

Competence-oriented programme objectives

M.A. British Studies

General objectives

The general objective of the MA British Studies programme is to provide students with advanced academic and methodological skills as well as near-native competence in written and spoken English that will enable them to pursue a professional career. The MA British Literature and Cultural Studies programme qualifies its graduates for careers in the fields of academia, culture, politics and business, e.g. publishing and media, educational and cultural institutions, intercultural communication and public relations.

Specific objectives

Graduates have in-depth knowledge of the societies, literatures and cultures of the United Kingdom and Ireland in their historical scope and media and material diversity. They have sound methodological skills in the field of literary studies and cultural studies, including methods of electronic research (databases). Specifically, they have in-depth content-related and theoretical knowledge in the field of Nineteenth Century Studies (compulsory specialisation module), i.e. they are familiar with the ideological, political and social conditions of 19th century Great Britain, and can name and differentiate significant literary and cultural developments. In addition, they have in-depth content-related and theoretical knowledge in two other areas of British Studies, including Postcolonial Studies (two elective modules). They are able to use this knowledge to independently analyse and interpret different forms of cultural expression and to place these forms of expression in socio-political and historical contexts. In particular, they are able to work independently on a comprehensive topic of British literature and/or cultural studies as part of their MA thesis and present it adequately in writing in English.

Graduates have active and passive language skills in English at level C2 of the European Framework of Reference and have mastered techniques of oral and written presentation of complex content in English.

As part of a compulsory internship, graduates gain experience in a field of work of their choice and reflect on this against the background of the linguistic and methodological skills acquired in the degree programme.