



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



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# Master's degree



## Master of Arts in North American Studies

Freie Universität Berlin • Berlin

### Overview

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| Degree                                   | Master of Arts in North American Studies  |
| Teaching language                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English</li></ul>   |
| Languages                                | The programme is taught entirely in English. German language skills are not required.   |
| Full-time / part-time                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>full-time</li></ul>   |
| Programme duration                       | 4 semesters   |
| Beginning                                | Winter semester   |
| Application deadline                     | 31 May  |
| Tuition fees per semester in EUR         | None  |
| Combined Master's degree / PhD programme | No  |
| Joint degree / double degree programme   | No  |
| Description/content                      | The aim of this interdisciplinary MA programme is to provide students with in-depth expertise in the general field of North American Studies and in two of its subdisciplines, consisting of culture, literature, history, political science, sociology, or economics/economic histories. On the basis of two major subjects and additional interdisciplinary classes touching on theoretical and methodological questions within North American Studies, students will gain an understanding of historical developments, structures, and institutions in the USA and Canada. |

### Course Details

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| Course organisation | Students are required to complete 120 credit points to receive a degree. These credit points are earned through coursework in two areas of concentration (out of the six disciplines listed above) and three interdisciplinary modules. The interdisciplinary courses address questions of cultural exchange and transfer by exploring relevant theoretical approaches from the various subdisciplines that comprise the MA programme. Students will write the Master's thesis in one of |
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their two areas of concentration.

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| <b>International elements</b>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• International guest lecturers</li><li>• Integrated study abroad unit(s)</li></ul>   |
| <b>Integrated study abroad unit(s)</b>                      | The International Office and the John F. Kennedy Institute offer a direct exchange with numerous international universities, primarily in Europe and North America. Students are encouraged to spend part of their studies abroad, but this is not mandatory. |
| <b>Integrated internships</b>                               | Students are encouraged to do an internship during the course of their studies. However, this is not a mandatory requirement. For internship opportunities, please contact the internship coordinator of the institute.                                       |
| <b>Course-specific, integrated German language courses</b>  | No  |
| <b>Course-specific, integrated English language courses</b> | No  |

## Costs / Funding

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|--|--|
| <b>Tuition fees per semester in EUR</b>            | None   |
| <b>Semester contribution</b>                       | In total, the semester contribution amounts to 312.89 EUR. It includes a fee of 198.80 EUR for the transportation ticket contribution. This allows you to use public transportation in Berlin for free. Other costs covered by the semester contribution include a 50 EUR enrolment fee, a 54.09 EUR semester contribution to the student support service ("studierendenWERK Berlin"), and a 10 EUR contribution to the student union.           |
| <b>Costs of living</b>                             | Compared to other European countries, the cost of living in Germany is quite reasonable. However, the cost of living has also risen somewhat in Germany in recent years. The prices for food, accommodation, clothing, cultural events, etc. are slightly above the EU average. You will need around 950 to 1,200 EUR each month to cover your living expenses. The biggest expense is monthly rent, which is between 400 and 700 EUR in Berlin. |
| <b>Funding opportunities within the university</b> | No   |

## Requirements / Registration

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| <b>Academic admission requirements</b> | An excellent BA degree in a study programme of relevance to North American Studies (history, culture, literature, political science, sociology, economics) or the equivalent (e.g., an interdisciplinary BA programme that includes some of these subjects) with at least 90 credit points in one of the aforementioned subjects is required for admission. |
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| <b>Language requirements</b> | Applicants must provide proof of their English language skills. A level of C1 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) is required. |
| <b>Application deadline</b>  | 31 May  |
| <b>Submit application to</b> | The application must be submitted online via <a href="https://my.uni-assist.de/">https://my.uni-assist.de/</a>  |

## Services

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| <b>Possibility of finding part-time employment</b>                | <p>There are many ways of earning money while you study, for example as waiting staff, academic assistants, or private tutors. Knowledge of German will improve your chances of finding a part-time job, but it isn't necessarily required. However, it is important to be aware of the legal regulations.</p> <p>The student support service at the university, called studierendenWERK Berlin, and the local representative of the "Bundesagentur für Arbeit" (Federal Employment Agency) can provide information about jobs for students. When searching for a job, look at online job boards, ads in local newspapers, and notice boards on campus.</p>   |
| <b>Accommodation</b>  | <p>You have the option to stay in a public/private student dormitory or in a private (shared) apartment. Student dormitories are not administrated by the university itself, so Freie Universität Berlin does not have any on-campus housing. However, it works together with "<a href="#">studierendenWERK Berlin</a>" regarding student accommodation.</p> <p>If you do not wish to stay in a student dormitory, you can try to find a room or an apartment on the private housing market. Many students in Berlin live in shared apartments ("WGs"). You can find these offers online (e.g. <a href="#">WG-gesucht</a> or <a href="#">Craigslist</a>) or on notice boards on campus.</p> <p>Available rooms/apartments near the university are rare. Therefore, students mostly commute from other parts of the city. The commute via public transportation usually takes between 30 minutes and an hour, which is considered a normal travel time in Berlin due to the city's size.</p> |
| <b>Career advisory service</b>                                    | The Freie Universität's Career Service provides advice and training in addition to regularly organising events: <a href="https://www.fu-berlin.de/en/sites/career/index.html">https://www.fu-berlin.de/en/sites/career/index.html</a>   |
| <b>Support for international students and doctoral candidates</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome event</li> </ul>   |

# Contact

## Freie Universität Berlin

John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies

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14195 Berlin

✉ [administration@jfki.fu-berlin.de](mailto:administration@jfki.fu-berlin.de)

🌐 Course website: <https://www.jfki.fu-berlin.de/en/academics/ma>

📘 <https://www.facebook.com/freieuniversitaetberlin/>

🐦 [https://twitter.com/fu\\_berlin](https://twitter.com/fu_berlin)

🌐 <https://www.linkedin.com/school/freie-universitat-berlin/>

📷 [https://www.instagram.com/fu\\_berlin/](https://www.instagram.com/fu_berlin/)

📺 <https://www.youtube.com/c/FreieUniversitaetBerlin>

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# International Programmes in Germany - Database

[www.daad.de/international-programmes](http://www.daad.de/international-programmes)  
[www.daad.de/sommerkurse](http://www.daad.de/sommerkurse)

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## GATE-Germany

Consortium for International Higher Education Marketing  
[www.gate-germany.de](http://www.gate-germany.de)

## Disclaimer

The data used for this database was collected and analysed in good faith and with due diligence. The DAAD and the Content5 AG accept no liability for the correctness of the data contained in the "International Programmes in Germany" and "Language and Short Courses in Germany".

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