

Mitteilungsblatt – Sondernummer der Paris Lodron-Universität Salzburg

90. Curriculum for the Joint Master's Programme in Political Science – Integration and Governance (PoSIG)

(Version 2017)

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This document details the content and procedures of the Joint Master's Programme in *Political Science – Integration and Governance* (PoSIG), as a shared academic endeavour and cooperation between the following university consortium on European Political Science (EuroPS):

- University of Salzburg (PLUS)
- University of Ljubljana (ULJU)
- Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje (UKIM)
- European University of Tirana (UET)
- University of Tirana (UTIR)
- FAMA College (FAMA) - Prishtina
- University of Business and Technology (UBT) - Prishtina
- University of Sarajevo (UNSA)
- Sarajevo School of Science Technology (SSST)

The implementation of this curriculum is regulated by an institutional agreement signed by the partner institutions (EuroPS partner universities - EUPs).

The Joint Master's Programme in *Political Science – Integration and Governance* (PoSIG) is based on international standards and benchmarks of teaching political science in accordance with level 7 of the European Qualifications Framework. The EUPs contribute by joining their specific academic profiles in Comparative Politics, European Integration, International Relations, Public Policy & Administration, and Political Theory. In addition to these core fields, the Western Balkan partners deliver the specific academic competencies regarding political developments in the region.

PoSIG qualifies its graduates for academic careers in all fields of political science, and additionally offers a background in the transition and Europeanisation of the Western Balkan region.

§ 1 General Provisions

- (1) The language of instruction in all courses of the MA programme is English. Applicants have to demonstrate a profound knowledge of the English language (Level B2), as a condition of registration in the programme.
- (2) This MA programme refers to level 7 of the European Qualifications Framework, as defined by the European Parliament and the EU Council.
- (3) The number of ECTS credits necessary to complete the degree in the Joint Master's Programme in *Political Science – Integration and Governance* is 120. This corresponds to four semesters of study.
- (4) Depending on the institution awarding the degree, graduates of this programme will be awarded a joint Master of Arts (MA).
- (5) In order to be admitted to the Joint Master's Programme in *Political Science – Integration and Governance*, students must hold a bachelor's degree in Political Science from an EUP, or in a related field or from another accredited institution of higher education. Students with BA degrees following these curricula but with fewer than 15 ECTS in explicit methods training and scientific research practices have to compensate by taking additional relevant courses in those areas.
- (6) If a student's bachelor's degree is not sufficiently equivalent to be acceptable, the student may be required to complete additional academic work for up to 30 ECTS credits. These requirements must be fulfilled by the end of the programme. The determination of equivalency and the required academic work is decided by the Coordinators Board (composed of the authorized EUP representatives). Students who have to complete the additional academic work for up to 30 ECTS credits must demonstrate B2 language competence in the local teaching language of the respective EUP where this work is undertaken (at the University of Salzburg: German).
- (7) All graduation requirements to be fulfilled by students have been assigned ECTS credits. One ECTS credit equals 25 hours of study, which corresponds to the average number of hours required to achieve the expected learning objectives. An academic year consists of 1500 hours, corresponding to 60 ECTS credits.
- (8) Students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses will not be subject to any form of discrimination in their studies. All EUPs are committed to the basic principles laid out in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as subject to local non-discrimination laws and policies of affirmative action.

§ 2 Overview of the Degree Programme and Professional Skills

(1) Overview of the Degree Programme

- (a) The Joint Master's Programme in *Political Science – Integration and Governance* offers five modules, from which students will need to select two in order to pursue their fields of specialization.

Module I:	Political Theory
Module II:	Comparative Politics
Module III:	Public Policy & Administration (to be offered at another EUP, not at PLUS)
Module IV:	International Relations
Module V:	European Integration

The modules of the programme are described in detail in Appendix A (module descriptions). The specific course programme for each semester will be published on www.euro-ps.org.

- (b) Advanced methodological and applied courses will complement the substantive orientation of the programme modules. This will enable students to independently carry out rigorous social science research, and develop innovative research strategies and solutions for problems of societal import.

