

New study and examination regulations for the MA Global History

New study and examination regulations – a new “Studien- und Prüfungsordnung” (SPO) – have been issued for our degree program (MA Global History). This includes a new study structure, new modules and new possibilities.

The new regulations will come into effect at the start of the winter semester 2020/21. All new students (first semester) will begin their studies according to the new SPO.

The new SPO significantly increases the ease with which students can pursue the Master of Global History. It offers the opportunity to students to follow their own subject interests with more flexibility, to pursue a more in-depth study of the subject matter beyond the fixed regional categories and to prepare for a professional future through an internship experience.

German Version:

<https://www.fu-berlin.de/service/zuvdocs/amtsblatt/2020/ab212020.pdf>

English Version:

https://www.global-history.de/program/Forms-and-Regulations/SPO_English_MA-Global-History_2020.pdf

When the new SPO comes into effect, all previously completed study and examination credits will be transferred to the new module structure; the credits will be transferred either as completed modules and/or as individual courses that are assigned to a module of the new SPO. Neither credit points nor grades will be lost when changing to the new SPO.

The old SPO will remain valid until 30.09.2022. Students can also finish their studies under the old SPO until 30.09.2022.

Who should switch to the new SPO?

We recommend the change to all students who still have to earn at least half of their credit points (excluding the Master's thesis) or whose graduation is not planned for the next one or two semesters. However, all students have the right to change to the new study regulations, regardless of the semester and level of performance.

How does the transition work?

The change consists of two steps:

Step 1: Application for change of study regulations (German and English)

- For the change, an application for the continuation of studies according to the new regulations must be submitted. The students themselves submit the application to the Examination Office.
- Therefore, students use this form:
https://www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/studium/pruefungsbuero/pruefungsausschuss/Ordnungswechsel/StO-Wechsel_GH-engl_.pdf
- Due to the current situation, the signed application can be sent by e-mail (from your ZEDAT address) to the Examination Office.
- The application can be made at any time and takes effect in the following semester. This means that an application must be received two weeks before the end of the semester so that the student can study under the new regulations in the next semester.
- Deadlines: 15. September / 15. March.

Step 2: Transfer of study and examination credits

The second step is to transfer the credits from your "old" Campus Management (CM) to your "new" CM. This means we have to fit your courses into the new module structure. For this purpose, students are required to provide proof of the credits they have already earned (overview of credits from Campus Management).

Please follow these guidelines strictly. You must name and attach the documents correctly. We can only process emails and requests that meet these requirements.

- Send an email to globalhistory@fu-berlin.de (not to the examination office!)
- The subject of the email should be: SPO-Change / Your Name
- In the email, you should state that you have applied for the change before the deadline (September / March 15th).
- Please attach:
 - o A PDF-Leistungsübersicht of your CM named „Your Name_Leistungsübersicht“
 - o A screenshot of the CM-section "Noten und Punkte" with all modules dropped-down named "Your Name_CM-Screenshot."
 - o This form. Please fill out the upper section with your data. Name the document: "Your Name_Anrechnungsbescheid" If you are confident what to do and understood the new module structure, we would appreciate it if you go ahead and fill out the Anrechnungsbescheid. If you don't know what to do, leave the rest of the form blank, and we will take care of it.
 - o If there are classes that you took but that do not appear on your CM (because they were not a part of our course catalog), please list them in the email and attach the respective Scheine.

Please make sure to have all your participation credits. We cannot transfer classes without confirmation of your participation. However, they are not "lost" and could be moved at a later point. Waiting for a grade is not a problem as long as your participation is already confirmed. The instructors can enter your grade after the course has been transferred into your new Campus Management. Please let us know in the email if a course will be graded.

The form will be processed and signed in coordination with the student assistants and the program coordinator, Dr. Minu Haschemi Yekani.

The Examination Office will then update the Campus Management.

Important: The application for a change in the study regulations and the crediting of academic achievements are carried out independently of each other. In theory, it is already possible to study under the new SPO without having transferred credits. The transfer of credits can take place at any later date. In this case, however, it is extremely important to keep track of your own course of study and the remaining credits.

The New SPO: Changes at a Glance

The new SPO contains a compulsory area of global history in the amount of 45 credit points (LP), an area of specialization in the amount of 40 LPs, an interdisciplinary elective area in the amount of 10 LP and a master's thesis of 25 LP.

The **compulsory section of global history** includes M1: Global Histories, M2: Global Spaces, M3: Global Configurations as well as the colloquium and the master's thesis. M2 and M3 each include a module examination (term paper).

There are slight changes regarding the MA-thesis colloquium; students get 5 LP for participating. Hence, the MA-thesis itself is worth 25 LP instead of 30 LP as in the old SPO.

Sorting according to regional criteria has been removed. Nevertheless, it is still possible to use the study program for regional specialization and to choose the courses accordingly; however, it is easier to combine different regions. The range of courses does not change and there are still many offers for specific regions to choose from; overall, however, the combination has become easier and does justice to trans- and interregional interests as well as the great demand for in-depth study along more thematically-oriented subject content, which cross regional borders (topics such as colonialism/decolonization, migration, violence, gender & sexualities etc.). The offer is supplemented by a compulsory elective course that goes beyond the subject area.

The **area of specialization** consists of **two compulsory modules** (they replace the modules of the former Regional Studies) and **one compulsory elective module**.

The compulsory modules of the area of specialization (M4: Regions in Global History and M5: Issues in Global History) each include a module examination (term paper).

The area of specialization also includes an elective compulsory module (without module examination).

Here students can choose one of the following three module offers:

1. specializing in a specific historical period (either M6, M7, M8 or M9)
2. an eight-week internship (M10)
3. a theoretical-methodological module (M11)

A further module without a module examination is taken in the **interdisciplinary elective area**. Here it is possible to get credit for language courses, worth 10 ECTS in total.

However, modules from other HU or FU subjects can also be chosen freely according to personal interests (e.g. a module in philosophy, sociology, computer science, etc.). Single courses (outside of the context of modules) are not available for enrollment. A complete module must be completed - it is not simply possible to combine any two courses (for example, a seminar in philosophy and a lecture in gender studies), but a module with the different components (for example, a lecture and the corresponding seminar). The module structure and the corresponding requirements result from the study and examination regulations of the offering subject (Fach / Fachbereich) and have to be viewed independently by the students. The module must then be taken as stated in the respective study and examination regulations.

Except in the compulsory global history section, all courses are elective courses. This means that students can freely choose and combine different types of courses (seminar, exercise, lecture, etc.) within the modules. In order to obtain the points for active and regular participation, students are subject to the respective regulations of the seminar.

New Policy on “Anrechnungen” with the new SPO

Since the new SPO allows maximum flexibility, an Anrechnung should no longer be necessary.

In other words: Students are expected to plan and choose their course placement wisely and stick to their decisions to avoid the necessity of any moving courses between modules.

If modules 2 and 3 are completed, for instance, students will have to stick to the offers in modules 4 and 5. (Many courses are offered in several modules, but still!)

While our course offers, compared with other programs, are incredibly diverse and many, we cannot accept classes outside our curriculum in modules 1-11.

However, students are still flexible to study "whatever" in the interdisciplinary elective module.