Announcement

Academic year 2021/2022 – issued on 24 June 2022 – number 229

Any designations of functions are neutral in gender.

Curricula

229 Curriculum for the master’s programme in Epistemologies of Science and Technology (EST)

German translation: Epistemologien von Wissenschaft und Technik

At its meeting on 23 June 2022, the Senate approved the Curriculum for the master’s programme in Epistemologies of Science and Technology (EST) specified below, which was resolved on 13 June 2022 by the Curriculum Committee, a body holding decision-making power, and established in accordance with section 25, para. 8, no. 3 and para. 1, no. 10a of the 2002 Universities Act.

The legal basis is the 2002 Universities Act and the section of the Statutes of the University of Vienna governing university studies as amended from time to time.

§ 1 Objectives and qualification profile

(1) The objective of the master’s programme in Epistemologies of Science and Technology (EST) is to train students for reflecting in a critical and productive and guiding way on the challenges of the 21st century which is shaped by disruptions in science and technology.

The master’s programme in EST comprises the disciplines of philosophy, history, and science and technology studies. The range of courses offered enables students to acquire subject-specific knowledge and methodological competences in all three areas, as well as an understanding of joint areas of research from multiple perspectives. Students have the opportunity to choose individual focus areas and specialisations and to acquire knowledge in other disciplines. This allows for innovative research combinations and original specialisations.

Philosophy of science, history of science, and science and technology studies focus on the analysis of practices and structures which generate, negotiate, impart, use and challenge knowledge. In this sense, they are epistemologies.

(2) Beyond a bachelor’s qualification, graduates of the master’s programme in EST are qualified to investigate, understand and assess the following subject areas:

(a) Historic and present developments of knowledge, science and technology as well as their relation to environment, society and culture, including
(b) The ties between science and technology in technoscience; and

(c) Considerations about (a) and (b) in a variety of discourses (ranging from literature to theology, from philosophy to history, from sociology to politics, from sustainability to digitalisation).

Students acquire competences in a variety of research methods. These range from basic procedures of qualitative methods, such as source criticism, to logical reconstruction of arguments, ethnographic observations and a repertoire of more recent methods. For example, these include empirical philosophy, computational analyses, big data or the history of data infrastructures, approaches in transformative history and philosophy of science, such as epistemic decolonialisation and global history of science. In addition, students acquire knowledge of methods which take into account diversity, atypical embodied persons and critical race theory.

One particular characteristic of the master’s programme in EST is that it promotes the targeted specialisation of students in the focus module. In the emphasis module, students complete courses in other disciplines to develop an individual additional profile, such as in natural and engineering science, in the humanities or in the social sciences. Furthermore, the master’s programme aims at interdisciplinarity at all levels: Students learn to consolidate questions and methods from the fields of history of science, philosophy of science and science and technology studies.

The master’s programme in EST enables students to prepare for a career taking into account the various challenges of the 21st century, and to address these challenges in a well-founded manner from the perspectives of history, philosophy and social sciences. The degree programme places special attention on the ability to work in teams as well as on the ability to write about and discuss issues in a clear and convincing way.

In the courses of the degree programme, students address contents and methods meeting the current state of research in the relevant discipline. The focus is on academically sound reflection guided by the current state of research. The master’s programme in EST serves the further consolidation of the competences and content acquired in the bachelor’s programme.

Graduates of the master’s programme in EST have a wide range of career options, including

- Doctoral degree in one of the constituting disciplines; positions in
- science and technology journalism;
- Career in political consulting, data ethics and technology assessment;
- Positions aimed at promoting public awareness of science and technology in increasingly complex and highly engineered environments;
- Management positions in academic administration, international organisations with a focus on technology as well as academic associations and societies;
- Editorial activities at newspapers, specialist journals and publishers; author of specialist books;
- Positions in public history, local cultural offices, collections, museums and archives.

