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FRIEDRICH-ALEXANDER  
UNIVERSITÄT  
ERLANGEN-NÜRNBERG

PHILOSOPHISCHE FAKULTÄT  
UND FACHBEREICH THEOLOGIE



Institut für Theater- und  
Medienwissenschaft

www.theater-medien.de



## MA Theatre and Media Studies

The Department of Theatre and Media Studies belongs to the Humanities Division (Philosophische Fakultät und Fachbereich Theologie). Our Master of Arts programme Theatre and Media Studies is directed at students that have previously obtained their bachelor's degree in Theatre Studies, Media Studies or related fields of study and who want to expand and deepen this previously acquired knowledge. The programme is concerned with the analysis, historiography and theory of diverse theatrical forms and technical media.

The field of Theatre Studies pursues a broad approach that includes the theatre in the narrow sense as well as other scenic practices – such as for instance performance art or questions of theatricality and performativity outside of the theatre. The field of Media Studies on the other hand focuses on the visual media film, television, photography and videography while also concerning itself with writing, radio, acoustical art forms and digital media.

In view of this interdisciplinary approach the programme puts additional emphasis on investigating intermedial and transmedial phenomena. Furthermore, students will choose a research focus in the field of Theatre or Media Studies that will come to the fore in the course of the four semester programme. The Master of Arts programme Theatre and Media Studies aims for a well founded and broad knowledge transfer as well as the stimulation of independent and critical thought, which is supported by the combination of general basic seminars and specific focus seminars. Students of the master programme acquire academic skills in dealing with

- a) various media, theatrical arts and their repertoires of forms,
- b) scenic and audiovisual media that are of central importance today,
- c) intermedial interdependencies and media comparative perspectives,
- d) institutional, political and economic structures of theatre and media systems,
- e) theatre and media in their social and cultural contexts.

The Master of Arts programme's orientation is primarily theoretical, academic and research focused, but it also includes a practice module that prepares students for future occupations in cultural institutions such as theatres, film festivals, broadcasting and television companies, museums or publishing houses. Generally, we attach great importance to intense, dialogue-oriented and personal support of our students. Admission to the programme is possible every winter semester. Since almost all classes of the department of Theatre and Media studies are held in German, the programme requires a good knowledge of German.

# CURRICULUM – MA THEATRE AND MEDIA STUDIES

For a German version in greater detail see also [http://www.theater-medien.de/UserFiles2/File/Modulbeschreibungen\\_MasterTMW.pdf](http://www.theater-medien.de/UserFiles2/File/Modulbeschreibungen_MasterTMW.pdf)

## FIRST SEMESTER

### 1 ###

### Module I: Dimensions of Mediality and Visuality (10 ECTS)

Theory Seminar (5 ECTS)	This module aims at laying the decisive foundations for a media comparative image theory that following semester can build on.
In-Depth Seminar (5 ECTS)	

### Module II: Dimensions of the Theatrical and the Performative (10 ECTS)

Theory Seminar (5 ECTS)	The categories „theatricality“ and „performativity“ in their different readings, theoretical references and etymological dimensions will be introduced in the Theory Seminar.
In-Depth Seminar (5 ECTS)	The In-Depth Seminar conveys first impressions of the heterogeneous fields of applications and experiences in the arts, everyday life and politics that can be developed with the help of theories of theatricality and performativity.

### Module III: Dimensions of Mediality and Visuality (10 ECTS)

Comparatistic Methods of Analysis (5 ECTS)	Methods of intermedia comparison as well as the analysis of intermedial and interart phenomena will be conveyed in a seminar on comparatistic techniques of analysis.
Focus Theatre: Performance Analysis (5 ECTS) [OR] Focus Media: Image Analysis (5 ECTS)	The Specialization Seminars on image or performance analysis deepen this knowledge and focus on its practical application (trial of existing methods and theories, conception and presentation of own questions).

