

# Intercultural Conflict Management Social Action in Global Contexts

# Programme Manual

**Academic Year 2018** 

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# **Contents**

| 1. Introduction                           |
|---|
| 2. Concept                                |
| 3. Structure                              |
| 4. Objectives                             |
| 5. Modules Description                    |
| A Social World and Power Relations 8      |
| B Research, Action and Networking11       |
| C Specialization Seminars and Workshops14 |
| D Thesis and Research Colloquia16         |
| 6 General Inormation 18                   |

#### 1. Introduction

Since its inception 17 years ago, the Intercultural Conflict master programme at the Alice Salomon Hochschule Berlin has carried through profound changes in its initial structure. These changes represented the result of two interrelated causes. On the first place, they were associated with the observations and proposals made by its students in several programme evaluations over years. On the second place, they reciprocated the manifold changes experienced by the world in social, political, cultural and economic terms during the last two decades.

Thus, the programme came over from a semi face-to-face structure to a completely face-to-face structure in 2010, its original quantitative and qualitative methodological approach was thoroughly restructured in parallel, so that a more participatory and action-related approach could be accomplished, and a concurrent Spanish-spoken programme was established in 2014.

Proudly based on this tradition of continuous change and improvement, the Intercultural Conflict master programme brings forward three major changes on this occasion.

First, the length of the programme has been drawn out from three to four semesters. This change is associated with the programme's constant search for a close interrelation among theory, methodology and practice. To this end, the length of the programme has been drawn out from three to four semesters so that students can establish a profounder relation with the social world surrounding them without time constraints. By participating in the social, political, cultural and economic conflicts occurring in Berlin for a longer period of time, students can commingle their learning in the classroom with their actions concerning real-life conflicts much more effectively.

Second, the programme has undertaken an international cooperation agreement with the Sociological Research Institute and the Educational Sciences Institute of the Benito Juárez Autonomous University of Oaxaca, located in Mexico. This agreement brings about the creation of a "sister" master programme in Mexico, which will maximize the mobility opportunities for students between Berlin and Oaxaca for students. The development of this agreement commenced in 2014 and presupposed enormous efforts from both parties, with the common aim to maximize the radius of both study and action across broadly different social environments for students.

Third, the content modules have been thoroughly restructured into three transversal modules stretching out over three semesters, which commingle "classroom learning" with social action training in the context of real-world conflicts from the beginning of the first semester until the end of the third semester. This modification represents the result of manifold discussions and multiple contributions from both, the academic stuff and the students of the Intercultural Conflict master programme, with the only aim to bring about an approach to social conflict in which theory, methodology and action coalesce into one another.

### 2. Concept

The Intercultural Conflict master programme represents a transdisciplinary and practice-oriented master course of study, which commingles a multidimensional theoretical and methodological approach to social conflict with a strong focus on participatory practical social action. Thus, the programme capacitates students for managing real-world social conflicts in transnational and intercultural contexts, so that students can carry out their work in a wide labour field, including NGOs, governments and international organizations.

The programme was established in 2002 with a strong accent on transnationality, interculturality and transdisciplinarity. Since then, more than 200 hundred students from over 50 countries have successfully carried it through. The transnational, intercultural and transdisciplinary character of the programme is delineated by the diversity of its students, lecturers and managers in terms of nationalities, languages, cultural backgrounds, scientific traditions and labour experiences. All these differences are coalesced in Berlin, which materializes as a space of social analysis, collaborative learning and discursive construction.

In addition, the programme maximizes its theoretical and practical potential through its recently created sister master programme at the Universidad Autónoma Benito Juarez de Oaxaca, located in Mexico. Thus, a transnational space of knowledge breaks out, which advances the transnational mobility of in-coming and out-going students and lecturers between Berlin and Oaxaca. Based on this, students and lecturers can come across diverging social realities and worldviews in Europe and Latin America, broadening their skills out as professional agents of change.