Classes are held in German and English. Therefore, students must be proficient in both German and English. Language proficiency in English corresponding to level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference is recommended.
§ 2 Duration and scope

(1) The workload for the master's programme in EST comprises 120 ECTS credits. This is equivalent to a degree programme duration of four semesters.

(2) The programme is deemed completed if 40 ECTS credits as defined in the provisions on compulsory modules, 50 ECTS credits as defined in the provisions on alternative compulsory modules and/or elective modules, 25 ECTS credits as defined in the provisions on the master's thesis and 5 ECTS credits as defined in the provisions on the master's examination have been obtained.

§ 3 Entry requirements

(1) To be admitted to the master's programme in EST students must have completed an eligible bachelor's programme or an eligible degree programme at the same level of university education at a recognised Austrian or foreign post-secondary educational institution.

(2) The bachelor's programmes in History or Philosophy, as well as all social sciences programmes at the University of Vienna are certainly eligible. In addition, the master's programme also targets graduates of other disciplines, such as astronomy, biology, chemistry, physics, geography, mathematics, computer science, economics, ancient history, prehistoric and protohistoric archaeology, Byzantine studies and modern Greek studies, history of art, classical archaeology, Jewish studies, European ethnology or Egyptology.

(3) To compensate for significant disciplinary differences, supplementary examinations can be stipulated, which have to be completed until the end of the second semester of the master's programme. The Rectorate may specify which supplementary examinations are a prerequisite for taking examinations specified in the Curriculum of the master's programme.

(4) If the significant disciplinary differences according to para. 3 exceed the extent of 30 ECTS credits, this is not considered an eligible degree programme and the student is not admitted to the master's programme.

§ 4 Academic degree

Graduates of the master's programme in EST are awarded the academic degree “Master of Arts”, abbreviated as MA. Where the academic degree is stated this must be after the name.

§ 5 Structure – Modules with allocated ECTS credits

(1) Overview

M 1 Basics 15 ECTS credits [alternative compulsory modules]

- Previous studies – bachelor’s programme in Philosophy:
  Module M1.1 “Basic Knowledge of History/Science and Technology Studies”:
    - History 5-10 ECTS credits
Science and Technology Studies 5-10 ECTS credits
Previous studies –

• bachelor’s programme in History:
  Module M1.2 “Basic Knowledge of Philosophy/Science and Technology Studies”:
  • Philosophy 6-10 ECTS credits
  • Science and Technology Studies 5-9 ECTS credits

• studies:
  Module M1.3 “Basic Knowledge of History/ Philosophy/Science and Technology Studies”:
  • Philosophy 5 ECTS
  • History 5 ECTS credits
  • Science and Technology Studies 5 ECTS credits

M 2 Core, EST Colloquia 30 ECTS credits [compulsory module]

• Introductory Colloquium 5 ECTS credits
• Methods Colloquium 10 ECTS credits
• Materials Colloquium 10 ECTS credits
• Master Colloquium 5 ECTS credits

M 3 Individual Focus 35 ECTS credits [alternative compulsory modules] Students specialise in two or three defined fields of studies:

M 3.1 Focus in two fields of study 35 ECTS credits
M 3.2 Focus in three fields of study 35 ECTS credits

M 4 Additional Specialisation 10 ECTS credits [compulsory module]
Courses from specific disciplines or from the three defined fields of studies selected with regard to the master’s thesis project or, alternatively, an individual study project

M 5 Master’s Thesis 26 ECTS credits [compulsory module]

M 6 Master’s Examination 4 ECTS credits [compulsory module]

(2) Module descriptions

M1 Basics [alternative compulsory module]

Learning outcomes
Compensating for existing differences in prior academic knowledge considering interdisciplinary competences.

Which compulsory module do students have to complete?

