

**Study regulations for the European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte)
(translation from German original)**

Preamble

On the basis of § 14 para.1 Nr. 2 of the partial basic order of the Freie Universität Berlin from 27. October 1998 (FU-Mitteilungen Nr. .../2006) the council of the Faculty of Educational Science and Psychology of the Freie Universität Berlin has decreed the following study regulations on.....¹

Contents

- § 1 Scope of validity
- § 2 Target Group
- § 3 Study aims
- § 4 Content of study
- § 5 Design and structure
- § 6 Teaching and learning forms
- § 7 Study abroad
- § 8 Course guidance/counselling
- § 9 Entry into force

Annex 1: Description of Modules

Annex 2: Exemplary study course plan

¹ The senate administration for higher education institutions has acknowledged these regulation on

§ 1 Scope of validity

(1) The European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte) is offered by the Freie Universität Berlin in cooperation with the partner universities named in §7 . These study regulations regulate the aims, content and structure of the Master on the basis of the examination regulations from...

(2) The Department of Education and Psychology is responsible for implementing these study regulations, as far as needed in coordination with the responsible entities at the partner institutions. The department of Intercultural Education Science coordinates the study offer at the Free University Berlin and the study projects.

§ 2 Target Group

(1) The European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte) is first of all directed to graduates of social, legal or educational sciences with work experiences especially in the areas listed under (2).

(2) Applicants without an academic degree with working experiences in governmental and non-governmental institutions and organisations in the areas child and youth care, education, social welfare, health, law, media, social economy and development cooperation can participate in the study program in the frame of an advanced training.

§ 3 Study aims

(1) The aim of the practice-oriented Master study program is to enable the students to take on management, consultation and research tasks in pedagogical and social work with children in different cultural contexts and to contribute to the implementation of children's rights in an innovative and systemized manner, in particular for and with children in disadvantaged living conditions. Successful graduation from the Master study program imparts exemplary knowledge on:

- Theories, methods and results of international and intercultural childhood studies
- Children's Rights and the preconditions for their historical emergence and realisation
- Alternative actions for social and pedagogical work with children in different social and cultural contexts
- Global learning and intercultural education of children

(2) The Master study program enables the students to reach the qualification aims described in Modules 1-5, especially to:

- Critically reflect national and euro-centric limitations of constructions of childhood
- Self- reflection in dealing with children in other social and cultural contexts
- Subject-oriented critical reflection of existing child aid and children's rights practice
- Promotion of participation and citizenship of children especially in marginalised, disadvantaged living conditions
- Critical implementation of participatory and intercultural action concepts in the pedagogical and social work with children
- Critically analyse project reports, progress reports, self-testimonies and other practice documents on and from children taking into consideration different social and cultural contexts

Study Regulations European Master in Children's Rights (Translated from German original)

- Defence of children's rights in public debates and negotiations with public agencies and convincing argumentation for a child rights perspective
- Design of action concepts for the implementation of children's rights on local, national and international levels and to communicate with possible project executing organisations
- Solving problems and conflicts in team work

§ 4 Contents

The content of the Master program are Children's Rights as Human Rights, in their function in the design of childhood(s) as stage in life and the social status of children in different social and cultural contexts. In Modules 1 and 2, basic knowledge on the historical emergence and content of children's rights as well as theoretical approaches and basic research methods are imparted, on which the following modules build upon. Ethical, cultural, social and gender specific aspects are specifically considered in all subjects taught.

§ 5 Design and Structure

(1) The European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte) is structured in modules with defined content, that generally encompass two or more teaching and learning forms which are thematically linked to each other. Students have to complete 5 modules. The modules:

- Childhood Studies and Children's Rights
- Methods and techniques of childhood and children's rights research

are offered at all participating universities (§ 7).

(2) The other modules are offered specific to the partner universities; the students are informed on the offer at all partner universities at the beginning of their study. At the Freie Universität Berlin the following modules are offered:

- Work and education of children in an international and intercultural comparison
- Children out of place and child rights oriented practice
- Dissertation project: Internship or research proposal

(3) In addition to the modules, according to (1) and (2) a Master thesis has to be written.

(4) The content of qualification/competences to be achieved, teaching and learning forms, the student workload, the forms of active participation, the regular length of study and the frequency of offering the modules in the frame of the European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte) offered at the Freie Universität Berlin are described in Annex 1.

