

Master of Arts (M.A.)

Modern China Studies

(October 2013)

Regulations and contents of studies

(This is based on the German version of the official examination regulations which is the legally binding text. You will find this text on the university's homepage after final approval by the ministry.)

Profile of the program

The English language M.A. program Modern China Studies is consecutive and has a strong emphasis on academic research. In terms of content, the program focuses on phenomena and processes shaping China in the 20th and 21st centuries while at the same time taking into account the historical processes leading up to these processes and phenomena. Seminars introduce students to central topics, methods and theories of Modern China Studies. During a one semester stay abroad, students immerse themselves in a foreign academic culture, extend their language competence and acquire intercultural sensitivity. Successful graduates of the program qualify for jobs relating to China in academia, foundations, journalism, (further) education and private enterprises.

The Masters Program Modern China Studies comprises 120 ECTS credit points.

Language of instruction

Classes will be held in English. Exams will be taken either in English or in Chinese based on teacher instructions.

Contents

The program consists of the following modules:

M 1 – Theories and Methods (10 ECTS credit points)						
Courses	Type	M/E	PL/SL	ECTS	Hrs.	Sem.
Master seminar on Theories and Methods of China Studies	S	M	PL	10	2	1

M 2 – Chinese Politics and Economy (13 ECTS credit points)						
Courses	Type	M/E	PL/SL	ECTS	Hrs.	Sem.
Master seminar on Chinese Politics and Economy	S	M	PL	10	2	1/2
Chinese language source reading class accompanying the master seminar on Chinese Politics and Economy	Ex	M	SL	3	2	1/2

M 3 – Chinese Culture and Society (13 ECTS credit points)						
Courses	Type	M/E	PL/SL	ECTS	Hrs.	Sem.
Master seminar on Chinese Culture and Society	S	M	PL	10	2	1/2
Chinese language source reading class accompanying the master seminar on Chinese Culture and Society	Ex	M	SL	3	2	1/2

M 4 – Language Training (12 ECTS credit points)						
Courses	Type	M/E	PL/SL	ECTS	Hrs.	Sem.
Language and Reading exercise 1	Ex	M	PL/SL	6	2	1
Language and Reading exercise 2	Ex	M	PL/SL	6	2	2

You can choose which course you would like to take the examination for.

M 5 – Research and Teaching Training and Practice (8 ECTS credit points)						
Courses	Type	M/E	PL/SL	ECTS	Hrs.	Sem.
Research and Teaching Design	Ex	M	SL	2	1	2
Teaching an accompanying exercise or tutorial		E	SL	6		2
Participation in a research project		E	SL	6		2
Internship	Int.	E	SL	6		2

You are required to choose one of the three elective courses.

Please note:

Teaching an accompanying exercise or tutorial

You will be expected to arrange with the responsible member of staff which accompanying exercise or tutorial you will teach and the exact scope of your teaching duties.

Participation in a research project

You will be expected to participate in an academic research project. You will conduct an independent sub-project. To receive credit points, you will have to agree in writing on the respective project with the leader of the research project and the responsible member of staff. Subsequently you will have to fulfill the work agreed upon and submit a written report.

Internship

The internship is supposed to last at least four weeks, be carried out in a public or private institution, and be related to China. To receive credit points, you will have to receive permission in writing from the responsible member of staff. Subsequently, you will have to submit a written certification from the respective institution and a written report.

M 6 – Current Research Topics (4 ECTS credit points)						
Courses	Type	M/E	PL/SL	ECTS	Hrs.	Sem.
Colloquium 1	C	M	PL/SL	2	2	2
Colloquium 2	C	M	PL/SL	2	2	4

You can chose which course you would like to take the examination for.

M 7 – Semester Abroad (30 ECTS credit points)

The choice of the university for your semester abroad and the courses taken there should be based on your interests and knowledge and has to be agreed upon by the responsible member of staff of the Institute of Chinese Studies at Freiburg University. The semester abroad is supposed to take place in the third

semester and comprise at least 30 ECTS (or the respective equivalent). Up to 5 ECTS can be earned by writing an appropriate study report of adequate length.

Should there be limitations in your ability to study a semester abroad, you may instead complete an internship (15-20 ECTS) and a study project (10-15 ECTS) in Freiburg. This will require in writing the permission of two responsible members of staff, a written agreement, a certification of the institution of the internship and a final written report to be submitted.

Examination

The examination and the final grade consist of a number of course-related exams (Prüfungsleistungen) and the final examination.

Course-related exams are held in the following modules:

M 1 – Theories und Methods

- Master seminar on Theories and Methods of China Studies: Written examination

M 2 – Chinese Politics and Economy

- Master seminar on Chinese Politics and Economy: Written examination

M 3 – Chinese Culture and Society

- Master seminar on Chinese Culture and Society: Written examination

M 4 – Language Training

- Language and Reading exercise of the student's choice: Written and oral examination

M 6 – Current Research Topics

- Colloquium of the student's choice: Oral examination

These grades count towards the final grade. The grades achieved in M1, M4 and M6 count once, those achieved in M2 and M3 count twice.

Final examination:

The final examination consists of the master's thesis (25 ECTS) and an oral examination (5 ECTS).

The oral examination lasts for about 45 minutes. You will be tested on knowledge acquired during your studies, including theoretical and methodological aspects.

Abbreviations:

S Seminar

Ex Exercise course

Int. Internship

C Colloquium

Hrs. Presence Hours per Week (German equivalent: SWS Semesterwochenstunden)

M / E Mandatory (M) / Elective (E) (German equivalent: Pflicht / Wahlpflicht)

PL Prüfungsleistung (course-related exams): In this course you receive credit points AND a grade based on an examination (written or oral, in seminars this is typically a seminar paper). The grade counts towards the final grade of the degree.

SL Studienleistung: In this course you receive credit points based on coursework completed during the term, but no grade.