#### 3. Structure

The Intercultural Conflict Management master programme revolves around the premise that social conflicts materialize in the space of manifold interrelated social worlds. Accordingly, social conflicts never correspond with the space of one particular social world, but they represent an overarching continuum which stretches out over the space of several intermingled social worlds. For this reason, the programme is structured into four interrelated modules which break down social conflicts from distinct but intertwined perspectives, in order to bring forward social actions aimed at the participatory resolution of conflicts: A "Social World and Power Relations", B "Research, Action, and Networking", C "Specialization Seminars and Workshops", and D "Thesis and Colloquia". These four modules are not to be conceptualized as accumulative elements, but they are inherently correlated and come about in parallel from the beginning up to the end of the programme.

Modules A, B and C commence in the first semester and carry through up to the third semester.

Module A "Social World and Power Relations" carries out a multidimensional examination of social relations based on the spatial axis, coalescing the phenomenological, the power and the

global perspectives. Accordingly, this module is structured into four interrelated units: A1 "The Lifeworld Perspective", A2 "Power Relations, Hegemony and Inequality", A3 "Global Justice and Human Rights", and A4 "Global Relations and World System".

Module B "Research, Action, and Networking" brings forward a methodological "triangle", which coalesces social research, network analysis and project-based social actions. Therefore, this module is structured into three interrelated units: B1 "Qualitative and Participatory Social Research Methods", B2 "Networking", and B3 "Planned Social Action". Additionally, unit B4 "In-Field and Mobility Guidance" supervises the student's fieldwork and research stays.

Module C "Specialization Seminars and Workshops" is structured into seminars and workshops. Seminars break down specific real-world conflicts, providing both analytical and intervention skills for conflict resolution. Workshops revolve around practical training in specific tools for conflict management such as mediation, communication, statistics, etc.

Module D "Thesis and Colloquia" comes about in the fourth semester and revolves around the elaboration of the masters' thesis.

As explained above, the programme is associated with a sister master programme, accordingly entitled "Acción Social en Contextos Globales'", which is carried out by the Universidad Autónoma Benito Juárez de Oaxaca, located in Mexico. Both master programmes are identically structured in order to stave off incompatibilities and maximize synergies between them. In this context, the Intercultural Conflict Management master programme advances the transnational mobility of in-coming and out-going students and lecturers between Berlin and Oaxaca. Thus, students can capitalize on the mobility opportunities in two occasions. First, they can carry out an initial approach to their research fields during the second or third semesters. Second, they can undertake the fieldwork for their master theses during the fourth semester.

The following table graphically delineates the programme's structure.

| Modules                               |           | Semester 1  | Semester 2   |                        | Semester 3   | Semester 4          | ECTS | Gewichtung |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|---|--|------------------------|--|---------------------|------|------------|
| A<br>Social World a<br>Power Relation |           | A1 The Lifeworld Perspective  A2 Power Relations, Hegemony and Inequality I  A3 Global Justice and Human Rights | A2<br>Power Relations,<br>Hegemony and<br>Inequality II                            |                        | A4<br>Ilobal Relations<br>d World System                               |                     | 25   | 25         |
|                                       |           |   | B1<br>Qualitative and<br>Participatory<br>Social Research<br>Methods I             |                        | B1<br>Qualitative and<br>Participatory<br>ocial Research<br>Methods II |                     | 11   | 11         |
| B<br>Research, Actio                  | on,       | B2<br>Networking I  | B2<br>Networking II  | I                      | B2<br>Networking III   |                     | 17   | 17         |
| and Networking                        |           | B3<br>Planned Social<br>Action I  | B3<br>Planned Social<br>Action II  | ı                      | B3<br>Planned Social<br>Action III                                     |                     | 17   | 17         |
|                                       |           | B4<br>In-Field and<br>Mobility Guidance   | B4<br>In-Field and<br>Mobility Guidance  | M                      | B4<br>In-Field and<br>obility Guidance                                 |                     | 2    | 2          |
|                                       | S         | C1A<br>Mediation  | C1D<br>Optional Workshop   | Oį                     | C1G<br>otional Workshop  |                     |      |            |
|                                       | Workshops | C1B<br>Scientific Writing   | C1E<br>Optional Workshop   | Oį                     | C1H<br>otional Workshop  |                     | 8    | 8          |
| C<br>In-Depth                         |           | C1C<br>Statistics   | C1F<br>Optional Workshop   | Op                     | C1I<br>otional Workshop  |                     |      |            |
| Specialization                        |           |   | C2A Optional Seminar   | ersity                 | C2D<br>Optional Seminar  |                     |      |            |
|                                       | Seminars  |   | Optional Seminar  C2A Optional Seminar  C2B Optional Seminar  C2C Optional Seminar | Conflict and Diversity | C2E Optional Seminar  C2F Optional Seminar                             |                     | 10   | 10         |
| D<br>Thesis and<br>Colloquia          |           |   |  |                        |  | Thesis<br>Colloquia | 30   | 60         |