## SECOND SEMESTER

### 2 ###

### Module IVa: Cultures, Functions and Forms of Perception in Visual Media (Focus on Media, 20 ECTS)

Historiography of Visual Media (6 ECTS)	This module throws a light on image media and visual practices (use and perception of images) in their heterogeneous cultural contexts, social functions and aesthetic references. Employing a concrete subject, a historical epoch or a research concept, students will – by interaction and delineation of perspectives of Media and Theatre Studies – gain the ability to identify the historical genesis, the differentiation and the organisation of image cultures in comparison to performative practices.
Historiography of Theatrical Practices (6 ECTS)	
Specialization Seminar Visual Media (6 ECTS)	

**Module IVb: Cultures, Functions and Forms of Perception in Theatrical Practice (Focus on Theatre, 20 ECTS)**

<p>Historiography of Visual Media (6 ECTS)</p> <p>Historiography of Theatrical Practices (6 ECTS)</p> <p>Specialization Seminar Visual Media (6 ECTS)</p>	<p>In this module theatrical practices (forms of staging, body techniques, acts of perception) will be examined in their heterogeneous cultural contexts, social functions and aesthetic references. Employing a concrete subject, a historical epoch or a research concept, students will – by interaction and delineation of perspectives of Media and Theatre Studies – gain the ability to identify the historical development, the apparatus preconditions and the heterogeneous modes of perception of performative practices and visual media in comparison.</p>
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**Module V: Elective Compulsory Module (10 ECTS)**

<p>The Elective Compulsory Module aims at acquiring knowledge about theories and methods of neighbouring subjects of cultural, visual and art studies.</p>	<p>Courses out of one or several of the cooperating Master programmes (10 ECTS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Art History („Kunstgeschichte“),</li> <li>- Media - Ethics – Religion („Medien - Ethik - Religion“),</li> <li>- Literary Studies - intermedial and intercultural („Literaturstudien - intermedial und interkulturell“)</li> <li>- Applied Drama („Theaterpädagogik“)</li> </ul>
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<b>THIRD SEMESTER</b>	<b>### 3 ###</b>
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**Module VIa: Research Module Film/Photography/Image (Focus on Media, 15 ECTS)**

<p>Seminar Status of Research (5 ECTS)</p> <p>In-Depth Seminar (5 ECTS)</p> <p>Guided Self-Study (5 ECTS)</p>	<p>This module conveys the plurality of current theoretical discourses and approaches of Media Studies by working out the current status of research of a closely defined subject through own research, and discussing its epistemological value and its theoretical compatibility. Especially the media-theoretical contours of image research will be brought out.</p>
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**Module VIb: Research Module Theatre/Body/Voice (Focus on Theatre, 15 ECTS)**

<p>Seminar Status of Research (5 ECTS)</p> <p>In-Depth Seminar (5 ECTS)</p> <p>Guided Self-Study (5 ECTS)</p>	<p>This module deals with current theoretical discourses of Theatre Studies and establishes references to other subjects (amongst others philosophy, sociology and literary and art studies) as well as to positions of performance, body and gender theory. A considerable methodological focus will be directed at the question of how the individual perception of the staging of the body and vocal presentations in theatrical and media contexts can be described and reflected on adequately.</p>
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**Module VIIa: Practice Module Film/Photography/Image (Focus on Media, 15 ECTS)**

[OR]

**Module VIIb: Practice Module Theatre/Body/Voice (Focus on Theatre, 15 ECTS)**

Practice and Presentation (6 ECTS)	This module falls back on the theoretical and methodological positions that have been presented in the research module, and reflects on their significance for the development and formulation of one's own research project. The reflected application of academic research and methods of analysis as well as theoretical thinking in practical fields of work (museum, film festival, cultural institutions, publishing house etc.) that will be oriented towards concrete projects, stands at the centre.
Methodological Reflection (4 ECTS)	
Guided Self-Study / Research (5 ECTS)	

## FOURTH SEMESTER

### 4 ###

**Module VIIa: Practice Module Film/Photography/Image (Focus on Media, 30 ECTS)**

[OR]

**Module VIIb: Practice Module Theatre/Body/Voice (Focus on Theatre, 30 ECTS)**

Master Thesis (25 ECTS)	At the centre of this module stands the independent writing of the academic thesis. The students' individual approaches of research, the connected methodological problems and the form of the written work will be discussed in the Oberseminar Research Questions. Students will be given the opportunity to present and develop their projects as papers, interim reports and oral presentations.
Oral Exam (5 ECTS)	
Oberseminar Research Questions	

## CONTACT & INFORMATION

**If you have questions** about the educational programme in Theatre and Media Studies (or related subjects), please do not hesitate to contact the departmental coordinator of the Erasmus Exchange programme:

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**For further information also take a look at our website [www.theater-medien.de](http://www.theater-medien.de)** and read about the [opportunities for exchange and visiting students](#). Information about the specific contents of our current course programme can be found online in the lecture directory ("Vorlesungsverzeichnis") at the university's website: <http://univis.uni-erlangen.de/>.