

Mitteilungsblatt – Sondernummer der Paris Lodron Universität Salzburg

110. Curriculum for the Master's Degree Programme in Political Science (Version 2025)

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In its session on 11.03.2025 the Academic Senate of the Paris Lodron University of Salzburg enacted the curriculum for the English-language Master's degree programme in Political Science, formally approved by the curriculum commission for Political Science at the University of Salzburg with circular resolution on 22.01.2025, in the following version.

The legal basis for the curriculum is the Federal Act on the Organisation of Universities and their Studies (Universities Act 2002 – UG), Federal Law Gazette I No. 120/2002, as well as the section of the Statutes of the University of Salzburg pertaining to university studies, in the applicable version.

§ 1 General provisions

- (1) The total number of ECTS credit points necessary to complete a degree in the Master's programme in Political Science is 120. This corresponds to four semesters of study.
- (2) Graduates of the Master's programme in Political Science will be awarded the academic title "Master of Arts", abbreviated „MA“.
- (3) The precondition for the admission to the Master's programme in Political Science is the completion of a relevant Bachelor's degree programme or of another relevant degree programme of at least the same higher educational level at a recognised domestic or foreign post-secondary institute of education (cf. § 64 para. 3 UG).
- (4) To compensate for significant subject-specific differences in equivalency the student may be required to complete supplementary examinations worth up to 45 ECTS credit points; these requirements must be completed by the end of the second semester of the Master's programme. Only the Rectorate or a member of staff of the University of Salzburg designated by the Rectorate is authorised to decide on whether there are significant subject-specific differences.
- (5) Candidates are admitted to the Master's programme in Political Science following the procedure detailed in Annex III: Application procedure.
- (6) Each academic achievement to be fulfilled by students has been assigned ECTS credit points. One ECTS credit point 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 full hours corresponding to 60 ECTS credit points.
- (7) Students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses must not be subject to any form of discrimination in their studies. The guiding principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Austrian Federal Equal Treatment Act as well as the principles of compensation of disadvantage apply.
- (8) The Master's programme in Political Science is to be offered fully in English.

§ 2 Subject of the degree programme and qualification profile

(1) Subject of the degree programme

- (a) The Master's programme in Political Science offers three thematic areas, of which students will need to select two in order to develop their concentration of study. These three thematic areas are Comparative Politics, Multilevel Politics – Austria and Europe, and International Relations.

Thematic Area 1:	Comparative Politics
<p>The thematic area „Comparative Politics“ is the study of politics and government systems in different countries. Comparative politics draws on cross-national and cross-regional research, as well as single country studies, also looking at subnational governments, such as states and municipalities. This field of study includes the foundations of democratic theory, democratisation and regime change, institutional design, the policy process, mass attitudes and behaviour in democracies and dictatorships. A special emphasis is placed on themes surrounding democratic competition and political representation such as populism, gender and climate politics. Students will acquire a sound understanding of important political processes relevant for both developing and advanced industrial democracies. The faculty is committed to a pluralistic view of the field and seeks to train its students in a broad range of methodologies and theoretical approaches. Students are introduced to both landmark works and cutting-edge research in the field.</p>	
Thematic Area 2:	Multilevel Politics – Austria and Europe
<p>This thematic area builds on the idea that contemporary politics takes place on multiple levels and thus has to be understood in the context of an interplay of processes, actors, and structures along these levels. Even local politics is embedded in larger regional and national political contexts, which in turn are part of the European and international multi-level system. Political actors utilise a complex variety of opportunities and constraints to act strategically and pursue their preferences. The complexity increases as the responsibilities and rules of the political institutions at the different levels vary in relation to the policy fields. The focus of this thematic area is on politics in Austria and in the European Union, which students will analyse with the help of theories, paying particular attention to the multiple levels of political interaction. Students have the opportunity to analyse one of these levels in depth and approach the topic methodically, in relation to the political field or in an application-oriented manner.</p>	
Thematic Area 3:	International Relations
<p>The subject of the thematic area „International Relations“ is international politics in its manifold appearances. This comprises, on the one hand, classical fields of study such as research on peace and conflict, foreign policy analysis and the contribution of international organisations to international cooperation. On the other hand, a specific emphasis lies on international political economy, transnational actors in international politics and international environmental policy. Students will gain a comprehensive overview of the history of ideas in International Relations and particularly on recent research developments in the thematic area. Moreover, they will acquire analytical and technical competences to understand and analyse independently the most recent developments in the field.</p>	

