



UNIVERSITÄT BIELEFELD

Faculty of Linguistics
and Literary Studies



InterAmerican
Studies/Estudios
Interamericanos

Master of Arts

Studying in Bielefeld

As a university internationally regarded for its top-level research and innovative teaching concepts, Bielefeld University makes a significant contribution to a progressive and participatory knowledge society. It is an attractive, family-friendly place to work and study and is characterized by an open communication culture, lived interdisciplinarity, diversity and freedom for personal development.

Around 25,000 young people study at the 13 faculties of Bielefeld University, which cover a wide range of subjects in the humanities, natural sciences, social sciences and technology. In addition, a medical faculty is in the process of being established. A degree at Bielefeld University opens doors for young people to national and international job markets. With a variety of subject combinations in the Bachelor's programme, a broadly-based catalogue of elective courses and an interdisciplinary Master's programme students can look beyond the bounds of their subject. Through their academic studies, they not only acquire specific specialist knowledge, but also the ability to think critically and analytically, to reflect upon and to solve problems. These skills are particularly important in preparing them for the challenges arising from an ever more rapidly changing job market. 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.

Living in the loveable city of Bielefeld

With more than 335,000 inhabitants, Bielefeld is one of the 20 largest cities in Germany. Bielefeld is greener than almost any other major city - thanks to its location in the Teutoburg Forest and its numerous parks and green corridors, which wind through the city with long hiking routes. If it is the buzz of urban life you seek, there are plenty of bars, clubs and cultural activities at Siegfried Platz - affectionately known by the locals as 'Siggi' - in the west of Bielefeld, at Kesselbrink and on the Boulevard. The mixture of urban flair and almost village-like harmony that makes Bielefeld what it is: an especially loveable city to live in.



Studying InterAmerican Studies/Estudios Interamericanos in Bielefeld

The MA InterAmerican Studies/Estudios Interamericanos is an interdisciplinary program, which covers courses 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 program 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. It accommodates a large number of international students and various cooperation programs with universities in North and Latin America. Moreover, the Masters offers two DAAD-funded exchange programs with Mexico and Argentina, as well as the option to pursue a DAAD-funded double degree program with the Maestría en Literaturas Interamericanas at the Universidad de Guadalajara.

Student counselling service

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Further Information:

www.uni-bielefeld.de/studienangebot
www.uni-bielefeld.de/studium
www.uni-bielefeld.de/ias

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Options

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

Students of this program 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. The MA program InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos offers media study projects on a regular basis. The Master in InterAmerican Studies has an international focus, enriched by different exchange programs 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. To ensure the best preparation before the exchange, students receive individual counseling from the host university. 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.

Students are offered various opportunities to gain international experience and intercultural competence. The Erasmus+ Programme enables them to study at universities throughout Europe. Bielefeld University also 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.

Students have the opportunity to participate in the Double Degree Program, a particularly high-profile form of international study. The courses and exams to be taken are divided between Bielefeld University and Universidad de Guadalajara.

Further information at:

www.uni-bielefeld.de/ias/doubledegree.html

Requirements and application procedure

In order to be admitted to the study programme, students must successfully participate in the application procedure. This procedure establishes suitability for the course and which candidates gain admission. As part of the application process, it is checked whether the applicant has obtained the first university degree that qualifies them for admission. The student must prove this by submitting the degree certificate and any associated documents (Transcript of Records, Diploma supplement or similar). For further information on the admission requirements or the submission of additional documents (language requirements, statements on qualification, exposé, project drafts, etc.), please refer to the current subject-specific regulations of the course programme to be studied on the website of Bielefeld University. This website also specifies regulations on how the individual criteria are evaluated and weighted.

The standard duration of studies is four semesters.

The programme may be started in the winter or summer semester. However, the course plan is structured for commencing studies in the winter semester. Therefore, beginning your studies in the summer semester can lead to delays. This course has unrestricted admission (no local-NC).

The application procedure is carried out via the online application portal of Bielefeld University.

Information on the application deadline:

www.uni-bielefeld.de/bewerbung

Further information can be found in the flyer *Studieren an der Uni Bielefeld*.

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 the field of InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos are offered in cooperation with the BGHS of the Faculty of History and the Lili Kolleg of the Faculty of Linguistics and Literary Studies. Furthermore, lecturers from the fields of History, Literary and Cultural Studies, Gender Studies and Sociology, who work at the Center for Inter-American Studies, supervise doctoral theses. In the context of international cooperation PhD theses are also supervised in co-tutelle with lecturers from abroad. Doctoral students in the field of InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos come mainly from Europe, Latin America and the USA.

Further information at:

www.uni-bielefeld.de/nachwuchs/promovieren

www.uni-bielefeld.de/cias/

Research at the Faculty of Linguistics and Literary Studies

InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos holds several funded research programs such as 'Entangled Americas' (BMBF) and 'Managing Crisis' (CALAS, Center for Advanced Latin American Studies). These interdisciplinary research approaches investigate the cultural, historical, and sociopolitical landscapes of Latin and North America and provide students access to ongoing research in the field. Topics such as migration, flows of ideas, ecology, crisis management, etc. are central to InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos, which also contribute to the Collaborative Research Center SFB 1288: Practices of Comparing with research projects on comparative practices in indigenous and Afro-descendant movements. In addition, DFG-funded projects on cultural, literary and historical entanglements in the Americas add to the research profile. All research projects are directly linked to the Center for Inter-American Studies of Bielefeld University.

Career prospects

The MA program in InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos equips the graduate students with bilingual linguistic skills and profound knowledge of the cultural, social and historical landscape of the Americas. The interdisciplinary character of the MA allows for flexibility of career choice. Students of InterAmerican Studies/Estudios InterAmericanos receive individual counseling from the lecturers in selecting their specific profile. Graduates of the MA program work in different areas, such as management consultancy of international corporations, in 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.

