



JACOBS
UNIVERSITY



Study Program Handbook
Integrated Social Sciences

Bachelor of Arts

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1 The Integrated Social Sciences (ISS) Study Program

1.1 Concept

The BA-program Integrated Social Sciences provides for a unique integrated approach to the social sciences, including four disciplines and their interfaces: media/communication science, political science, sociology and economics. A particular feature is the intense methods training - both quantitative and qualitative approaches are taught in advanced methods labs, integrated in the program structure. Students train the analysis of pressing problems, as well as developing potential solutions. The program is research-based, and familiarizes students with the development of empirical research questions and research designs. The BA-program Integrated Social Sciences provides an excellent basis both, for graduate studies and the national and international job market.

1.2 Specific Advantages of the Integrated Social Sciences Program at Jacobs University

- All four social scientific disciplines taught in ISS focus on highly relevant and very recent issues, topics and problems that necessitate that a solution is found.
- Students get an excellent training in developing their own research project, and get a thorough training in statistics, but also qualitative and mixed-methods.
- The range of pressing problems addressed in Integrated Social Sciences is broad, ranging from war and conflict to environmental concerns, like the depletion of drinking water, from the role of the state to the functions of journalism and citizen participation in democracies and dictatorship, from media moguls to viral online videos, from terrorism to the role of welfare states, from economic crisis to distribution of wealth, from supranational institutions like the European Union to local institutions in a global comparison, from international organizations like the United Nations to non-governmental organizations.

1.3 Program-Specific Qualification Aims

- interdisciplinary research and training in four disciplines: political science, sociology, mass communication, economics
- intercultural competencies
- identifying and analyzing complex social problems
- developing problem solutions
- training problem-solving skills
- advanced quantitative and qualitative social science methods
- media and communication skills

1.4 The Jacobs University Employability and Personal Development Concept

Jacobs University's educational concept aims at fostering employability which refers to skills, capacities, and competencies which transcend disciplinary knowledge and allow graduates to

quickly adapt to professional contexts. Jacobs University defines employability as encompassing not just technical skills and understanding but also personal attributes and qualities enabling students to become responsible members of their professional and academic fields as well as of the societies they live in.

Graduates of JU will be equipped with the ability to find employment and to pursue a successful professional career, which means that

- graduates possess the ability to acquire knowledge rapidly, to assess information and to evaluate new concepts critically;
- graduates have communicative competences which allow them to present themselves and their ideas and to negotiate successfully;
- graduates are familiar with business-related processes and management skills and are able to manage projects efficiently and independently.

Graduates of JU will also be equipped with a foundation to become globally responsible citizens, which includes the following attributes and qualities:

- graduates have gained intercultural competence; they are aware of intercultural differences and possess skills to deal with intercultural challenges; they are familiar with the concept of tolerance;
- graduates can apply problem-solving skills in negotiating and mediating between different points of view;
- graduates can rely on basic civic knowledge and have an understanding for ethical reasoning; students are familiar with the requirements for taking on responsibility.

1.5 Career Options

Careers in international business, the media, non-governmental organizations, public administration, international aid agencies, the cultural sector, community development, fundraising, youth and social work.

Today's business world requires disciplinary knowledge from graduates as well as the ability to apply this knowledge. Career-related services at Jacobs University provide information, counseling and training, networks, and events. Jacobs University's students participate in trainings on project management, business communication, job interview skills, and more. Digital job and internship portfolios help students to prepare for their career.

1.6 More Information and Contact

For more information please contact the study program coordinator:

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Professor of Mass Communication

Email: m.mueller@jacobs-university.de

Telephone: +49 421 200-3463

or visit our program website: <http://www.jacobs-university.de/iss/>

2 The Curricular Structure

2.1 General

The undergraduate education at Jacobs University equips students with the key qualifications necessary for a successful academic, as well as professional career. By combining disciplinary depth and transdisciplinary breadth, supplemented by skills education and extracurricular elements, students are prepared to be responsible and successful citizens within the societies they work and live in.

