

InterAmerican Studies / Estudios InterAmericanos

Master of Arts

Study InterAmerican Studies / Estudios InterAmericanos in Bielefeld

Offered by the Faculty of Linguistics and Literary Studies, the Faculty of History, Philosophy and Theology, and the Faculty of Sociology, the MA InterAmerican Studies / Estudios InterAmericanos is an interdisciplinary programme which offers classes from various disciplines, such as Literary and Cultural Studies, Media Studies, Linguistics, History, Sociology and Political Sciences. InterAmerican Studies subscribe to Area Studies and focus on the transnational entanglements between the individual regions of the Americas (North and Latin America, as well as the Caribbean). The MA deals with social, cultural, historical, and political developments in the Americas both on a national and transnational level. Updated with recent academic research, our programme focuses on transnational, intercultural, and intersectional aspects, as well as on the dynamics of globalization and world politics.

Study at Bielefeld University

With its innovative teaching concepts and international reputation, Bielefeld University makes a significant contribution to a progressive and participatory knowledge society. It is an attractive place to work and study and is characterised by an open communication culture, lived interdisciplinarity, diversity and freedom for personal development. With around 25,000 students from all over the world, the University encompasses 14 faculties, that cover a differentiated range of disciplines in the humanities, natural sciences, technology as well as in medicine. Studying at Bielefeld University opens doors to the national and international job markets. It is here that they learn to navigate the challenges of the world of work. Their studies bring them into contact with research at an early stage. In interdisciplinary Master Programmes students learn to look beyond the boundaries of their subjects. In this way, students not only acquire specialist knowledge in their field, but also the ability to think critically and analytically, to reflect upon and to solve problems. With this in mind, Bielefeld University attaches great importance to the teaching of civil courage, respect, willingness to take responsibility, and the ability to work together constructively. Students have the opportunity to go on to do a doctorate in all of the research areas and subjects offered at the university.

Study Advisory Services

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Further Information:

uni-bielefeld.de/courses
uni-bielefeld.de/studies
uni-bielefeld.de/studieninfo-master-interamerican



#masterinbielefeld

The MA programme is an international track taught entirely in English and Spanish, providing students with insights into both English-speaking and Spanish-speaking regions of the Americas. Our students develop an in-depth knowledge of the cultures, societies, environments, and histories of the Americas and the Caribbean. In particular, they develop the ability to navigate transnational contexts and transcultural interrelationships. The programme accommodates a large number of international students and various cooperation programmes with universities in North and Latin America. Its international focus thus provides options to study abroad. There are two DAAD-funded exchange programmes with Mexico and Argentina, as well as the option to pursue a DAAD-funded double degree programme with the Maestría en Literaturas Interamericanas at the Universidad de Guadalajara (Mexico).

Experience Bielefeld

With a population of over 330,000, Bielefeld is one of the 20 largest cities in Germany. Few cities are as green as Bielefeld, thanks to its location amid the Teutoburg Forest, its numerous parks as well as green corridors, with kilometres of hiking trails weaving through the city. If you are in search of excitement look no further than the pubs, clubs, and cultural highlights at Siegfried Platz – known affectionately to locals as ‘Sigg’ – in Bielefeld West, as well as Kesselbrink and Boulevard. It is precisely this mixture of vibrant city life and almost village-like sociability that makes Bielefeld what it is: an especially lovable and liveable city.

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Study options

The Master's degree (120 credit points) deepens the competences and knowledge acquired during the Bachelor's degree and serves to develop the thematic focus. The Master Programme InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos concludes with the Master of Arts.

Students of this programme are trained in both English and Spanish to become interdisciplinary experts in international affairs, cultural, social and communication processes. As the need for media skills rapidly increases on the job market, universities face the task of training students in the field of media literacy. Our MA programme offers media study projects on a regular basis. It has an international focus, enriched by different exchange programmes and cooperations with several universities in North and Latin America, which provide options to study abroad. This allows students to complement their academic profile and define their interests as well as their professional perspectives. A stay abroad not only gives students the opportunity to learn about different cultures and to improve their language skills, but it also opens up other possibilities of acquiring indispensable intercultural skills.

The Erasmus+ Programme also enables students to study at universities throughout Europe. Besides, Bielefeld University maintains international cooperation and partnerships with universities on all continents. The International Office advises on all questions concerning the choice of study location, scholarships abroad and applications.