- (b) Advanced methodological and applied classes will complement an intense engagement with the individual thematic areas. This will enable students to carry out independently theory-driven, empirical-analytical social science research while meeting high methodological standards and developing innovative research strategies and solutions for politically and socially relevant problems.

(2) Professional skills and competences (learning outcomes)

Upon completion of the Master's programme in Political Science, students will have the following skills and competences:

Competences in the field of study , in particular:
- comprehensive knowledge about theories in political science, political concepts, actors, institutions, processes, norms and central policy fields in selected thematic areas;
- the ability to understand, assess, and apply social science research with high methodological standards to other thematic areas;
- 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 use of statistics software, and to plan and carry out individual research;
- the ability to cooperate with others (inter-disciplinary or in groups) to carry out research together;
- the ability to present complex studies and own research findings convincingly in front of an audience.
Competences in sound reasoning and judgement , in particular:
- the ability to understand advanced social and political science literature and to critically analyse and assess it by drawing on the insights of neighbouring disciplines (Law, Economy, Sociology, History);
- the ability to assess the presentation of scientific research outcomes, to make comparisons and to give self-reflected feedback;
- the ability to debate and confront one's own insights and positions with those of others and to modify them, if necessary.
Competences of responsive action , in particular:
- the ability to grasp political and social problems, develop practical strategies for solutions, and bring them in in public debates;
- the ability to connect science and political practice;
- the ability to engage in politics effectively on the basis of scientific insights.

(3) Importance and relevance of the degree for the scientific community, society, and the labour market

Graduates of the Master's programme in Political Science often pursue careers in the following occupational fields:

- employment in public administration;
- employment in legislatures and political parties;
- employment in non-governmental organisations, interest groups and trade unions;

- employment in the business sector;
- employment in the media sector and in public relations;
- employment in foreign services (careers in diplomacy), in institutions of the European Union, and in international organisations;
- employment in the field of civic and political education (foundations, academies, educational institutes, etc.);
- academic careers (teaching and research at universities and research institutions).

§ 3 Structure of the programme

The Master's programme in Political Science comprises seven modules with a total number of 108 ECTS credit points. Of the seven modules, two are elective modules, four are compulsory modules, and one module comprises the Master's seminar and the Master's thesis. In addition, 6 ECTS credit points are assigned for free elective courses. The Master's thesis is worth 24 ECTS credit points, the Master's examination is assigned 6 ECTS credit points.

	ECTS
Elective modules (2 of 3)	36
Comparative Politics	18
Multilevel Politics – Austria and Europe	18
International Relations	18
Compulsory modules	72
Advanced thematic courses in Political Science	12
Methods in Political Science	12
Professional skills (2 of 4)	12
Transdisciplinary module for socio-ecological crises	6
Master's seminar and Master's thesis	30
Free elective courses	6
Master's exam	6
Total	120

§ 4 Types of courses

The programme comprises the following types of courses:

- **Introductory seminar courses (PS)** are research-oriented courses constituting the pre-stage to seminars. Students actively participate in practical and theoretical work to acquire basic knowledge and skills in academic research. An introductory seminar course is a continuous assessment course, attendance is compulsory.
- **Seminar courses (SE)** are advanced academic courses to acquire more in-depth knowledge, to discuss and reflect academic issues through active participation on the part of

the students. A seminar course is a continuous assessment course, attendance is compulsory.

- **Tutorial and lecture courses (UV)** combine a theoretical introduction to a specific topic with practical skills, whereby the character of the course is predominantly practical. A tutorial and lecture course is a continuous assessment course, attendance is compulsory.