## 4. Objectives

The programme brings forward four interrelated objectives: professionalization, transdisciplinarity, transnationality, and living laboratory

First, the programme undertakes the professionalization of the students for their fieldwork. In this context, professionalization represents the capacity to canalize theoretical knowledge into practical knowledge aimed at social action. This knowledge is collaboratively generated with others, therefore reinforcing the sustainability and the participatory character of social action. In other words, the programme capacitates students so that they can break down social conflicts and bring about constructive solution proposals for them.

Second, the programme advances an out-and-out transdisciplinary approach which breaks out from formalist academicism. Thus, the transdisciplinarity of the programme not only presupposes the interplay of manifold scientific perspectives within its structure, contents and academic stuff, but it also brings about the interdisciplinary composition of its students, whose diverging academic and professional backgrounds maximize the dialogue among different forms of knowledge. This transdisciplinarity percolates the Intercultural Conflict Management master programme from beginning to end.

Third, the programme undertakes transnationality in its widest sense. Accordingly, students who carry over different nationalities, languages and sociocultural backgrounds come across a transnational environment throughout the programme and bring about themselves transnational entanglements. Transnationalism characterizes the programme from top to bottom, including its students, lecturers, management, institutional embedding and scientific approach.

Fourth, the programme advances the Living Laboratory (livlab) approach. Livlab represents a specific form of autoethnographic research, which revolves around the intersection of different intellectual traditions with an emphasis on non-western perspectives. Livlab presupposes the heterogeneity of students, lecturers and the social world around them and, on this basis, brings forward a didactical and pedagogical collaborative learning environment. Following the livlab concept, the programme repudiates the notion of passive, reiterative and individual knowledge reception. Instead, it brings students around to collaboratively generate their own knowledge, as they correlate their individual perspectives with the standpoints of their fellow students.

# **5. Modules Description**

# **A Social World and Power Relations**

| Module name     | A Social World and Power Relations  |
|-----------------|---|
| Module Contents | The social world represents a network of social relations of the most diverse nature (economic, political, cultural, communicational, gender, etc.), in which multiple players with diverse interests participate. To puzzle out this complex web, module A "Social World and Power Relations" carries out a multidimensional examination of social relations based on the spatial axis. Space does not represent a geographic category in this context, but rather a relational and analytical one, linked to the specific logics of social relations in their different spheres. This multidimensional approach coalesces the phenomenological, the power and the global perspectives. Thus, this module is structured into four units associated with four specific dimensions of social relations: A1 "The Lifeworld Perspective", A2 "Power Relations, Hegemony and Inequality", A3 "Global Justice and Human Rights", and A4 "Global Relations and World System". |
|                 | Unit A1 The Lifeworld Perspective (1st semester 3 hours)  |
|                 | Unit A1 "The Lifeworld Perspective" brings forward the main concepts of the phenomenological sociology, so that students can acknowledge daily practices, (self-) perceptions, intersubjectivities and "realities" of ordinary men and women. In addition, unit A1 "The Lifeworld Perspective" represents the foundation for module B "Research, Action and Networking" in general and for unit B1 "Research Methods" in particular. The contents of this unit comprise the following subjects:   |
|                 | <ul> <li>Phenomenological social sciences</li> <li>Phenomenology of routine actions</li> <li>Construction of knowledge</li> <li>Symbolic interactionism and grounded theory</li> <li>From the general to the essential</li> <li>Ideal types</li> </ul>  |
|                 | Unit A2 Power Relations, Hegemony and Inequality (1st semester 4 hours, 2nd semester 4 hours)   |
|                 | Unit A2 "Power Relations, Hegemony and Inequality" breaks down the manifold dimensions of power, with special emphasis on its   |