(2) Professional Skills and Competences (Learning Outcomes)

Upon completion of this master's programme, students will have developed the following skills and competences:

Competence in the field of study , in particular:
- comprehensive knowledge of theories of political science, political concepts, actors, institutions, processes, norms and central policy fields in selected modules;
- the ability to understand, assess and apply social science research with high methodological standards to other modules;
- the ability to analyse political and societal problems, based on social science concepts and theories.
Methods competences , in particular:
- the ability and knowledge to thoughtfully and critically apply the methodological instruments of empirical-analytical political science research, including the ability to use statistical software, and to plan and carry out independent research;
- the ability to cooperate with others (inter-disciplinarily or in groups), to carry out research collectively;
- the ability to present complex research and research findings convincingly in front of an audience.
Competence in sound reasoning and judgement , in particular:
- the ability to understand scientific social and political science literature and to critically analyse and assess it by drawing on the insights of neighbouring disciplines (law, economics, sociology, history);
- the ability to assess the presentation of scientific research outcomes, to make comparisons and to give reflected feedback;
- the ability to debate and compare one's own insights and positions with those of others and to modify them, if necessary.
Competence in responsive action , in particular:
- the ability to grasp political and societal problems, to develop practical strategies for solutions and to present them in public debates;
- the ability to connect science and political practice;
- the ability to engage in politics effectively on basis of scientific insights.

(3) Importance and Relevance of the Degree for Society, the Scientific Community and the Labour Market

Alumni of this programme will have a unique academic profile. This profile draws on the fields of specialisation, the international body of students and teachers and an individual mobility path between EU and Western Balkan EUPs. A compulsory internship will provide students with practical experience in an organisational setting. In this context, alumni will acquire specific expertise about the conditions for social, economic and political processes in the Western Balkans.

Through their master's thesis projects, students are encouraged to carry out innovative research relevant for the social, economic and political development of the region. Graduates will be able to contribute to the processes related to Europeanisation, and the political debates surrounding them.

The typical professional fields of graduates of the Joint Master's Programme in *Political Science – Integration and Governance* are:

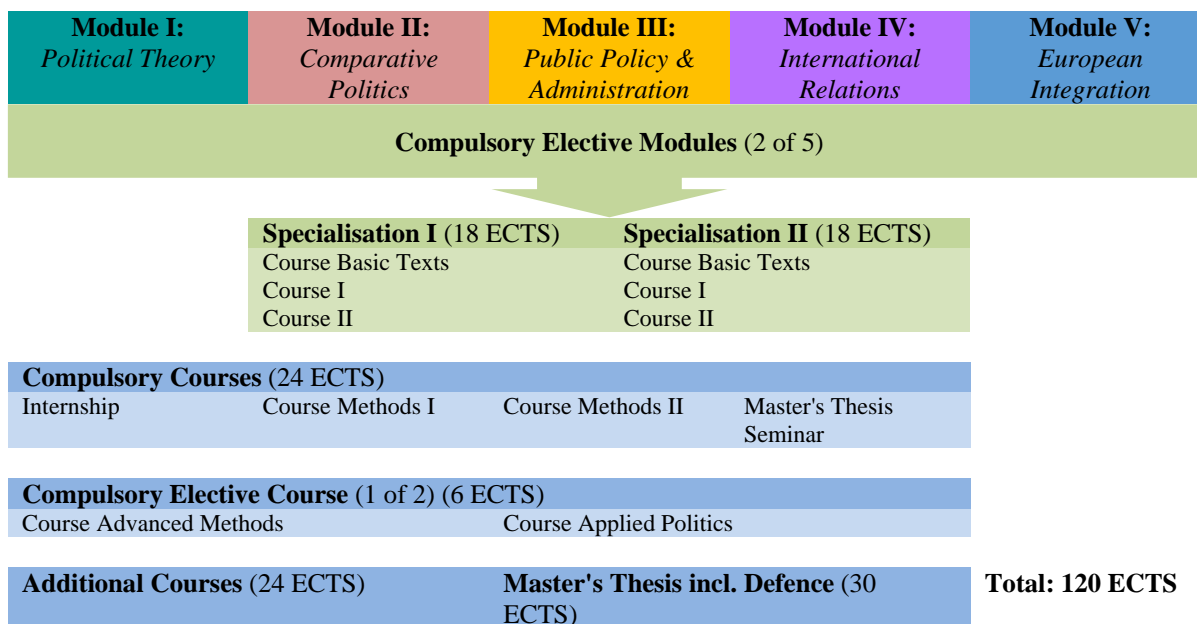
- employment at the local and national level in public administration, parliaments and political parties, non-governmental organisations, interest groups and trade unions, the business sector, media and public relations;
- employment in international organisations, foreign services (careers in diplomacy), in institutions of the European Union and in international profit and non-profit organisations, development agencies and NGOs;
- employment in the field of civic and political education (foundations, academies, educational institutes, think tanks, etc.);
- academic careers (PhD, teaching and research at universities and research institutions).