§ 5 Programme content and schedule of study

The following contains a list of modules and courses in the Master's programme in Political Science. The attribution to semesters serves as a recommendation designed to ensure that the order in which the courses are taken is optimally built on previous knowledge and that the workload of 60 ECTS credit points within an academic year is not exceeded. However, modules and courses can be taken in a different order if there are no preconditions according to § 11.

Detailed descriptions of the modules including the knowledge, methods, and skills to be imparted can be found in Annex I: Description of modules.

Master's degree programme Political Science								
Module	Course	SHours	Type	ECTS	Semester with ECTS			
					I	II	III	IV
(1) Elective modules (2 out of 3)								
Students must select 2 out of the modules 1 to 3.								
Module 1: Comparative Politics								
	Proseminar Foundational Texts	2	PS	6	6			
	Seminar I	2	SE	6	6			
	Seminar II	2	SE	6		6		
	Subtotal module 1	6		18	12	6		
Module 2: Multilevel Politics – Austria and Europe								
	Proseminar Foundational Texts	2	PS	6	6			
	Seminar I	2	SE	6	6			
	Seminar II	2	SE	6		6		
	Subtotal module 2	6		18	12	6		
Module 3: International Relations								
	Proseminar Foundational Texts	2	PS	6	6			
	Seminar I	2	SE	6	6			
	Seminar II	2	SE	6		6		
	Subtotal module 3	6		18	12	6		
	Total elective modules	12		36	24	12		

Module	Course	SHours	Type	ECTS	Semester with ECTS			
					I	II	III	IV
(2) Compulsory modules								
Module 4: Advanced thematic courses in Political Science								
Seminar I		2	SE	6			6	
Seminar II		2	SE	6			6	
Subtotal module 4		4		12			12	
Module 5: Methods in Political Science								
Methods in Political Science I		2	UV	6	6			
Methods in Political Science II		2	UV	6		6		
Subtotal module 5		4		12	6	6		
Module 6: Professional skills								
Students must select 2 out of the following 4 courses.								
Advanced Methods: Course I		2	SE	6		6		
Advanced Methods: Course II		2	SE	6		6		
Applied Course		2	SE	6		6		
Academic Writing		2	SE	6		6		
Subtotal module 6		4		12		12		
Module 7: Transdisciplinary module for socio-ecological crises								
Courses to be freely selected from the course catalogue regarding topics relating to socio-ecological crises				6			6	
Subtotal module 7				6			6	
Module 8: Master's seminar and Master's thesis								
Master's seminar		2	SE	6			6	
Master's thesis				24				24
Subtotal module 8		2		30			6	24
Total compulsory modules				48	6	18	24	24
(3) Free elective courses				6			6	
(4) Master's exam				6				6
Total sum				120	30	30	30	30

§ 6 Elective modules

The Master's programme Political Science contains three elective modules, which correspond to the three thematic areas (see § 2 para. 1 and Annex I: Description of modules). Students must choose two out of these three modules as fields of specialisation.

§ 7 Free elective courses

- (1) In the Master's programme in Political Science, students are to complete elective courses totalling 6 ECTS credit points. These elective courses can be selected from the range of courses offered by all recognised post-secondary educational institutions without restriction and are designed to further the acquisition of additional professional skills and to strengthen individual areas of focus within a student's course of study.
- (2) Recommended areas from which students can choose elective courses comprise:
 - Contemporary History
 - European Union Studies
 - Gender Studies
 - Geography and Spatial Planning
 - Communication Science
 - Law (e.g., Public/Constitutional Law, International Law, European Law)
 - Political Economy
 - Regional Studies
 - Sociology
 - Sustainability Studies

§ 8 Master's thesis

- (1) The Master's thesis serves to demonstrate that the students have acquired the capability to independently perform academic research in the field of Political Science according to current academic research methods and standards.
- (2) The topic of the Master's thesis should be chosen in such a way that it is reasonable and appropriate to complete the thesis within six months (cf. § 81 para. 2 UG).
- (3) The topic of the Master's thesis must be taken from one of the modules in the Master's curriculum. The student is entitled to suggest a topic or to choose the topic from a number of topics proposed by the available thesis advisors.
- (4) The Master's thesis is worth 24 ECTS credit points.
- (5) Students are obliged to attend the Master's seminar in the thematic area relevant to the Master's thesis, as this seminar serves to support students in the preparation of their thesis.
- (6) It is to be noted that both the student's work on the topic and advisor's work with the student are subject to the Austrian Copyright Act, Federal Law Gazette No. 111/1936 (cf. § 80 para. 2 UG).

