



Master of Arts

Sociology – European Societies

In cooperation with:



Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung
Social Science Research Center Berlin

Freie Universität Berlin
Institute of Sociology

- two year taught Masters program
- comparison of European societies
- analysis of European integration
- understanding Europe in a global context

www.fu-berlin.de/ma-sociology

Course Content

The course concentrates on the description and analysis of social aspects of Europeanisation. Students learn to describe cultural, socio-structural and economic differences of the EU member states. They consider changes within the European Community caused by economic and political integration and examine the development of a European society. Furthermore, Europe will be analyzed within the context of globalization.

Course Outline

The program is a full-time study course of four semesters during which students obtain a “Master of Arts” degree (M.A.) in Sociology. In the first two semesters one lecture and one seminar out of three modules must be attended. The third semester is assigned to a research placement and students finish their degree with a thesis in the last semester. The entire program can be studied in either English or German. Students with a sufficient command of both languages can choose between English and German courses.

Possible Professional Fields

The course aims at qualifying students for positions in academic and science-related professions. It equips graduates for work within academic and political fields; for example, for positions in social science and research centres, international and particularly European organisations, NGOs and governmental institutions. Additionally, the program enables graduates to teach at universities and other higher education institutions





Course Structure

First Semester

- European Integration and the Development of European Societies since 1945
- Sociological Theories of Social Change and Integration
- Methods of Comparative Research in Social Sciences

Second Semester

- Social Structure and Inequalities in European Societies
- Culture and Values in European Societies
- Globalisation and Regional Development

Third Semester

- Research Placement
- Area of Specialisation

Fourth Semester

- Masters Thesis



Questions

1. Which conditions could lead to further economic and political integration within Europe and to the expansion of the European Union? How much cultural and social convergence does Europe need and where do the socio-structural and cultural limits of further integration lie?
2. How does the economic and political consolidation impact on the participating national societies? What convergences of social structures, economic orders and cultural systems can be found among the member states and which theories can be used to describe these?
3. Without a context of globalisation, developments within the European Union, but also changes within individual European societies, can not be described and explained adequately. The course therefore also analyses European societies in relation to other regions of the world.



Application

The program targets graduates of sociology and of other social studies with a good first degree and a good command of English. Admission is only possible for the winter semester. There are no course fees.

Further information on the Masters program, application process and deadlines for application can be found at:

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