political and cultural dimension. Thus, students can conceptualize social (economic, political, cultural, communicational, gender, etc.) relations as relations traversed by power. This unit is structured into two subsequent parts: "Power Relations, Hegemony and Inequality I" and "Power Relations, Hegemony and Inequality II". The contents of this unit comprise the following subjects:

- The concept of power and its multiple dimensions
- Structure and agency
- The state as a social relation of domination
- The construction of the nation
- Hegemony
- Democracy and citizenship
- Poverty and inequality
- Development and post-development
- Gender
- Intersectionality

#### Unit A3 Global Justice and Human Rights (1st semester 3 hours)

Unit A3 "Global Justice and Human Rights" brings forward the concepts of justice and rights as political categories, so that students can capitalize on them in order to redetermine the existing power relations. The contents of this unit comprise the following subjects:

- Human rights
- Economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR)
- Women's rights and femicide
- Strategic rights litigation
- International law
- Citizenship and non-citizenship
- Migration and asylum
- Global justice
- Transitional and community justice

#### Unit A4 Global Relations and World System (3rd semester 4 hours)

Unit A4 "Global Relations and World System" breaks down the global dimension of social relations from the perspective of the world system. Thus, students can contextualize social relations in the framework of global relations. The contents of this unit comprise the following subjects:

- World system
- Hegemony in international relations
- Globalisation and glocalisation
- Transnationalisation
- North-South Relations
- Regionalisms

|  | <ul><li>Interstate organizations</li><li>Activism and transnational justice</li><li>Migrations and superdiversity</li></ul>  |
|--|--|
| Learning<br>objectives   | Module A "Social World and Power Relations" carries out a multidimensional examination of social relations based on the spatial axis, which coalesces the phenomenological, the power and the global perspectives.   |
|  | Based on this perspective, students are capacitated to:  |
|  | <ul> <li>Delineate the lifeworld of ordinary men and women, acknowledging their daily practices, (self) perceptions and intersubjectivities.</li> <li>Conceptualize social relations as the result of power relations and struggles for hegemony.</li> <li>Look upon social conflicts from the justice and rights perspective</li> <li>Contextualize social conflicts in the framework of global relations</li> <li>Undertake a multidimensional approach to the specific real-world conflicts addressed in module C "In-depth Specialization".</li> </ul> |
| Type and duration of the module sessions   | Semester 1: A1 The Lifeworld Perspective (3 hours), A2 Power Relations, Hegemony and Inequality I (4 hours), A3 Global Justice and Human Rights (3 hours)  |
|  | Semester 2: A2 Power Relations, Hegemony and Inequality II (4 hours)   |
|  | Semester 3: A4 Global Relations and World System (4 hours)   |
| Teaching and learning methods  | Lectures, presentations, group discussions, exercises, participatory analysis, excursions, guided self-learning, independent learning, team teaching, e-learning, role play, livlab, "problem oriented learning"   |
| Examination Every unit carries out an evaluation consisting of an oral presentation accompanied by its written elaboration. In a students must turn out a scientific article (27 000 charact of the three units (A1, A2 or A3) taking place during the f semester. |  |
|  | Attendance is obligatory   |
| Conditions for participation   | Compliance of the other units of the module  |
| Duration of the  | Module A: 3 semesters  |
| module   | Unit A1: 1 semester  |
|  | Unit A2: 2 semesters   |
|  | Unit A3: 1 semester  |

|                       | Unit A4: 1 semester   |                                 |           |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Subsequent<br>modules | B Research, Action and Networking C In-Depth Specialization |                                 |           |
| Module focus          | Classroom time  | Self-learning and in field time | Total     |
| ECTS                  | 9 ECTS  | 16 ECTS                         | 25 ECTS   |
| Workload              | 270 hours   | 480 hours                       | 750 hours |

