



Hochschule für Medien
Kommunikation und Wirtschaft
University of Applied Sciences

H M K W

PO-VMA EXAMINATION REGULATIONS – M. A. VISUAL AND MEDIA ANTHROPOLOGY

Examination regulations for the non-consecutive program

M. A. Visual and Media Anthropology

of

HMKW HOCHSCHULE FÜR MEDIEN,
KOMMUNIKATION UND WIRTSCHAFT

which awards the degree of a *Master of Arts* (M.A.)

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I Preamble

On the basis of *Berliner Hochschulgesetz* (BerlHG), in its version from July 26, 2011 (GVBl. 378 ff.), last amended by Article 1 of the law of September 14, 2021 (GVBl. p. 1039), and the general *Study and Examination Regulations Framework* of HMKW Hochschule für Medien, Kommunikation und Wirtschaft for study programs which award the degree of a *Master of Arts* (RStPO-MA), HMKW issues the following special *Examination Regulations* for the Master's program *Visual and Media Anthropology* (PO-VMA).

II Regulations

§ 1 Area of Application

- 1) In accordance with § 1 sect. 3 RStPO-MA, the present regulations govern the examination procedures of the non-consecutive study program *Visual and Media Anthropology*, which awards the academic degree of a 'Master of Arts' (M. A.).
- 2) The present *examination regulations* are complemented by the study specific *curriculum*, which comprises amongst other things, the *module manual* which defines formal aspects and main subjects of all modules, and the study specific *study regulations*.
- 3) Insofar as these program specific regulations do not cover certain examination related aspects, the respective regulations of the general *Study and Examination Regulations Framework* for Master's programs of HMKW come into effect.

§ 2 Examination Board

- 1) According to § 6 sect. 2 RStPO-MA, the *General Examination Board* („Allgemeiner Prüfungsausschuss“) of HMKW is responsible for the organization of all examination related procedures.

§ 3 Standard study period

- 2) As a rule, graduation is achieved at the end of the fourth semester.

§ 4 Extent of the Examinations and Study Achievements

- 1) Each student must gather the total amount of 120 credits:
 - 30 CP in the Core Module (§ 4 sect. 2 StO-VMA – study regulations),
 - 30 CP in the Profile Module (§ 4 sect. 3 StO-VMA – study regulations),
 - 30 CP in Practice/Project Module (§ 4 sect. 4 StO-VMA – study regulations),
 - 30 CP with the Master's Thesis (§ 4 sect. 5 StO-VMA – study regulations).
- 2) Each module will be completed by examinations which will be held throughout the program. Successful examination results are a precondition for admission into the next modules. Information concerning the students' obligatory attendance and participation can be read in Attachment 1.

§ 5 Master's Thesis

- 1) The Master's thesis should demonstrate that the student is able to work according to scientific methods, and his/her work and results must be appropriately presented and evaluated critically.
- 2) The students should decide after the first study year whether they would like to complete a Master's thesis as
 - a). Exclusively a theoretical scientific written thesis (60 pages, about 18,000 words) with own photographic material (minimum of 10 photographs and a maximum of 20 photographs).

or

 - b). A film project with an accompanying theoretical scientific work (24 pages, about 7,500 words). The name "film" is meant as a combined audiovisual work which is conceived and produced for presentation on television, cinema or in a "new medium" (e. g. the internet). The film project consists of the directing of a visual-anthropological film which is produced alone or as participatory project in collaboration with a local community of the research area, a cameraman/-woman and an editor. Third party participation and contributions to the film project must be clearly stated, especially cameraman/-woman and/or editor and the work should be evaluated accordingly. The relevant contribution by the student must be clearly shown in writing. It is possible for students to push the boundaries of the genre of classical ethnographic films (for example, the use of fictional elements, animation or experimental film), if it is required in the contents of the film and the rights of third parties according to anthropological ethical guidelines are not violated. The film work can be made on analogue or digital recording media and should have a standard length between 20 and 40 minutes.
- 3) Students will be eligible for the completion of their Master's thesis if they
 1. have until then been properly enrolled in the Graduate Degree Program in *Visual and Media Anthropology* (Master of Arts) at HMKW and
 2. have successfully completed the modules and acquired a total of 60 credits according to paragraph 4 of the studies regulations. A module examination is regarded as achieved if the module grade is at least "satisfactory" (4.0).
- 4) A student cannot be considered eligible for completion of a Master's thesis if he/she is in a comparable or identical study course or taking a module in another university towards a Master in *Visual and Media Anthropology*, and does not achieve the examination requirements, is failing or is still in the examination procedure.
- 5) The application for approval of a Master's thesis is to be accompanied with proof of the conditions as per section 3 sentence 1 and the guarantee that the student is not subject to any of the cases described in section 3 sentence 2. The examination committee will make a final evaluation of the application. The application should also include a certificate of an examination-entitled instructor with regards to the person's readiness to supervise the Master's thesis; in other cases, the examination committee will appoint a tutor. In addition, the student must declare in the application which of the two variants of the Master's thesis outlined in § 5, section 2 will be presented.
- 6) The examination committee must approve the topic of the Master's thesis along with the tutor. The topic and duties must be such that the work can be completed within the given work time. The duties and schedule adherence must be recorded.
- 7) The Master's thesis must be written in English or German
- 8) The working time for the Master's thesis is 24 weeks.