Subject to availability and depending on their previous education, students complete one of the three following alternative compulsory modules.
• Previous studies – bachelor’s programme in Philosophy:
  *Module M1.1* "Basic Knowledge of History/Science and Technology Studies": 5 ECTS credits each from the fields of history, and science and technology studies, further
  5 ECTS credits optionally from the field of history, or science and technology studies

• Previous studies – bachelor’s programme in History:
  *Module M1.2* "Basic Knowledge of Philosophy/Science and Technology Studies": 5 ECTS credits each from the fields of philosophy, and science and technology studies, further
  5 ECTS credits optionally from the field of philosophy, or science and technology studies

• All other previous studies:
  *Module M1.3* "Basic Knowledge of History/Philosophy/Science and Technology Studies": 5 ECTS credits each from the fields of philosophy, history, and science and technology studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M1.1</th>
<th>Basic Knowledge of History/Science and Technology Studies (alternative compulsory module)</th>
<th>15 ECTS credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisite</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module outcomes</td>
<td>In this module, students who have completed the bachelor’s programme in Philosophy acquire basic competences enabling them to understand and critically assess discourses both in the field of history of science as well as in science and technology studies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Module structure

1. Students complete the following compulsory courses comprising 5 ECTS credits in total.

   **From the master’s programme in Science - Technology - Society:**

   - VO Science, Technology, Society (STS): Key Questions and Concepts, 4 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)
   - KO Discussion Class: Key Questions and Concepts, 1 ECTS credit, 1 SSt. (pi)

2. Subject to availability, students choose courses comprising 10 ECTS credits in total from the following list:

   **From the bachelor’s or master’s programme in History:**

   - VO Focus Area: History of Science, master’s programme, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)
   - VO History of Science, bachelor’s programme, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)
   - UE Guided Reading: History of Science, bachelor’s programme, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)
   - UE Historical Sources, Qualitative and Quantitative Methods, bachelor’s programme, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)
   - PS Introductory seminar on the history of science, medicine and technology, bachelor’s programme, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)
   - SE Seminar on the history of science, medicine and technology, bachelor’s programme, 10 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)

   **From the extension curriculum for Science - Technology - Society (optional):**

   - UK, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)

Students who completed the extension curriculum for Science - Technology - Society already in their bachelor’s programme can only select courses for this module which they have not yet completed.

### Proof of performance:

- Passing of all course examinations (non-continuous assessment) and continuous assessment courses (pi) comprising 15 ECTS credits in total

### M1.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Knowledge of Philosophy/Science and Technology Studies (alternative compulsory module)</th>
<th>15 ECTS credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisite</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module outcomes</td>
<td>In this module, students who have completed the bachelor's programme in History acquire basic competences enabling them to understand and critically assess discourses both in the field of philosophy of science as well as in science and technology studies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Module structure                                                              | Subject to availability, students choose courses comprising 15 ECTS credits in total:  

6-10 ECTS credits in the following courses from the bachelor's programme in Philosophy (2017), subject to availability:  

- VU Reasoning in Philosophy, 7 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)  
- VO Epistemology, 3 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)  
- VO Theory of Science, 3 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)  

From the master's programme in Science - Technology - Society:  

- VO Science, Technology, Society (STS): Key Questions and Concepts, 4 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)  
- KO Discussion Class: Key Questions and Concepts, 1 ECTS credit, 1 SSt. (pi)  

From the extension curriculum for Science - Technology - Society:  

- UK, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)  

Students who completed the extension curriculum for Science - Technology - Society already in their bachelor's programme can only select courses for this module which they have not yet completed. |
| Proof of performance:                                                         | Passing of all course examinations (non-continuous assessment) and continuous assessment courses (pi) comprising 15 ECTS credits in total |
| M1.3                                                                          | Basic Knowledge of History/ Philosophy/Science and Technology Studies (alternative compulsory module)  