(6) Annex 2 of these study regulations, the exemplary study course plan, informs on the suggested structure of the program.

§ 6 Teaching and learning forms

(1) In the modules in the frame of the European Master in Children's Rights offered at the Free University Berlin

(a) *Lectures* give an overview of a wider area of interest and their methodical and theoretical basis or knowledge on a specific subject matter and research difficulties related to it

b) *Seminars* offer a more in depth examination of the subjects taught with literature and the current research and relevant source material; they promote independent scientific work. Active participation in the discussion is an essential part of this form of teaching and learning

c) *Colloquiums* serve as to reflect on the elaborated knowledge

d) *Tutorials* serve the cooperative development of knowledge and abilities and their evaluation of interdisciplinary work methods in connection with other forms of teaching and learning

3) An exchange with students at the partner universities is aimed at and is supported by e-learning. The e-learning elements (virtual classroom, web-based forums and web-based materials) are hosted by the Freie Universitaet Berlin. In the modules according to § 5, para.1 and § 5, para.2, no.2 the tutorials are facilitated mainly via e-learning, this is done asynchronic in order to guarantee greatest possible flexibility. In the modules according to § 5, para.1 nr.1 and 1 via a virtual classroom an exchange of all European Master in Children's Rights students is enabled. The practice model (§ 5, para.2, no.2) can be designed in exchange with students in partner universities. Materials, such as reader and other literature are made accessible to all students via the internet platform.

(4) The lectures, seminars, colloquiums and tutorials can be held in German and English. A study offer that is oriented to the linguistic skills of the students is guaranteed.

§ 7 Study Abroad

(1) Studying a part of the programme at a partner university in another country in the second half of the programme is encouraged. The partner universities offer special modules for this, that are in general equivalent in extent, content and demand to the module according to § 5, para.2, no.2. Recognition of this module as part of the Master theses is under no circumstances allowed.

The following universities:

Stockholms Universitet, Sweden;

Institute of Education University of London, UK,

Universiteit van Amsterdam, the Netherlands,

Universidad Complutense Madrid, Spain.

Are partner universities for the European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte)

A catalogue of the possible modules will be made available to the students in due time. The catalogue will include descriptions of the modules.

(2) in addition the students of the European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte) have the possibility to do a dual-Master-programme which is offered in cooperation with the:

Universitatea Babes-Bolyai, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, or the

Universitatea Alexandru Ioan Cuza, Iasi, Romania;

There are two alternative designs for this programme:

1. Studying the modules according to § 5, para.1 and § 5, para.2 no.1 at the Freie Universität Berlin in the first half of the study programme and studying of modules that according to § 5, para.2, no.2 and 3 are in general equivalent in extent, content and demand, as well as the Master thesis at the partner university in the second half of the study programme;
2. Studying of modules, that are in general equivalent to the modules according to § 5, para.1 and § 5, para.2 no.1 at the partner university in the first half of the study programme and of modules according to § 5, para.2, no.2 and 3 as well as the Master thesis at the Freie Universität Berlin.

(3) Students according to § 2, para.2 study the whole programme at the Freie Universität Berlin.

(4) Students that wish to study abroad have to announce their decision to their mentor during the first half year of the programme by a date which is to be fixed by the steering committee. It is presumed that students who have not announced an according wish by this date do not wish to study abroad.

§ 8 Course guidance/counselling

Every student is assigned a mentor at the beginning of his/her studies. The mentor is available for consultation and guidance and for the tasks assigned to him/her according to the examination

regulations. The mentors are elected by the examination board.

§ 8 Entry into Force

These study regulations enter into force on the day after their publication in the journal (Official journal of the Freie Universität Berlin).

Annex 1: Description of Modules

Comments:

The following descriptions are for the modules offered at the FU in the frame of the European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte):

- Title of the module
- Content and qualification to be achieved
- Forms of learning and teaching
- Student workload estimated for completing the module
- Forms of active participation
- Duration of module

The information on the student workload takes into consideration especially:

- The active participation in the frame of the face-face periods
- The workload for small assignments in the frame of the face-face period
- The time spent on individual preparation and follow-up
- The processing/editing of study units in the online study periods
- The direct preparation time for examination
- The examination itself

The time assigned to individual study periods (preparation and follow-up as well as preparation for exams) are benchmark times and should serve as orientation for the students for their timely organisation of their module related workload.

