Preparation and follow-up	60
Seminar	1	Preparation and follow-up of relevant research literature, independent research, oral and/or written exercises	Preparation for examination,	90
			Examination	
Workshop	4	Individual and group tasks, economic simulation game		
<b>Module examination</b>		Oral examination (approx. 45 minutes)		
<b>Language of instruction</b>		English		
<b>Compulsory regular attendance</b>		Attendance recommended		
<b>Study time, total hours</b>		240 hours		8 CP
<b>Duration of module</b>		One semester		
<b>Module offered</b>		Every winter semester		
<b>Application</b>		Master's programme Global Communication and International Journalism		

<b>Module 9:</b> Practical training				
<b>University/Department/Institute:</b> Freie Universität Berlin / Department of Politics and Social Sciences / Institute for Media and Communications Studies				
<b>Responsible for the module:</b> Division Journalism Studies				
<b>Admission requirements:</b> none				
<b>Qualification aims:</b> During the practical training module, students gain their first practical research experience and their first university teaching experience. They deepen their knowledge and skills in relation to scientific work and apply the programme content to actual practical fields of work. They also deepen their practical skills in journalism in the course of an internship in an editorial office or media organisation.				
<b>Content:</b> In St Petersburg, students have the opportunity to work in research and teaching; internships in media organisations and editorial offices takes place in Berlin. The latter are selected by the students themselves according to their own interests. They may choose journalistic internships, or internships in fields of public relations in political communication, in the economic or cultural field or in the communication departments of international organisations or institutions.				
<b>Teaching and learning units</b>	<b>Compulsory attendance</b> (Semester hours per week = SH)	<b>Forms of active participation</b>	<b>Study time</b> (hours)	
Practical training in research	-	Familiarisation with the structures in a research organisation, text work, research, analysis, writing a research training report	Practical training in research	240
			Internship in a media organisation	160
Internship in a media organisation	-	Familiarisation with the structures of a media organisation, writing media texts, writing an internship report	Teaching practice	160
			Attendance phase Practice of scientific writing / colloquium	20
Teaching practice	-	Familiarisation with the applicable requirements for university teaching, preparation and implementation of a teaching unit, preparation of a teaching project, writing a teaching practice report	Preparation and follow up Practice of scientific writing / colloquium	20
			Practice of scientific writing / colloquium	
Practice of scientific writing / colloquium	20h	Familiarisation with the practices of scientific writing, presentation and discussion of the student's own research		
<b>Module examination</b>		None		
<b>Language of instruction</b>		English		
<b>Compulsory regular attendance</b>		Practical training in research: attendance recommended Internship in a media organisation: yes Teaching practice: attendance recommended Practice of scientific writing/colloquium: yes		
<b>Study time, total hours</b>		600 hours	20 CP	
<b>Duration of module</b>		Four semesters		
<b>Module offered</b>		Practical training in research, teaching practice, exercise in scientific writing/colloquium: in the winter semester in St Petersburg; Internship in a media organisation: in the summer semester in Berlin		
<b>Application</b>		Master's programme Global Communication and International Journalism		

## Annex 2: Sample programme plan

Semester	ECTS Credit Points				
1. 30 CP	Module 1: Introduction to communication studies and research  (10 CP)	Module 2: Introduction to journalism research and journalistic practice (10 CP)	Module 3: Foreign languages in the media and communication  (10 CP)	Module 4: Comparative media systems research  (10 CP)	Module 9: Practical training (20 CP)
2. 30 CP		Module 5: Political communications research (10 CP)			
3. 30 CP	Module 6: Globalisation and media (8 CP)	Module 7: International journalism cultures (9 CP)	Module 8: Media management (8 CP)		
4. 30 CP	Master's thesis (25 CP)				



FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

CERTIFICATE OF ACADEMIC RECORD

**Ms/Mr [first name/surname]**

born in [place of birth] on [day/month/year]

has successfully completed the Double Master's programme jointly offered with St. Petersburg State University in

**Global Communication and International Journalism**

in accordance with the examination regulations of 11 December 2013 (FU-Mitteilungen No. [XX]/year) with the final grade

**[grade as figure and text]**

and has earned the required amount of 120 credit points.

The individual components of the programme were graded as follows:

Area(s) of study	Credit points	Grade
Study phase	95 (65)	
Master's thesis	25 (25)	

The topic of the Master's thesis was: [XX] – Thesis supervisor: [XX]

Berlin, [day/month/year]

(Seal)

Dean

Chairperson of the Examination Board

Grading scale: 1.0 – 1.5 very good; 1.6 – 2.5 good; 2.6 – 3.5 satisfactory; 3.6 – 4.0 sufficient; 4.1 – 5.0 fail

The credit points comply with the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).

Not all attainments count towards the overall grade; the credit points listed in brackets denote those credit points taken into consideration for the overall grade.



FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEGREE CERTIFICATE

**Ms/Mr [first name/surname]**

Born in [place of birth] on [day/month/year]

has successfully completed the Double Master's programme jointly offered with St. Petersburg State University  
in

**Global Communication and International Journalism.**

In accordance with the examination regulations of 11 December 2013 (FU-Mitteilungen No. [XX]/year)

the degree of

**Master of Arts (M. A.)**

Is hereby awarded.

Berlin, [day/month/year]

(Seal)

Dean

Chair of the  
Examination Board

## Annex 5: conversion of grades

A5.1. The conversion of grades at both universities is carried out in accordance with the conversion system below (see conversion table). A conversion scale in percentages of the attainments achieved is applied for the conversion of grades. Both universities show the grades both in their national system and as a percentage in compliance with the conversion scale.

<b>Evaluation status</b>	<b>ECTS Scale</b>	<b>FU Scale</b>	<b>Conversion scale in %</b>	<b>SPbU-scale</b>	<b>Differentiated grading</b>
Positive («pass»)	A	1	86-100	5	Very good
	B	2	71-85	4	Good
	C	2	56-70	4	Good
	D	3	41-55	3	Satisfactory
	E	4	26-40	3	Satisfactory/Sufficient
Negative («fail»)	F	5	0-25	2	Insufficient

A5.2. A module is failed if the attainments achieved are not more than 25%.

A5.3. Degree certificates, certificates of academic record and transcripts of both universities show the grades in all three grading systems:

- conversion scale (26 - 100%);
- module grades in the national grading system;
- average grade in accordance with ECTS.

A5.4. Students who complete their degree with 75% or more as the final grade receive a degree with distinction.