FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN

Bachelor/ Master Thesis and Colloquium at the Institute for Media and Communication Studies

Writing your thesis and participating in a colloquium are interconnected. The colloquium is considered an independent, ungraded module[1], but should only be attended if you are actually writing (or about to start writing) your thesis. Therefore, ensure that during the semester in which you attend the colloquium, you can truly dedicate yourself to your thesis and are not prevented from participating in the colloquium or working on your thesis by a large number of outstanding exams, internships, study abroad programs, or similar commitments.

Participation in the colloquium and the writing of the thesis should generally take place in the 6th semester of the Bachelor's program and in the 4th semester of the Master's program; in exceptional cases, also in the 7th or 5th semester, respectively.

The following rules apply:

- As with any course, attendance is mandatory in the colloquium, and active participation according to the instructor's requirements is expected.
- The person with whom you take the colloquium will generally be the first supervisor of your thesis or, at the very least, will serve as the second supervisor. Therefore, choose someone whose expertise aligns with your intended topic and select the colloquium accordingly based on content-related criteria.
- You must choose at least one of your two supervisors from among those who offer a colloquium. It is generally NOT possible to select both your first and second supervisors if neither offers a colloquium.
- The thesis should typically be registered in the same semester in which you attend the colloquium. Active participation in the colloquium is only confirmed upon registration of the thesis. If you do not register your thesis within this period, you must attend the colloquium again.

Registration for a Colloquium:

- Sufficient colloquium places are offered every semester for all students. You can therefore definitely write your thesis in the semester of your choice.
- However, the capacities of individual instructors are limited. Furthermore, not every instructor offers a colloquium every semester. Therefore, you should consult with your preferred supervisor no later than March (before the summer semester) or September (before the winter semester) to confirm whether they can supervise you. This allows you to reserve a place in the selected colloquium, which will be entered for you in Campus Management.
- Any remaining colloquium places will be allocated through Campus Management in the week before the semester begins. You must then register yourself in Campus Management during the booking period.

[1] In the Bachelor's Program *Media and Communication Studies* (Study and Examination Regulations 2024), and in the Master's Program *Media and Communication Studies*, the module is titled: „Kommunikationswissenschaftliche Forschung" (5 ECTS points). In the Master's Program *Media and Political Communication*, the corresponding module is titled: „Forschung in der politischen Kommunikation".

Further information on the formal registration of the thesis can be found here:

Examination Office Website for the Bachelor's Program Media and Communication Studies

Examination Office Website for the Master's Program Media and Political Communication

Examination Office Website für the Master's Program Media and Communication Studies