



AALBORG UNIVERSITET

CURRICULUM FOR THE MASTER'S PROGRAMME IN EUROPEAN STUDIES, 2020

MASTER OF SCIENCE (MSC) IN SOCIAL SCIENCES
AALBORG

[Link to this studyline](#)

Curriculum for the Master's Programme in European Studies, 2020

Link(s) to other versions of the same line:

[Curriculum for the Master's Programme in Development and International Relations, 2020](#)

[Curriculum for the Master's Programme in International Relations, 2022](#)

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§ 1: PREFACE

Pursuant to consolidation Act 778 of August 7, 2019 on Universities (the University Act), the following is established.

The programme also follows the Examination Policies and Procedures for Aalborg University.

§ 2: BASIS IN MINISTERIAL ORDERS

The Master's programme is organised in accordance with the Ministry of Higher Education and Science's Order no. 20 of January 9, 2020 on Bachelor's and Master's Programmes at Universities (the Ministerial Order of the Study Programmes) and Ministerial Order no. 22 of January 9, 2020 on University Examinations (the Examination Order). Further reference is made to Ministerial Order no. 153 of February 26, 2020 (the Admission Order) and Ministerial Order no. 114 of February 3, 2015 (the Grading Scale Order).

§ 3: CAMPUS

The programme is offered in Aalborg.

§ 4: FACULTY AFFILIATION

The Master's programme falls under Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Aalborg University.

§ 5: STUDY BOARD AFFILIATION

The Master's programme falls under Study Board of Politics and Society

§ 6: AFFILIATION TO CORPS OF EXTERNAL EXAMINERS

The Master's programme is associated with the external examiners corps on Censorkorpset for Forvaltning og Global Studies

§ 7: ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants without legal right of admission

The admission requirement for the master's degree program in European Studies is a completed relevant bachelor's degree. The following bachelor's degrees are considered relevant:

- Bachelor's Programme in Language and International Studies, Aalborg Universitet
- Bachelor's Programme in Political Science, Aarhus Universitet, Syddansk Universitet, Københavns Universitet
- Bachelor's Programme in Politik og administration, Aalborg Universitet
- Most bachelor's degrees in a social science discipline

In addition, a bachelor's degree is considered relevant if it includes a minimum of 30 ECTS credits within one or more of the following subject areas: International relations, development studies, European studies, international political economy, area studies (e.g. China Studies or Latin American Studies), migration studies, refugee studies, cultural studies, globalization studies, integration studies, international law or other central subjects of the DIR/ES programmes..

§ 8: THE PROGRAMME TITLE IN DANISH AND ENGLISH

The Master's programme entitles the graduate to the Danish designation

- Kandidatuddannelsen (cand.soc.) i Europæiske Studier og internationale forhold
- Kandidatuddannelsen (cand.soc.) i Europæiske Studier og internationale forhold – Chinese Area Studies
- Kandidatuddannelsen (cand.soc.) i Europæiske Studier og internationale forhold – Latin American Studies
- Kandidatuddannelsen (cand.soc.) i Europæiske Studier og internationale forhold – Global Gender Studies
- Kandidatuddannelsen (cand.soc.) i Europæiske Studier og internationale forhold – China and International Relations

The English designation is:

- Master of Science (MSc) in Social Sciences, International Relations, European Studies
- Master of Science (MSc) in Social Sciences, International Relations, European Studies – Chinese Area Studies
- Master of Science (MSc) in Social Sciences, International Relations, European Studies – Latin American Studies
- Master of Science (MSc) in Social Sciences, International Relations, European Studies – Global Gender Studies
- Master of Science (MSc) in Social Sciences, International Relations, European Studies – China and International Relations

§ 9: PROGRAMME SPECIFICATIONS IN ECTS CREDITS

The Master's programme is a 2-year, research-based, full-time study programme. The programme is set to 120 ECTS credits.