The curricular structure provides multiple elements enhancing employability, transdisciplinarity, and internationality. The unique Jacobs Track, offered across all study programs, provides a broad range of tailor-made courses designed to foster career competencies. These include courses which promote communication, technology, business, (German) language, and management skills. The World Track, included in the third year of study, provides extended company internships or study abroad options. Thus students gain training on the job and intercultural experiences. All undergraduate programs at Jacobs University are based on a coherently modularized structure, which provides students with a broad and flexible choice of study plans to meet their major as well as minor study interests.

The policies and procedures regulating undergraduate study programs at Jacobs University in general can be found on the website.

2.2 The Jacobs University 3C-Model

Jacobs University offers study programs according to the regulations of the European Higher Education Area. All study programs are structured along the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which facilitates credit transfer between academic institutions. The three-year undergraduate program involves six semesters of study with a total of 180 ECTS credits. The curricular structure follows an innovative and student-centered modularization scheme - the 3C-Model - which groups the disciplinary content of the three study years according to overarching themes:

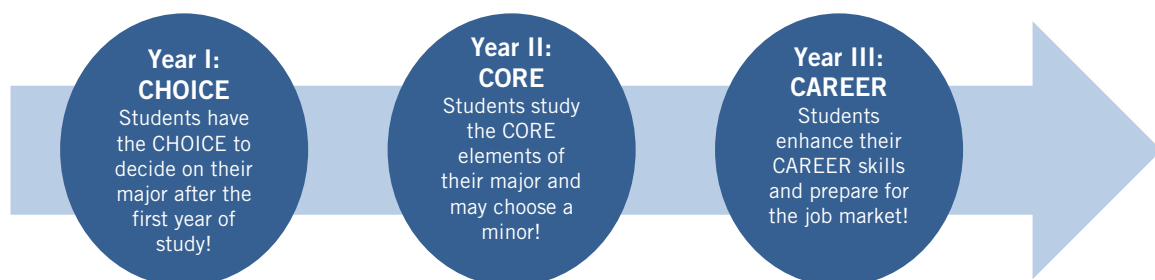


Figure 1: The Jacobs University 3C-Model

2.2.1 YEAR 1 - CHOICE

The first study year is characterized by a broad offer in disciplinary and interdisciplinary education. Students select three CHOICE modules from a variety of study programs. As a unique asset, our curricula allow students to select their study program freely from among the three selected CHOICE modules during their first year of study.

2.2.2 YEAR 2 - CORE

In the second year, students take three in-depth, discipline-specific CORE modules. One CORE module can also be taken from a second, complementary discipline, which allows students to incorporate a minor study track into their undergraduate education. Students will generally qualify for a minor if they have successfully taken at least one CHOICE module and one CORE module in a second field, and this extra qualification will be highlighted in the transcript.

2.2.3 YEAR 3 - CAREER

During their third year, students must decide on their career after graduation. In order to facilitate this decision, the fifth semester introduces two separate tracks. By default students are registered for the World Track.

1. The World Track

In this track there are two mandatory elective options:

- **Internship**

The internship program is a core element of Jacobs University's employability approach. It includes a mandatory semester-long internship off-campus (minimum 16 weeks in full-time) which provides insight into the labor market as well as practical work experience related to the respective area of study. Successful internships may initiate career opportunities for students. For more information, please contact the Career Services Center (<http://www.jacobs-university.de/career-services/contact>).

- **Study Abroad**

Students can take the opportunity to study abroad at one of our partner universities. Courses recognized as study abroad credits need to be pre-approved according to the Jacobs University study abroad procedures and carry minimum of 20 ECTS credits in total. Several exchange programs allow you to be directly enrolled at prestigious partner institutions worldwide. Jacobs University's participation in Erasmus+, the European Union's exchange program, provides an exchange semester at a number of European universities including Erasmus study abroad funding.

