Implementing provisions of the General study regulation (IP-GStudR)

Master of Arts in Historical Sciences (english)

By resolution of the Rectorate*, the following implementing provisions of the GStudR apply as of 01.08.2024.

Brig. May 21, 2024

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Rector a.i.

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1 Scope of studies for Master's Degree Programmes

In accordance with Art. 8b Para. 1 GStudR

The Master of Arts in Historical Sciences consists of 90 ECTS Credits.

2 List of modules

In accordance with Art. 8b Para. 2, 3 and 4 GStudR

Block 1: Compulsory modules / 48 ECTS

- M01 Sources and data 12 ECTS
- M02 Information systems 12 ECTS
- M03 Analysis 12 ECTS
- M04 Visualisation 12 ECTS

Block 2: Elective modules / 12 ECTS

- M05-1 Introduction à la presse numérisée 3 ECTS
- M05-2 Digitale Geschichte und Geschichte des Digitalen 3 ECTS
- M05-3 Opening history: introduction to open science and open tools for historians 3 ECTS
- M05-4 Audiovisuelle Quellen aus Medienarchive für die historische Forschung und Darstellung 3 ECTS
- M06 Scientific event 3 ECTS
- M07 Internship 6 ECTS

1 12 ECTS must be validated from the elective modules in block 2.

Block 3: Master's thesis / 30 ECTS

- M08 Colloquium and Writing 20 ECTS
- M09 Defense and dissemination 10 ECTS

3 Regular studies

In accordance with Art. 8 Para. 2 GStudR

1 Modules M01 and M02 must be completed in the first year of study (semesters 1 and 2) and modules M03 and M04 in the second year of study (semesters 3 and 4). Modules M08 and M09 can only be validated after the compulsory modules have been validated.

4 Organizational division of the study programme in Bachelor's degree programmes

In accordance with Art. 8a Para. 3 GStudR

Point 4 does not apply because these implementing provisions refer to a Master's degree programme.

5 Major-/ minor programmes

In accordance with Art. 8 Para. 4 GStudR

There are currently no Major or Minor programmes.

6 Module Implementation

In accordance with Art. 9 GStudR

Modules M01 and M03 are offered in the autumn semester.
Modules M02 and M04 are offered in the spring semester. Elective modules M05-1 to M05-4 are offered each semester. Module M06 is offered in the autumn semester or in the spring semester. It is not offered each year. Module M07 has to be taken individually and is offered each semester. The Master's thesis must be completed individually. Modules M08 and M09 are offered each semester.

7 Bilingual Studies

In accordance with Art. 11 Para. 4 GStudR

Bilingual studies are not offered for the Master of Arts in Historical Sciences, but the program follows the principle of passive trilingualism (German, French, and English).

8 Classes/Lectures

In accordance with Art. 14 Para. 4 GStudR

1 Generally, five Saturdays per semester are dedicated to 3-hour classes for each compulsory module.

2 Additional classes, either on Saturdays or during the week, may be offered.

9 Assessments

In accordance with Art. 15 Para. 2 GStudR

1 Assessments may take various forms:
   1. Written exam
   2. Oral exam
   3. Essays (Guidelines established in the documents Guide pour les travaux écrits and Richtlinien für die schriftlichen Arbeiten)
   4. Oral presentation
   5. Video presentation
   6. Written or oral group work

10 Special academic assignments and remedial work for special academic assignments

In accordance with Art. 16 Para. 1 and 3 GStudR

1 General

1 Guidelines for the preparation of written assignments are established by the programme director in the documents Guide pour les travaux écrits and Richtlinien für die schriftlichen Arbeiten.

2 If a student's written assignment is deemed unsatisfactory, he or she is given the opportunity to rewrite it. The amended version is considered a second attempt, and, generally, may not be awarded a grade higher than 4.5.

2 Module M07 Internship

1 This module is only available from the second semester onwards.

2 To validate the "Internship" module, students must participate in a relevant history research project within a cultural or heritage institution and produce an internship report. The choice of internship is suggested by the student and validated by the program director.
An internship agreement, signed by the student, the institutions’ representative, and the Block 2 coordinator, outlines the objectives of the internship, which must be included in the final report.

3. Master’s thesis

1 Students who have completed and passed the compulsory modules (M01-M04) may enrol for modules M08 and M09.

2 The M08 “Colloquium and Writing” module is assessed based on the quality of the written Master’s thesis. Guidelines for the Master’s thesis are provided in the Guide pour les travaux écrits and Richtlinien für die schriftlichen Arbeiten. Module M08 also includes the following criteria:
   - The student and his/her supervisor meet at least two times.
   - Presentation of the student’s research findings at the colloquium organised during the semester as part of module M08.

3 The M09 “Defense and Dissemination” module is assessed on the following criteria:
   - Oral defence of the Master’s thesis
   - Dissemination of the Master’s thesis’ results to a non-academic audience

4 Students must be registered at the time of submission. Master’s theses must be submitted during the current academic term, no later than the first day of the exam session. The oral defence is scheduled no later than the last day of the same exam session; the date is settled by the supervisor, in agreement with the student and an expert chosen by the supervisor.

5 If a Master’s thesis is deemed unsatisfactory by the supervisor, the latter must inform the candidate in writing of his or her assessment and explain the reasons of the failure.

6 In the case of an unsatisfactory Master’s thesis, the supervisor may allow the candidate to revise it. Generally, revised Master’s thesis may not be awarded a grade higher than 4.5. The candidate does not have an automatic right to revision.

7 Candidates may not revise a Master’s thesis that has already been revised.

8 If, after the revision process, a Master’s thesis is still deemed unsatisfactory, modules M08 and M09 may be repeated once with a new theme.

11 Non-transferable study credits

In accordance with Art. 25 Para. 4 GStudR

Modules dedicated to the Master’s thesis (M08 and M09) must be completed within the Master of Arts in Historical Sciences programme at UniDistance Suisse and cannot be granted through equivalence.

12 Options for Compensation in Master's degree programmes

In accordance with Art. 27 Para. 1 No. 3 GStudR

There is no possibility of compensation in the Master of Arts in Historical Sciences.

13 Master’s degree completion

In accordance with Art. 27 Para. 2 GStudR

There are no additional requirements for completing the Master of Arts in Historical Sciences.