

## **Subject-Specific Entrance and Admission Regulations for the Master's Degree Program in Anglophone Modernities in Literature and Culture at the University of Potsdam**

**July 6, 2016**

On July 6, 2016, the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Potsdam approved the following regulations pursuant to Section 9 subsection 5 sentence 2 in connection with Section 72 subsection 2 no. 1 of the Brandenburg Higher Education Act (BbgHG) of April 28, 2014 (Law and Ordinance Gazette [GVBl.] I/14, [no. 18]), last amended by Section 2 of the law of July 1, 2015 (GVBl. I/15 [no. 18]) in connection with Section 5 subsection 4, Section 7 subsection 2, Section 8 subsection 2, and Section 16 subsection 2 of the Brandenburg Higher Education Admissions Act (BbgHZG) of July 1, 2015 (GVBl. I/15 [no. 18]), last amended by the law of December 17, 2015 (GVBl. I/15 [no. 38]) in connection with Section 2 subsections 1-3 and 5, Section 19 subsection 1, and Section 20 of the Higher Education Admission Regulations (HZV) of February 23, 2016 (GVBl. II/16, [no. 6]) and pursuant to Section 21 subsection 1 no. 2 of the Basic Constitution of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of December 17, 2009 (Bulletin UP no. 4/2010 p. 60) in the Third Amended Version of the Basic Constitution of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of April 22, 2015 (Bulletin UP no. 6/2015 p. 235) and the General Admission Regulations for Master's Degree Programs at the University of Potsdam Not Related to Teacher Education (Zulassungsordnung, ZuLO) of February 24, 2016 (Bulletin UP no. 3/2016 p. 76):<sup>1</sup>

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### **§ 1 Applicability**

These admission regulations, combined with the General Admission Regulations for Master's Degree Programs at the University of Potsdam Not Related to Teacher Education (*Zulassungsordnung*, ZuLO), govern the admission requirements and the university selection process for the non-teaching-oriented master's program in Anglophone Moderni-

ties in Literature and Culture at the University of Potsdam. Otherwise, the admission regulations (ZuLO) apply.

### **§ 2 Assignment of Tasks in the Procedure**

While conducting the admission and selection procedure, the Examining Board can assign specific tasks of a purely administrative nature to qualified employees of the program who are not members of the Examining Board.

### **§ 3 Admission Requirements**

The following special admission requirements apply to the master's program in Anglophone Modernities in Literature and Culture:

- a) A qualifying university degree in an essential subject / degree program for English Studies, American Studies, or Anglophone Studies, or a comparable Anglophone degree program in literature or cultural studies, is considered valid if this degree program
  - includes a standard period of study of at least 6 semesters,
  - includes a total of at least 180 credit points (CP), and
  - at least 40 credit points were attained in the subjects of literature studies and/or cultural studies. If the transcript comes from a system that does not use credit points, then the Examining Board will make a decision about the equivalence of academic performance; if the applicant documents up to 5% less than the required credit points, then the Examining Board shall perform case-by-case evaluations as to whether the applicant meets the required prerequisites despite insufficient credit points;
- b) English language skills that correspond at least to the C1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. The required English language skills are to be evidenced by one of the documents listed in Section 4 subsection 2 of the Admission Regulations (ZuLO). The Examining Board issues decisions regarding credentials on a case by case basis.

(2) In a deviation from Section 4 subsection 4 of ZuLO, German-language skills need not be demonstrated.

### **§ 4 Application Periods and Documents**

(1) The application for the master's program in Anglophone Modernities in Literature and Culture, when enrolling as of the first semester, can begin in either the winter or summer semester. The applica-

<sup>1</sup> Approved by the President of the University of Potsdam on October 7, 2016.

tion for the master's program in Anglophone Modernities in Literature and Culture, when enrolling for a later semester, can begin in either the winter or summer semester.

(2) The ZulO specifies admission deadlines, as long as the course of study does not have restricted admissions. If the course of study does have restricted admissions, then, in accordance with Section 6 subsection 3 of the ZulO, the latest application deadline for the winter semester is June 1 and for the summer semester December 1.

(3) In addition to the application materials listed in Section 5 subsection 3 letters a) through d) and f) of ZulO, the following application materials regarding English language skills shall be submitted in accordance with Section 3 b) in combination with Section 4 subsection 2 of ZulO.

(4) If the degree program has restricted admissions, then, in addition to the documents listed in Section 5 subsection 4 of the ZulO, a statement of purpose must be submitted. The statement of purpose must be written in English, with a maximum of 5,000 characters, and must describe the applicant's motivation for application. In their statements of purpose, applicants should emphasize the specific skills that qualify them in particular for the master's degree program in Anglophone Modernities in Literature and Culture. The statement of purpose should also convey an impression of the applicant's personal and social engagement.

## § 5 Quota of International Applicants

At variance with the quota specified under Section 17 subsection 1 no. 1 of the HZV, a quota of 35% is reserved for international applicants and for stateless applicants who are not accorded rights equal to Germans.

## § 6 University Selection Process

(1) If the master's program has restricted admissions, an admissions selection process is carried out under Section 9 of the ZulO with the objective of ranking the applicants as part of the admission allocation procedure under Section 8 of the ZulO.

(2) To establish the ranking, a total point value is calculated under Section 9 of the ZulO. In calculating the total point value under Section 9 of the ZulO, the following criteria are weighted as follows:

- a) Average grade or current average grade: 51%
- b) Relative grade or current relative grade: 13%
- c) Statement of purpose: 36%

The relative grade will not be considered until the selection process for the winter semester of 2017–18.

(3) Criterion c) is graded (on a scale from 1.0 to 5.0, with 1.0 being best) and contributes to the total point score. The score is given as follows:

- highly persuasive statement of purpose: 1.0
- good statement of purpose: 2.0
- average statement of purpose: 3.0
- weak statement of purpose: 4.0
- non-persuasive statement of purpose: 5.0

The evaluation of the statement of purpose is done in accordance with the criteria listed in Section 5 subsection 4. If materials to prove this selection criterion are missing at the application deadline listed in Section 4 subsection 2, the criterion is included towards the total point value as a grade of 5.0.

## § 7 Taking Effect

(1) These regulations go into effect on the day after their publication in the Official Announcements of the University of Potsdam.

(2) These regulations first apply to the admissions process for students seeking to matriculate in the master's program in Anglophone Modernities in Literature and Culture in the summer semester 2017.