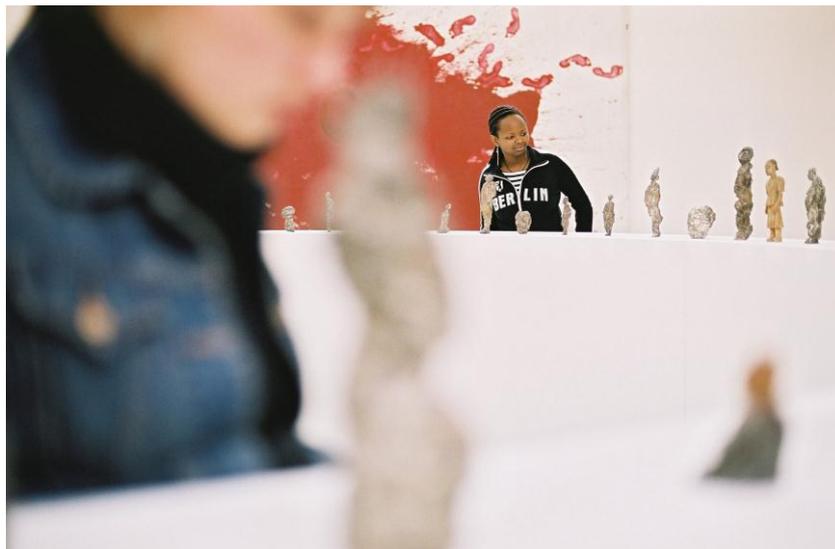


**Jacobs University Bremen
School of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**GRADUATE PROGRAM
INTERCULTURAL HUMANITIES**



Academic Master's Program

Research-Only Ph.D. Program

as of September 2011

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1. Relevance of the Program

The Graduate Program Intercultural Humanities expresses Jacobs University's commitment to the particular kinds of approaches that are characteristic of humanities learning. The humanities are one of the prominent places where the analysis and theoretical reflection of transcultural and intercultural phenomena and processes and their conceptualization take place. They offer the opportunity to understand the historical dimension of these issues and an approach to contemporary problems that transcends the disciplines.

Intercultural and transcultural issues are becoming increasingly significant for political, cultural and everyday life on a macro and a micro level. This is due to processes related to internationalization and globalization and the cultural changes and conflicts caused by them. For this reason inter- and transcultural issues have become a new focus of academic research.

The Graduate Program Intercultural Humanities is a unique and innovative combined graduate program in History, History and Theory of Art, Media, and Literature with a special emphasis on intercultural encounters, cross-cultural transfers, cultural comparison, and transcultural universals.

2. Target Group, Aims and Job Perspectives

2.1 Target Group

The M.A. program in Intercultural Humanities aims at international students holding a B.A. (or any similar equivalent degree) in the humanities (history, literature, philosophy, art history, art theory etc.), in the political and social sciences, or cultural and media studies etc.

Successful M.A. graduates in Intercultural Humanities may apply for admission to the doctoral program.

The Ph.D. program in Intercultural Humanities aims at young international scholars whose research projects are related to the broad field of Intercultural Humanities.

2.2 Aims

The Graduate Program Intercultural Humanities provides students with insights into the theories and methods used to investigate and describe inter- and transcultural processes and phenomena. Students become acquainted with the particularities of research in Literature, History and Theory of Art, Religious Studies, Media, and History as well as with interdisciplinary approaches applied in intercultural studies in the humanities. By studying exemplary cases of intercultural encounters, cross-cultural transfers and transcultural universals students learn how these theories and methods are applied in each of the fields and, in a second step, across the fields. In particular, they acquire an understanding of the historical dimension of the relevant processes and phenomena and an awareness of the specific problems involved in interactions between Western and Non-Western cultures, cultural and aesthetic products and societies.

2.3 Job Perspectives

Academic research and contemporary discourse in the fields of Literature, History and Theory of Art, Religious Studies, Media, and History, increasingly require expertise in the areas for which this degree program offers specific training, with its focus on inter- and transcultural issues. Furthermore, institutions and companies in fields such as culture management, publishing, libraries and archives, public relations, mass media and journalism, as well as administration and management on a national and the international level from NGOs to national agencies and governments, now require the special expertise offered by a degree in Intercultural Humanities.