15 ECTS credits  

Prerequisite                                                                 | none |
<p>| Module outcomes                                                               | In this module, students who completed neither a bachelor's programme in History nor a bachelor's programme in Philosophy acquire basic competences enabling them to understand and critically assess discourses in the field of philosophy of science, history of science as well as in science and technology studies. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module structure</th>
<th>Subject to availability, students choose courses comprising 15 ECTS credits in total:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>5 ECTS credits in the following courses from the bachelor’s or master’s programme in History, subject to availability:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• VO Focus Area: History of Science, master’s programme, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• VO History of Science, bachelor’s programme, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• UE Guided Reading: History of Science, bachelor’s programme, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• (pi)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• UE Historical Sources, Qualitative and Quantitative Methods, bachelor’s programme, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• PS Introductory seminar on the history of science, medicine and technology, bachelor’s programme, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• SE Seminar on the history of science, medicine and technology, bachelor’s programme, 10 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>5 ECTS credits from the bachelor’s programme in Philosophy (2017):</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• SE or VO-L from M-15 Philosophy of Science, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi or npi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>5 ECTS credits from the master’s programme in Science - Technology - Society:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• VO Science, Technology, Society (STS): Key Questions and Concepts, 4 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• KO Discussion Class Key Questions and Concepts, 1 ECTS credit, 1 SSt. (pi)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Proof of performance | Passing of all course examinations (non-continuous assessment) and continuous assessment courses (pi) comprising 15 ECTS credits in total |

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**M2 Core, EST Colloquia [compulsory module]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M 2</th>
<th>Core, EST Colloquia (compulsory module)</th>
<th>30 ECTS credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisite</td>
<td>none</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Module outcomes

The courses in this module are held exclusively for students of the master’s programme in EST and provide an opportunity to study central texts of the discipline and acquire the necessary methodological skills, thus preparing students for writing their master’s thesis. Students acquire the necessary competences for joint interdisciplinary work on key issues and for developing joint strategies. These competences include a critical understanding of different approaches, methods and materials in the fields of history of science, philosophy of science, and science and technology studies. Students apply and develop these competences by discussing the work of fellow students in the master’s programme in a constructive way.

Module structure

- SE Introductory Colloquium, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)
- SE Methods Colloquium (Philosophy, and Science and Technology Studies), 10 ECTS credits, 4 SSt. (pi)
- SE Materials Colloquium (History of Science), 10 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)
- Master Colloquium, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)

Proof of performance

Passing of all continuous assessment (pi) courses specified in the module comprising 30 ECTS credits in total

**M3 Individual Focus** [alternative compulsory modules]

*Learning outcomes:*
Profound understanding of the contents and methods in two or three defined fields of study

*Prerequisites:* none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M 3.1</th>
<th>Individual focus on two fields of study (alternative compulsory module)</th>
<th>35 ECTS credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisite</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Module outcomes

Students acquire profound competences in two of three defined fields of study.

In the field of philosophy of science and technology, students acquire sound knowledge of the field of modern philosophy of science, and obtain the necessary competences for the philosophical discussion of science and technology from a historic and systematic perspective as well as for the critical discussion of theories of knowledge in social philosophy, cultural philosophy and theories of knowledge derived from epistemology.

In the field of history of science and technology, students acquire profound knowledge of the contexts in which knowledge of science and technology develop in a social context, gain an understanding of how existing knowledge is shared, communicated and preserved globally; what role institutions, media, instruments and material carriers play in the process; which transformations occur (e.g. development of hierarchies, standardisation, naturalisation or digitalisation), and learn about the history of research methods in connection with the places at which evidence is generated.

In the field of science and technology studies, students acquire profound knowledge of the interaction between science, technology and society in contemporary societies. Students address current research topics from the field of science and technology studies and learn to apply concepts and methods from the field of social sciences in these contexts.

1) Subject to availability, students choose courses comprising 20 ECTS credits in total from two of the following three areas (10 ECTS credits each):

- Philosophy of science and technology 10 ECTS credits
- History of science and technology 10 ECTS credits
- Science and technology studies 10 ECTS credits

2) Subject to availability, students choose courses comprising 15 ECTS credits in total from the fields specified under (1).

In the entire module, students must complete courses with continuous assessment (pi) comprising at least 15 ECTS credits.

