

**INDEPENDENT STUDIES form**

Center for Global Studies CGS

Student name: Matriculation #:

* MA Mono □ MA Major □ MA Minor
* Independent Research Paper (6 ECTS) □ Independent Project (3-6 ECTS)
* Module 1 □ Module 2 □ Module 3 □ Module 4

Agreement Form (to be signed **in advance**)

It is herewith agreed that (name of student)

will receive ECTS on the completion of the following Independent Research Paper/

Independent Project:

(Title of Independent Research Paper or description and, if applicable, title of Independent Project)

Deadline: □ **yes** □ no if yes, when:

Comments:

Date: Signature supervisor:

Signature student:

To be filled in **after completion** of the Paper or Project:

Date: ECTS earned: Grade:

Signature supervisor:

**Guidelines**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Specifications** | **ECTS** |
| 1. **Independent** | **20-25 pages, approx. 62’ooo characters** | **6** |
| **Research Paper** |  |  |
|  | | |
| **2. Independent Project** |  | **3-6** |
| **Internship, plus written** | **Report: 2-5 pages; total number of ECTS depending** | **To be specified** |
| **report of 2-5 pages** | **on the duration** |  |
| **Stay abroad** | **Work, internship or academic work related to the**  **study programme. Work unrelated to the study**  **programme or mere travelling cannot be counted.** | **To be specified** |
| **Attending academic** | **Paper (talk) or Poster presentation** | **5** |
| **conferences, summer**  **schools, workshops** | **Abstract of an envisioned paper plus written report:** | **3** |
| **Literary Review** | **Review of a literary text** | **3** |
| **Academic Review** | **Discussion and evaluation of a set of scholarly**  **publications (books, literary histories, articles,...) on**  **the same or similar topic before the background of a**  **specific question, aspect or thesis.** | **4** |
| **Annotated bibliography** | **Selection of secondary material on a certain topic,**  **unrelated to course work or final thesis** | **4** |
| **Participation in drama**  **production** | **Participation as actor/directing** | **3** |
|  | **Scriptwriting (significant contribution to the**  **conceptualisation and production)** | **5** |
| **Scholarly homepage** | **unrelated to course work or final thesis** | **4** |
| **Organisation of** | **e.g. of a conference, an excursion, a reading group,** | **To be specified** |
| **Academic activity** | **a summer school and the like** |  |
| **Creative work** | **Artistically inspired examinations of a topic, e.g.**  **through collages and photographs (photographic**  **series, photo essays)** | **To be specified** |
| **Other** | **To be specified** | **To be specified** |

1. Independent Research Paper

The written paper on the level of Master studies demands the independent development of an

academic argument in writing which will be discussed with and supervised by an instructor. In

contradistinction to an essay, the written paper encompasses approximately 62’ooo characters

(approx. 20-25 Pages) and the topic can be freely chosen as the paper does not need to be related to

any seminar’s topic.

In the course of the Master degree program WL Mono, two independently developed

research papers need to be handed in (in M2). Students of WL Major need to write one independently

developed paper (in M2). WL Minor students can choose between an independently developed

paper and an independently developed project (in M2). The arguments of all independent research

papers in M2 (Literatures l) need to be orientated towards one of the four main fields of interest of

the **Center for Global Studies**, i.e. Valuation in the Cultural Arena of the Present, Cultural Memory,

Inter- and Trans-Culturality, and Mediality and Intermediality. Further independent research papers

can be written in the elective section.

Generally, topics for independently developed papers can be chosen freely from any field of

interest within WL. However, topic and theses of the paper need to be discussed with the

supervising instructor before the actual writing starts. Counseling and supervision are guaranteed

by the compulsory attendance at the “Master Workshop”.

2. Independent Project

The independent project on the Master level requires students to autonomously explore and examine an argument, thesis or topic related to one of the CCS’s major fields of interest. The concept of the project - regarding content, structure and method - need to be discussed with the instructor beforehand and needs to be supervised by him or her. The topic can be selected freely, because the project does not need to be based on the topic of any seminar.

In the course of the Master degree program WL Mono, two independent projects need to be handed in (in M2). Students of **WL**Major need to conduct one independent project (in M2). WL Minor students may choose between doing either an independently developed paper or an independently developed project (in M2). All projects in M2 (Literatures I) need to be related to one of the topical priorities of the CGS. In the Master degree programs WL Mono, Major and Minor further independent projects can be done in the elective section.

Principally, any topic of interest within the field of WL can be chosen as subject for the independent project. The projects can take many different forms. The following list with examples of possible types of projects listed above is not exhaustive'. The project’s concrete topic, form and scope and the ECTS accredited for it relative to the workload involved need to be discussed with the supervisor in advance. This form rests with the supervisor until the project/activity is completed. Amount of credits that can be earned:

3-6 ECTS