

University of Hamburg
Department of Social Sciences

Institute for
Criminological Research
M.A. in International Criminology

Programme
and
Course Information

Last up-dated: **July 2005**

The Institute for Criminological Research

The Institute for Criminological Research (“Institut für Kriminologische Sozialforschung”) represents the discipline of Criminology at the Social Sciences Department of the University of Hamburg and provides for its Masters Degree study programme in “International Criminology”. An attribute of this Institute, paying deference to criminology’s inherent interdisciplinarity, is the existence of a Joint Committee (“Gemeinsamer Ausschuss”) of several faculties (“Schools”) which is responsible for teaching matters. In conjunction with the subjects of Law and Social Sciences the disciplines of Medicine and Psychology et. al, are also represented here. Prof. Dr. Sebastian Scheerer is currently the business manager of the IKS and Chairman of the Joint Committee.

Masters Degree Programme in International Criminology

The Masters Degree Programme in International Criminology can be completed in two years (four semesters), leading to the bestowal of a Master of Arts Degree (M.A.). The attainment of a PhD in Criminology is also possible.

Admission Criteria

This course of study is open for university graduates who have attained an initial professional qualification (such as a B.A., a diploma or an initial law qualification and so forth) and who would like to qualify for a specific occupation in relevant professional areas particularly in fields involving research and teaching.

Main Subjects

The study programme is organized around the two primary thematic areas of “Policing” and “International Criminal and Security Policy”. It borrows from the perspectives of “Critical Criminology” and elucidates the problem areas, the findings and topics under debate in this specialism. Close attention is paid to sociopolitical questions and to international discussions.

Modular Course Structure

Structure of Courses

The courses are divided into six thematic areas:

- a) **Basic principles of Criminology:** History, theory, introduction to major topics
- b) **Empirical social research:** Research planning, quantitative and qualitative methods
- c) **Penal Law, judiciary:** Basic principles of (international) penology and of the (international) system of Criminal Justice
- d) **Introductory and consolidating seminars:** Policing and International Criminal and Security Policy
- e) **Optional subject:** Seminars on current, selected topics
- f) **Concluding Module:** Masters dissertation plus exam preparation

We also offer the chance of taking part in practicals lasting four weeks in areas devoted to criminological research and practice. Participation in the *Socrates Common Study Programme* is also possible.

Members of the course are expected to obtain 120 credit points (= "CP") during the scheduled standard period of study lasting four semesters. A maximum of 76 CP shall be obtainable in the compulsory modules and 20 CP may be obtained in the optional modules, the rest being obtainable in the free optional module.

The instruction provided comprises the following modules:

- Module 1: Basic Principles of Criminology I (compulsory module in the first semester, 12 CP)
Lecture: History of Criminology (2 WSH*, 4 CP)
Seminar: Basic Principles of Criminology (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Seminar: Introduction to Major Topics (2 WSH, 4 CP)
- Module 2: Basic Principles of Criminology II (compulsory module in the second semester, 8 CP)
Seminar: Theories of Crime and Control (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Seminar: Criminal Phenomena: Urban, Local and Global Problem Areas (2 WSH, 4 CP)
- Module 3: Basic Principles of Criminology III (compulsory module in the second semester, 8 CP)
Seminar: Criminal Policy and Control (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Seminar: Mass Media and Communication (2 WSH, 4 CP)
- Module 4: Punishment and Its Alternatives (optional compulsory module in the second semester, 8 CP)
Seminar: Inclusion and Exclusion (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Seminar: Alternative Modes of Conflict Management (2 WSH, 4 CP)
- Module 5: Basic Principles of Criminological Research (compulsory module in the first semester, 10 CP)
Lecture: Research Planning (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Lecture: Quantitative Methods I (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Exercise: Quantitative Methods I (2 WSH, 2 CP)
- Module 6: Quantitative Criminological Research (optional module in the second semester, 6 CP)
Lecture: Quantitative Methods II (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Exercise: Quantitative Methods II (2 WSH, 2 CP)

* Seminar instruction of two hours duration per week = 2 W e e k l y S e m i n a r h o u r s d u r a t i o n g 2 W e e k l y S e m i n a r h o u r s