§ 10: RULES CONCERNING CREDIT TRANSFER (MERIT), INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY FOR CHOICE OF MODULES THAT ARE PART OF ANOTHER PROGRAMME AT A UNIVERSITY IN DENMARK OR ABROAD

The Study Board can approve that passed programme elements from other educational programmes at the same level replaces programme elements within this programme (credit transfer).

Furthermore, the Study Board can, upon application, approve that parts of this programme is completed at another university or a further education institution in Denmark or abroad (pre-approval of credit transfer).

The Study Board's decisions regarding credit transfer are based on an academic assessment.

§ 11: EXEMPTIONS

The Study Board's possibilities to grant exemption, including exemption to further examination attempts and special examination conditions, are stated in the Examination Policies and Procedures published at this website:

<https://www.studyservice.aau.dk/rules>

§ 12: RULES FOR EXAMINATIONS

The rules for examinations are stated in the Examination Policies and Procedures published at this website:

<https://www.studyservice.aau.dk/rules>

§ 13: RULES CONCERNING WRITTEN WORK, INCLUDING THE MASTER'S THESIS

In the assessment of all written work, regardless of the language it is written in, weight is also given to the student's formulation and spelling ability, in addition to the academic content. Orthographic and grammatical correctness as well as stylistic proficiency are taken as a basis for the evaluation of language performance. Language performance must always be included as an independent dimension of the total evaluation. However, no examination can be assessed as 'Pass' on the basis of good language performance alone; similarly, an examination normally cannot be assessed as 'Fail' on the basis of poor language performance alone.

The Study Board can grant exemption from this in special cases (e.g., dyslexia or a native language other than Danish).

The Master's Thesis must include an English summary. If the project is written in English, the summary can be in Danish. The summary is included in the evaluation of the project as a whole.

§ 14: REQUIREMENTS REGARDING THE READING OF TEXTS IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

The language of instruction in the Master's Programme in European Studies is English, all set texts will be in English, and all examinations will be conducted in English. Therefore, sufficient English language proficiency is a requirement.

§ 15: COMPETENCE PROFILE ON THE DIPLOMA

The following competence profile will appear on the diploma:

A Candidatus graduate has the following competency profile:

A Candidatus graduate has competencies that have been acquired via a course of study that has taken place in a research environment.

A Candidatus graduate is qualified for employment on the labour market based on his or her academic discipline as well as for further research (PhD programmes). A Candidatus graduate has, compared to a Bachelor, developed his or her academic knowledge and independence so as to be able to apply scientific theory and method on an independent basis within both an academic and a professional context.

§ 16: COMPETENCE PROFILE OF THE PROGRAMME

The objectives of the Master's Programme in International Relations, European Studies, are that students will:

- develop the academic knowledge and skills which they acquired during their Bachelor's studies, and increase their theoretical and methodological qualifications and independence as compared to their Bachelor's degree level.
- acquire an interdisciplinary insight into European studies from a social scientific perspective
- acquire qualifications within identifying and analysing complex societal phenomena within European studies and international relations from a historical perspective on the basis of theoretical and methodological knowledge and skills
- be able to apply advanced elements of theory and method in the field of European studies and international relations in an independent and cross-disciplinary manner on the basis of scientific study.
- qualify to participate in scientific development work, including research training (PhD programme) within European integration processes
- qualify for specialised job functions in international institutions and organisations, diplomacy, and private and public businesses.

Options for specialisation

The Master's programme offers options for specialisation within Chinese Area Studies (Aalborg), Latin American Studies (Aalborg), Global Gender Studies (Aalborg), and a double degree in China and International Relations (Aalborg/Beijing).

A graduate of the Master's programme in European Studies will acquire the following competence profile:

Knowledge

- knowledge on key aspects of European integration processes
- knowledge of various theoretical approaches to the study of European integration processes and international relations
- knowledge of the organisation of the international system and the social, cultural, political and economic dynamics that affect developments in international relations, both globally and specifically in Europe
- understanding of principles of academic integrity and of dilemmas of research ethics within the relevant subject areas of the programme.