- 9) The date that the topic is approved by the examination committee serves as the starting date of the working time. When presenting the thesis, the student must ensure in writing that he/she performed the work independently and that he/she did not use another person as the source of the work or to provide assistance.
- 10) The Master's thesis will be evaluated by two examiners who are appointed by the examination committee and from which one and/or the other must be the faculty adviser and/or the advisor of the Master's thesis. For the variants according to section 2 no.1 the accompanying work for the film project will receive a respective partial grade which has the same weight/value in the grade as the Master's thesis.

§ 6 Repeating the Examination

- 1) In the case that the thesis does not achieve a passing grade, the Master's thesis may be repeated one time.
- 2) The examination may not be repeated if the student has achieved a grade of "satisfactory" (4.0) or better.

§ 7 Graduation

- 1) A key prerequisite for graduation is that the required achievements as outlined in paragraph 4 of these rules have been completed. A student cannot be considered eligible for completion of a Master's thesis if he/she is in a comparable or identical study course or taking a module in another university towards a Master in *Visual and Media Anthropology*, and does not achieve the examination requirements, is failing or is still in the examination procedure.
- 2) The application to graduate requires proof that the requirements have been fulfilled according to section 1, sentence 1 and a guarantee that the student is not subject to any of the cases described in section 1, sentence 2. The responsible examination committee will make a final evaluation of the application.
- 3) When the examination is passed, the students will receive a certificate and a document (appendix 2 and appendix 3) as well as a Diploma Supplement (English and German version). In addition, the diploma supplement will include data on the individual modules and their components (transcripts). An English version can be given for the certificate and document if applied for.
- 4) The certificate will show the final module grades according to paragraph 4, section 1 no. 1 to 3 and the grades for the Master's thesis. The grades for the modules will be calculated as an average of the notes determined for the respective related module grades. The total grades will be calculated as the average of the grades according to sentence 1.

III Final clause

§ 8 Coming into effect

- 1) These examination regulations for the non-consecutive Master's program *Visual and Media Anthropology (M. A.)* replace the last version of the RStPO-Master of HMKW from October 01st, 2020.
- 2) This document will be published at HMKW and takes effect on October 01st, 2022 for all Master's students, who are already enrolled at this date or who will be enrolled after this date.
- 3) Students who enrolled in the Master's program *Visual and Media Anthropology (M. A.)* at HMKW before October 1st, 2019, will continue their studies on the basis of the examination regulations for the Master's

program *Visual and Media Anthropology of Freie Universität Berlin* from May 21st and June 4th 2008 (FU Mitteilungen [Gazette of the Freie Universität Berlin] No. 30/2008 p. 692), unless they apply to the responsible examination board to continue their studies on the basis of the present study regulations of HMKW. On the occasion of their re-registration following their application, the examination board decides to what extent the modules completed or started at the time of the application will be taken into account or how they are to be credited as attainments in accordance with the attainments to be credited according to these regulations, whereby the requirements of protection of confidence and non-discrimination will be observed. The re-registration cannot be revised.

