

**Module description: “Work Experience”** (Version: 17 February 2010)

**Contents and objectives:**

Like the “Transferable Skills” module in semester one, this third-semester module puts emphasis on experiences and qualifications relevant to students’ future careers.

Students choose one of the following options:

**Option A)** Students can complete **internships in relevant businesses and organisations** of their choice, such as museums, festival organisations, publishers, the media, advertising agencies, consultants, international organisations (e.g. EU, UNESCO), government organisations and NGOs (e.g. dealing with migration, language policy or international relations), as well as multinational private businesses in various sectors. Internships shall cover a minimum of 150 working hours and can be completed on a part-time basis within the semester or on a full-time basis for a minimum of four weeks in the semester break.

**Option B)** Alternatively, students can acquire work experience in the academic sector by **teaching tutorials for B.A. students** at the WWU’s English Department during this semester. Each tutor teaches one tutorial (2 SWS = 30 h = 1 LP) and spends a further 120 h (4 LP) preparing his/her lessons, attending compulsory mentoring sessions for tutors (offered by the department’s academic teaching staff), and correcting/marking assignments completed by B.A. students in their tutorial. Most tutorials will be linked to the introductory survey courses for B.A. students, where the need for tutorials is greatest, i.e. “Grundkurs Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft I” (Foundations of Literary and Cultural Studies I), “Grundkurs Englische Sprachwissenschaft” (Foundations of English Linguistics), “Grundkurs Englische Sprachgeschichte” (Introduction to the History of the English Language) (all within the Module “Foundations for the Study of English Language, Literature and Culture”). In individual cases (where appropriate), tutorials may also accompany another course, e.g. a seminar in the B.A. 2nd-year modules “Texts and Theories” (literary & cultural studies) or “Linguistic Methods and Theories” (e.g. where the seminar topic ties in with the subjects of the M.A. course and the specialisations of the M.A. student offering the tutorial). Performance of tutors will be monitored through academic teaching staff (mentoring sessions) and through course evaluations by students attending the tutorials.

Work experience acquired *before* students embark on the MA programme can be given credit; the decision is incumbent on the dean’s evaluation.

All students (including those who have acquired their work experience prior to embarking on the Master programme) must write a report on their work experience

**On completion of this module, participants will have:**

- ✓ acquired practical and social skills in the public and/or private sector.
- ✓ acquired an awareness of the applicability of the MA program to various fields, such as public relations, media, publishing, multi-lingual enterprises.
- ✓ gained experience in project-oriented work.
- ✓ enhanced their language proficiency and intercultural competence.
- ✓ (for tutors:) a knowledge of methodical/theoretical aspects of teaching literary and cultural studies or linguistics in an academic context, e.g. with regard to quality criteria and strategies for good teaching, different teaching approaches/strategies/techniques etc.
- ✓ (for tutors:) practical experience in academic teaching and in teaching inter-/transcultural competence

**3rd semester** of the Master course (recommended)

**Status:**

compulsory

**Entry requirements:**

all 1st-semester modules passed

**Offered:**

annually (winter semester recommended)

**Alternative choices within the module:**

Several options possible

**Module coordinator:**

Curator of the English Department

**Weighting of module grade in calculation of final grade:** 0%

<b>Course type</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>SWS</b> <i>(class hours per teaching week)</i>	<b>LP</b> <i>(credit points)</i>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Of which relevant for grade</b>	<b>Entry requirements</b>
Work experience outside the university <i>or</i> academic work experience (tutorial for B.A. students)	Active participation in non-academic work <i>or</i> planning & teaching of a tutorial	/	6 (of which: 5 LP work; 1 LP assignment)	3	Report on the work experience gained	0%	
Portfolio (incl. report and certificate/written reference/performance evaluation from employer)	(100%)						
<b>Total</b>			<b>6</b>				