Courses for (1) and (2) may be selected from:

**Philosophy of science and technology**

*From the master's programme in Philosophy:*
Module structure

**M1 Compulsory module: Mind-World-Language**
- SE, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)
- VO-L, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)

**M2 Compulsory module: Practice-Society-Culture**
- SE, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)
- VO-L, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)

**M3 Compulsory module: Specialisation Module: A. Epistemology, Philosophy of Science, Media Theory and Philosophy of Technology**
- VO-L, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)
- SE, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)

Alternatively, depending on the individual specialisation selected and subject to prior approval from the competent body responsible for study matters
- FS 10 ECTS credits, 4 SSt. (pi)

*From the curriculum for the master’s programme in Philosophy and Economics:*
- M5.PHME-IP (Philosophy, History and Methodology of Economics), SE, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)

*From the curriculum for the master’s programme in MEiCogSci:*
- B-I-CS Introduction to Cognitive Science I, VO, 3 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)
- SE Introduction to Cognitive Science I, 2 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)

**History of science and technology**

*From the master’s programme in History*
- VO Focus Area: History of Science, master’s programme, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi) [if not already completed in the module Basics (M 1.1 or M 1.3)]
- UE Reading Course, 5 ECTS credits each, 2 SSt. (pi)
- UE Methodological Course, 5 ECTS credits each, 2 SSt. (pi)
- UE Methodological Workshop, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)
- SE Research Seminar, 10 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)

Science and Technology Studies

From the master's programme in Science - Technology - Society
Group of elective modules: Research Specialisations

- VO, 4 ECTS credits each, 2 SSt. (pi)
- KO, 1 ECTS credit each, 1 SSt. (pi)
- SE, 5 ECTS credits each, 2 SSt. (pi)

Students may select several courses of the same course type from the range of courses offered in the master's programme in Science - Technology - Society.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proof of performance:</th>
<th>Passing of all course examinations (non-continuous assessment) and continuous assessment courses (pi) comprising 35 ECTS credits in total</th>
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</table>

or

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M 3.2</th>
<th>Focus in three fields of study (alternative compulsory module)</th>
<th>35 ECTS credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisite</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Module outcomes</strong></td>
<td>Students acquire profound competences in all three defined fields of study.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In the field of philosophy of science and technology, students acquire sound knowledge of the field of modern philosophy of science, and obtain the necessary competences for the philosophical discussion of science and technology from a historic and systematic perspective as well as for the critical discussion of theories of knowledge in social philosophy, cultural philosophy and theories of knowledge derived from epistemology.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In the field of history of science and technology, students acquire profound knowledge of the contexts in which knowledge of science and technology develop in a social context, gain an understanding of how existing knowledge is shared, communicated and preserved globally; what role institutions, media, instruments and material carriers play in the process; which transformations occur (e.g. development of hierarchies, standardisation, naturalisation or digitalisation), and learn about the history of research methods in connection with the places at which evidence is generated.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In the field of science and technology studies, students acquire profound knowledge of the interaction between science, technology and society in contemporary societies. Students address current research topics from the field of science and technology studies and learn to apply concepts and methods from the field of social sciences in these contexts.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1) Subject to availability, students choose courses comprising 15 ECTS credits in total from the following three areas (5 ECTS credits each): | Philosophy of science and technology 5 ECTS credits  
History of science and technology 5 ECTS credits  
Science and technology studies 5 ECTS credits |
| 2) Subject to availability, students choose courses comprising 20 ECTS credits in total from the fields specified under (1). | In the entire module, students must complete courses with continuous assessment (pi) comprising at least 15 ECTS credits. |
| Courses for (1) and (2) may be selected from: | Courses for (1) and (2) may be selected from: |
| **Philosophy of science and technology** | **Philosophy of science and technology** |
| From the master’s programme in | From the master’s programme in |
| Philosophy: M1 Compulsory module: | Philosophy: M1 Compulsory module: |
Module structure

- SE, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)
- VO-L, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)

**M2 Compulsory module: Practice-Society-Culture**

- SE, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)
- VO-L, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)