§ 9 International mobility

- (1) Students of the Master's degree programme in Political Science are recommended to spend a

semester of study abroad. The third semester is particularly suited for this study abroad. The recognition of courses and other academic achievements completed during the study abroad is conducted by the governing body responsible for study matters. The documents required for the assessment are to be provided by the student.

- (2) It is ensured that semesters abroad are possible without causing a delay in a student's course of study if the following conditions are met:
 - during each semester abroad courses and other academic achievements totalling at least 30 ECTS credit points are completed,
 - the courses and other academic achievements completed during the study abroad are not identical to the content of courses and other academic achievements already completed at the University of Salzburg,
 - before starting the semester abroad, it is stated by means of an official order which of the planned examinations will be recognised for the examinations stipulated in the curriculum.
- (3) In addition to subject-specific competences students can acquire the following qualifications by studying abroad:
 - acquisition and deepening of subject-specific knowledge of a foreign language,
 - acquisition and deepening of general foreign-language skills (comprehension, conversation, ...),
 - acquisition and deepening of organisational skills by independently planning the day-to-day study life in international administrative and university structures,
 - familiarising with and studying in international university systems as well as broadening the individual perspectives in the student's own field of study,
 - acquisition and deepening of intercultural competences.
- (4) Students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses will be actively assisted by the university in searching for an opportunity to study abroad and in planning the semester abroad.

§ 10 Allocation of study places in courses with a limited number of participants

- (1) For the following types of courses the number of participants in the Master's programme in Political Science is limited as follows:

Introductory seminar courses (PS)	30 participants
Seminar courses (SE)	30 participants
Tutorial and lecture courses (UV)	30 participants

- (2) If the maximum number of participants is exceeded by the number of enrolments for courses with a limited number of participants, those students for whom this course is part of their curriculum will be given priority.
- (3) Study places will be allocated in the order specified in the Statutes of the University of Salzburg.
- (4) For students participating in international exchange programmes, additional study places constituting at least ten percent of the maximum number of participants on each course will be available. These study places will be allocated by lot.

§ 11 Admission requirements for exams

There are no courses that constitute a mandatory prerequisite for admission to any other course in the Master's programme in Political Science. However, students are urged to follow the recommended schedule of study, especially with regard to the following courses:

- the completion of the UV Methods in Political Science I before the UV Methods in Political Science II;
- the completion of the UV Methods in Political Science I and II before a SE Advanced Methods;
- the completion of both seminars and the proseminar Foundational Texts in the thematic area (elective module) where the student plans to write the Master's thesis during the first two terms of the programme (to acquaint oneself to a variety of possible topics for the master's thesis);
- the completion of the Master's seminar during the third semester, in order to develop a proposal for the Master's thesis.

§ 12 Examination regulations

- (1) All courses in the modules evaluate students' performance at all times. Whether the teaching and learning objectives have been achieved, is assessed by written and/or oral assignments.
- (2) The final grade of a module is determined in accordance with § 19 para. 3 of the Statutes of the University of Salzburg.
- (3) For students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses, alternative examination regulations suitable for each individual case will be offered in cooperation with the Service Facility for Family, Gender, Disability & Diversity.

§ 13 Master's examination before an examining committee

- (1) The Master's programme in Political Science is concluded with a Master's examination before an examining committee worth 6 ECTS credit points.
- (2) Taking the Master's examination requires proof of successful completion of all prescribed examinations and positive assessment of the Master's thesis.
- (3) The Master's examination before an examining committee consists of
 - a presentation of the Master's thesis by the person taking the examination;
 - questions on the topic of the Master's thesis by the members of the examining committee;
 - questions on a separate topic different from the topic of the Master's thesis proposed by the candidate from the modules defined in the Master's programme according to § 8 para. 3.