The participating institutions support their students and alumni in identifying placements for internships and developing a PoSIG alumni network via www.euro-ps.org and social media activities.

§ 3 Structure of the Programme

The master's programme comprises 10 mandatory courses, 1 internship, 24 ECTS credits of additional courses, and a master's thesis, with a total number of 120 ECTS credits. The master's thesis is worth 30 ECTS credits, incl. the preparation for the master's thesis defence (worth 2 ECTS credits).

	ECTS
Compulsory Elective Modules (2 of 5)	36
Political Theory	(18)
Comparative Politics	(18)
Public Policy & Administration (to be offered at another EUP, not at PLUS)	(18)
International Relations	(18)
European Integration	(18)
Compulsory Courses	24
Internship	6
Course Methods I	6
Course Methods II	6
Master's Thesis Seminar	6
Compulsory Elective Course (1 of 2)	6
Advanced Methods in Political Science	(6)
Applied Course	(6)
Additional Courses	24
Master's Thesis	28
Master's Thesis Defence	2
Total	120



§ 4 Course Types

The programme offers different types of courses, which are defined by the different HEI regulation systems pertaining to each EUP. These courses provide in-depth knowledge, skills, and competences in the respective areas and encourage discussion and reflection on scientific topics through the active participation of students. In all courses, student performance is assessed indirectly through obligatory presence, participation, as well as on the basis of written exams and seminar papers.

The ECTS workload of courses is detailed in the course descriptions.

The ECTS workload of courses is 6 ECTS.

The programme contains the following course types:

- Proseminar (PS) is a scientifically oriented (lower-level seminar-style) course and the prerequisite for seminars. Based on their accomplished theoretical and practical work, students will acquire foundational knowledge and abilities to engage in scientific work and research and thereby contribute actively to the class. Student performance is assessed continuously throughout the course and attendance is mandatory.
- Seminar (SE) is an academically advanced course. It provides in-depth knowledge in the respective subject area and encourages discussion and reflection on scientific themes through the active participation of students. Students' performance is assessed continuously throughout the course and attendance is mandatory.
- Exercise Course with Lecture (UV) connects the theoretical introduction to a field by teaching practical skills and drawing especially on the use of exercises. Students' performance is assessed continuously throughout the course and attendance is mandatory.

§ 5 Course Content and Plan of Study

The present section contains a list of modules and courses. The division into semesters serves as a recommendation designed to ensure that the order in which the courses are taken builds on the knowledge, skills and competences acquired successively, and that the workload of 60 ECTS credits in an academic year is not exceeded. If there are no prerequisites, modules and courses can also be completed by following a different order in accordance with § 11.

Detailed descriptions of the modules including the knowledge, skills and competences to be acquired can be found in *Annex I: Module Descriptions*.

According to § 9, courses can be completed at a minimum of 2 and maximum of 4 EUPs. The table below displays which courses EUPs offer during which term, and how students can plan their mobility track. The courses marked with PLUS in terms 1 and 2 will be offered at the University of Salzburg and are specified as Proseminar (PS) or Seminar (SE) or Exercise Course with Lecture (UV).

