

# International Area Studies – Global Change Geography



## Master

**Master of Science**  
*bilingual (EN/DE)*

**120  
CP**



MARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITÄT  
HALLE-WITTENBERG



## Programme at a glance

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**Faculty of Natural Sciences 3** – Agrar- und Ernährungswissenschaften, Geowissenschaften und Informatik

**Institute** of Geosciences and Geography

**Programme type:** Bilingual master's programme with 120 credit points (CP), languages: English and German

**Degree:** Master of Science (MSc)

**Standard period of study:** 4 semesters

**Start of Studies:** Winter semester

**Specific admission requirements:** Yes

This study programme is **accredited**.

## Programme objectives

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The bilingual, consecutive master's programme in *International Area Studies - Global Change Geography* is unique in Germany.

It offers

- the opportunity to study global change phenomena in local contexts,
- a diverse range of courses that open up different geographical perspectives on human-environment relations/interactions,
- a specialization in Land System Science, Human Geography, Digital Geography, Social-Ecological Systems and combinations thereof,
- a portfolio of methods ranging from remote sensing and geoinformation technologies to the latest social science survey methods,
- a research-oriented teaching concept and the opportunity to participate in research projects within the framework of learning modules,
- interdisciplinary specialization through a wide range of elective modules and thus an interest-driven individual profile with diverse career prospects.

The *MSc International Areas Studies - Global Change Geography* focuses on today's major international challenges. These include, for example, opportunities and risks of globalisation, perspectives of the world economy, emergence and effects of international conflicts, land use change and its ecological impact, dealing with limited resources and climate change with its consequences. With the *MSc International Area Studies – Global Change Geography* you have the opportunity to study and critically analyse these and other aspects on the basis of an interdisciplinary, closely linked range of subjects, both conceptually and in the actual regional context. For this purpose, we offer you a range of courses in which you can flexibly choose your own focus and supplementary fields.

## Career opportunities

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With its strong interdisciplinary orientation, the master's programme provides you with professional skills in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary thinking and analysis. The *MSc International Area Studies – Global Change Geography* expands the specialised knowledge of bachelor's programmes to provides in-depth knowledge of spatial science and methods, enabling students to use academic methods to analyze problems independently, develop approaches to solutions and implement them in practice. The study programme can be configured in such a way that orientations towards research and application are possible.

The *MSc International Area Studies - Global Change Geography* opens career opportunities to professions that require an understanding of complex intersectoral and spatial relationships. It qualifies for both subject-related scientific work and the use of scientific expertise in the preparation of public and corporate decisions. Possible employers are universities and research institutions, companies, associations, state and municipal institutions as well as international organisations.

## Admission requirements

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Applicants must hold a **bachelor's degree or equivalent degree** in geography or comparable fields with a **minimum grade of 2.3 or better** according to the German academic grading scale.

A study programme is *comparable* if at least 10 CP have been obtained in geographical and spatial science methods (e.g. statistics or geographical information systems) and at least 60 CP have been obtained in at least three areas clearly related to planning sciences, environmental sciences, physical geography and human geography.

Decisions on comparability are made by the examination board on the basis of the transcript of records submitted.

Applicants must prove their **English language proficiency** by submitting either TOEFL, IELTS, Cambridge Certificate, Unicert II, German Abitur or an equivalent internationally recognised language certificate attesting **level B2** according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

However, proof of language proficiency is not required if the first degree was obtained in a study programme taught in English.

**Important note:** The *MSc International Area Studies* is a bilingual study programme (English/German). Therefore, international applicants must additionally prove their German language proficiency for studies. For further information, please see [www.uni-halle.de/apply](http://www.uni-halle.de/apply).

## Application

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The admission to the *MSc International Area Studies - Global Change Geography* is currently **not restricted** (no NC).

- Applicants with a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) obtained in Germany must apply via [www.uni-halle.de/bewerben](http://www.uni-halle.de/bewerben) by **31 August**.
- Applicants with a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) obtained abroad must apply via [www.uni-assist.de](http://www.uni-assist.de) by **15 June**.

Halle University reconsiders its admission policy every winter semester and determines whether admission to a study programme is restricted (Uni-NC) or free (no NC). From May each year, the current decision is published at [www.uni-halle.de/+iasma](http://www.uni-halle.de/+iasma).

Please also check this website for the documents required for the application as well as for possible changes.

# About Halle

## **Study IAS-GCG in Halle because ...**

- you can study geography in an integrative way with a focus on global change and its local and regional facets, especially at the intersection of human-environment relations.
- you can focus your studies on research or application and choose your own geographical track. In particular, an interdisciplinary and international orientation is more than welcome.
- you can start your professional career based on a wide methodological range from social science survey and evaluation techniques to laboratory and field analytics to digital methods (GIS and remote sensing) in depth.
- you can easily participate in research activities of the institute and the University of Halle; for example in the context of in-house projects on questions of global change or connect with the German Center for Integrative Biodiversity Research or the Center for Interdisciplinary Regional Studies.
- the consequences of the phase-out of coal mining and post-mining landscapes and the development of transformation regions are being researched here. Experts from various disciplines are gathered in Halle because this is not the first time that diverse economic, political, social and ecological transformation processes are taking place in this region.

# Modules

The content, learning objectives, workload, requirements and prerequisites of specific modules are published in the module catalogue and the *study and examination regulations* (in German only).

Module	CP	rec. sem.
<i>Compulsory modules (55 CP)</i>		
Understanding Global Change and International Areas: Key Concepts and Theories	10	1
Global and Regional Geographies - an Overview	5	2
Field Course	10	2
Master's thesis	30	4
<i>Elective modules (65 CP)</i>		
<i>Geography: Choose one of the following specialisation areas (min 30 CP, max 50 CP). In addition, choose from other areas to achieve further CP up to a maximum of 65 CP.</i>		
Land System Science		1-3
Human Geography		1-3
Digital Geography		1-3
Social-Ecological Systems		1-3
<i>Interdisciplinary Modules: Up to 20 CP can be achieved by choosing from this areas instead:</i>		
Ecosystem Analysis and Assessment • Informatics • Economics • Law • Social Sciences and Historical Cultural Studies • Agrarian Economy and Policy		

# Programme advisor

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Room H4 2.27

06120 Halle (Saale), Germany

→ [www.geo.uni-halle.de](http://www.geo.uni-halle.de) (in German and English; German description of this master's programme also available)



Campus Heide-Süd

## General student guidance

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E-Mail: [ssc@uni-halle.de](mailto:ssc@uni-halle.de)

Location: Studierenden-Service-Center (SSC),  
Universitätsplatz 11 → Löwengebäude,  
06108 Halle (Saale), Germany

*Office hours: see [www.uni-halle.de/ssc](http://www.uni-halle.de/ssc).*

*We recommend making an appointment in advance.*

## International students section

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E-Mail: [international.students@uni-halle.de](mailto:international.students@uni-halle.de)

Location: Studierenden-Service-Center (SSC),  
Universitätsplatz 11 → Löwengebäude, room 8  
06108 Halle (Saale), Germany

Postal address:

Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg  
06099 Halle (Saale)  
Germany

→ [www.uni-halle.de/international-students](http://www.uni-halle.de/international-students)

→ [www.uni-halle.de/apply](http://www.uni-halle.de/apply)

## Publisher's note

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Published by the general student guidance of *Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg*. The content is provided by the programme advisor. This leaflet is for informational purposes only. The information contained is not legally binding.

For latest news and further details see

[www.uni-halle.de/+iasma](http://www.uni-halle.de/+iasma)