For more information, please contact the International Office (<http://intoffice.user.jacobs-university.de/outgoing/>).

2. The Campus Track

Alternatively, students may also opt to follow the Campus Track by continuing their undergraduate education at Jacobs, namely by selecting an additional CORE module during their third year and redistributing the remaining courses and modules across the

third year. This opportunity can be used by students to more intensively focus on their major or to fulfill the minor requirements for a second field of interest.

In the sixth semester, all students select from a range of specialization courses within their study program and concentrate on their Bachelor thesis in the context of a Project/Thesis Module.

All students attend a mandatory set of career skills courses and events throughout their studies. These equip them with necessary skills for their 5th semester and their future career.

2.3 The Jacobs Track

The Jacobs Track, another stand-alone feature of Jacobs University, runs parallel to the disciplinary CHOICE, CORE, and CAREER modules across all study years and is an integral part of all study programs. It reflects our commitment to an in-depth methodological education, it fosters our transdisciplinary approach, it enhances employability, and equips students with extra skills desirable in your general field of study. Additionally, it integrates essential language courses.

Mathematics, statistics, and other methods courses are offered to all students within a comprehensive Methods Module. This module provides students with general foundations and transferable techniques which are invaluable to follow the study content not only in the study program itself but also in related fields.

The Skills Module equips students with general academic skills which are indispensable for their chosen area of study. These could be, for example, programming, data handling, presentation skills, and academic writing, scientific and experimental skills.

The transdisciplinary Triangle Module offers courses with a focus on at least one of the areas of business, technology and innovation, and societal context. The offerings comprise essential knowledge of these fields for students from other majors as well as problem-based courses that tackle global challenges from different disciplinary backgrounds. Working together with students from different disciplines and cultural backgrounds in these courses broadens the students horizon by crossing the boundaries of traditional disciplines.

Foreign languages are integrated within the Language Module. Communicative skills and foreign language competence foster students intercultural awareness and enhance their employability in a globalized and interconnected world. Jacobs University supports its students in acquiring and improving these skills by offering a variety of language courses at all proficiency levels. Emphasis is put on fostering German language skills, as they are an important prerequisite for students to learn about, explore, and eventually integrate into their host country. Hence, acquiring 10 ECTS credits in German is a requirement for all students. Students who meet the requirements of the German proficiency level (e.g. native speakers) are required to select courses in any other language program offered.

2.4 Modularization of the Integrated Social Sciences Program

2.4.1 Content

Year 1

Take two mandatory modules listed below and select one further CHOICE module from a different study area.

Political, Social & Media Diversity (CH14-PolSocMedia)

Political and Social Diversity is an introductory module which provides the essentials for understanding contemporary societies. You will study what the main differences between democracies and other political regime types are (the political science perspective); how the set-up of societies change over time and differ across world regions (the sociological perspective); and how mass communication systems work and which role they play in politics and society (the mass communication perspective). This module provides the basis from which you progress to higher-level modules in the Social Sciences.

General Economics (CH13-GenEcon)

This module introduces to the functioning of economies, progressing from individual and national markets to international markets. The decisions that firms, workers and consumers are making in individual markets is examined in Microeconomics. Macroeconomics addresses the whole economy of a country with a view to delivering stable and sustainable economic growth. The nature of economic globalization and its many effects on firms, governments and individuals is analyzed in International Economics. A key question in all three courses of this module is when, how and why governments may want to intervene in markets in order to deliver satisfactory outcomes for society as a whole, while balancing the contradicting interests of various societal stakeholders.

Year 2

Take all three modules or replace one with a CORE module from a different study program.