Compulsory Elective Modules (2 of 5)	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Module I: Political Theory				
PS Basic Texts Political Theory – Democracy and Legitimacy		PLUS		
SE Democracy and Legitimacy		PLUS		
Political Theory		Ljubljana	SSST	UET
Political Theory			UTIR	FAMA
Political Theory			UKIM	UNSA
Political Theory				UBT
Module II: Comparative Politics				
Basic Texts Comparative Politics		Ljubljana		
PS Basic Texts Comparative Politics	PLUS			
Comparative Politics		Ljubljana		
SE Comparative Politics		PLUS		
Comparative Politics			UKIM	UKIM
SE Comparative Politics	PLUS		UTir	UNSA
Comparative Politics				FAMA
Module III: Public Policy & Administration				
Basic Texts Public Policy & Administration	Ljubljana			
Public Policy & Administration	Ljubljana	Ljubljana	UTir	UET
Public Policy & Administration			UKIM	UNSA
Module IV: International Relations				
PS Basic Texts International Relations	PLUS			
SE International Relations	PLUS			
Course		Ljubljana	SSST	UET
Course			UTir	
Course			UKIM	
Module V: European Integration				
PS Basic Texts European Integration – Multilevel Politics		PLUS		
SE Multilevel Politics		PLUS	UKIM	UNSA
Course		Ljubljana	SSST	FAMA
Compulsory Courses				
UV Methods in Political Science I	PLUS / Ljubljana			
UV Methods in Political Science II		PLUS / Ljubljana		
Master's Thesis Seminar			SSST / UKIM / UTir	FAMA / UET
Compulsory Elective Course (1 of 2)				
SE Advanced Methods in Political Science		PLUS / Ljubljana		
SE Applied Politics	PLUS / Ljubljana	PLUS	SSST / UKIM	UET
Additional Courses				
Additional Courses	PLUS / Ljubljana	PLUS / Ljubljana	SSST / UNSA / UKIM / UTir / UET / FAMA / UBT	SSST / UNSA / UKIM / UTir / UET / FAMA / UBT

§ 6 Compulsory Elective Modules, Compulsory Courses and Compulsory Elective Course

The MA PoSIG requires students to choose two out of the programme's five compulsory elective modules (see § 2, Paragraph 1, and *Annex I: Module Descriptions*).

All students have to complete three compulsory courses comprising Methods I, Methods II and the Master's Thesis Seminar.

In addition, students have to choose either one course that offers advanced methods in political science, or one course in applied politics (compulsory elective course).

§ 7 Additional Courses

- (1) Students have to complete additional courses totalling 24 ECTS credits. These additional courses are designed to develop professional skills and strengthen individual areas of focus. They can be chosen from the elective modules, from other courses of this curriculum, or from other areas as listed in (2).
- (2) The recommended areas from which students can choose additional courses are:
 - Communication Science
 - Contemporary History
 - European Union Studies
 - Gender Studies
 - Geography and Spatial Planning
 - Law (e.g., Public/Constitutional Law, International Law, European Law)
 - Regional Studies
 - Sociology, Social Psychology and Educational Science
 - Sustainability Studies
 - Political Economy
 - Psychology and Political Psychology

§ 8 Master's Thesis

- (1) The master's thesis serves to demonstrate that students have acquired the ability to perform independent academic research in the area of political science, according to rigorous academic research methods and standards.

The thesis is an individual research project, conducted in the student's fields of specialisation. It is overseen by two supervisors and should be connected to their field of teaching and/or research.

- (2) The topic of the master's thesis has to be connected with one or two of the compulsory elective modules according to § 2. The student may suggest a topic or choose from a number of topics provided by one of the available thesis advisors.
- (3) The length of the master's thesis should range between 25,000 and 30,000 words (not counting annexes, tables, and bibliography).
- (4) Students have to attend a thesis seminar. The purpose of this seminar is to support students with the development of their theses.

The supervision of a student's master's thesis is the shared responsibility of two supervisors, whereby one teacher has to be a faculty member of the EUP Salzburg or Ljubljana, while the other has to represent a EUP in Sarajevo, Tirana, Skopje or Prishtina. The supervisors also act as examiners during the MA examination, according to § 13. The requirements and the formal and procedural aspects regarding the supervision of the master's thesis are defined in the syllabus of the thesis seminar.

- (5) The process of supervision of the master's thesis is documented in the student's ePortfolio (as part of the PoSIG eLearning environment). This documentation includes at least the following elements:
- an exposé with the research question and the methodological approach,
 - the supervisors' statements on the student's exposé,
 - the master's thesis,
 - thesis evaluation statements of the two supervisors.