Skills

- apply scientific theories, methods and tools within European studies and international relations in an independent manner
- ability to critically and independently reflect on key aspects within European studies and international relations on a scientific basis, as well as identifying scientific problem areas
- evaluate and choose among scientific theories, methods and tools within the study of European integration processes and international relations, as well as to develop new analysis models and solutions on the basis of scientific knowledge
- analyse economic, political and social aspects of European integration processes and international relations from an interdisciplinary perspective
- undertake policy studies
- contribute, discuss and communicate research-based knowledge on European integration
- processes and international relations to peers and non-specialists in fluent and terminologically correct English.

Competences

- cooperate in English on problem based cross-disciplinary projects with international and intercultural perspectives in professional contexts
- master strategies for planning, initiating and undertaking a project based on an issue relevant to the subject field and to take professional responsibility

- manage complex situations and workflows and to find new solutions
- take independent responsibility for their own continued learning and competence development within European studies and international relations
- perform job functions in international institutions and organisations, diplomacy, public and private businesses, and to undertake doctoral studies within European studies and international relations.

Problem Based Learning (PBL)

The study program is committed to Aalborg University's fundamental pedagogical principle of problem-based learning. The basic competencies achieved through PBL in the study programme are:

- **Problem oriented competencies** : The ability to identify, delimit, formulate, and analyze actual problems.
- **Collaborative and organizational competencies**: The ability to handle complex problems professionally while cooperating with people from diverse backgrounds on project organization and project management.
- **Reflexive competencies** , the ability to develop personal competencies in a professional context (self-reflection).

While the three competencies are trained during all four semesters, there is shift in emphasis across the four semesters:

Semester	PBL focus	
First semester	Problem oriented competencies	
Second semester	Collaborative and organizational competencies	
Third semester	Reflexive competencies	
Fourth semester	Independent training of all the PBL competencies.	

§ 17: STRUCTURE AND CONTENTS OF THE PROGRAMME

The master's programme in European Studies (ES) is a two-year research-based full-time study programme. The study programme comprises 120 ECTS credits. The programme is divided into individual modules and organised as a problem based study programme. A module is a subject element or a group of subject elements whose purpose is to provide the student with academic and professional qualifications within a stipulated period, and which is completed by one or a number of examinations according to an examination schedule defined in this curriculum. 60 ECTS credits correspond to one year of full-time study.

The Master's programme offers options for specialisation within Chinese Area Studies, Latin American Studies, Global Gender Studies or China and International Relations. The specialisation in China and International Relations (CIR) is a double degree program offered in collaboration with the University of International Relations in Beijing.

The Master's programme consists of constituent and elective modules. The Study Board may decide not to offer a certain elective module in case of too limited enrolment. In case an elective is not offered, the students will be provided with other alternatives.

The modules will be offered over four semesters (semesters 1 to 4). The first and second semester include courses, exams and project work at Aalborg University. The third semester module consists of a stay at an international organisation, company or institution with activities related to European Studies or a study stay abroad in the fields of European Studies or similar programmes. The fourth semester module will be dedicated to thesis writing. In the CIR programme, the students spend the first and second semester at Aalborg University (Aalborg) and the third and fourth semester at the University of International Relations in Beijing.

The programme is based on a combination of academic, problem oriented and interdisciplinary approaches and is structured as a mixture of the following study and evaluation forms combining skills and academic reflection:

- lectures
- seminars
- classroom teaching
- problem based project work
- case work
- discussion sessions
- supervision and feedback from teaching staff
- simulation games (not offered every semester).