§ 14 Effective date

The curriculum will become effective on 1 October 2025.

§ 15 Transitional provisions

- (1) Students who are registered for the Master's programme in Political Science at Paris Lodron University of Salzburg (version 2016, bulletin – special number 127, 24.06.2016) at the time this curriculum becomes effective are entitled to complete their studies at the latest by 30 September 2027 in accordance with these study regulations.
- (2) Students are entitled to voluntarily enrol in this Master's degree programme at any time within the admission period. A written irrevocable declaration to this effect must be sent to the Admissions Office.

A course equivalency list can be found in Annex II.

Annex I: Description of modules

Module name	Elective module 1: Comparative Politics
Module code	EM 1
Total workload	18 ECTS
Learning outcomes	<p>Students ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a detailed understanding of research, analytical methods and theories in the thematic area of comparative politics; • are able to summarise and assess highly specialised literature in the thematic area of comparative politics; • have the ability to analyse complex scientific problems and to draw empirically sound conclusions by employing qualitative and/or quantitative methods and analyses; • are able to develop independently innovative research questions in the field of democracy research, communicate their own ideas clearly and convincingly, and to write scientific papers.
Module content	<p>The module 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; • analyses of civil society, public opinion, electoral behaviour and elections; • differences in the structure of states and constitutional design; • specific characteristics of authoritarian regimes, development, democratisation, political violence and regime change; • analyses of disadvantaged groups and inequality, populism, climate politics; • public policy.
Courses	<p>EM 1.1 PS Foundational Texts (6 ECTS) EM 1.2 SE Seminar I (6 ECTS) EM 1.3 SE Seminar II (6 ECTS)</p>
Type of exam	<p>Course-oriented examination: The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed for each course separately by written and/or oral assignments.</p>

Module name	Elective module 2: Multilevel Politics – Austria and Europe
Module code	EM 2
Total workload	18 ECTS
Learning outcomes	<p>Students ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have acquired detailed knowledge about central institutions and actors, as well as their interests and strategies in political multilevel processes; • know specific theories and theory debates on multilevel politics in Political Science, critically challenge these and can apply them for an explanation of new facts and circumstances; • understand research design and methods as applied in contemporary research on multilevel politics, critically challenge these and assess strengths and weaknesses of methods and theories; • develop independently research questions on multilevel politics and are able to answer them, by offering innovative research outcomes and/or practical solutions – in the context of individual areas of concentration chosen for this module.
Module content	<p>The module covers ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the presentation, discussion and application of basic theories and frames of analyses for multilevel politics (e.g., institutionalism, theories of European integration and Europeanisation, multilevel governance, federalism, welfare regimes and small state theories, political economy of European integration, integration law, policy analysis); • the treatment of current research topics in Austrian and European politics, which vary with regard to policy fields and their approach to methods and applied research.
Courses	EM 2.1 PS Foundational Texts (6 ECTS) EM 2.2 SE Seminar I (6 ECTS) EM 2.3 SE Seminar II (6 ECTS)
Type of exam	Course-oriented examination: The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed for each course separately by written and/or oral assignments.