**M3 Compulsory module: Specialisation Module: A. Epistemology, Philosophy of Science, Media Theory and Philosophy of Technology**

- VO-L, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)
- SE, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)

*Alternatively, depending on the individual specialisation selected and subject to prior approval from the competent body responsible for study matters*

- FS 10 ECTS credits, 4 SSt. (pi)

*From the curriculum for the master’s programme in Philosophy and Economics:*

- M5.PHME-IP (Philosophy, History and Methodology of Economics), SE, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)

*From the curriculum for the master’s programme in MEi:CogSci:*

- B-I-CS Introduction to Cognitive Science I, VO, 3 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi)
- SE Introduction to Cognitive Science I, 2 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)

**History of science and technology**

*From the master’s programme in History*

- VO Focus Area: History of Science, master’s programme, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (npi) [if not already completed in the module Basics (M 1.1 or M 1.3)]
- UE Reading Course, 5 ECTS credits each, 2 SSt. (pi)
- UE Methodological Course, 5 ECTS credits each, 2 SSt. (pi)
- UE Methodological Workshop, 5 ECTS credits each, 2 SSt. (pi)
SE Research Seminar, 10 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. (pi)

Science and Technology Studies

From the master’s programme in Science - Technology - Society
Group of elective modules: Research Specialisations

- VO, 4 ECTS credits each, 2 SSt. (pi)
- KO, 1 ECTS credit each, 1 SSt. (pi)
- SE, 5 ECTS credits each, 2 SSt. (pi)

Students may select several courses of the same course type from the range of courses offered in the master’s programme in Science - Technology - Society.

Proof of performance: Passing of all course examinations (non-continuous assessment) and continuous assessment courses (pi) comprising 35 ECTS credits in total

**M 4 Additional Specialisation [compulsory module]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M4</th>
<th>Additional Specialisation (compulsory module)</th>
<th>10 ECTS credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisite</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module outcomes</td>
<td>In this module, students acquire the competences required for the degree programme and, in particular, for writing the master’s thesis. These include competences in the field of history of science, philosophy of science, and science and technology studies, or in the relevant field of science and technology addressed in the master’s thesis.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Module structure

a) Upon prior approval from the competent body responsible for study matters, students may select courses (npi or pi) which are directly related to the topic of the master's thesis. Students may, for objective reasons, also select courses from curricula of other disciplines, or from language courses. Only courses completed after approval from the competent body responsible for study matters may be used.

b) Alternatively and subject to prior approval from the competent body responsible for study matters, students may also select a study project (PR) comprising 10 ECTS credits. The study project enables students to work on topics that are relevant to the degree programme, related to practice and, if possible, relevant to the master's thesis in a cooperation or project they initiated.

Based on the concrete example, students have the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to reflect on the fields of history, philosophy and social science, and to practice the intercultural and effective public presentation of their project. As part of the study project, students learn to present their questions and knowledge at a high level in a clear way targeted at the relevant medium, and to communicate their project to the (academic) public. Students complete partial achievements, such as a final report, as part of their study project. The competent body responsible for study matters specifies the regulations for eligible study projects.

Proof of performance

Passing of the courses (10 ECTS credits) or confirmation of the successful completion of the study project (10 ECTS credits)

§ 6 Master's thesis

(1) The master's thesis serves to demonstrate the student's ability to achieve adequate standards of content and methodology when independently addressing academic topics. The assignment for the master's thesis must be so chosen that the participant can reasonably be expected to complete it within six months.

(2) The topic of the master's thesis must be taken from one of the compulsory modules and/or alternative compulsory modules. If a different topic is selected or if there is uncertainty regarding the allocation of the selected topic, the competent body responsible for study matters decides on whether or not it is admissible.

(3) The master's thesis comprises 26 ECTS credits.

§ 7 Master's examination

(1) To be admitted to a master's examination the student must have successfully passed all required modules and examinations and the master's thesis must have been positively assessed.

