

Target groups

The M.A. in Childhood Studies and Children's Rights is directed to everybody interested in working in the field of children's rights and in particular to:

- Graduates of social sciences, law, education, social work and graduates of other disciplines with first professional experiences in working with and for children and/or young people.
- Professionals in governmental and non-governmental institutions and organizations in the field of youth work, education, social services, health and law with a first academic degree (BA, equivalent or higher).

Degree of successful graduation

Students may study part of the programme at a partner University; this is not obligatory. Successful completion of modules at partner universities is recognized as part of the programme at Freie Universität Berlin through standardized transcripts of records. The degree awarded to graduates of Freie Universität Berlin is a Master of Arts (M.A.)

Tuition fees

The tuition fees are calculated cost covering, i.e. non-profit making. They vary depending on actual costs at each partner university. At Freie Universität Berlin, tuition fees are currently 4350€ for the entire programme (all three semesters), not including administrative fees of about 280€ per semester (incl. a ticket for public transportation in Berlin).

Reasons for studying the MACR

Children must be respected as social subjects with own views, ideas and feelings. They should have the possibility to play an active and responsible role in the design of their living space. Therefore it is necessary to protect their rights and to ensure their full implementation. Studying the M.A. in Childhood Studies and Children's Rights will enable you to contribute to making this a reality.

Qualification

After studying the M.A. in Childhood Studies and Children's Rights (MACR) you will:

- Understand the meaning of children's rights and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Be able to explain and use theories of childhood(s) and defend children's rights in front of different audiences.
- Be able to suggest policy recommendations on local, regional, national and international levels.
- Be able to critically analyse childhood(s) and children's rights from different perspectives and link these perspectives to wider contexts.
- Be able to evaluate and plan children's rights projects.

In addition, you will acquire competences in communication and advocacy.

Start of the programme and application

At Freie Universität Berlin, the MACR starts every year in October. The deadline for applications is April 30, annually. You need to apply to the programme online. For instructions on how to apply, please consult www.fu-berlin.de/emcr.

In cooperation with:



Deutsches Institut
für Menschenrechte

Supported by:



Socrates



Education and Culture



European Network of Masters in Children's Rights



Save the Children
Sweden

European Union, DG Education and Culture¹
European Network of Masters in Children's Rights
Save the Children, Sweden

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www.fu-berlin.de/emcr



Programme Structure



What?	When?	ECTS
Module 1: Childhood Studies	Semester 1	10
Module 2: Understanding Children's Rights		10
Module 3: Methods and Techniques of Childhood and Children's Rights Research		10
Module 4: Work and Education of Children in an International Comparison	Semester 2	10
Module 5: Children Out-Of Place and Child Rights Oriented Practice		10
Module 6: Children and Media		10
Module 7a) Internship	Semester 3	5
Module 7b) Research		10
Module 7c) Practical Project		10
Master Thesis		20
Total		90

Linking theory and practice

The M.A. in Childhood Studies and Children's Rights (MACR) links theoretical knowledge to the practical world.

The importance of gaining experience in professional work is encouraged by either internships or research in relation to the work of organizations and/ or institutions in the field of children's rights. The aim is to give students an insight into the professional work field they would like to engage in after graduation and to prepare them for future employment in these sectors. The MACR was developed in cooperation with the European Network of Masters in Children's Rights (ENMCR), a network of higher education institutions from across Europe offering study programmes in Children's Rights. The ENMCR has contacts with various leading human and children's rights organizations and cooperates with different public agencies, providing them with reliable information, and welcoming their staff for guest lectures. For more information, please visit: www.enmcr.net.

Partner universities and exchange

The MACR was developed by seven European universities from 2004–2007 and has entered into cooperation with several other universities. Students have the possibility to go on an ERASMUS/SOCRATES exchange to one of the below listed partner universities. Furthermore, there is the possibility to obtain a dual degree from Freie Universität Berlin and Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania.



At **Freie Universität Berlin** (FUB) students enrol at the Faculty of Education Science and Psychology. However, the modules offered are interdisciplinary, including sociology, political science, law, and others. As several partner universities, FUB offers introductory modules in the first semester. They are the basis for the second semester in which students will gain insight in specific children's rights topics. The third semester has a practical focus in which students engage in a practical project in children's rights, work as interns or write a research proposal as well as their M.A. thesis.



At **Babes-Bolyai University** (BBU) in Cluj Napoca, Romania, students enrol at the Faculty of Sociology and Social Work. The programme is offered as a two year, 120 ECTS M.A. course. The general aim is to enable students to produce informed and interdisciplinary analyses about childhood and children's rights, and to organize practical activities for and with children, in order to improve children's rights in specific changing contexts.

Examples of modules offered at BBU:

- History of families and childhood
- Children and violence
- Children, criminality and justice
- Sociology of youth
- Psychological characteristics of development in childhood/adolescence
- Children's right to education and their inclusion
- Adolescence, sexuality and sexual education
- Children and the welfare regimes

For further information see:

<http://socasis.ubbcluj.ro/docs/PLAN/Pliant-Copii.pdf>

<http://socasis.ubbcluj.ro/>

Partner Universities with whom FUB has Erasmus/ Socrates exchange agreements:

- **Institute of Education**, University of London, Faculty of Children and Health, UK: <http://www.ioe.ac.uk/>
- **Stockholms Universitet**, Department of Child and Youth Studies, Sweden: www.buv.su.se/english
- **Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch**, Sion, Switzerland: <http://www.iukb.ch/>
- **Mykolo Romerio University**, Faculty of Social Policy, Vilnius, Lithuania: <http://www.mruni.eu/lt/>
- **Universidade do Minho**, Institute of Child Studies, Braga, Portugal: <http://www.ie.uminho.pt/>
- **Siauliai University**, Department of Education, Siauliai, Lithuania: <http://www.su.lt/>
- **Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa**, Escola Superior de Educação, Lisbon, Portugal: <http://www.ipl.pt/>
- **Universitat de Barcelona**, Faculty of Education, Barcelona, Spain: <http://www.ub.edu/>