3. Institutional Basis and Resources

Jacobs University is a place where international and intercultural issues are reflected both in the composition of the student and faculty body and in SHSS (School of Humanities and Social Sciences) research. Intercultural interaction is an everyday experience of campus life, and there is a strong desire among students to find intercultural issues reflected in the curriculum. Professors teaching in this program have a special intercultural and transcultural focus in their field of teaching and research. This particular SHSS focus is going to be further strengthened in the Humanities Research Center HMG (Humanities, Modernity, Globalization). Furthermore, the Global Visual Communication graduate program has a similar focus which opens up the possibility of collaborating and mutually offering courses. The transdisciplinary approach applied by and in these programs provides synergetic effects for both teaching and research.

4. Structure of the Academic Master's Program (M.A.)

The M.A. in Intercultural Humanities is a program of four semesters of study. Students will take 13 courses from five modules. Each course is worth 7.5 ECTS credit points, the M.A. thesis is worth 22.5 ECTS credit points.

4.1 Modules

Module 1 - Theoretical Foundations and Methods in Intercultural Humanities

Courses in this module provide students with knowledge of the major theories and methods used in intercultural, transcultural and comparative research in the disciplines that participate in the program. The courses are dedicated to the analysis of general theoretical and methodological developments that contributed to the shift away from national cultures as the basic units of research and to specific theoretical concepts that explain inter- and transcultural processes and phenomena. By looking at the history of disciplines students will also get insights into the interplay between national traditions and transnational transfers in the formation of particular disciplines and into the emergence of transdisciplinary approaches in the field of intercultural studies. The basis of class-room discussions will be both theoretical texts and empirical works that are suited to exemplify the theories and methods under discussion. Specific emphasis is given to critical discussions of canonical works of theory that delineate both national and inter-/transcultural paradigms. The module enables students to assess the significance of approaches within the humanities that look beyond the historical, cultural, literary and political confines of the nation-state. Students learn to explain and critically evaluate theoretical developments as well as particular theories and methods relevant in the field of intercultural humanities. They are enabled to dissect the theoretical and methodological foundations of concrete research in intercultural humanities.

Module 1 comprises at least four courses taught over three semesters in the fields of History, History and Theory of Art, Literature and Methods (M1H, M1L, M1A, M1M). Students select three courses from different fields.

Module 2 - Historical Perspectives on Inter- and Transcultural Phenomena

Courses in this module provide students with knowledge of the shared traditions within and beyond the history of Western cultures. Particular emphasis will be placed on the analysis of the historical processes involved in canon formation from inter- and transcultural to the analysis of shared traditions in cultural history, and cultural perspectives. Different concepts of the canon in the participating disciplines reveal the function of canonicity in the process of the cultural formation of identity through text and context in the widest sense. The history of cultural and transcultural contacts and exchanges is offset against the history of regional phenomena, and this allows for an evaluation of divergent cultural developments. Historiography and historical perspectives in transdisciplinary contexts require new approaches differences, such as local and regional variations in the context of literary, social, religious, historical, and cultural developments can be seen to epitomize the desire to particularize and separate. Here, the paradigmatic analysis of these phenomena from a historical perspective allows students to transcend the borders between the different disciplines and to gain insights into the interconnections between cultural practices and historical determinants. The critical evaluation of teleological concepts in historical perspectives prepares the ground for a contextualized synchronic and diachronic analysis of inter- and transcultural phenomena in this module. Students will learn to evaluate concepts of historicity in the context of intercultural phenomena in the humanities.

Module 2 comprises at least two courses taught over three semesters (M2H, M2L). Students select two courses from different fields.