## **B** Research, Action and Networking

| Module Name     | B Research, Action and Networking   |
|-----------------|---|
| Module Contents | Module B "Research, Action and Networking" brings forward a methodological "triangle", which coalesces social research, network analysis and project-based social actions. This triangle represents the methodological backbone of the programme, for it establishes a direct relation between social research and social action.  Accordingly, this module is structured into three interrelated units: B1 "Qualitative and Participatory Social Research Methods", B2 "Networking" and B3 "Planned Social Action". In addition, unit B4 "In-Field and Mobility Guidance" supervises the student's fieldwork and research stays. |
|                 | Unit B1 Qualitative and Participatory Social Research Methods (2nd semester 3 hours, 3rd semester 4 hours)  |
|                 | Unit B1 "Qualitative and Participatory Social Research Methods" breaks down qualitative methods for participatory social research aimed at social action. Accordingly, qualitative methods are brought forward based on their practical applicability and their flexibility with regard to the research fields of the students. This unit is structured into two subsequent parts: "Qualitative and Participatory Social Research Methods I" and "Qualitative and Participatory Social Research Methods II". The contents of this unit comprise the following subjects:   |
|                 | <ul><li>- Participatory observation</li><li>- Narrative interview</li><li>- Focused interview</li><li>- Expert interview</li></ul>  |
|                 | - Discussion groups - Conversational analysis   |

- Qualitative content analysis
- Sequential analysis
- Community Development Methodology (MeCom)

**Unit B2 Networking** (1st semester 3 hours, 2nd semester 4 hours, 3rd semester 4 hours)

As dynamic and vivid entities, social networks branch out into all social relations, often beyond individuals' awareness. Unit B2 "Networking" brings forward social network analysis in relation to social conflicts, so that students can acknowledge the social networks involved in social conflicts, puzzle out their functioning and eventually restructure them in order to bring about solutions for the conflicts. Thus, students can not only look upon social conflicts in terms of social networks, but they can capitalize on social networks in order to carry out social actions aimed at conflict resolution. This unit is structured into three subsequent parts: "Networking I", "Networking II", and "Networking III". The contents of this unit comprise the following subjects:

- Emergence of networks
- Small world
- Embeddedness in networks
- Strong and weak ties
- Social capital
- Socio-centric networks and ego-centric networks-
- Network cohesion
- Identification of central actors
- Detection of communities
- Networks as method for social action

**Unit B3 Planned Social Action** (1st semester 3 hours, 2nd semester 4 hours, 3rd semester 4 hours)

Complementing the other units included in this module, unit B3 "Planned Social Action" revolves around the preparation and implementation of planned social actions. Thus, students can canalize the knowledge acquired in unit B1 "Qualitative and Participatory Social Research Methods" and B2 "Networking" into planned social actions regarding their working fields. Accordingly, the preparation and implementation of the planned social actions by the students do not come about at the end of the module, as the culmination of a linear process. Instead, students bring about their planned social actions in parallel with the other units included in this module. This unit is structured into three subsequent parts: "Planned Social Action I", "Planned Social Action II" and "Planned Social Action III" The contents of this unit comprise the following subjects:

