



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



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# Master's degree



## British and American Studies, Master of Arts

Bielefeld University • Bielefeld

### Overview

Degree	Master of Arts in British and American Studies
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English</li></ul>
Languages	The courses in the MA programme are taught in English.
Full-time / part-time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>full-time</li></ul>
Programme duration	4 semesters
Beginning	Winter and summer semester
Application deadline	15 July for the following winter semester 15 January for the following summer semester
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	No
Description/content	<p>The focus of the MA British and American Studies programme is on intercultural knowledge and skills as well as on academic and research skills. It is centred around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>the English language and its varieties</li><li>the diverse forms of literatures in English</li><li>different media such as films, newspapers, radio, or the Internet</li><li>English language cultures and their histories</li></ul> <p>Within this spectrum, the Master of Arts programme in British and American Studies specialises in transculturation. Transculturation refers to processes of cultural exchange and intercultural phenomena. This allows students in this programme to broaden their horizons as well as to combine and connect linguistic, literary, and cultural studies to form a deeper understanding of these areas of research and life.</p> <p>In this MA programme, students learn to do research independently and academically thoroughly and to grow further as writers of academic papers in literary and cultural studies as well as linguistics. In addition, students learn to connect these disciplines and understand English studies as one bigger interconnected area of studies rather than smaller insular areas of expertise. In the</p>

seminars of this degree programme, students get insight into different areas of English literary and cultural studies and linguistics, which they can apply and ground in a self-organised internship, in research projects they conduct themselves, in student conferences and in workshops they organise as a team.

Students interested in our MA British and American Studies programme should speak English on a very high level of proficiency and have existing knowledge of the discipline. They should also show a keen interest in all areas of study – albeit a focus can be chosen during their studies – and be open to working together with other students in this programme.

With a Master’s degree in British and American studies, students can work for international companies, cultural organisations, and foundations both in Germany and abroad. They can go into teaching adults or find jobs in media companies or publishing houses. Academia is another career sector, even if it is a small one.

Please note that all classes are conducted in English.

## Course Details

### Course organisation

The Master's programme is organised in three basic and four main modules, one "Vertiefungsmodul" (advanced module) for the MA thesis and one module of individual supplementary study.

The three obligatory basic modules are (1) "Key Academic/Practical Skills", (2) "Theories of Language, Literature and Culture" and (3) "Contact Zones and Intercultural Studies". The basic modules should be taken in the first semesters.

The consecutive main modules are (1) "The English Language and the Processes of Culture", (2) "British Literatures and the Processes of Culture", (3) "North American Literatures and the Processes of Culture" and (4) Media and the Processes of Culture". Students may choose three of the four main modules.

The "Vertiefungsmodul" is dedicated to the MA thesis.

For the Individual Supplementary Study Module, students can choose seminars from any other subject at the university, but they can also fill it with an internship or with courses accredited from a semester abroad.

### International elements

- International guest lecturers
- Projects with partners in Germany and abroad
- International comparisons and thematic reference to the international context

### 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**

Since Bielefeld University does not charge tuition fees, every student only has to pay a social fee. The **social fee** includes the contribution to the **social ticket** for free public transport in the city and area of Bielefeld and on regional trains and buses in North-Rhine Westphalia for the whole semester.

The current semester contribution is approximately 300 EUR.

**Costs of living**

Costs for studying in Germany are relatively high due to the living expenses.

- Rent in a room in student halls of residence or a private student hall, in a room or flat comes to approx. 280 EUR per month.
- The expected costs for student health insurance and other medical fees are about 80 EUR per month.
- Depending on your lifestyle, you might spend about 150 EUR on food each month.
- Altogether, monthly costs for food, clothes, leisure activities, social fees, travel expenses, telephone bills, and the other mentioned expenses add up to approx. 850 EUR.

There are several ways of cutting expenses in Bielefeld. For example, it is possible to rent a room in a student residence for about 230 EUR, and a meal at the student canteen (Mensa) costs only about 2.60 EUR.

**Funding opportunities within the university**

No

## Requirements / Registration

**Academic admission requirements**

Admission to the MA British and American Studies programme is based on an online application consisting of:

- an undergraduate university degree certificate (minimum six semesters; grade 2,5 or above)
- evidence of proficiency in English (details below)
- 15-page sample essay in English
- Reflection on your previous academic experience in English (for details, please visit: <https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/fakultaeten/linguistik-literaturwissenschaft/studium-lehre/faecher/anglistik/degree-programs/master-of-arts/>)

On the basis of the applications received by the deadline, the admissions committee will decide on the suitability of individual applicants according to a point system. Only online applications will be considered. Please go to the [application portal of the Studierendensekretariat](#) and upload your files there.

**Language requirements**

Applicants must provide certified evidence of their proficiency in English:

- English: IELTS 7.0, TOEFL computer-based 230, TOEFL paper-based 570, TOEFL iBT 94, Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English

**Application deadline**

15 July for the following winter semester  
15 January for the following summer semester

**Submit application to**

Apply via the [online portal](#).

For further information about the application to the Master's programme, please use the following link: [www.uni-bielefeld.de/bewerbung](http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/bewerbung).

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# Services

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## Possibility of finding part-time employment

Basically, with your residence permit (stamp in your passport), you will receive a work permit for 120 work days per year. This allows you to work 120 full days (eight hours per day) or 240 half days (up to four hours per day). This condition must be noted expressly in the passport by the authorities.

## Accommodation

Please try to secure accommodation in Bielefeld as early as possible. In Bielefeld, a broad range of accommodation options can be found at affordable prices. Students residences are run by the public "Studierendenwerk" or private organisations, and shared flats are very common.

Offers of accommodation can be found online by following the links below:

- [Studierendenwerk Bielefeld](#) (dormitories)
- [WG-gesucht.de](#) (private shared accommodation)

The International Office supports students who are searching for accommodation.

## Career advisory service

Career planning is a step-by-step development and clarification process that requires individual strategies. Based on a strengths- and resource-oriented approach, we support you in developing your own career prospects.

Depending on your needs, our Career Service at Bielefeld University will accompany you throughout the entire process or in individual steps.

<https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/themen/career-service>

## Support for international students and doctoral candidates

- Welcome event
- Buddy programme
- Accompanying programme
- Cultural and linguistic preparation
- Visa matters
- Help with finding accommodation
- Support with registration procedures
- Specialist counselling

## General services and support for international students and doctoral candidates

At PunktUm, our German Learning Centre, we offer a comprehensive range of academic support programmes that are designed to meet the needs of international members of the Bielefeld University. These include the Academic Mentoring Programme for Master's students, the Peer Mentoring Programme for Bachelor's students, and semester-long workshops designed to help all students and researchers with academic writing. We also offer individual consultations on academic writing in German as a Foreign Language (DaF) or German as a Second Language (DaZ).

The International Office provides an orientation programme for all international members of Bielefeld University, including degree seekers (BA and MA), double degree students, Erasmus/cooperation students, doctoral students, scholars, interns, and refugees/preparing applicants. Example of activities include Café International, campus tour, introductions to digital services and administrative procedures.

# Contact

## Bielefeld University

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🌐 Course website: <https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/fakultaeten/linguistik-literaturwissenschaft/studium-lehre/faecher/anglistik/degree-programs/master-of-arts/>

📘 <https://de-de.facebook.com/BielefeldUniversity/>

🐦 <https://twitter.com/unibielefeld>

📷 <https://www.instagram.com/bielefelduniversity>

📺 <https://www.youtube.com/user/BielefeldUniversity>

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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)

## Editor

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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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