Module 3 - Intercultural Issues in the Contemporary World

Courses in this module provide students with insights into the particular nature of transcultural and intercultural phenomena and processes in the context of various stages of globalization. In particular, they look at the effects of internationalization in an increasingly globalized market of literary and cultural exchange. New forms of communication, in conjunction with processes of cultural contact in the context of migration and exile require a re-evaluation of cultural homogeneity and diversity. Here, the theoretical foundations of language and communication form an integral part of what constitutes concepts of intercultural contact, a phenomenon most clearly, but not exclusively visible in the diaspora, the divide between centre and periphery, self and other and the increasingly internationalized global market place. The dissolution of borders, the emergence of transcultural identities, processes of cultural exchange on the one hand are offset against formations of cultural hegemony, the market place, problems of cultural/linguistic dominance as well as a trend towards regionalism and particularization on the other. The process of the formation and construction of individual and collective identities has to be re-evaluated in the context of a growing awareness of heritage vis-à-vis the

recreating of authenticity in a world governed by simulation and replication. Cultural archives and the role of text in the different disciplines are analyzed with a view to evaluating and eventually positioning contemporary intercultural issues in the context of a transdisciplinary analysis. Students will learn to evaluate contemporary cultural phenomena in the context of a theory-oriented framework of methods and tools used in the humanities, with a view to incorporating neighbouring disciplines in a transdisciplinary, problem-oriented approach geared towards the analysis of intercultural issues in the contemporary world.

Module 3 comprises at least four courses taught over three semesters. Students are required to take at least one history and one literature course (M3H, M3L) and to select one course from the Visual Communication and the Transnational and Global Communication modules in Global Visual Communication (M3IC a or b).

Module 4 - Optional courses

This module has no predefined thematic focus. It intends to provide students an opportunity to extend their knowledge into an area of their individual choice within the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, including courses in the International Relations program that Jacobs University and the University of Bremen run jointly. Thus, any graduate course offered within the School is eligible to cover this module. It offers also faculty an opportunity to hold courses on more specific topics in the centre of their own research.

Students are required to take one course in this module.

Module 5 - Research in Intercultural Humanities

Courses in this module are taught in the form of an interdisciplinary research colloquium where research in International Humanities is presented and discussed. All professors who teach in the program and all graduate students of Intercultural Humanities participate in the colloquium. The module aims to strengthen students' interdisciplinary perspective on inter- and transcultural issues and their awareness for the problems encountered when applying theories and methods to concrete research topics. Part of the classes is dedicated to the presentation and discussion of M.A. and Ph.D. students' research. This offers students the opportunity to present their work to a wider audience and get advice from participants of all the disciplines involved. Thus the colloquium, in addition to individual tutoring by thesis supervisors, is an important part of the tutoring process. Input from various disciplines encourages students to broaden their approach and take into consideration theories and methods that have been developed in disciplines beyond the one the thesis is primarily based upon. Other forms of teaching include lectures by Jacobs University professors and invited guests and the discussion of texts that help develop an interdisciplinary perspective on research methods and theories in Intercultural Humanities. Students will learn to critically discuss and

assess the advantages and problems of interdisciplinary approaches as well as the results of concrete research in inter-, transcultural and comparative research.

Module 5 comprises four courses taught over four semesters (M4R). All courses in this module are mandatory courses. In the 1st semester students attend the Humanities Methods Course as part of the Research Colloquium.

Students who take at least three courses in any of the major fields and write their M.A. thesis in this field are entitled to receive an M.A. in Intercultural Humanities with particular emphasis on the given field.

4.2 Courses

Module 1 - Theoretical Foundations and Methods in Intercultural Humanities

M1H (800 502) - Concepts of Historical Research and History-Writing beyond the Nation-State

Globalization and various kinds of intercultural encounters and transnational transfers in the contemporary world have sharpened historians' awareness of historical processes that transcend the boundaries of the nation-state. Historians have developed a variety of approaches that look at intercultural and transnational phenomena in the past: international and transnational history, shared and entangled history, world and global history, historical comparison, transfers in history etc. In the course the perspectives, methods, influential theories and typical areas of interest of each of these concepts will be discussed. Readings will focus on major theoretical contributions but also include empirical works that are suited for exemplifying the characteristics of a particular approach.