|  | - Project cycle management - Logical framework approach - Stakeholder analysis - Problem analysis - Objectives analysis - Logframe matrix - Intervention logic - Project Document - Project evaluation - Do not harm approach  Unit B4 In-Field and Mobility Guidance (1st semester 1 hour, 2nd semester 1 hour, 3rd semester 1 hour)  Simultaneously with the units included in this module, unit B4 "In-Field and Mobility Guidance" supervises the student's fieldwork, so that they can straighten out any difficulties related to their immersion into the field. In addition, this unit supervises the |
|--|--|
|  | students' preparation and follow up of their research stays in Oaxaca.   |
| Learning objectives                      | Module B "Research, Action and Networking" capacitates students to:  |
|  | <ul> <li>Acknowledge the socio-subjective meaning of actions and the patterns of interpretation.</li> <li>Restructure the action possibilities of the subjects in a dialogically conceived research process.</li> <li>Commingle the worldviews of the subjects into the research process.</li> <li>Conceptualize research as a participatory process, involving both researchers and social subjects</li> <li>Look upon the network and project approaches when dealing specific social phenomenon.</li> </ul>   |
| Type and duration of the module sessions | Semester 1: B2 Networking I (3 hours), B3 Planned Social Action I (3 hours), B4 In-Field and Mobility Guidance (1 hour)  |
| inodule sessions                         | Semester 2: B1 Qualitative and Participatory Social Research<br>Methods I (3 hours), B2 Networking II (4 hours), B3 Planned Social<br>Action II (4 hours), B4 Professional In-Field Guidance (1 hour)  |
|  | Semester 3: B1 Qualitative and Participatory Social Research<br>Methods II (4 hours), B2 Networking III (4 hours), B3 Planned Social<br>Action III (4 hours), B4 Professional In-Field Guidance (1 hour)   |
| Teaching and learning methods            | Lectures, presentations, group discussions, exercises, participatory analysis, excursions, guided self-learning, independent learning, team teaching, e-learning, role play, livlab, "problem oriented learning"   |

| Examination<br>methods             | Each unit carries out an evaluation in which the progress of the research projects developed by the students is broken down. In addition, students must turn out their projects (27 000 characters) during the third semester.  Attendance is obligatory |                                |            |  |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------|--|
| Conditions for participation       | Compliance of the other units of the module  |                                |            |  |
| Duration of the module             | Module B: 3 semesters  |                                |            |  |
| module                             | Unit B1: 2 semesters   |                                |            |  |
|                                    | Unit B2: 3 semesters   |                                |            |  |
|                                    | Unit B3: 3 semesters   |                                |            |  |
|                                    | Unit B4: 3 semesters   |                                |            |  |
| Subsequent                         | A Social World and Pov   | ver Relations                  |            |  |
| modules  C In-Depth Specialization |  |                                |            |  |
| Module focus                       | Classroom time   | Self-learning and infield time | Total      |  |
| ECTS                               | 16   | 31                             | 47         |  |
| Workload                           | 480 hours  | 930 hours                      | 1410 hours |  |

# C In-Depth Specialization

| Module name     | C In-Depth Specialization   |
|-----------------|---|
| Module Contents | Module C "In-Depth Specialization" is structured into workshops and seminars. Workshops bring forward practical training in specific tools for conflict management such as mediation, communication, field access, etc. Seminars break down specific real-world conflicts, providing both analytical and intervention skills for the conflicts addressed. |
|                 | During the first semester, students participate in three compulsory workshops in order to accumulate the basic practical knowledge for their work. These three compulsory workshops comprise "Mediation", "Scientific Writing" and "Statistics".  |
|                 | During the second semester, students participate in one optional seminar and one optional workshop. Students freely single out their optional seminar and workshop out of five different seminars and five different workshops. All seminars and workshops offered during   |