IV Addendum

Attachment 1: Examination achievements, admission assumptions, participation obligations and credits

(to § 4 sect. 2) **Explanation:**

In order to complete the program, students must complete successfully all its modules. Meaning they must:

- Complete the prerequisites for admission into each respective module;
- Obtain the examination forms;
- Meet the expected amount of participation obligation and;
- Achieve all the credits attributed to each module.

In the following boxes (see next page) are the details for each module's respective learning and teaching forms, attendance, active participation in the teaching and learning forms and the successful completion of the examination achievements of a module, which are all prerequisites for the granting of the credits associated with each module. Regular participation is defined as the student attending at least 85 % of the teaching and learning forms of a module. When there is no obligation for regular participation in a teaching and learning form of a module, it is however highly recommended. The establishment of an attendance obligation by lecturers is highly recommended, but not required.

A measure for credits associated to a module is in the number of hours that a student works which are recommended for a successful completion of the module. Self-study time periods are also considered (pre- and post-production, examination preparation, etc.). One credit is equivalent to about 30 study hours.

Each module must be completed with a module examination. Rather than completing one single module examination, one can also take several partial module exams. Credits are counted exclusively upon the successful completion of the entire module – therefore after regular and active participation in the teaching and learning forms and a successful passing of the module examination and/or all partial module exams within the module.

The contents and qualification goals for the teaching and learning forms of the modules, the student work effort which is estimated for successful completion of a module, the forms of active participation, the regular duration of the module as well as the frequency that the module is offered are to be found in the study rules for the Graduate Degree in *Visual and Media Anthropology* (Master of Arts).

1. Core study, basic range

Module: Visual Anthropology

<i>Entry Requirements</i>	None
<i>Teaching/Learning Forms</i>	Simulcast, Online studies
<i>Module Examination</i>	Online presentation (refereed 30 min) in virtual seminar room. Homework (in English), about 3,000 words (10 pages)
<i>Participation Obligation</i>	Regular participation is recommended
<i>ECTS Credit Points</i>	15 CP

Module: Media Anthropology

<i>Entry Requirements</i>	None
<i>Teaching/Learning Forms</i>	Online studies
<i>Module Examination</i>	Online presentation (refereed, 30 min.) in virtual seminar room. Online paper (in English) about 3,000 words (10 pages) or short film project (maximum 5 minutes)
<i>Participation Obligation</i>	Regular participation is recommended
<i>ECTS Credit Points</i>	15 CP

2. Profile study

Module: Ethnographic Film Production

<i>Entry Requirements</i>	None
<i>Teaching/Learning Forms</i>	In-house class attendance, Online studies
<i>Module Examination</i>	Ethnographic short film (5-10 minutes)
<i>Participation Obligation</i>	Regular participation is recommended
<i>ECTS Credit Points</i>	15 CP

Module: Communication / Mediascapes

<i>Entry Requirements</i>	None
<i>Teaching/Learning Forms</i>	In-house class attendance, Online studies
<i>Module Examination</i>	Online presentation (refereed, 30 minutes) in virtual seminar room and homework (3,500 words) in English
<i>Participation Obligation</i>	Regular participation is recommended
<i>ECTS Credit Points</i>	15 CP

Module: Applied Visual and Media Anthropology

<i>Entry Requirements</i>	None
<i>Teaching/Learning Forms</i>	In-house class attendance, Online studies
<i>Module Examination</i>	Exposé/treatment (in English) about 3,000 words
<i>Participation Obligation</i>	Regular participation is recommended
<i>ECTS Credit Points</i>	15 CP

Note: Courses of these three profile modules must be chosen to the extent of 30 ECTS credit points.

3. Film- / Photography Project / Internship

Module: Film / Photography Project

<i>Entry Requirements</i>	None
<i>Teaching/Learning Forms</i>	Online studies
<i>Module Examination</i>	Exposé for film or photography project (in English) about 1,500 words (5 pages)
<i>Participation Obligation</i>	Regular participation is recommended
<i>ECTS Credit Points</i>	15 CP

Module: Internship

<i>Entry Requirements</i>	None
<i>Teaching/Learning Forms</i>	Online studies (accompanying internship)
<i>Module Examination</i>	Internship report (in English) about 3,000 words
<i>Participation Obligation</i>	Yes
<i>ECTS Credit Points</i>	15 CP