



MASTER OF ARTS

Global British Studies

UNIVERSITÄT LEIPZIG

1. STUDY PROGRAMME:	MA GLOBAL BRITISH STUDIES
2. DEGREE AWARDED:	Master of Arts
3. STANDARD PERIOD OF STUDY:	4 semesters
CREDIT POINTS:	120 ECTS
COMMENCEMENT OF STUDIES FOR NEW STUDENTS:	every semester

4. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants need to have a Bachelor's Degree or an equivalent university degree. Subject-specific entry requirements are:

- A completed BA degree in British Studies, Teacher Training or a closely related area,
- English proficiency at level C1 (Advanced) Level of English Studies according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) or equivalent.
- An additional foreign language at A2 (Basic) level.

In terms of prerequisites, we accept applicants with a minimum of 60 ECTS in English studies, including a minimum of 10 ECTS in English linguistics, 10 ECTS in British literature and 10 ECTS in British cultural studies.

For more detailed information about the application process please consider our webpages: <https://www.philol.uni-leipzig.de/institut-fuer-anglistik/studium/studiengaenge#c236932>

5. PROGRAMME CONTENT

The academic concept of the MA in British Studies follows the structure of the new European approach to philology, which relies on the three individual subject areas of linguistics, literature and cultural studies, as well as on the interdisciplinary cooperation between these fields. Due to their complex interconnectedness, the three research foci form an overall picture which exceeds the simple sum of the individual area.

The MA in British Studies is an advanced level, research-focused degree which builds upon the corresponding Bachelor degree (or equivalent).

During the MA programme, students broaden their subject-specific and interdisciplinary knowledge and skills in the areas of English linguistics, literature and cultural studies. At the same time, they study the current state of research in British Studies as a whole. In this way, the MA degree lays the foundations for further independent research and advanced studies in the field of British Studies.

The study of English literature engages with the history of Anglophone literatures (excluding the United States) from their beginnings to the present day. This ranges from English texts from the Middle Ages like 'Beowulf' to more recent English-language literature from countries in the former British Empire. In addition to exploring the English literary canon in depth, the department has a number of other teaching and research foci, including examining intercultural issues in literature (stereotypes, ethnic/religious/social differences and identities). For this, students might look at travel literature or consider how non-European cultures are depicted in British literature. The department explores a wide range of genres, including popular literature, fantasy and children's literature. We also explore different media types (books, film, the internet). Many classes take an interdisciplinary approach, crossing the boundaries between literature, religion and science, for example. To this end, we work closely with British Cultural Studies within Leipzig's English department.

British Cultural Studies takes a wide-ranging approach to British and Irish culture and society. The department examines the mechanisms of (everyday) culture and explores the extent to which cultural texts reflect the political, social and economic interests of certain societal actors or groups. British Cultural Studies investigates questions of identity and representation, as well as the production, distribution and reception of cultural products. Students examine diverse materials including film, social media, print media, music, advertising and fashion. British Cultural Studies integrates methods and theories from linguistics, British literature studies, sociology, history, political science and media studies. The discipline explores the connections between popular culture and power, as well as how the public/consumers respond to popular culture. At Leipzig, our teaching and research is specialised in the following areas: popular culture, the United Kingdom in a global context, and national identities on the British Isles.

English Linguistics provides students with the theoretical knowledge and analytic skills needed to describe and analyse the English language. Students are equipped to make well-founded statements based on theory and methodological know-how about various phenomena in the English language. They investigate linguistic issues on the basis of linguistic data analysis, and learn to understand empirical results and their implications for linguistic models and theories. The department's research foci include usage-based cognitive-functional linguistics, psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics, phraseology, language acquisition, as well as grammaticalization and language change. Research is also conducted on the history of the English language, the national, local, social, and stylistic dimensions of the English language varieties, and multilingual contexts. In particular, the analysis of language varieties as expressions of cultural and social identities demonstrates points of reference to literary and cultural studies.

6. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

In the course of the MA programme, students accumulate 120 credits of which 30 credits are awarded upon the successful completion of a Master's thesis written during the third and fourth semester. Students earn 60 credits each year, which are awarded upon successful completion of the examinations (which can be oral, written or assignment-based).

The MA in British Studies relies on three core modules and six core option modules. One or two of the core option modules can be replaced by modules from other subject areas, by internships or by a subject-related stay abroad. You are advised to consult with the MA programme advisor before embarking on an internship or before applying to study abroad.

7. MODULES AND EXAMINATIONS:

The following lectures and seminars consist of 2 hours per week. Please note that these modules are only taught in the winter semester or in the summer semester respectively.