Communication, Culture and Prosumption (CO36-CommCult)

Communication, Culture and Prosumption is an advanced module which focuses on the pervasive role mass communication and consumerism play in contemporary societies globally. Starting from sociological conceptions of capitalism and consumer society, you will learn to assess the value and problems of modern consumerism, the choices and constraints of humans in societies that have been increasingly shaped by consumption behavior. Recently, due to digital globalization, social network sites and the spread of technological tools easy to use for lay people, consumers become ever more competent in not only passively consuming goods and services, but actively shaping these products and services through the cultural practice of prosumption, a fusion of formerly separated social roles of producer and consumer. You will further analyze mass communication systems from a production, consumption, and prosumption perspective. Finally, the module provides you with the methodological tools and research skills to analyze communication systems and prosumption, based on a variety of data sources. The module combines rich theoretical insights with many empirical examples and exercises.

The Good Society (CO37-GoodSociety)

The Good Society is an advanced module which is concerned with progress (or the lack thereof) towards better and fairer societies. You will learn about concepts and theories of equality and justice, and how unequal contemporary societies actually are (and what can be done about it). You will further engage with political cultures worldwide, i.e. the attitudes, values and socio-political behavior of mass citizens often a powerful social force pushing for a better society. Finally, the module provides you with the methodological tools and statistical skills to study inequalities and political cultures worldwide, based on cross-national surveys and other data sources. The module is unique in combining rich theoretical insights with lots of empirical examples and exercises.

International Politics and Policy (CO35-IntPolitics)

This module offers an introduction to the politics and policy-making of international relations. It does so through discussing some of the most pressing questions of global politics and policy today. These include: what is democracy, should it be spread around the world, and can it be incorporated at the international level? Moreover, is it possible to reduce warfare, terrorism and other forms of transnational violence? Last, what roles can diplomacy and foreign policy play in bringing about a prosperous, equitable and peaceful international system? The module shows that alternative theories in political science provide different answers to these questions, and it helps students critically reflect on these frameworks.

Some CORE Modules require students to have taken a specific CHOICE Module. Please see the Module Handbook for details regarding pre-requisites.

Year 3

In the 3rd year students follow the World Track by default:

1. World Track

5th Semester

- Internship / study abroad

6th Semester

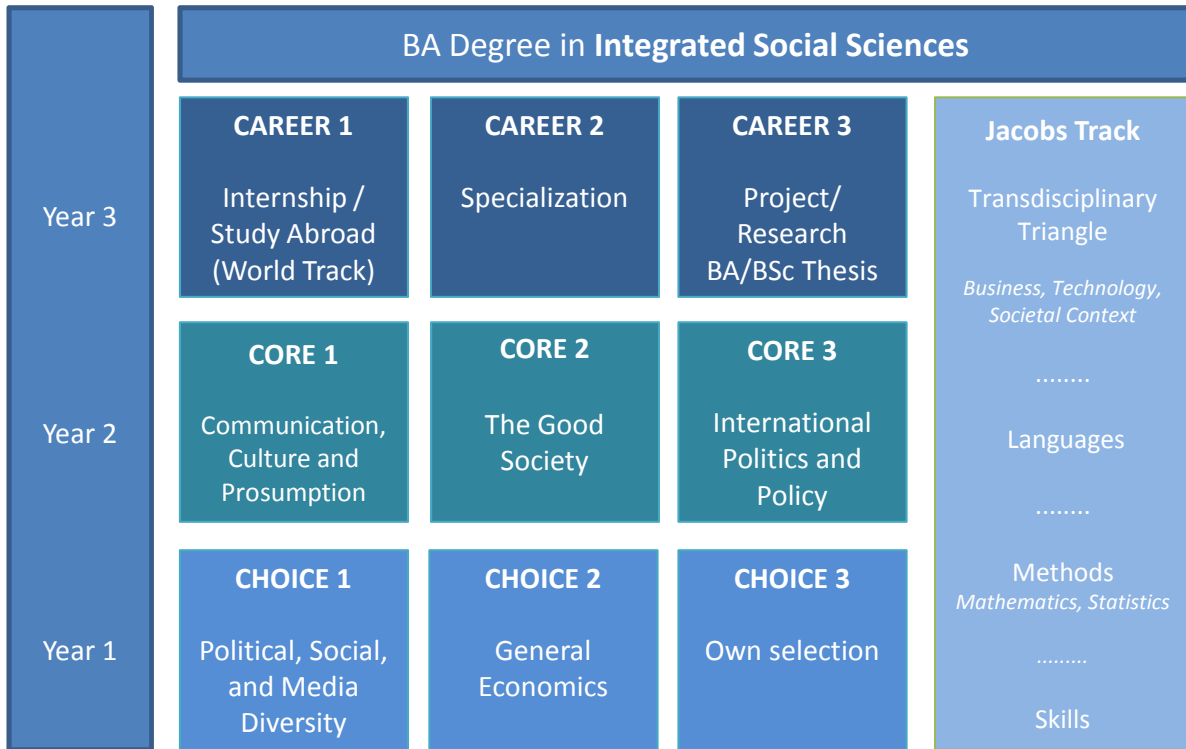
- Integrated Social Sciences Project / Thesis Module
- Program-specific Specialization Module
Exemplary course offering:
 - Social Movements
 - Civic Networks and Social Capital
 - Diversity and Multiculturalism
 - Postindustrial Societies
 - Global Communication
 - Political Campaign Communication
 - Visual Methods in the Social Sciences
 - Media and Socio-Political Uprisings