§ 9 International Mobility

Students of this programme have to undertake their studies at least at two, and at most at four EUPs. The international mobility of students has to cover academic studies at least at one or two EUPs in Salzburg or Ljubljana in the first academic year (60 ECTS), and one or two EUPs in Sarajevo, Tirana, Skopje or Prishtina in the second academic year (60 ECTS).

The duration of an international mobility stay is at least one academic term. Students must submit a plan for their international mobility when applying to the programme. Each application has to specify the selected fields of specialisation (2 of 5 compulsory elective modules, as defined in § 2 and § 5), and the university/ies (Ljubljana, Salzburg) the student plans to attend for the first and the second semester. Students also need to declare at which institution they intend to spend the third and fourth semester; this choice may be changed before the end of the second semester.

The internship in accordance with § 10 is not counted as international mobility as defined in the present paragraph.

The recognition of courses for the PoSIG curriculum is granted in accordance with the PoSIG course programme published at www.euro-ps.org. The recognition of a course not listed in the PoSIG course programme needs the affirmative vote of all coordinators of the EUPs attended by the student.

Students have to comply with the following conditions during their international mobility activities:

- At least 30 ECTS credits must be earned in each semester of study.
- Courses completed at one EUP must not be identical to courses already completed at another EUP.

In addition to field-specific knowledge, skills, and competences students are expected to gain the following qualifications as part of their academic international mobility:

- acquisition and consolidation of field-specific knowledge in a foreign language;
- acquisition and consolidation of organisational skills gained by independently navigating through the bureaucracy and organisational structure of a university abroad, as well as daily challenges of student life abroad;
- broadening one's perspectives in one's own field of study;
- acquisition and consolidation of intercultural communication skills.

Students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses will be assisted in organizing their international mobility by the relevant support units of the single EUP.

§ 10 Compulsory Internship

According to the ECTS workload of 6 ECTS, the internship has to represent a 4-week full time work placement experience. This workload can be done with a full time internship contract, or with a part-time internship contract with an equivalent duration of the placement.

The internship can be completed in at most two different places of employment.

The recognition of an internship requires for the student to complete a report on the work experience, reflecting the relevance of the conducted work and acquired experience in terms of the aca-

ademic objectives and learning outcomes of the PoSIG curriculum. The report has to include a timetable of work presence, a confirmation of the work time, and a statement about the student's performance by the employer. This report has to be accepted by a supervising lecturer of a EUP in order for the student to complete the internship. A form for the internship confirmation is available at www.euro-ps.org.

Students are encouraged to complete their internship at institutions as listed in § 2 (3) (local, national or international institutions). The internship should allow for a reflection on the PoSIG study experience, but can also be used to develop and qualify the research interests for the student's thesis project.

The EUPs support the students in their internship by providing a list of contact addresses of possible employers and sources for financial support (national or others, such as Erasmus+ internship grants).

§ 11 Admission Requirements for Exams

It is recommended to follow the suggested plan of study in accordance with §5, with regard to the following courses:

- the completion of the Methods I before the Methods II course,
- the completion of the course Basic Texts and one other course in the two compulsory elective modules during the first two terms of the programme (in order to be confronted with a variety of possible topics for the master's thesis),
- the completion of the master's thesis seminar during the third or fourth semester, in order to develop a research proposal for the master's thesis. The seminar will allow faculty to additionally supervise the student's research work during the thesis project.

§ 12 Examination Regulations and Grading Scale

- (1) In all courses, student performance is assessed directly. The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed via written and/or oral assignments.
- (2) The total grade of a module is calculated as a weighted average of the courses within this module.
- (3) EUPs apply their local examination and grading regulations.
- (4) For students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses, alternative examination regulations suitable for each individual case will be offered in cooperation with the relevant support units of the relevant EUP.