- Module 7: Qualitative Criminological Research (compulsory optional module in the third semester, 8 CP)
Seminar: Basic Principles of Qualitative Empirical Social Research (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Seminar: Application of Exemplary Methods (2 WSH, 4 CP)
- Module 8: Penal Law (compulsory module in the first and second semesters, 8 CP)
Seminar: Material and Process-related Penal Law (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Seminar: Juvenile Penal Law and (Law of) Penal System (2 WSH, 4 CP)
- Module 9: Criminal Justice (compulsory optional module in the third semester, 8 CP)
Seminar: Judicial Research (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Seminar: International Criminal Justice (2 WSH, 4 CP)
- Module 10: Forensics (compulsory optional module in the second semester, 4 CP)
Seminar: Forensics (2 WSH, 4 CP)
- Module 11: Main Subject Module I – International Criminal- und Security Policy (compulsory optional module in the 2nd and 3rd semesters, 8 CP in the 2nd sem. + 4 CP in the 3rd sem.)
Seminar: Current Problems in International Criminal und Security Policy (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Seminar: Security Policy, Society and the State (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Seminar: Project Seminar (2 WSH, 4 CP)
- Module 12: Main Subject Profile Module II – Policing (compulsory optional module in the second and third semesters, 8 CP in 2nd. sem. + 4 CP im 3rd. sem.)
Seminar: Policing-Strategies (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Seminar: Theories and Perspectives in Policing Research (2 WSH, 4 CP)
Seminar: Project Seminar (2 WSH, 4 CP)

- Module 13: Selected Criminological Topics (optional module, at least one option - earning 4 CP per semester)
Seminar: varying topics (2 WSH, 4 CP)
- Module 14: Professional Practical (optional module in the first, second or third semester, 6 CP)
Full time practical of 4 weeks duration
- Module 15: Socrates Common Session (optional module in the first, second or third semester, 2 CP)
Active participation in a socrates week at a foreign partner university
- Module 16: Research Colloquium (optional module in the third semester, 2 CP)
Colloquium (2 WSH, 2 CP)
- Module 17: Graduation Module (compulsory module in the fourth semester, 30 CP)
Research groups (2 WSH, 3 CP)
Masters Dissertation (preparation time available: 5 months, 25 CP)
Disputation (2 CP)

Staff members

Prof. Dr. Sebastian Scheerer	Tel: +49-(0)40-42838-2321 e-mail: scheerer@uni-hamburg.de
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Dr. Bettina Paul	Tel: +49-(0)40-42838-3322 e-mail: bettina.paul@uni-hamburg.de

Teaching members of the Faculty of Law of Hamburg University are:

Prof. Dr. Peter Wetzels
Prof. Dr. Bernd Villmow

Admissions Procedure

Students may be admitted once yearly at the start of the Winter Semester to the Masters Degree Course in International Criminology. Applications are usually possible from mid-June till the closing date for applications on July 15th (final date). Further information may be obtained from the "Students Registry Office" ("Studentensekretariat"). A maximum of approx. 33 study places is available.

Criteria of Eligibility

An initial graduate qualification (B.A., a graduate qualification from a university of applied sciences, a diploma, Master of Arts / Science, and so forth) in the subjects Sociology, Psychology, Law (first state exam), or in another subject related to the study of Criminology.

Competence in the use of English as a foreign language is a sine qua non.

Information for foreign applicants from Non-EU States

Application forms for the granting of a study place may be obtained **exclusively** from the “International Students Office” (“Akademisches Auslandsamt”) at Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, 20146 Hamburg

http://www.verwaltung.uni-hamburg.de/vp-2/5/index_e.html

The application forms for the Winter Semester are made available from April 15th till July 15th.

Information on the documentation to be enclosed plus a brochure with further details can also be obtained from the Institute for Criminological Research.

Applicants for a study place must be able to prove they possess a sufficient proficiency in the German language to enable them to complete their studies successfully. Only officially accepted applicants may take the obligatory university exam in German. Please ensure that you apply for your visa sufficiently early before entering the country, should this be necessary.

Apart from the usual documentation required when applying for a study place (in particular, your certificate of qualification for university matriculation [Abiturzeugnis] plus your first degree certificate with your final grade) the following details should also be submitted:

- Description and certification of a prior occupation at a scientific level in fields of knowledge related to Criminology such as, for example, Penology and Criminal Justice, deviant behaviour and social problems, (International) Criminal and Security Policy;
- a written explanation (of not more than four pages in length) of your motivation for choosing both this course and your desired profession;
- evidence of proficiency in the English language (the examination mark obtained in your matriculation exam [Abiturnote], language tests, residence abroad and so forth).

The admissions committee may possibly ask you to submit additional documentation.

Please send your application to the following address. Application forms for a study place for applicants from EU States may also be obtained from there.

Institut für Kriminologische Sozialforschung
Universität Hamburg
Allende-Platz 1
D-20146 Hamburg

For more information contact:

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<http://www.sozialwiss.uni-hamburg.de/publish/IKS/index.html>