M1L (600 431) - Literary Theory and Intercultural Approaches

This course introduces theories of text and textuality on the basis that literature constitutes a multitude of particular discursive practices. Intertextuality and the concept of interculturality provide new perspectives on text that demand the application and – simultaneously – reorientation of literary and cultural theory. The course conveys fundamental insights into epistemological paradigms in the history of literary theory, focusing on text and context, the role of author and reader, the problems and limits of mimetic representation, and cultural and intercultural correspondences of literature. Selections from “canonical” texts on literary theory and major positions on text and textuality, from Antiquity to contemporary literary theory, form the textual basis for presentations and classroom discussions on the poetics and grammar of literary and non-literary texts in an intercultural context. How critical theory can be applied to literary, media, and intercultural phenomena, how “text” can be reconceptualized and how literary theory provides descriptive models for cultural practices that go beyond national definitions of literary texts constitutes one of the major aims of this seminar.

M1A (600 432) - Intercultural Approaches in Art History and Visual Theory

Visual and material manifestations of intercultural exchange have been a central focus of art history's project. The course provides insights into methodological approaches that theorize intercultural transfers and aesthetic appropriations in the field of visual art. It will combine the discussion of key concepts and major readings from art history, cultural and visual theory and

post-colonial critique with empirical studies in the history of collecting and colonialism, including models of artistic exchange, the role of international exhibitions, Biennials, the art market and contemporary discourses in art criticism, that address the fact that Non-Western art has virtually been ignored by traditional art history and critically maintain the quest for post-colonial self-reflections of the discipline.

M1M (990 501) - Advanced Qualitative Methods

The study of intercultural phenomena requires methods going beyond those traditionally used in the humanities, encompassing a wide range of (qualitative) research techniques and approaches from the social sciences. The course familiarizes students with the logics and handling of such methods, enabling them to conceptualize and carry out empirical research of their own. Topics to be covered include the case study and the logic of small-N comparison, purposive sampling and research design, qualitative interviewing, observation, coding of texts, content analysis, discourse analysis, typologies, or hermeneutics. The combination of topics can vary as long as an overview of the diversity in the field is provided.

Module 2 - Historical Perspectives on Inter- and Transcultural Phenomena

M2H (600 464) – History of World Religions in the Modern Age

Modernization and Secularization did not eliminate religions, but changed them profoundly. While enlightened philosophers in the name of reason and progress leveled severe criticism against transmitted beliefs and morals, defenders of religions attacked the belief in reason and progress in the name of religious world views and practices models and values. These discourses affected and transformed all modern world religions. The course introduces into the rise of modern formations of Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Studying them one grasps characteristics of modern culture. Since the seventies the world religions were transferred by labor migrants beyond their geographical areas and adopted the social form of congregations and diaspora communities. New kinds of religiosity emerged. For the new social power of religions different explanations and models were proposed.

M2L (600 441) - Literary History in Inter- and Transcultural Contexts

This course looks at historical and already canonized phenomena in the field of literature from an intercultural and transcultural perspective. It shows that literatures have never been static and able to reproduce themselves from within themselves, but they have always been dynamic and composite conglomerates of heterogeneous elements and movements. Different forms of textuality, from traditional texts to new media, play a key role in this context.

Concepts such as identity and homogeneity, cultural conformity and diversity, linguistics, memory and literature as cultural archive form the basis for this seminar. As historiography and/or the history of literature, under an intercultural and transcultural focus, has moved away from teleological paradigms, the investigation of the role of literature and literary texts not only questions established notions of textuality but highlights the inter- and transcultural role of literary texts. Based on classical and recent critical theory this course looks at dissonances and ruptures in literature as points of departure for further investigation.

Module 3 - Intercultural Issues in the Contemporary World

M3H (800 411) - Globalization in a Historical Perspective: Culture and Society

Globalization is not only a recent phenomenon but has its roots and precursors in the past. Looking at the history of global integration helps us to get insights into the historical dimension of globalization and grasp the historical circumstances of particular instances of intercultural encounters and transcultural transfer. The course will provide students with an overview of waves of global integration (and disintegration) in modern history. It will then focus on particular historical moments of intercultural encounter facilitated by globalization and local responses to global impacts. Examples will include Western and Non-Western cultures and societies.