§ 13 Master's Thesis Defence

- (1) The PoSIG MA finishes with a master's thesis defence.
- (2) This defence is a public examination before an examination board.
- (3) The examination board consists of at least (depending on local regulations) one instructor from each university the student has attended during their study (min. 2 and max. 4 instructors), teaching in the elected fields of the student's specialisation, and is headed by the EuroPS coordinator of the EUP where the student finished their study. The grade for the master's thesis and defence has to be decided by the examination board by consensus. If it is not possible to reach a consensus, EuroPS coordinators of the other EUPs where the student took courses during international mobility decide together with the examination board, by a 2/3 majority decision.
- (4) The defence lasts for a maximum of 60 minutes.

- (5) The defence at EUPs in the Western Balkans can be organised with the participation of examiners and coordinators via video conference.
- (6) Students must have successfully completed all of the required courses and the master's thesis in order to be eligible for the master's defence.
- (7) The defence is part of the 30 ECTS credits assigned to the master's thesis. In countries where the master's thesis and its defence are graded separately
 - the defence corresponds to 2 ECTS credits out of the 30 ECTS credits for the master's thesis,
 - the examination board decides both on the grade of the master's thesis and the grade of the defence according to the regulation as defined in § 13 (3).

§ 14 Selection of Students

Students shall be selected and registered as joint degree candidates by the Selection Committee of the EUP Coordinators Board, based on shared admission criteria: academic performance (final grade, exam grades), motivation, letters of reference, results of a personal interview (as part of the selection process), English language level.

As it is required that the student attends, for at least one term,

- the University of Ljubljana and/or the University of Salzburg during the first year of study and
- at least one other EUP in the second year of study,

in their application for the programme, candidates must select,

- their modules of specialisation, and
- the EUP they will attend during their first year of studies (both semesters).

§ 15 Effective Date

The curriculum comes into force 1 October 2017.

Annex: Module Descriptions

Module I: Political Theory

Module name	Political Theory
Module code	MI
Total workload	18 ECTS credit points
Intended learning outcomes	<p>Within this module, students acquire:</p> <p>Knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> comprehensive knowledge about contemporary and historical normative debates on legitimacy, power and democracy; knowledge of empirical political theories concerning power, democracy and contemporary political movements; specific knowledge on approaches critical to modern political ideology. <p>Competence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the ability to critically read and assess theoretical approaches concerning questions of legitimacy, power and democracy; the ability to interpret political reality in the light of normative/empirical theories; the ability to analyse recent political movements and ideologies on the basis of normative political concepts; the ability to understand different aspects of social critique and to apply such criticism to current political issues. <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the ability to conduct independent and innovative research in the field of political theory and the history of political ideas; the ability to follow current political developments from the perspective of normative/empirical political theory; the ability to critically examine political ideologies and to understand them in their social and historical contexts; the ability to offer alternatives to mainstream political philosophies/theories.
Type of assessment	All courses in module MI Political Theory continuously evaluate student performance. The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed through written and/or oral assignments.
Teaching approaches/ methods	The course Basic Texts and the theme-specific courses in module MI Political Theory will include various teaching approaches and methods, primarily lectures/seminars with a focus on the active participation of students (presentations, group discussion, team work, simulations, case studies, etc.).
Module content	<p>The module MI Political Theory covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> normative political theories (both contemporary and historical), especially on fundamental questions of political legitimacy, power and democracy (e.g., representation and political participation, democracy and its critics); empirical political theories, especially those concerning state power, democracy and contemporary political movements (e.g., populism and nationalism); modern political ideologies and approaches critical to ideology

	(e.g., critical theory on crucial questions of political anthropology and identity politics).
Courses	[MI.1 Basic Texts (6 ECTS)] [MI.2 Theme-specific seminar I (6 ECTS)] [MI.3 Theme-specific seminar II (6 ECTS)]

