



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



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Master's degree



MA Border Studies

Saarland University • Saarbrücken

Overview

Degree	Master of Arts in Border Studies
In cooperation with	Rheinland-Pfälzische Technische Universität Kaiserslautern-Landau Université de Lorraine University of Luxembourg
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• German• English• French
Languages	Courses are taught in German, French and English. Participants can choose to write their Master's thesis in either language.
Programme duration	4 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Application deadline	The application deadlines will be published here: http://www.uni-gr.eu/en/Master_Border_Studies
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	Yes

Description/content

Our Master's in Border Studies is a two-year joint **international** study programme that addresses the complex economic, political, social and cultural issues of borders and of border regions in Europe and beyond.

The study programme is designed for students with different disciplinary backgrounds who wish to develop the necessary skills and competencies to work in intercultural and cross-border settings.

The **multilingual** study programme is located in three countries at four different universities:

- University of Luxembourg (LUX)
- University of Lorraine (FR)
- Saarland University (DE)
- University of Kaiserslautern (DE)

Courses in this Master's in Border Studies are taught in German, French and English.

Border Studies: Addressing the challenges of the 21st century

In the wake of the abolition of regular border controls in Europe and the fall of the iron curtain, the field of Border Studies has opened up new objects of research and has experienced a noticeable development boost. At the same time, European societies experience the challenges of new closing of borders.

The Master's programme in Border Studies provides students with the major concepts and analytical tools to understand the social, cultural, political and economic challenges of border regions and cross-border cooperations. Students gain theoretical knowledge of border problems, border cultures, border literatures and constructions of "otherness".

Students acquire the needed skills to play a crucial part in the increasing discussions on national and European identities, worldwide mobilities, migration, cultural diversity, citizenship and cross-border cooperation – especially in the Greater Region.

Students may specialise in one of the **two tracks**:

- spatial track including geography and spatial planning
- language and cultural track including cultural studies, literature, linguistics, intercultural communication

The Master's programme in Border Studies prepares for **acareer in cross-border and intercultural working settings**, especially in border regions in Europe (such as the Greater Region) and beyond.

More specific career perspectives included:

- the economic sector (e.g. trade companies)
- cultural agencies or institutions
- the media
- public administration (e.g. cross-border regional and spatial planning, economic, cross-border public services, planning and promotion, cross-border cultural management, cross-border regional marketing)

Course Details

Course organisation

The curriculum covers a full time two-year programme (120 ECTS)

Semester 1

Students spend the first semester at the University of Luxembourg and at the University of Lorraine. They gain knowledge of central concepts and research methods in the study of border regions and are introduced to current debates on border issues from a spatial/geographical and a linguistic, cultural, and sociological perspective.

Semester 2

Students spend the second semester mainly at the University of Lorraine as well as at the University of Luxembourg. They further specialise their studies by choosing between one of the two tracks of the programme:

- spatial studies
- language and cultural studies

Each track consists of one module (12 ECTS) and an elective module selected from the other track (6 ECTS). Students have to accomplish a mandatory internship during the second semester.

Semester 3

Students spend the third semester at Saarland University and the University of Kaiserslautern.

Students participate in a seven-day excursion and they work on a case study in cross-border relationships and cooperation. Students deepen their knowledge according to the chosen specialisation in the second semester.

Semester 4

The last semester is dedicated to the final Master's thesis. At the beginning and the end of the fourth semester, a workshop takes place in which students present and discuss their Master's theses.

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A Diploma supplement will be issued	Yes
International elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training in intercultural skills • Projects with partners in Germany and abroad • Integrated/optional study abroad unit(s) • Specialist literature in other languages • Courses are led with foreign partners • International comparisons and thematic reference to the international context • Content-related regional focus
Integrated/optional study abroad unit(s)	Courses are taught at the four partner universities in France, Luxembourg (semesters one and two) and Germany (semester three). Please see the course description.
Integrated internships	Mandatory internship in the second semester
Special promotion / funding of the programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Franco-German University (FGU)
Course-specific, integrated German language courses	No
Course-specific, integrated English language courses	No

Costs / Funding

Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Semester contribution	<p>Approx. 360 EUR per semester</p> <p>Enrolment fees and social security fees only have to be paid at the home university, but students are free to use the facilities at all four partner universities (language courses, libraries, sports programmes).</p>
Funding opportunities within the university	Yes

Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university

Mobility grant of the Franco-German University (350 EUR per month)

Requirements / Registration

Academic admission requirements

Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree or equivalent in the field of anthropology, cultural studies, geography, history, intercultural communication, law, linguistics, political science, sociology or spatial planning.

The programme is limited to 20 students. Selection is based on the application documents, which should include a motivation letter, a curriculum vitae, certificates and diplomas of previous studies and proof of written and oral language skills in German, French and English.

You can find more information here: http://www.uni-gr.eu/de/Master_Border_Studies.

Language requirements

For all three languages, the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages level of B2 is required. The burden of proof is on the student.

Application deadline

The application deadlines will be published here: http://www.uni-gr.eu/en/Master_Border_Studies

Submit application to

Please submit your application documents to the programme coordinator via e-mail: ma_border_studies@uni-saarland.de.

For more information, see: <https://www.uni-saarland.de/studium/angebot/master/border-studies.html>.

Services

Accommodation

Most students live in Metz (France) or Luxembourg during the first year and then move to Saarbrücken (Germany) for the third semester.

All partner universities offer accommodation in student residence halls or provide support in finding other forms of accommodation.

Career advisory service

Students can take advantage of the career advisory services at all partner universities and benefit from the intercultural job application training at the Franco-German University.

Support for international students and doctoral candidates

- Welcome event
- Cultural and linguistic preparation
- Help with finding accommodation
- Support with registration procedures

General services and support for international students

A joint coordinator takes care of all kinds of questions and challenges that arise in a cross-border programme. This coordinator offers individual advice to all students.

Contact

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🌐 Course website: http://www.uni-gr.eu/Master_Border_Studies

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Disclaimer

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