§ 18: OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME

European Studies without specialisation

Offered as: 1-professional						
Specialisation: European Studies						
Module name	Course type	ECTS	Applied grading scale	Evaluation method	Assessment method	Language
1 SEMESTER						
Methodology and Methods (SNIF001)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Active participation/continuous evaluation	English
Theories of International Relations (DIRES002)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Active participation/continuous evaluation	English
Introduction to European Union Law and Institutions (ES0004)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Electives 1. semester Choose 5 ECTS	Course	5				
Project Module I (SNIF009)	Project	10	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Oral exam based on a project	English
2 SEMESTER						
European Policies, Economics and Society (ES0010)	Course	10	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Electives 2. semester Choose 5 ECTS	Course	5				
Project Module II (SNIF018)	Project	15	7-point grading scale	External examination	Oral exam based on a project	English
3 SEMESTER						
Project Oriented Course (ES0019)	Project	25	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Thesis Preparation (ES0020)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Written exam	English
4 SEMESTER						

Master's Thesis (ES0025)	Project	30	7-point grading scale	External examination	Master's thesis/final project	English
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Electives 1. semester Choose 5 ECTS						
Module name	Course type	ECTS	Applied grading scale	Evaluation Method	Assessment method	Language
Regional Integration and Regionalisation (DIRES003)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Chinese Area Studies I: Traditions and Transformations (DIRES005)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Oral exam	English
Contemporary Latin American Studies (DIRES006)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Oral exam	English
Global Gender Studies (DIRES007)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Oral exam	English
Cultures, Societies and Histories of the Peoples of the Arctic (KACCG202011)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English

Electives 2. semester Choose 5 ECTS						
Module name	Course type	ECTS	Applied grading scale	Evaluation Method	Assessment method	Language
Rising Powers and Emerging Markets (DIRES011)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Chinese Area Studies II: Global China (DIRES014)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Social Movements and Civil Society in Modern Latin America (DIRES015)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Global Gender Studies II: Gendering Global Governance (DIRES016)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
The Arctic in the Age of Globalization (KACCG201612)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Project Management and International Organisations (DIR012)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Active participation/continuous evaluation	English

European Studies with specialisation in Global Gender Studies

Offered as: 1-professional
Specialisation: European Studies, Global Gender Studies

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Module name	Course type	ECT S	Applied grading scale	Evaluation method	Assessment method	Language
1 SEMESTER						
Methodology and Methods (SNIF001)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Active participation/continuous evaluation	English
Theories of International Relations (DIRES002)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Active participation/continuous evaluation	English
Introduction to European Union Law and Institutions (ES0004)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Global Gender Studies (DIRES007)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Oral exam	English
Project Module I (SNIF009)	Project	10	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Oral exam based on a project	English
2 SEMESTER						
European Policies, Economics and Society (ES0010)	Course	10	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Global Gender Studies II: Gendering Global Governance (DIRES016)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Project Module II (SNIF018)	Project	15	7-point grading scale	External examination	Oral exam based on a project	English
3 SEMESTER						
Project Oriented Course (ES0019)	Project	25	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Thesis Preparation (ES0020)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Written exam	English
4 SEMESTER						
Master's Thesis (ES0025)	Project	30	7-point grading scale	External examination	Master's thesis/final project	English

European Studies with specialisation in Chinese Area Studies

Offered as:						
Specialisation: European Studies, Chinese Area Studies						
Module name	Course type	ECT S	Applied grading scale	Evaluation method	Assessment method	Language
1 SEMESTER						
Methodology and Methods (SNIF001)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Active participation/continuous evaluation	English
Theories of International Relations (DIRES002)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Active participation/continuous evaluation	English
Introduction to European Union Law and Institutions	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English

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(ES0004)						
Chinese Area Studies I: Traditions and Transformations (DIRES005)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Oral exam	English
Project Module I (SNIF009)	Project	10	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Oral exam based on a project	English
2 SEMESTER						
European Policies, Economics and Society (ES0010)	Course	10	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Chinese Area Studies II: Global China (DIRES014)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Project Module II (SNIF018)	Project	15	7-point grading scale	External examination	Oral exam based on a project	English
3 SEMESTER						
Project Oriented Course (ES0019)	Project	25	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Thesis Preparation (ES0020)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Written exam	English
4 SEMESTER						
Master's Thesis (ES0025)	Project	30	7-point grading scale	External examination	Master's thesis/final project	English