Module II: Comparative Politics

Module name	Comparative Politics
Module code	MII
Total workload	18 ECTS credit points
Intended learning outcomes	<p>Within this module, students acquire:</p> <p>Knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - comprehensive knowledge on political institutions, political actors and decision-making processes in a comparative perspective; - knowledge about the specific theories and theoretic debates concerning comparative political systems, comparative political processes and interactions across different levels; - practical knowledge about the political processes of South-East Europe. <p>Competence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a detailed understanding of research, analytical methods and theories in the thematic area of comparative politics; - the ability to summarise and assess highly specialised literature in the thematic area of comparative politics; - the ability to analyse complex scientific and policy problems and draw correct conclusions by employing qualitative and/or quantitative methods and analyses; - the ability to develop independently innovative research questions, communicate their own ideas clearly and convincingly, and write scientific papers. <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ability to connect research and practice and to implement practice-oriented research projects; - the ability to analyse theoretic approaches critically and to apply them to new political developments; - the ability to follow current political developments from a comparative perspective; - the ability to apply the knowledge acquired throughout the programme concerning the processes within institutions and the competences of different actors, and work with or within these institutions; - the ability to participate in and to conduct complex decision-making procedures.
Type of assessment	All courses in module MII Comparative Politics continuously evaluate student performance. The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed through written and/or oral assignments.
Teaching approaches/ methods	The core course and the theme-specific courses in module MII Comparative Politics will include various teaching approaches and methods, primarily lectures/seminars with a focus on the active participation of students (presentations, group discussions, team work, simulations, case studies, etc.).
Module content	<p>The module MII Comparative Politics covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the functioning and effects of political institutions, especially electoral systems and government structures; - the functioning of parliaments, especially with regard to questions of representation and representativeness; - characteristics of political parties and party systems; - aspects of political participation and new forms of participation; - characteristics and differences of regional and local governments; - analyses of civil society, public opinion, electoral behaviour and elections; - differences in the structure of states and constitutional design;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - nationalism and its influence on regional and global politics; - specific characteristics of authoritarian regimes and their development; - democratization, political violence and regime changes; - analyses of gender-specific and economic inequality; - approaches and characteristics of human rights policies in different political environments; - analyses of specific public policies (e.g., comparative social policies).
Courses	<p>[MII.1 Core Course "Foundations of Comparative Politics" (6 ECTS)] [MII.2 Theme-specific course I (6 ECTS)] [MII.3 Theme-specific course II (6 ECTS)]</p>

Module III: Public Policy & Administration [to be offered at another EUP, not at PLUS]

Module name	Public Policy & Administration
Module code	MIII
Total workload	18 ECTS credit points
Intended learning outcomes	<p>Within this module, students acquire:</p> <p>Knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - comprehensive knowledge on political and administrative institutions, political and administrative actors and decision-making processes; - knowledge about the specific theories and theoretic debates concerning public policy and administrative systems in a national and supra-national perspective; - practical knowledge about public policy and administrative processes in a comparative perspective. <p>Competence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a detailed understanding of research, analytical methods and theories in the thematic areas of public policy and public administration; - competence to summarise and assess highly specialised literature in the thematic areas of public policy and public administration; - ability to analyse complex scientific problems and draw correct conclusions by employing qualitative and/or quantitative methods and analyses; - ability to develop independently innovative research questions, communicate their own ideas clearly and convincingly, and to write scientific papers. <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ability to connect research and practice and to implement practice-oriented research projects; - the ability to analyse theoretic approaches critically and apply them to new political and/or policy developments; - the ability to follow current policy and/or administrative developments; - the ability to apply the knowledge acquired throughout the programme concerning the processes within political and administrative institutions and the competences of different actors, and work with or within these institutions; - the ability to participate in and conduct complex political and/or administrative decision-making procedures.
Type of assessment	All courses in module MIII Public Policy & Administration continuously evaluate student performance. The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed through written and/or oral assignments.
Teaching approaches/ methods	The core course and theme-specific courses in MIII Public Policy & Administration will include various teaching approaches and methods, primarily lectures/seminars with a focus on the active participation of students (presentations, group discussion, team work, simulations, case studies, etc.).
Module content	<p>The Public Policy & Administration module covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the functioning and effects of administrative institutions, especially core administrative systems (state administration, public services, civil service); - an understanding of leadership concepts, different approaches and abilities to apply them to actual organisational contexts; - characteristics of policy cycles and their importance in the system of public administration; - the significance and impact of administrative procedures in the

	functioning of the government; - differences in the structure of constitutional design regarding public policy and public administration; - an analysis of specific public policies.
Courses	[MIII.1 Core course "Contemporary Approaches to Public Policy and Administration" (6 ECTS)] [MIII.2 Theme-specific course I (6 ECTS)] [MIII.3 Theme-specific course II (6 ECTS)]