(2) The master's examination is a public defence and an examination on the academic disciplines related to the master's thesis as well as an examination covering one additional subject area. The additional subject area must be chosen from the group of elective modules M 3. Students are recommended to select one of the additional
specialisations from elective module M 3 in which they did not write their master’s thesis. Grading will be conducted as stipulated in the Statutes of the University of Vienna.

(3) The master’s examination is conducted before an examination committee in accordance with the section of the University’s Statutes governing university studies.

(4) The master’s examination comprises 4 ECTS credits – 2 ECTS credits for the public defence of the master’s thesis and an examination on the academic disciplines related to the master’s thesis, and 2 ECTS credits for the examination on the additional subject area.

§ 8 Mobility during the master’s programme

(1) Mobility during the master’s programme is optional. Students completing a stay abroad are recommended to go abroad in the third semester of the master’s programme. To facilitate stays abroad, the SE Materials Colloquium is usually held as a block-mode course. When selecting the host university, students have to enquire in advance whether the relevant university offers courses which can be recognised for M 3 or M 4.

(2) The competent body responsible for study matters is responsible for the recognition of academic achievements completed abroad.

§ 9 Course classification

(1) All courses with non-continuous assessment (npi) have to be offered as one of the following types of courses:

- **Lecture (Vorlesung, VO):**

  Lectures serve the purpose of presenting topics, subjects and methods while critically taking different academic opinions into account. The lecture is completed with an oral or written examination.

- **Lecture with additional required reading (VO-L):**

  Course taking the form of a lecture with a high share of accompanying independent reading to be completed by students. The required literature is related to the content of the lecture. The reading list is announced at the beginning of the lecture and is part of the examination content of the lecture.

(2) All courses with continuous assessment (pi) have to be offered as one of the following types of courses:

- **Seminar (SE):**

  Seminars serve the development of theoretical, subject-specific and methodological competences. Seminars are primarily interactive courses from a didactic point of view and enable students to acquire and practice the application of central academic working methods. Assessment is based on several written and/or oral achievements completed by students during the course. These achievements may include participation, oral presentations, papers written as part of the seminar or to complete the seminar, as well as final written examinations.
• **Exercise (Übung, UE):**
Exercises are courses of an introductory nature during which students actively acquire specified course contents.

• **Research seminar (Forschungsseminar, FS):**
Course taking the form of a seminar. Research seminars enable students to address relevant research topics in a focused and research-led way. The focus is on independent research conducted by students.

• **Course (Kurs, KU):**
Course with continuous assessment that applies interactive didactics. Students complete regular assignments to critically deal with the reading materials, expand their knowledge through additional research, reflect on the topics of discussion and prepare group assignments together during the course.

• **Conversatorium (Konversatorium, KO):**
Conversatorias are courses that accompany lectures and enable students to interactively deal with the contents covered in the lecture. This mainly takes place through discussions about the texts and case studies addressed in the lecture. The assessment is based on students’ contributions to the lecture in the form of participation, as well as short written or oral achievements completed during the course.

• **Lecture with exercise (Vorlesung mit Übung, VU):**
Lectures with exercises contain lecture and exercise parts. Assessment is based on regular attendance and achievements.

• **University course (Universitätskurs, UK):**
University courses are courses with continuous assessment and are a combination of lecture and exercise. Teachers present central approaches in lectures and students provide additional input. The acquired knowledge is used to analyse and discuss concrete cases.

• **Introductory seminars (Proseminar, PS):**
Introductory seminars enable students to practise the application of central academic working methods on a specific issue, in particular by writing and presenting a short written paper. Assessment is based on regular attendance and achievements.

• **Practical course (Praktikum, PR) study project:**
The study project enables students to work on topics that are relevant to the degree programme, related to practice and, if possible, relevant to the master's thesis in a cooperation or project they initiated. Based on the concrete example, students have the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to reflect on the fields of history, philosophy and social science, and to practice the intercultural and effective public presentation of their project. As part of the study project, students learn to present their questions and knowledge at a high level in a clear way targeted at the relevant medium, and to communicate their project to the (academic) public.
Students complete partial achievements, such as a final report or presentations, as part of the study project. The competent body responsible for study matters specifies the regulations for eligible study projects. The study project is assessed with “participated with success” or “participated without success”.