Further information available at:
uni-bielefeld.de/io

Students also have the opportunity to participate in the Double Degree Programme, a particularly prestigious form of international study. The course components and examinations are divided between Bielefeld University and the Universidad de Guadalajara (Mexico).

Further information is available at:
uni-bielefeld.de/double-degree

Entry requirements and application process

The standard period of study for the subject InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos is four semesters.

You may begin your studies in the winter or summer semester. However, the courses on offer are designed for a start in the winter semester. This means that starting in the summer semester can lead to delays in the progression of studies.

The prerequisite for the subject-specific Master's programme is the successful participation in an application procedure, in which it is established whether an applicant is suitable for the programme and will be granted admission.

As part of the application process, it is established whether applicants have obtained the first university degree that qualifies them for the Master's programme, and whether they fulfill the specific-subject requirements that are the basis for successful study.

The admission requirements are listed in the current *subject-specific regulations* of the course programme on the study information page of the subject. The admission requirements for subjects with restricted admission (local-NC) is explained here: **uni-bielefeld.de/studieninfo-master-interamerican**

The application procedure is carried out via the online application and status portal of Bielefeld University. Information on the application process is available here: **uni-bielefeld.de/application**

Deadlines for applying to subjects with unrestricted admission (no local NC), and application periods for restricted admission subjects (local NC) are available here: **uni-bielefeld.de/deadlines**

Further information can be found in the flyer: *Studying at Bielefeld University*

Doctoral Studies

Doctoral studies are particularly relevant for students who are aiming for an academic career after graduating with a Master's degree. This serves the further development of innovative research and consists of an independent scientific research project (dissertation) and an oral examination (disputation). In order to provide the best possible support for doctoral studies, Bielefeld University is continuously expanding and strategically developing its dense network of international and national graduate colleges and structured doctoral programmes.

PhD tracks in InterAmerican Studies are offered in cooperation with the BGHS of the Faculty of History, Philosophy and Theology, as well as the Faculty of Linguistics and Literary Studies. Lecturers from the fields of History, Literary and Cultural Studies, Gender Studies and Sociology, who work at the Center for InterAmerican Studies (CIAS), supervise doctoral theses. In the context of international cooperation PhD theses are also supervised in joint guardianship with lecturers from abroad.

Further information available at:
uni-bielefeld.de/promovieren | uni-bielefeld.de/cias

Research

With the Center for InterAmerican Studies, the Maria Sibylla Merian Center for Advanced Latin American Studies (CALAS), and numerous other research projects, Bielefeld is a nationally and internationally recognized location for studying and researching the Americas. Our university has always distinguished itself for its interdisciplinary approach to research. The MA Programme InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos, which is offered by the Faculty of Linguistics and Literary Studies, the Faculty of History, Philosophy and Theology, and the Faculty of Sociology, is closely affiliated with the Center for InterAmerican Studies (CIAS) at Bielefeld University, which has been connecting a variety of inherently interdisciplinary research projects investigating the Americas throughout the years: The Americas as Space of Entanglements, Environmental History of the Americas, and Black Americas Network, to name just a few.

Career prospects

The MA programme in InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos equips graduate students with bilingual linguistic skills and profound knowledge of the cultural, social and historical landscape of the Americas. With its double focus on the North and Latin American regions, our programme trains experts in international, intercultural, and social communication processes with key qualifications in the areas of cultural mediation and knowledge transfer. Students of InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos receive individual counselling from the lecturers in selecting their specific profile. The interdisciplinary character of the programme allows for flexibility of career choice. Our graduate students work in different areas, such as management consultancy of international corporations, in journalism, event and cultural management, in tourism and international relations, in consulates and embassies, as advisors in political, social and economic organizations, aid organizations, as well as in universities and language schools.

A research colloquium on InterAmerican Studies takes place each semester and there are several publications involving the Center for InterAmerican Studies (CIAS), such as the e-Journal FIAR: Forum for Inter-American Research, Kipu publishing house, and the series IAS InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos. Furthermore, the management of the International Association of Inter-American Studies is based at Bielefeld University, hand in hand with various cooperation agreements with universities and research institutions throughout the Americas. It is also worth mentioning that Bielefeld University functions as the spokesperson for the network Maria Sibylla Merian Center for Advanced Latin American Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences (CALAS), which was founded by a consortium of Latin American and German universities.