The information given corresponds to the credits assigned to the modules as a measurement of the approximate student workload needed for successfully passing the module

Active participation is, in addition to regular attendance to the teaching and learning forms and the successful passing of the module examinations, the precondition for obtaining the credits assigned to the module.

The amount of credits as well as other information related to the examination on each module are listed in Annex 1 of the examination regulations of the European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte).

Module 1: Childhood Studies and Children's Rights			
Competences to be achieved:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowledge of children's rights and their historical context - Knowledge, meaning and rationale of children's rights in different disciplines - Knowledge of selected theories and concepts of childhood research and competence to handle them independently and link them to children's rights - Competence to understand children's rights as integral part of the international human rights system - Competence to recognize and understand theories and concepts of childhood research in their relevance for the analysis of children's life situations and for political, pedagogical and juridical action - Competence to recognize the relevance of children's rights and the barriers to implement them on the basis of examples from politics and practice - Competence to analyse the social reality of children and the significance of children's rights in different historical, societal, cultural, political, geographical and economic contexts and to relate them to fields of action. 			
Content:			
<p>The module offers an introduction to the European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte) concerning content and organisation on which the following modules are based. It is composed of two seminars and an accompanying tutorial based on e-learning. The beginning of seminar 1, which is dedicated to theories and results of international and intercultural social science childhood research/studies is a reflection by the students on own work and personal experiences. Seminar II is dedicated to the historical development and current implementation of children's rights including philosophical, anthropological, social science and ethical reasoning. In the tutorial which is offered as e-learning in cooperation with the partner universities, questions arising in both seminars are discussed in a European exchange under the guidance of the university teachers.</p>			
Teaching and learning forms	Face-to-face	Forms of active participation	Workload (hours)
Seminar I	2 SWS	Interactive lectures; group work: reflection and discussion of prepared questions and theses.	Face-face Seminar I 30 Preparation and follow-up Seminar I 50
Seminar II	2 SWS	Group work: joint document analysis; small case studies; presentation and discussion of cases.	f-f Seminar II 30 prep. follow-up Seminar II 50
Tutorial	-	Exchange with students of the partner universities, work on written assignments, participation in discussion forums	attendance, preparation and follow-up tutorial 40 examination preparation and editing 100
Language: English/German			
Total workload h : 300			
Duration of the module: 1 Semester			
Offer: Every winter semester; the seminar will take place as two intensive blocks at the beginning and towards the end of the semester			
To be used in: European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte)			

Module 2: Methods and techniques of childhood and children's rights research			
Competences to be achieved:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to question research and its results on their theoretical and methodological pre-conditions • Ability to recognize different perspectives of children and researchers and to understand the implications of a child perspective • Ability to engage in a partner relationship with children in research, planning and evaluation processes • Ability to include children in research • Ability to comprehend the planning and evaluation of practical projects in a participatory manner • Ability to make decisions about appropriate research designs for student's own research work • Ability to report research findings appropriately • Ability to plan and evaluate research related to international children's rights 			
Content:			
<p>The module is structured as seminar with accompanying tutorial as well as individual sessions with the mentors. The seminar imparts the necessary foundations in order to implement own research and to critically assess existing research results. It imparts knowledge of methods in particular on qualitative and participatory research proposals and the evaluation of practice models. In addition, ethical and legal questions of research on and with children are elaborated. In the tutorial the students will have the opportunity to practically exercise the gained knowledge. An individual session with the mentor serves to clarify open questions and to support the students in preparing for the research method chosen for the dissertation project.</p>			
Teaching and learning forms	Face-to-face	Forms of active participation	Workload (hours)
Seminar	2	Discussion; joint methods analysis of case studies	Face-face 30
			Prep. and follow-up seminar 50
			f-f tutorial 30
Tutorial	2	Joint development of different research methods (team work)	Prep. and f-up tutorial 50
			Prep. Of the research method and the individual session with the mentor as well as follow-up 50
			examin. prep. and edit. 90
Language: English/German			
Workload/h total: 300			
Duration of Module: 1 Semester			
Frequency of offer: Every winter semester; the seminar will take place as two intensive blocks at the beginning and towards the end of the 1 semester			
To be used in: European Master on Children's Rights (Kinderrechte)			