§ 10 Courses with a limited number of participants and registration procedure

(1) The following general limits on the number of students apply in the following courses:

Seminar: 25

Courses with continuous assessment from other curricula that students attend as part of this Curriculum are subject to the limited number of participants as specified in the related curriculum.

(2) Modalities concerning the registration for courses and examinations as well as the allocation of places in courses are governed by the stipulations of the Statutes of the University of Vienna.

§ 11 Examination regulations

(1) Proof of performance in courses
The lecturer of a course is responsible for making the necessary announcements according to the stipulations in the Statutes.

(2) Examination content
The examination content relevant to preparing and holding examinations must be in line with the required number of ECTS credits. This also applies to module examinations.

(3) Examination procedure
The examination procedure is subject to the stipulations of the Statutes of the University of Vienna.

(4) No double recognition and no dual use
Courses taken and examinations passed in the degree programme, which constitute entry requirements for the master's programme, can only be recognised in the master's programme if there is no significant difference between the learning outcomes of the master's programme and the learning outcomes of the bachelor's programme. Courses taken and examinations passed that are used, in particular, for qualitative entry requirements and on which the master's programme is based, cannot be recognised due to significant differences in the acquired competences. Courses taken and examinations passed from another compulsory or elective module of the degree programme cannot be recognised within another module within the same degree programme. This also applies to recognition procedures.

(5) Examination results must be allocated to the relevant module by the stated ECTS figure and must not be allocated to different proofs of performance.

§ 12 Entry into force

This Curriculum will enter into force upon announcement in the University Gazette of the University of Vienna as of 1 October 2022.
§ 13 Transitional provisions

(1) This Curriculum applies to all students who commence their degree programme as of the winter semester of 2022.

(2) If, at a later stage of the degree programme, courses are no longer offered which were compulsory under the original curricula, the competent body responsible for study matters decides ex officio (equivalence regulation) or at the request of the student which courses and examinations have to be completed instead.

(3) Students who have started the interdisciplinary master's programme in History and Philosophy of Science (HPS) before this date may voluntarily accept the provisions of this Curriculum by simple confirmation at any time.

(4) Students who started the master’s programme in History and Philosophy of Science (HPS) which entered into force prior to this Curriculum (University Gazette of 26 June 2013, 34th edition, no. 232 as amended) are entitled to complete their degree programme by 31 October 2024.

(5) The competent body responsible for study matters specified in the organisational regulations is entitled to determine in general or on a case-by-case basis which of the courses taken and examinations passed will be recognised for this Curriculum.

On behalf of the Senate:
The Chair of the Curriculum Committee
K r a m m e r

Appendix

Recommended path through the master’s programme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M1</th>
<th>15 ECTS credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M2</td>
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<td>30 ECTS</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Students should start planning and discuss the topic of their master’s thesis with potential supervisors at the beginning of the second semester. They should start to conduct research on the topic of the master’s thesis and to write the thesis in the third semester at the latest.

*English translation of the module titles:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>German</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M1 Grundkenntnisse (Pflichtmodulgruppe)</td>
<td>M1 Basics (group of compulsory modules)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2 Kernstudium EST-Kolloquium (Pflichtmodul)</td>
<td>M2 Core, EST Colloquia (compulsory module)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M3 Individuelle Schwerpunktsetzung (Alternative Pflichtmodule)</td>
<td>M3 Individual Focus (alternative compulsory modules)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M4 Vertiefung (Pflichtmodul)</td>
<td>M4 Additional Specialisation (compulsory module)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M5 Masterarbeit (Pflichtmodul)</td>
<td>M5 Master’s Thesis (compulsory module)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M6 Masterprüfung (Pflichtmodul)</td>
<td>M6 Master’s Examination (compulsory module)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>