|                               | the second semester revolve around specific real-world conflicts and  |
|-------------------------------|---|
|                               | their relation to transformation processes. These optional seminars and workshops are carried out jointly for the students of both the English and the Spanish programmes.  |
|                               | During the third semester, students participate in one optional seminar and one optional workshop. Students freely single out their optional seminar and workshop out of five different seminars and five different workshops. All seminars and workshops offered during the third semester revolve around specific real-world conflicts and their relation to diversity issues. These optional seminars and workshops are carried out jointly for the students of both the English and the Spanish programmes. |
| Learning<br>objectives        | Module C "In-Depth Specialization" carries out an in-depth immersion into specific real-world conflicts, so that students can correlate the knowledge acquired in module A "Social World and Power Relations" and module B "Research, Action and Networking" with them.   |
|                               | Thus, students can critically break down specific real-world conflicts, coalesce with the actors involved in them, and bring about specific solutions for them based on their specific characteristics.   |
| Type and duration of the      | Semester 1: Mediation (two hours), Scientific Writing (two hours) and Statistics (two hours)  |
| module sessions               | Semester 2: One Optional Workshop (two hours) and one Optional Seminar from the specialization area "Conflict and Transformation" (three hours)   |
|                               | Semester 3: One Optional Workshop (two hours) and one Optional Seminar from the specialization area "Conflict and Diversity" (three hours)  |
| Teaching and learning methods | Lectures, presentations, group discussions, exercises, participatory analysis, excursions, guided self-learning, independent learning, team teaching, e-learning, role play, livlab, "problem oriented learning"  |
| Examination methods           | Every seminar carries out an evaluation consisting of an oral presentation accompanied by its written elaboration. In addition, students must turn out a scientific article (27 000 characters) for their seminars during the second and third semesters. Workshops do not carry out evaluations.   |
|                               | Attendance is obligatory  |
| Conditions for participation  | Compliance of the other workshops and seminars of the module  |

| Duration of the module | Module C: 3 semesters Workshops: 3 semesters Seminars: 2 semesters   |                       |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------|------------------------|--|
| Subsequent<br>modules  | A Social World and Power Relations B Research, Action and Networking |                       |                        |  |
| Module focus           | Classroom time   | Self-learning time    | Total                  |  |
| ECTS                   | Workshops: 5 Seminars: 3   | 3<br>7                | 8                      |  |
| Workload               | Workshops: 150<br>hours<br>Seminars: 90 hours                        | 90 hours<br>210 hours | 240 hours<br>300 hours |  |

# D Thesis and Research Colloquia

| Module Name            | D Thesis and Research Colloquia  |
|------------------------|--|
| Module Contents        | Module D "Thesis and Research Colloquia" revolves around the preparation of the students' master theses. As the programme advances collaborative learning, this module is structured into several research colloquia focused on general common subjects. In these colloquia, lecturers of the programme supervise the progress of the students' master theses concerning their theoretical and methodological approaches, their scientific and social relevances, and their practical contribution to conflict resolution. |
|                        | Students must determine the subject of their master theses based on their own interests in continuous communication with their lecturers. The programme does not circumscribe the possible subjects for the master thesis as long as they undertake an empirical perspective. In addition, the master theses must look upon the theoretical and methodological approaches developed in the programme.  |
| Learning<br>objectives | Module D "Thesis and Research Colloquia" capacitates students to:  - Delimitate their research subject with precision.  - Bring about a relevant and definite research question.  - Bring forward a consistent theoretical and methodological approach.  - Carry out empirical research properly.  |

|  | - Carry through their master thesis successfully.  |               |           |
|--|--|---------------|-----------|
| Type and duration of the module sessions | Semester 4: D Thesis and Research Colloquia  |               |           |
| Teaching and learning methods            | Lectures, presentations, group discussions, exercises, participatory analysis, excursions, guided self-learning, independent learning, team teaching, e-learning, role play, livlab. |               |           |
| Examination methods                      | This module does not carry out evaluations.  |               |           |
| Conditions for participation.            | Compliance of all modules  |               |           |
| Duration of the module                   | Module D: 1 semester   |               |           |
| Subsequent<br>modules                    | None   |               |           |
| Module focus                             | Classroom time   | Self-learning | Total     |
| ECTS                                     | 0  | 30            | 30        |
| Workload                                 | 0 hours  | 900 hours     | 900 hours |

#### 6. General Information

#### Staff

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#### **Academic Calendar 2017-2019**

First semester: 1 October 2018 – 31 March 2019 Second semester: 1 April 2019 – 30 September 2019 Third semester: 1 October 2019 – 29 March 2020 Fourth semester: 1 April 2020 – 27 September 2020