Core Modules

winter semester: 04-ANG-2101

Methods and Theories in Anglo-American Literary and Cultural Studies

summer semester: 04-ANG-2304

Topics in Linguistics – Models and Approaches

winter semester: 04-ANG-2001

The British Empire and its Aftermath in Literature, Culture and Language

04-ANG-2101 Methods and Theories in Anglo-American Literary and Cultural Studies 10 Credits, Core Module	Assessment:
1. Lecture: Methods and Theories	
2. Seminar: Methods and Theories in Literary Studies	
3. Seminar: Methods and Theories in Cultural Studies	Research project

04-ANG-2304 Topics in Linguistics – Models and Approaches 10 Credits, Core Module	Assessment:
1. Seminar: Theoretical and Empirical Linguistics I	
2. Seminar: Theoretical and Empirical Linguistics II	Term paper

04-ANG-2001 The British Empire and its Aftermath in Literature, Culture and Language 10 Credits, Core Module		Assessment:	
1. Seminar: Cultural Studies		Oral examination (30 min)	
2. Seminar: Linguistics			
3. Seminar: Literary Studies			

Core Option Modules (6 modules must be chosen)

	Literature / Cultural Studies	Linguistics
winter semester	- Science in Literature and Culture - Identities in British and Postcolonial Anglophone Literatures and Cultures	- English Linguistics: Language Structure - Synchronic Variation in English - Diachronic Variation in English
summer semester	- Texts, Media, Society - Difference in Literature and Culture	- Early English and Renaissance Studies

04-ANG-2102 Science in Literature and Culture 10 Credits, Core Option Module		Assessment:
1. Seminar: Science and Literature		Research project
2. Seminar: Science and Culture		

04-ANG-2105-A Identities in British and Postcolonial Anglophone Literatures and Cultures 10 Credits, Core Option Module		Assessment:
1. Seminar: Literary Studies		Oral examination (30 min)
2. Seminar: Cultural Studies		

04-ANG-2302 English Linguistics: Language Structure 10 Credits, Core Option Module		Assessment:
1. Seminar: Language Structure I		Term paper
2. Seminar: Language Structure II		

04-ANG-2303 Synchronic Variation in English 10 Credits, Core Option Module	Assessment:
1. Seminar: Variation in Present-Day English I	Portfolio
2. Seminar: Variation in Present-Day English II	

04-ANG-2306 Diachronic Variation in English 10 Credits, Core Option Module	Assessment:
1. Seminar: Diachronic Variation I	Portfolio
2. Seminar: Diachronic Variation II	

04-ANG-2103 Texts, Media, Society 10 Credits, Core Option Module	Assessment:
1. Seminar: Cultural Studies	
2. Seminar: Literary Studies	Term paper

04-ANG-2104 Difference in Literature and Culture 10 Credits, Core Option Module	Assessment:
1. Seminar: Literary Studies	
2. Seminar: Cultural Studies	Research project

04-ANG-2002 Early English and Renaissance Studies 10 Credits, Core Option Module	Assessment:
1. Seminar: Cultural Studies	
2. Seminar: Linguistics	Term paper
3. Seminar: Literary Studies	

8. CAREERS

Graduates from the Master programme in Global British Studies tend to find employment in a wide range of areas which require competence in the English language combined with profound scholarly foundation in British culture and/or English literatures.

The following non-exhaustive list provides applicants with some areas in which our alumni have worked in the past:

- Education (universities; private schools, excluding German state schools where a teacher training degree is required)
- Journalism/Media
- Public Relations
- Advertising
- Publishing
- Cultural Institutions
- International Relations

9. COURSE ADVISORS

Philologische Fakultät
Institut für Anglistik

Prof. Dr. Ralf Haekel
04107 Leipzig, Beethovenstraße 15, 3rd floor, Room H4 3.07
Tel.: 0341 97 37312
E-Mail: ralf.haekel@uni-leipzig.de

PD Dr. Martin Schäfer
04107 Leipzig, Beethovenstraße 15, 3rd floor, Room H4 3.03
Tel.: 0341 97 37318
E-Mail: martin.schaefer@uni-leipzig.de

You can find their office hours on the institute's website:
<https://www.philol.uni-leipzig.de/institut-fuer-anglistik/institut/team/sprechzeiten>

10. EXAMINATION OFFICE

Laura Unbekannt
04107 Leipzig, Beethovenstraße 15, Ground floor, Room H5 0.07
Tel.: 0341 97 37303

Office: Tuesday 13.00 - 17.00
 Thursday 09.00 - 11.00 and 13.00 - 15.00

This information is subject to change if any amendments are made to the respective study programme.

LAST AMENDED: June 2024