European Studies with specialisation in Latin American Studies

Offered as: 1-professional						
Specialisation: European Studies, Latin American Studies						
Module name	Course type	ECTS	Applied grading scale	Evaluation method	Assessment method	Language
1 SEMESTER						
Methodology and Methods (SNIF001)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Active participation/continuous evaluation	English
Theories of International Relations (DIRES002)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Active participation/continuous evaluation	English
Introduction to European Union Law and Institutions (ES0004)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Contemporary Latin American Studies (DIRES006)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Oral exam	English
Project Module I (SNIF009)	Project	10	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Oral exam based on a project	English
2 SEMESTER						
European Policies, Economics and Society (ES0010)	Course	10	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English

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Social Movements and Civil Society in Modern Latin America (DIRES015)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Project Module II (SNIF018)	Project	15	7-point grading scale	External examination	Oral exam based on a project	English
3 SEMESTER						
Project Oriented Course (ES0019)	Project	25	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Thesis Preparation (ES0020)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Written exam	English
4 SEMESTER						
Master's Thesis (ES0025)	Project	30	7-point grading scale	External examination	Master's thesis/final project	English

European Studies with Specialisation in China and International Relation (double degree)

Offered as: 1-professional						
Study programme: China and International Relations						
Module name	Course type	ECTS	Applied grading scale	Evaluation method	Assessment method	Language
1 SEMESTER						
Methodology and Methods (SNIF001)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Active participation/continuous evaluation	English
Theories of International Relations (DIRES002)	Course	5	Passed/Not Passed	Internal examination	Active participation/continuous evaluation	English
Introduction to European Union Law and Institutions (ES0004)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Chinese Area Studies I: Traditions and Transformations (DIRES005)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Oral exam	English
Project Module I (SNIF009)	Project	10	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Oral exam based on a project	English
2 SEMESTER						
European Policies, Economics and Society (ES0010)	Course	10	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Chinese Area Studies II: Global China (DIRES014)	Course	5	7-point grading scale	Internal examination	Written exam	English
Project Module II (SNIF018)	Project	15	7-point grading scale	External examination	Oral exam based on a project	English
3 SEMESTER						
Option A: Semester at University of International Relations (UIR), Beijing						
4 SEMESTER						

Master's Thesis (CIR025)	Project	30	7-point grading scale	External examination	Master's thesis/final project	English
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§ 19: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Standard Page

The maximum length of an assignment or a project is defined in standard pages. A standard page is equivalent to 2,400 keystrokes (including spaces).

The stipulated number of pages for written assignments and projects includes notes, but does *not* include reference lists/bibliography, title page, table of contents, and summary. Appendices may be included in projects. Typically, an appendix is not the examinee's own written work, but a presentation/reproduction of source material, and it will therefore not be included in the total number of pages; however, the volume of the appendix must be proportionate to the volume of the project.

Group Sizes

No more than 6 students may participate in the preparation of written group projects. No more than 3 students may participate in the preparation of the Master's thesis.

Oral Group Examination

At oral group examinations, the examination must be conducted in such a way that individual assessment of each individual student's performance is ensured.

§ 20: COMMENCEMENT AND TRANSITIONAL RULES

The curriculum is approved by the dean and enters into force as of September 2020.

The Study Board does not offer teaching after the previous curriculum from 2017 after the summer examination 2021.

The Study Board will offer examinations after the previous curriculum, if there are students who have used examination attempts in a module without passing. The number of examination attempts follows the rules in the Examination Order.

§ 21: AMENDMENTS TO THE CURRICULUM AND REGULATIONS

The Vice-dean has on November 9, 2020, approved the following changes valid as of spring 2021:

- The module "*Project Management and International Organisations*" is added as an elective on 2nd Semester

The Vice-dean has on March 22, 2021, approved to offer the students the possibility to choose the mobility semester from Global Refugee Studies on 3rd Semester. The approval only applies in autumn 2021.