Module name	Elective module 3: International Relations
Module code	EM 3
Total workload	18 ECTS
Learning outcomes	<p>Students ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have gained specialised empirical knowledge about international relations, for example with regard to the functioning of international organisations or international trade politics; • know the relevant theories in the field of International Relations in detail, know how to distinguish them and how to critically challenge them; • are able to infer explanations from relevant theories to explain current political problems or new phenomena; • understand research design and methods in current research on international relations, challenge them critically and compare strengths and weaknesses of theories among each other and with theories of other disciplines; • develop interesting and innovative research questions in the field and are able to answer these with the help of a suitable research design; • are able to communicate their knowledge in international politics and make convincing arguments regarding their conclusions in debates.
Module content	<p>The module covers ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • theories of international relations: realism, institutionalism, liberal theory, constructivism as well as frames of analysis in international political economy; • the most important debates in International Relations, including those concerning the functioning of international organisations, the design of international institutions, the role of public international law in international relations, the role of transnational actors and the reasons for war and peace; • depending on the individual areas of concentration, current research topics in the fields of peace and conflict research, foreign policy analysis, international institutions, international environmental policy, international cooperation, international political economy and transnational actors.
Courses	<p>EM 3.1 PS Foundational Texts (6 ECTS) EM 3.2 SE Seminar I (6 ECTS) EM 3.3 SE Seminar II (6 ECTS)</p>
Type of exam	<p>Course-oriented examination: The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed for each course separately by written and/or oral assignments.</p>

Module name	Compulsory module 4: Advanced thematic courses in Political Science
Module code	CM 4
Total workload	12 ECTS
Learning outcomes	<p>Students ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are able, based on the acquired theoretical knowledge and methodological skills, to pose new research questions in selected thematic areas, to evaluate hypotheses and to develop innovative solutions for practical problems in the field, and/or • are able to apply theoretical knowledge and methodological skills to two thematic areas, which they choose as focal points.
Module content	<p>The module covers...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in-depth knowledge and skills in two thematic areas chosen as concentration, through special, methodological, policy field specific and/or applied courses, and/or • enhancing of knowledge and skills acquired in two focal areas by selecting an additional thematic area.
Courses	Two freely selected seminars in the field of Political Science (12 ECTS)
Type of exam	Course-oriented examination: The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed for each course separately by written and/or oral assignments.

Module name	Compulsory module 5: Methods in Political Science
Module code	CM 5
Total workload	12 ECTS
Learning outcomes	<p>Students ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have developed good knowledge of quantitative and qualitative methods in political science; • are able to select the appropriate methods based on this knowledge, in order to answer a complex research question in political science; • are able to apply these methods independently for their own research questions and to conceptualise and finalise a research process.
Module content	<p>The module covers the entire research process in political science and contains ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the formulation of research questions and development of theoretical frameworks; • the formulation of hypotheses and definition of concepts; • choice of research design; • operationalisation, meaning measurement of concepts; • the selection of units of analysis; • different forms of data collection (interview, content analysis, observation, etc.); • data management; • data analysis (different forms of qualitative and quantitative analysis).
Courses	<p>CM 5.1 UV Methods in Political Science I (6 ECTS) CM 5.2 UV Methods in Political Science II (6 ECTS)</p>
Type of exam	<p>Course-oriented examination: The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed for each course separately by written and/or oral assignments.</p>

Module name	Compulsory module 6: Professional skills
Module code	CM 6
Total workload	12 ECTS
Learning outcomes	<p>Depending on the choice of courses in the module, students can ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand specialised texts that apply advanced qualitative and/or quantitative social science methods, assess them critically and use them competently for their own studies; • improve their verbal and written communication skills to disseminate their research findings; • apply their acquired theoretical and methodological knowledge and skills to analyse and critically evaluate political or social challenges and problems and develop innovative solution strategies.
Module content	<p>The module covers ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in-depth knowledge and competences with regard to social science methods, which are useful for the master's thesis; • the application of advanced methods to specific political science research questions.
Courses	<p>Students must select 2 out of the following 4 courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SE Advanced Methods: Course I (6 ECTS) • SE Advanced Methods: Course II (6 ECTS) • SE Applied Course (6 ECTS) • SE Academic Writing (6 ECTS)
Type of exam	<p>Course-oriented examination: The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed for each course separately by written and/or oral assignments.</p>

