Faculty of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

Master in Border Studies

Programme

- 120 ECTS / 4 semesters
- Full-time
- Registration fees:400€ / semester

Teaching languages

- German
- French
- English

Applications

- EU applications: February – mid-July
- Non-EU applications: February – March

Admission

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent in the field of anthropology, cultural studies, geography, history, intercultural communication, law, linguistics, political science, sociology, spatial planning.
- Language requirements: German, French and English B2 (CEFR)

The Master in Border Studies is a two-year joint international study programme addressing the complex economic, political, social and cultural issues of borders and of border regions in Europe and beyond.

The Master in Border Studies provides students with the major concepts and analytical tools to understand the social, cultural, political and economic challenges of border regions and cross-border cooperation. Students gain theoretical knowledge of border problems, border cultures, border literatures and constructions of "otherness".

The multilingual classes are taught in three countries at four different universities:

- University of Luxembourg (Luxembourg)
- Université de Lorraine (France)
- Saarland University (Germany)
- RPTU Kaiserslautern-Landau (Germany)

Border Studies: Addressing the challenges of the 21st century

In the wake of the abolition of regular border controls in Europe and the fall of the Iron Curtain, the field of Border Studies has opened up research topics and has experienced a noticeable development boost. In the meantime European societies are experiencing the challenges of the latest border closures.

Students gain the needed skills to play a crucial part in the increasing discussions on national and European identities, worldwide mobilities, migration, cultural diversity, citizenship and cross-border cooperation – especially in the Greater Region. Through project work and internships, students gain a better overview of their career opportunities.

The programme benefits from the recognition and the support of the Université franco-allemande/Deutsch-Französische Hochschule. Students may apply for mobility grants.

Students benefit from a multicultural and multilingual study experience which is essential for their future professional career.

Career opportunities

The Master in Border Studies prepares for employment opportunities in cross-border and intercultural working settings: cultural agencies or institutions, media relations, public administrations, cross-border cultural management and regional marketing or further studies at PhD level.

Programme structure

The curriculum covers a full-time two-year programme, with the final semester being dedicated to a semester-long thesis project. A joint degree issued by the four universities is awarded after successful completion of the programme.

Semester 1

The first semester takes place at the University of Luxembourg and the Université de Lorraine. Students get introduced to the main concepts and research methods related to the study of cross-border regions and the current debates on border issues from a spatial/geographical, linguistic, cultural and sociological point of view.

Semester 2

Students spend large parts of the second semester at the Université de Lorraine and the University of Luxembourg. They chose one of the two tracks of the programme:

- Geography and Spatial Planning
- Language and Cultural Studies

Each track consists of a main module (12 ECTS) and an optional module chosen from the modules offered from the other specialisation track (6 ECTS). Students must complete a compulsory internship during this semester.

Semester 3

The third semester is taught at Saarland University and the RPTU Kaiserslautern-Landau. Students also take part in a seven-day excursion. On top of that, students can carry out a case study on cross-border relations and cooperation. They deepen their knowledge in the specialisation track chosen in the second semester.

Semester 4

The final semester is dedicated to the Master's thesis. Two workshops are organised at the beginning and end of the semester to allow students to discuss and present their work.

CONTACT

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