M3L (600 442) - Migration, Globalization, Multilingualism and Literature

After imperialism and colonialism capitalism has transcended the system of the national states and cultures by generating a globalized economical and cultural world. Globalization sets off migrations of populations in an unprecedented way, creating new multilingual constellations. These processes are accompanied by a revolutionary transformation of the world's communication system. Populations, languages and cultures find themselves in conflictual relations with the forces of global uniformisation. The concept of literature has changed significantly in this globalized world. The regional and culturally homogenous mode of literary production is challenged a global type of discourse and practice. Cultural and linguistic aspects of globalization, literary discontinuities and multilingualism in literature are analyzed from a transcultural perspective.

M3ICa (900 482 or 900 552) - Visual Communication

Visualization is one of the most prominent features in international communication. This course focuses on the structures, functions as well as on the formats and contents of visual communication. Visual and textual communication complement each other. But visual communication transcends national borders more easily since images are – at least on the level of human perception – not restricted by language barriers. Textual communication also follows a different communication pattern than visual communication. While mass media texts are usually read and interpreted according to an underlying argumentative structure, the logic of mass media images is rather based on association. As a consequence the global transfer of visual mass media products appears to be easy, because no translation of the image seems to be necessary. But images from other cultures can violate cultural and religious traditions and thus create social and political tension. Moreover, visual content is interpreted in different ways around the world. The contextualization of visual communication also in terms of its role in mixed sign systems, especially in audio-visual communication is thus an important aspect of this

course. Students learn how the social, political and cultural environments in which visual media are perceived are crucial for comprehending the structures, functions and messages of global visual communication. The visual material used may vary from year to year.

The Foundation Seminar (900 482) provides an overview of subjects, theories, and concepts of Visual Communication.

The Issues Course (900 552) deepens these insights by focusing on concrete case studies.

M3ICb (900 571 or 900 572) - Transnational and Global Communication

This module covers communication processes that cross the borders of national societies, cultures and milieus or that transcend such demarcations altogether. Topics include: the cross-border flow of information and entertainment, the establishment of transnational or global media offerings such as satellite television or the World Wide Web, the emergence of hybrid media cultures as well as the mobile communication environments of migrant communities or transnational elites.

The module links communication to the processes of political, cultural and economic transnationalization and the emergence of cross-cultural networks: Are these different developments synchronous or asynchronous, and which links can be discerned between them? Answering these questions will clarify, among other things, the propensity of the different visual media to foster the emergence of transnational or global audiences, markets or public spheres, to provide opportunities for transnational civil society actors and to facilitate dialogue in situations of conflict and war. Students will thus explore the factors hindering and facilitating the production of shared visual meaning across different socio-economic, technological, cultural and political contexts: from transnational and transcultural to global visual communication.

The Foundation Seminar (900 571) provides an overview of subjects, theories, and concepts of Visual Communication.

The Issues Course (900 572) deepens these insights by focusing on concrete case studies.

Module 4 - Optional courses

Any graduate course from the Social Sciences or Humanities at Jacobs University.

Module 5 - Research in Intercultural Humanities

M5R - Interdisciplinary Research Colloquium

(Jacobs course numbers: 600 601, 600 602, 600 701, 600 702, 600 801, 600802)

Interdisciplinary research colloquium taught over four semesters. In the 2nd semester students attend the Humanities Methods Course as part of the research colloquium.

Overview of modules and courses

	Module		Courses
M1	Theoretical Foundations and Methods in Intercultural Humanities	M1H 800 502 M1L 600 431 M1A 600 432 M1M 990 501	Concepts of Historical Research and History-Writing beyond the Nation-State Literary Theory and Intercultural Approaches Intercultural Approaches in Art History and Visual Theory Advanced Qualitative Methods
M2	Historical Perspectives on Inter- and Transcultural Phenomena	M2H 600 464 M2L 600 441	History of World Religions in the Modern Age Literary History in Inter- and Transcultural Contexts
M3	Intercultural Issues in the Contemporary World	M3H 800 411 M3L 600 442 M3ICa 900 482 or 900 552 M3ICb 900 571 or 900 572	Globalization in a Historical Perspective: Culture and Society Migration, Globalization, Multilingualism and Literature Visual Communication Transnational and Global Communication
M4	Optional Courses	M4O	(any graduate course offered at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences)
M5	Research in Intercultural Humanities	M4R 600 601 600 602 600 701 600 702 600 801 600 802 990131	Interdisciplinary research colloquium (To be taken each semester course numbers will vary). Humanities Methods Course "Foundations of Cultural Analysis" (990 131) as part of the colloquium in the 1st semester

