



## German-Italian Double Degree Programme Global Cultures

Binational Master of  
Arts / Master in History

### German-Italian Double Degree Programme History – Global Cultures (English curriculum)

In an increasingly closer Europe, multilingualism and intercultural competencies play an ever-important role, especially for future generations. This also applies to the two partner countries, Germany and Italy, which can look back on a long mutual history and culturally and economically evolved cooperation. As evidenced by the success of various German-Italian institutes in the Humanities, a close connection between the two countries also exists in the academic field. With this in mind, Bielefeld University and the University of Bologna have developed a joint international study programme in the field of historical sciences, which can be completed within the regular Master of Arts. Even more than a stay abroad with an Erasmus+ programme, the binational Master “History: Global Cultures” enables students to immerse themselves more intensively in the academic culture of the partner country through longer periods of study, and thus to further improve their language skills at the same time. Moreover, this double degree significantly increases their chances in the European labour market.

Bielefeld University and the University of Bologna can draw on their long-term experience in the field of academic exchange and scientific cooperation, which has now been consolidated and intensified with the introduction of this English-language curriculum within the binational study programme – the only one that currently exists between German and Italian universities in the field of history.

The programme in history focuses on Global Cultures and combines the strengths of both universities: Bielefeld University still adheres to its reform-orientated character as an institution of higher education founded in the late 1960s. Today, this spirit manifests itself in the interdisciplinary nature of teaching and research. The University of Bologna offers applicants to study a broad range of courses, including the epistemological foundations of historical research, as well as historical methods and general knowledge of world history at the oldest university in the Western world with its longstanding tradition.

The participants complete their studies at both universities and have the opportunity to receive a German-Italian Master’s degree after four semesters (in both Bielefeld and Bologna). For the period of studying abroad, the programme is funded by the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service). The study programme is aimed at graduates with a successfully completed undergraduate degree (Bachelor/Laurea) in history, who

- intend to study in a specialized Master’s programme in history
- enjoy engaging with the German and Italian culture and in this way to acquire intercultural competences
- already have a good knowledge of the English language and would like to deepen it further to qualify themselves for future work in a European environment



### Place of study: Bielefeld University

**Bielefeld University** is a highly regarded research and internationally oriented university with more than 24.000 students, whose focus lies on transcending boundaries in and between disciplines, cultures, theories and institutions. Bielefeld University’s Department of History is known far beyond Germany. The University offers attractive conditions that contribute to a successful course of studies in the Master’s programme:

- A campus university of short distances
- An excellent award winning university library
- Broad range of services for studies and career preparation
- Affordable accommodation in the immediate vicinity of the campus
- A wide range of cultural and leisure activities and the Teutoburg Forest right at your doorstep

### Contact

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## Place of study: University of Bologna

The **University of Bologna** offers a wide range of high-quality courses in a lively city with a long tradition.

- The University of Bologna belongs to the top 100 universities worldwide in the field of history.
- It is considered the oldest university in the Western world and is located in the historic centre of Bologna.
- About 86.500 students (with more than 3.000 internationals) are enrolled in the 32 faculties (2018/2019).
- An excellent university library
- 69 international courses of study, of which 52 are fully taught in English
- Diverse cultural and leisure activities are offered throughout the city



## Course of studies

The students complete part of their studies, which usually last four semesters, at both universities.

Students starting in Bologna spend the first year there and move to Bielefeld for the second year. Students starting at Bielefeld University spend the second and third semester in Bologna and return to Bielefeld for the fourth semester. Students from Bielefeld and Bologna therefore usually study together in the second and fourth semester.

## Characteristics

The participants of the German-Italian study programme are carefully and extensively supervised during the entire Master's programme. This includes the individual professional support during the studies by the teaching staff in Bologna and Bielefeld. In addition, the study programme at both universities offers language and cultural preparation courses.

## Application

A German Bachelor of Arts, an Italian Laurea or an equivalent degree is required to apply for a place in the German-Italian study programme. Applications can be submitted in Bielefeld or Bologna. International students not coming from Germany or Italy are very welcome to apply.

The following application documents must be submitted in Bielefeld until September 10th for the following academic year (starting in October) by e-mail to [bibog@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:bibog@uni-bielefeld.de) as an attached PDF file:

- Proof of English language proficiency (B2)
- Curriculum vitae in tabular form
- Certificate of the Bachelor's degree
- Letter of motivation (one to two DIN A4 pages)
- BA thesis with expert opinion (Gutachten)

Study phase in Bielefeld		
<b>1</b> <b>Theory Module</b> <b>History</b>	Interdisciplinary Theory Seminar	6
	Theory Seminar transnational historiography, transfer and comparison	6
	Type of examination: oral exam	3
<b>Master module</b> <b>Pre-modern</b> <b>Period</b>	Historical context	3
	Colloquium	3
	Master seminar	4
	Type of examination: seminar paper	5

Study phase in Bologna (Students who have covered the pre-modern period in Bielefeld choose courses on modern history in Bologna and vice versa)		
<b>2</b>	General or European History (course lasts two semesters)	18
	History of societies and/or territories	6
	History of non-European Countries	6
<b>3</b>	Seminar from the curriculum in Bologna	6
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	Individual supplementary area: free choice	12
Study phase in Bielefeld		
<b>4</b> <b>Research</b> <b>Module</b>	Historical context	3
	Type of examination: oral examination on the topic of the master thesis	3
<b>Master thesis</b>		30
Total amount: 120 ECTS		

## And what's next?

Following the successful completion of the binational Master's programme, graduates continue working in the typical occupational fields of historians, in research or in jobs in international companies, NGOs or similar institutions. In particular, graduates qualify for a doctoral degree in history in Bielefeld or Bologna. Bielefeld University provides an ideal framework for such doctoral programmes, especially through its internationally oriented Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology (BGHS). At the University of Bologna, a doctorate in the framework of a variety of "scuole di dottorato" is possible.