Module IV: International Relations

Module name	International Relations
Module code	MIV
Total workload	18 ECTS credit points
Intended learning outcomes	<p>Within this module, students acquire:</p> <p>Knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - specialised empirical knowledge about international relations, e.g., with regard to the functioning of international organisations or international trade policies; - detailed knowledge of relevant theories in the field of international relations, and how to distinguish and critically evaluate them. <p>Competence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ability to infer explanations from relevant theories to explain current political problems or new phenomena; - an understanding of research design and methods in current research on international relations and an ability to challenge methodological approaches critically; - an ability to assess the strengths and weaknesses of these methods. <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ability to develop interesting and innovative research questions in the field of International Relations, and the capacity to answer these questions using the appropriate research design; - the ability to clearly and convincingly communicate their knowledge of international politics and to argue in support of the conclusions they derive from their research on international relations.
Type of assessment	All courses in module MIV International Relations continuously evaluate student performance. The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed through written and/or oral assignments.
Teaching approaches/ methods	The course Basic Texts and theme-specific courses in module MIV International Relations will include various teaching approaches and methods, primarily lectures/seminars with a focus on the active participation of students (presentations, group discussion, team work, simulations, case studies, etc.).
Module content	<p>The module MIV International Relations covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - theories of international relations, such as realism, neorealism, institutionalism, liberal theory of international relations, social constructivist approaches; - the most important debates in international relations, including the functioning of international organisations, the design of international institutions, the role of public international law in international relations, and the role of transnational actors and the causes of war and peace; - a selection of current research topics, for example on peace and conflict research, foreign policy analysis, international institutions, international environmental policy, international cooperation, diplomacy, international political economy or transnational actors.
Courses	<p>[MIV.1 Basic texts (6 ECTS)] [MIV.2 Theme specific seminar IR I (6 ECTS)] [MIV.3 Theme specific seminar IR II (6 ECTS)]</p>

Module V: European Integration

Module name	European Integration
Module code	MV
Total workload	18 ECTS credit points
Intended learning outcomes	<p>Within this module, students acquire:</p> <p>Knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a comprehensive knowledge on institutions, actors, decision-making processes, policy fields and norms of the European Union, including the functioning of the European multilevel system; - a knowledge about the specific theories and theoretic debates concerning European integration, political processes and interactions across different levels, the ability to analyse this critically and apply it to new political developments; - the ability to understand current research and the academic debate in the field of European integration, and to transfer their knowledge to other thematic areas; - practical knowledge about the political processes at the EU level (acquired, e.g., in simulation games); - understanding the research design and the methods of current research concerning European integration and the multilevel system, and an ability to assess them critically. <p>Competence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ability to individually set up a research design and to conduct research within the area of European integration, and to apply the different methodological and theoretical approaches; - the ability to write seminar papers according to academic standards and to give policy recommendations ("speaking to practice"); - the ability to cooperate with others (promoting a regional and international co-operation model), and to conduct research projects together; - the ability to present complex research results, including the results of their own research projects. <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ability to connect research and practice, and to implement practice-oriented research projects; - the ability to apply the knowledge acquired throughout the programme concerning the processes within institutions, and the competences of different actors, and to work with or within these institutions; - the ability to participate in and conduct multi/bi-lateral negotiations (complex decision-making processes).
Type of assessment	All courses in module MV European Integration continuously evaluate student performance. The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed through written and/or oral assignments.
Teaching approaches/ methods	The course Basic Texts and theme-specific courses in module MV European Integration will include various teaching approaches and methods, primarily lectures/seminars with a focus on the active participation of students (presentations, group discussion, team work, simulations, case studies, etc.).
Module content	<p>The module MV European Integration covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - European integration theories; - current research topics in the area of European, regional and multi-level politics; - (historic) development of European integration; - European Institutions, actors and decision-making procedures; - governance in a multilevel system;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- EU policies;- enlargement process;- EU and the wider world/European Neighbourhood Policy.
Courses	[MV.1 Basic Texts (6 ECTS)] [MV.2 Theme-specific seminar I (6 ECTS)] [MV.3 Theme-specific seminar II (6 ECTS)]

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