Module 3: Work and Education of children in an international and intercultural comparison			
Competences to be achieved:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competence to understand and explain to others the social and historical background of children's work and its different meanings for children • Competence to critically deal with/reflect political concepts and strategies in dealing with child labour and according legal regulations , as well as to argue own positions and possible ways of implementation plausibly. • Competence to understand and explain to others play and work as different cultural practices of children in their context and ambiguity. • Competence to evaluate advantages and disadvantages of formal and informal education and learning processes for children and to depict possible fields of action • Competence to link child-centred education concepts with the situation of children in different living conditions, to explain the advantages for children and to practically implement them • Competence to link the right to education as well as economic and social rights to the concrete living situation of children and to develop possibilities for their implementation 			
Content:			
<p>Work and education are seen as essential parts of children's living environment that have an impact on their understanding of themselves and their life perspectives. The different forms, rational and meanings of work and education for children and the connections between them in different national and cultural contexts are reflected and the linkages to social and economic rights evaluated. A special focus will lie on approaches of global and intercultural learning. Apart from literature, case studies and self- testimonies of children in different media are also used for learning.</p>			
Forms of Teaching and Learning	Face-face study time	Forms of active participation	Workload (hours)
Seminar I	2	Group work; preparation and moderation of subject specific classes	Face-face Seminar I 30
			Preparation and follow up Seminar I 50
Seminar II	2	Group work; preparation and moderation of subject specific classes	Face-face Seminar II 30
			Preparation and follow up Seminar II 50
			40
Colloquium	2	Interpretation of case descriptions and self testimonies	Face-face colloquium 30
			Prep. and follow-up colloquium 40
			Preparation examination 70
Language: English/German			
Total workload/h: 300			
Duration: 1 Semester			
Offer: annually (winter semester), the seminars are held in two blocks			
To be used in: European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte)			

Module 4: Children out-of-place and child rights oriented practice			
Competences to be achieved:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of different living conditions of socially disadvantaged, marginalized discriminated children and on theories of disadvantage, exclusion and discrimination of children • Competence to realize and critically assess different theories for the analysis of children's disadvantageous living conditions • Competence to understand the dialectics of social disadvantage and strategies to come to terms with them. • Competence to link disadvantageous living conditions and children's rights as well as assessing codified and non-codified children's rights in view of their appropriateness and feasibility. • Competence to link the universal claim of children's rights to different cultural traditions and specific living conditions of children • Competence to understand the relevance of natural right and positive right for the legitimacy of children's rights • Competence to understand and to be able to describe the linkage between international law, European and national law as well as local rights' traditions taking the example of children's rights • Competence to demonstrate in an exemplary manner and to understand the relevance of children's rights in the German youth welfare system and in court proceedings. • Knowledge of child- centred and child rights oriented action concepts • Competence to judge these concepts on their appropriateness and efficiency and their implementation • Competence to differentiate between historical and current child rights movements and organisations according to working methods and to link them to action fields./Work areas • Competence to understand and judge the factual and possible role and the self-help potential of children's movements and to link them to practice 			
Content:			
<p>Children's Rights are highlighted from perspective of different disciplines. In the centre of the module lie the claim to universality, the implementation and further development of children's rights, whereby special emphasis is laid on the relation of international and national law as well as unwritten rights and rights traditions of different cultures.</p> <p>Living situations of children in socially disadvantaged and culturally marginalised living conditions are at the centre as well as forms of coming to terms with them. In particular, children rights movements, child rights oriented project practice, self-help approaches and social movements of children for the improvement of living situations will be highlighted. Child rights based programs that are developed and implemented by NGOs and governments are presented and analysed. On the basis of the obtained knowledge the students elaborate on a practice model for the implementation of children's rights in a social, pedagogical or legal working field.</p> <p>In the frame of the lecture lecturers from different scientific disciplines impart knowledge and views on the implementation of children's rights. Further knowledge is obtained through different sources and materials (e.g. self-testimonies of children, project reports, internet sources, public and especially initiated discussion forums) which are made accessible via the e-learning portal. The seminars serve to deepen the content and to reflect on their possible practical implementation. The tutorial serves to support the students in elaborating the practice model. The students have the task to systematically include a child rights perspective in the project.</p>			
Forms of Teaching and Learning	Face-face study time	Forms of active participation	Workload (hours)
Lecture	2	-	Face-to- face lecture 30
Seminar I	2	Internet research, team work, participation in virtual discussion forums, exchange with students at partner universities	Face-to-face Seminar I 30 Prep. and follow-up Seminar I 40

