

Guide for ERASMUS-Students at the Department of Political and Social
Sciences at the Free University of Berlin

Academic YEAR
2008-2009

Autumn/Winter Semester 2008/2009

Classes begin mid of October and end mid of February
Vacation period: two weeks end of December/beginning of
January

Spring/Sommer Semester 2009

Classes begin mid of April and end mid of July

Orientation for all students: Dates available under *www.polwiss.fu-berlin.de*

Contact Information

Departmental ERASMUS Co-ordinator:

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Course Registration and Transcript of records

All courses and seminars listed in the course programme of the Department are open to ERASMUS students. In order to obtain CREDITS, all students, including the ERASMUS students, have additionally to enrol for examinations and courses in a list provided by the teachers in the attended courses. After completing the courses, the students will be provided with a "transcript" (Schein) for each single course they have successfully taken. All single transcripts have to be brought to the Departmental Coordinator who will prepare the total Transcript of Records for the whole study period in Berlin.

Structure of Studies and ECTS Credits

The courses are classified into Grund- und Hauptstudium according to their contents. The Grund- und Hauptstudium do not simply correspond to Bachelor's and Master's level studies, as Grundstudium is usually completed after 2 years. Students are allowed to choose modules at both levels. However, we recommend undergraduate ERASMUS students to take modules of "Grundstudium". The attendance of courses offered by other Departments at our University is not allowed except the students have the permission by the Departmental ERASMUS-Coordinator to attend those courses. However, at least two modules have to be taken at the Department of Political and Social Sciences.

The differentiation into *Pflichtmodules*, *Wahlpflichtmodules*, *Aufbaumodules* etc. is not of importance for ERASMUS-students. Students of economics are recommended to attend courses offered as (Internationale) Politische Ökonomie.

CREDITS will be only granted or allocated to modules, not to a single lecture or a single seminar. Therefore, the students are required to attend two lectures/seminars in order to complete a module. They will be, however, examined only in one of the units. In order to maximise exchange students' choice, courses and seminars can be combined without any hard restrictions.

This means a student can choose for each module:

- either two lectures (V) or
- one lecture and one seminar or
- two seminars (PS, HS, K-HS)

of any study field and any level. Of course we recommend to choose corresponding courses for a better understanding and synergy effects.

Students choose one of the two courses in which they take a written exam or write a final paper (*Leistung*). To complete the module attending the second course is obligatory (*Anwesenheit*). Please keep in mind that each teacher can establish his/her own standards, but most courses require regular attendance, constant readings and an oral presentation for both *Anwesenheitsschein* and *Leistungsschein*.

Each module is granted 10 ECTS.