4.3 Course requirements and workload

Requirements per semester:

Semesters 1-3: 3 courses each semester + 1 colloquium

Semester 4: thesis + 1 colloquium

Overall course load:

3 Courses Module 1 (Theoretical Foundation and Methods in Intercultural Humanities)

2 Courses Module 2 (Historical Perspectives on Inter- and Transcultural Phenomena)

3 Courses Module 3 (Intercultural Issues in the Contemporary World)

1 Course Module 4 (Optional Courses)

4 Courses Module 5 (Research in Intercultural Humanities)

Course requirements:

The usual requirements for each graduate course include (additional requirements not being foreclosed):

- Regular reading of the mandatory literature
- Active participation in class discussions
- In-class presentations
- Producing research papers.

Workload:

The usual workload of graduate courses is as follows (deviations in specific cases not foreclosed):

- Course attendance and participation: 35 hours
- Course reading: 70 hours
- Presentation, research, writing: 120 hours

- Total: 225 hours = 7.5 ECTS

ECTS calculus:

3 Courses Module 1	3 x 7.5	=	22.5 ECTS
2 Courses Module 2	2 x 7.5	=	15.0 ECTS
3 Courses Module 3	3 x 7.5	=	22.5 ECTS
1 Course Module 4	1 x 7.5	=	7.5 ECTS
4 Courses Module 5	4 x 7.5	=	30.0 ECTS
M.A. Thesis			22.5 ECTS

Total: 120.0 ECTS

4.4 Exemplary Semester Plan

Semester	History	Literature	History and Theory of Art/International Communication	Methods	Optional courses	Research Colloquium
1 Fall	M3H 800 411	M2L 600 441		M1M 990 501		M5R /HMC 600 601 / 990 131
2 Spring	M1H 800 502	M3L 600 442			M4O	M5R 600 602
3 Fall	M2H 600 464	M1L 600 431	M3lcb 900 571 / 900 572			M5R 600 701
4 Spring						M5R 600 702

4.5 Course Offerings for Two Successive Cohorts

Each course in Literature, History and Theory of Art, Religious Studies, Media and History has to be taught at least once over three semesters. The two courses in Global Visual Communication and the Methods course will be taught every second semester. Optional courses are to be selected from the regular M.A. programs in the Social Sciences and from additional course offerings in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Semester (1 st /2 nd cohort)	History	Literature	History and Theory of Art/International Communication	Methods	Optional courses	Research Colloquium
1 Fall	M2H 600 464	M1L 600 431	M3lcb 900 571/ 900 572	M1M 990 501	M4O	M5R/HMC 600 601 / 990 131
2 Spring	M1H 800 502	M3L 600 442	M1A, M3lca 600 432, 900 482/ 900 552		M4O	M5R 600 602
3/1 Fall	M3H 800 411	M2L 600 441	M3lcb 900 571/ 900 572	M1M 990 501	M4O	M5R /HMC 600 701 / 990 131

4/2 Spring	M2H 600 464	M1L 600 431	M3lca 900 482/ 900 552		M4O	M5R 600 702
3 Fall	M1H 800 502	M3L 600 442	M1A, M3lcb 600 432, 900 571/ 900 572	M1M 990 501	M4O	M5R/HMC 600 801 / 990 131
4 Spring			M3lca		M4O	M5R 600 802

5. Structure of the Research-Only Ph.D. Program

The Ph.D. program in Intercultural Humanities is a three year Research-Only Ph.D. program. Students receive a Ph.D. title in the discipline of their research project. Ph.D. students are required to participate in the interdisciplinary research colloquium and write a thesis. For further clarification see Policies and Procedure Governing Graduate Study: (<http://www.jacobs-university.de/policies-graduate>).