2. **Campus Track**

Students who do not enter the World Track follow the Campus Track.
5th and 6th Semester

- Program-specific Project / Thesis Module
- Program-specific Specialization Module
(please see World Track for exemplary course offering)
- Additional CORE Module

2.4.2 Structure



YEAR 1 Take three CHOICE modules, one free selection
YEAR 2 Take three CORE modules, one CORE module can be substituted by a CORE module from a second study program to pursue a minor
YEAR 3 Alternatively Campus Track with a 4th CORE module instead of internship/study abroad module

Figure 2: Integrated Social Sciences Module Structure

3 Appendix 1a/1b: Mandatory Course Plans for World Track and Campus Track

Jacobs University Bremen reserves the right to substitute courses by replacements and/or reduce the number of mandatory/mandatory elective courses offered

Appendix 1a - Mandatory Course Plan for World Track

Integrated Social Sciences – World Track											
Matriculation Fall 2015											
Program-Specific Modules	Type	Status ¹	Semester	Credits	Jacobs Track Modules (General Education)	Type	Status ¹	Semester	Credits		
Year 1 - CHOICE					45						20
<i>Take the two mandatory CHOICE modules listed below, these are a requirement for the ISS program.</i>											
CH14-PolSocMedia Module: Political, Social, and Media Diversity					m						15
CH14-910101	Comparing Political Systems	Lecture	m	1	5						
CH14-930101	Social Structure and Processes I	Seminar	m	1	2,5						
CH14-910112	Mass Media in Digital Contexts	Lecture	m	2	5						
CH14-930111	Social Structure and Processes II	Seminar	m	2	2,5						
CH13-GenEcon Module: General Economics					m						15
CH13-032101	Microeconomics	Lecture	m	1	5						
CH13-910301	International Economics I	Seminar	m	1	2,5						
CH13-032102	Macroeconomics	Lecture	m	2	5						
CH13-910302	International Economics II	Seminar	m	1	2,5						
Module: CHOICE (own selection)					e	1/2			15		
<i>Students take one further CHOICE module from those offered for all other study programs. ²</i>											
Year 2 - CORE					45						20
<i>Take all three modules or replace one with a CORE module from a different study program. ²</i>											
CO35-IntPolitics Module: International Politics and Policy					me						15
CO35-910202	Democratic Governance	Seminar	m	4	5						
CO35-910201	Diplomacy and Foreign Policy	Seminar	m	4	5						
CO35-970301	International Security	Seminar	m	3	5						
CO36-CommCult Module: Communication, Culture and Prosumption					me						15
CO36-940212	Consumer Culture & Society	Seminar	m	3	5						
CO36-940202	Communication, Culture & Prosumption Lab I	Seminar	m	3	2,5						
CO36-940201	Comparing Mass Communication Systems	Seminar	m	4	5						
CO36-940203	Communication, Culture & Prosumption Lab II	Seminar	m	4	2,5						
CO37-GoodSociety Module: The Good Society					me						15
CO37-920203	Political Culture	Seminar	m	3	5						
CO37-920211	Social Data & Survey Lab I	Seminar	m	3	2,5						
CO37-920202	Equality & Social Justice	Seminar	m	4	5						
CO37-920212	Social Data & Survey Lab II	Seminar	m	4	2,5						
Year 3 - CAREER					45						5
CA02 / CA03 Module: Internship / Study Abroad					m	5			20		
CA01-CarSkills Module: Career Skills											
CA16-ISS Module: Project/Thesis ISS					m						15
CA16-920303	Project ISS	m	6	5							
CA16-920304	Thesis ISS	m	6	10							
CA-S-ISS Module: Specialization Area ISS					m	10					
Take four specialization courses (2,5 ECTS each) ²					me	5/6			10		
JT-ME-MethodsMath Module: Methods / Mathematics					m						7,5
JT-ME-990103 Empirical Research Methodology					Lecture	m	1	2,5			
JT-ME-990123 Data Analysis and Statistical Inference with SPSS					Lecture	m	2	2,5			
JT-ME-990104 Qualitative Research: Methods and Design					Lecture	m	2	2,5			
JT-SK-Skills Module: Skills					m						2,5
JT-SK-990100 Academic and Professional Skills					Lecture	m	1	2,5			
JT-TA-TriArea Module: Triangle Area					m						5
Take two courses from the triangle (BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION, SOCIETAL CONTEXT) area. Each counts 2,5 ECTS ³						me	1/2	5			
JT-LA-Language Module: Language					m						5
Take two German courses (2,5 ECTS each). Native German speakers take courses in another offered language					Seminar	me	1/2	5			
Year 3 - CAREER					45						5
JT-SK-Skills Module: Skills					m						2,5
JT-SK-990110 Advanced Academic and Professional Skills						m	6	2,5			
JT-TA-TriArea Module: Triangle Area					m						2,5
Take one course from the triangle (BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION, SOCIETAL CONTEXT) area. Each counts 2,5 ECTS ³						me	6	2,5			
Total ECTS										180	

¹ Status (m = mandatory, e = elective, me = mandatory elective)

² For a full listing of all CHOICE / CORE / CAREER / Jacobs Track modules please consult the **CampusNet online catalogue** and / or the module handbook (on our website).

³ You are required to take six Triangle Area courses in total. Select two from each of the three triangle areas (BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION, SOCIETAL CONTEXT).