Study Regulations European Master in Children's Rights (Translated from German original)

Seminar II	2	Teamwork. Possibility of planning a joint virtual European campaign on children's citizenship as well as an excursion to a governmental child rights or non-governmental organisation
Tutorial	1	Conceptualizing a practice project for a selected group of children
Language: English/German		
Total workload/h: 300		
Duration: 1 Semester		
Offer: Every summer semester; the lecture is held every week, the seminars are held in two intensive blocks in the beginning and the middle of the semester, the tutorial is held every fortnight		
To be used in: European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte)		

Modul 5 a) Dissertation project: Internship			
Competences to be achieved			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exemplary insight in a working field relevant to child rights • Competence to assess its relevance for the implementation of children's rights • Competence to independently plan a child rights project, to implement and evaluate it • Competence to take on management functions in a working field relevant to child rights 			
Content:			
<p>The practice model elaborated in module 4 serves as preparation for the internship, which imparts exemplary insights in a practice field relevant to child rights (e.g. In public agencies, NGOs, international organisations). On the basis of an observation guideline a journal is written. The journal serves as the basis for the internship report. The report should give an insight on objectives for action, the tasks and processes in the field, problems of implementation, the relevance of the field of action to implement child rights and the necessary competences of staff.</p> <p>The colloquium for the students doing an internship takes place in form of two intensive blocks together with the students that work on a research proposal (module 5b). The internship serves as basis for the Master thesis.</p>			
Forms of Teaching and Learning	Face-face study time	Forms of active participation	Workload (hours)
Internship	Four weeks= 80 h	Work in the internship place, diary, written internship report	Internship attendance 80 Internship follow-up 30
Colloquium	1	Elaboration of the observance guideline and the structure of the internship report with support from the mentors	Colloquium f-f 10 Colloquium prep. and follow-up 30
Language: German, if required in English			
Total workload/h: 150			
Duration: 1 semester			
Offer: Every summer semester; the colloquium will take place as two blocks at the beginning and in the middle of the semester.			
To be used in: European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte)			

Module 5 a) Dissertation project: research proposal			
Competences to be achieved			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competence to conceptualize a research proposal on a practice relevant subject of childhood studies or child rights • Competence to independently plan a child rights project, to implement and evaluate it • Competence to take on management functions in a working field relevant to child rights 			
Content:			
<p>The practice model elaborated in module 4 serves as preparation for the research proposal. It should be designed to facilitate and found the planning, implementation and evaluation of a practical project. The research proposal may refer to either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning and implementation of a case study analysis in pedagogical, social or juridical field of action with reference to child rights - Planning and implementation of a qualitative study on a selected childhood studies or child rights subject - Planning and implementation of a theoretical expertise on a selected childhood studies or child rights subject - Evaluation of a pedagogical or social project with children in a different European or other country or of a project in Germany with socially disadvantaged children. <p>The elaboration of the research proposal is accompanied continuously by the colloquium. In order to enable an exchange with the students taking module 5 a), the two block sessions will be held with both groups together. In addition, the students present and discuss their research proposal with their mentor in the frame of the mentoring programme. The research proposal serves as basis for the Master thesis</p>			
Forms of Teaching and Learning	Face-face study time	Forms of active participation	Workload (hours)
Mentoring programme	1h	Presentation and discussion of the research proposal with the mentor	Meeting with mentor and preparation thereof Colloquium f-f 10
Colloquium	2	Elaboration of the research proposal with the support of a mentor; oral presentation of the proposal	Realisation of the research proposal Prep. and follow-up research proposal 25 25
Language: German, if required in English			
Total workload/h: 150			
Duration: 1 semester			
Offer: Every summer semester; the colloquium takes place every fortnight and as two blocks at the beginning and middle of the semester.			
To be used in: European Master in Children's Rights (Kinderrechte)			

Annex 2: Exemplary study course plan

semester	Modules			
1.	Childhood Studies and Children’s Rights	Methods and techniques of childhood and children’s rights research	Work and education of children in an international and intercultural comparison	
2.	Children out of place and child rights oriented practice	Dissertation project: internship or research proposal	Master thesis	