Module name	Compulsory module 7: Transdisciplinary module for socio-ecological crises
Module code	CM 7
Total workload	6 ECTS
Learning outcomes	<p>Students ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know important social and ecological challenges; • can name problems in relation to socio-ecological challenges; • understand the connections between cause and effect of issues with socio-ecological implications; • are able to question societal developments and analyse and classify them in relation to socio-ecological challenges; • are able to assess arguments and develop rationales applicable to socio-ecological questions; • can design strategies that will contribute to finding solutions to socio-ecological problems.
Module content	As part of each degree programme students shall also be taught awareness of important social and ecological challenges and their significance for current societal developments and phenomena as well as basic skills in dealing with them. The interdisciplinary module aims to achieve exactly that.
Courses	Courses to be freely selected from the course catalogue regarding topics relating to socio-ecological crises topics relating to socio-ecological crises such as gender studies, sustainability and climate crisis, democracy education, research on poverty or migration.
Type of exam	Course-oriented examination: The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed for each course separately, either by a written exam (in the case of lectures), or by written and/or oral assignments (in the case of courses which evaluate student performance at all times).

Module name	Compulsory module 8: Master's Seminar and Master's Thesis
Module code	CM 8
Total workload	6+24 ECTS
Learning outcomes	<p>Graduates ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have gained the ability to develop a theoretically and methodologically sound exposé for their Master's thesis; • are able to present their exposé in front of colleagues effectively and to modify their exposé based on the received feedback; • are able to carry out scientific research in the field of political science independently and in accordance with current scientific standards.
Module content	<p>The module covers...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the development of an exposé for the Master's thesis; • the presentation and defence of the exposé in front of colleagues; • the supervision of the Master's thesis of a supervisor chosen by the student.
Courses	<p>CM 8 SE Master's seminar (6 ECTS) Master's thesis (24 ECTS)</p>
Type of exam	The seminar evaluates student performance at all times. The achievement of teaching and learning objectives is assessed by written and/or oral assignments.

Annex II: Course equivalency list

Curriculum 2016		Curriculum 2025	
Course	ECTS	Course	ECTS
PS Basic Texts [Elective module]	6	PS Foundational Texts [Elective module]	6
PS Basic Texts Democracy & Legitimacy	6	PS Foundational Texts Comparative Politics	6
SE Democracy & Legitimacy	6	SE Comparative Politics	6

Annex III: Application procedure

Students who have completed the BA programme in Political Science or in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics at the University of Salzburg can enroll in the MA programme in Political Science without further requirements. All other students are subject to a qualitative selection process conducted by an admissions panel of the Department of Political Science. Applicants who successfully complete this process will be recommended for admission to the Admissions Office of the university.

Phase 1: Qualitative selection process

In order to apply for the MA programme in Political Science, students have to send the following documents to the Department of Political Science:

- Application form
- Bachelor's diploma, diploma supplement (including course length, course description, and credits) and/or transcript of records including course titles, credit hours, and grades
- Copy of passport (picture page)
- Proof of English language proficiency at the C1 level
- Short curriculum vitae (CV) or resume detailing the applicant's education and work experience
- Letter of motivation describing the applicant's motivation, qualification for the intended master's programme, objectives, and expectations (max 1,000 words, in English)

An admissions panel of the Department of Political Science determines whether an applicant will be recommended for admission. Criteria for the selection include:

- Key competencies necessary for the intended master's programme
- Academic English and communications skills
- The applicant's motivation, objectives, and expectations for the master's programme
- Previous academic achievements or relevant work experience

If the documents submitted do not allow for a conclusive decision regarding the applicant's qualifications, the admissions panel may conduct an additional (online) interview with the applicant.

Phase 2: Formal admission process

The recommendation by the admissions panel of the Department of Political Science will be forwarded to the Admissions Office and the Rectorate of the University of Salzburg, which makes the final decision on admission.

Students who are recommended for admission will be contacted by the Admissions Office regarding any additional documents that may be required. In general, all foreign documents submitted, including all certificates and confirmations, must be verified by the country of origin and recognized by the Austrian consular authorities in that country. Documents issued by EU authorities are not considered foreign documents and thus do not need to be verified.

Further details, including application deadlines, can be found on the Admissions Office website.

Impressum

Herausgeber und Verleger:
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Univ.-Prof. Dr. Bernhard Fügenschuh
Redaktion: Stefan Bohuny
alle: Kapitelgasse 4-6
A-5020 Salzburg