Appendix 1b - Mandatory Course Plan for Campus Track

Integrated Social Sciences – Campus Track											
Matriculation Fall 2015											
Program-Specific Modules	Type	Status ¹	Semester	Credits	Jacobs Track Modules (General Education)	Type	Status ¹	Semester	Credits		
Year 1 - CHOICE					45	Year 1 - CHOICE					20
<i>Take the two mandatory CHOICE modules listed below, these are a requirement for the ISS program.</i>											
CH14-PolSocMedia	Module: Political, Social, and Media Diversity			m	15	JT-ME-MethodsMath	Module: Methods / Mathematics		m	7,5	
CH14-910101	Comparing Political Systems	Lecture	m	1	5	JT-ME-990103	Empirical Research Methodology	Lecture	m	1	2,5
CH14-930101	Social Structure and Processes I	Seminar	m	1	2,5	JT-ME-990123	Data Analysis and Statistical Inference with SPSS	Lecture	m	2	2,5
CH14-910112	Mass Media in Digital Contexts	Lecture	m	2	5	JT-ME-990104	Qualitative Research: Methods and Design	Lecture	m	2	2,5
CH14-930111	Social Structure and Processes II	Seminar	m	2	2,5	JT-SK-Skills	Module: Skills		m	2,5	
CH13-GenEcon	Module: General Economics			m	15	JT-SK-990100	Academic and Professional Skills	Lecture	m	1	2,5
CH13-032101	Microeconomics	Lecture	m	1	5	JT-TA-TriArea	Module: Triangle Area		m	5	
CH13-910301	International Economics I	Seminar	m	1	2,5	Take two courses from the triangle (BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION, SOCIETAL CONTEXT) area. Each counts 2,5 ECTS ³					
CH13-032102	Macroeconomics	Lecture	m	2	5	JT-LA-Language	Module: Language		m	5	
CH13-910302	International Economics II	Seminar	m	1	2,5	Take two German courses (2,5 ECTS each). Native German speakers take courses in another offered language					
				Module: CHOICE (own selection)	e	1/2	15				
<i>Students take one further CHOICE module from those offered for all other study programs.²</i>											
Year 2 - CORE					45	Year 2 - CORE					20
<i>Take all three modules or replace one with a CORE module from a different study program.²</i>											
CO35-IntPolitics	Module: International Politics and Policy			me	15	JT-ME-MethodsMath	Module: Methods / Mathematics		m	7,5	
CO35-910202	Democratic Governance	Seminar	m	4	5	JT-ME-990213	Statistical Modeling with SPSS	Lecture	m	3	2,5
CO35-910201	Diplomacy and Foreign Policy	Seminar	m	4	5	Take two Methods (mandatory) elective courses (2,5 ECTS each). ²					
CO35-970301	International Security	Seminar	m	3	5	JT-TA-TriArea	Module: Triangle Area		m	7,5	
CO36-CommCult	Module: Communication, Culture and Prosumption			me	15	Take three courses from the triangle (BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION, SOCIETAL CONTEXT) area. Each counts 2,5 ECTS ³					
CO36-940212	Consumer Culture & Society	Seminar	m	3	5	JT-LA-Language	Module: Language		m	5	
CO36-940202	Communication, Culture & Prosumption Lab I	Seminar	m	3	2,5	Take two German courses (2,5 ECTS each). Native German speakers take courses in another offered language					
CO36-940201	Comparing Mass Communication Systems	Seminar	m	4	5						
CO36-940203	Communication, Culture & Prosumption Lab II	Seminar	m	4	2,5						
CO37-GoodSociety	Module: The Good Society			me	15						
CO37-920203	Political Culture	Seminar	m	3	5						
CO37-920211	Social Data & Survey Lab I	Seminar	m	3	2,5						
CO37-920202	Equality & Social Justice	Seminar	m	4	5						
CO37-920212	Social Data & Survey Lab II	Seminar	m	4	2,5						
Year 3 - CAREER					45	Year 3 - CAREER					5
COXX	Module: Additional (4th) CORE module			m	5/6	15	JT-SK-Skills	Module: Skills		m	2,5
CA01-CarSkills	Module: Career Skills						JT-SK-990110	Advanced Academic and Professional Skills	m	6	2,5
CA16-ISS	Module: Project/Thesis ISS			m	15	JT-TA-TriArea	Module: Triangle Area		m	2,5	
CA16-920303	Project ISS	m	5	5	Take one course from the triangle (BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION, SOCIETAL CONTEXT) area. Each counts 2,5 ECTS ³						
CA16-920304	Thesis ISS	m	6	10							
CA-S-ISS	Module: Specialization Area ISS			m	15						
					me	5/6	15				
Total ECTS										180	

¹ Status (m = mandatory, e = elective, me = mandatory elective)

² For a full listing of all CHOICE / CORE / CAREER / Jacobs Track modules please consult the **CampusNet online catalogue** and / or the module handbook (on our website).

³ You are required to take six Triangle Area courses in total. Select two from each of the three triangle areas (BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION, SOCIETAL CONTEXT).