

The M.A. EYS is important and innovative because...

it is the first transnational and intercultural postgraduate degree in interdisciplinary European youth studies. It qualifies its graduates not only for an academic or professional Ph.D. programme in social sciences, humanities or educational science but also for cross-border and cross-field careers in the youth sector – in research, policy and practice and for combinations between these specialist areas.

The M.A. EYS sustains a community of scholarship and practice, serving to anchor structured dialogue between youth research, policy and practice and so contributing to policy-relevant research, evidence-based policy-making and informed, reflective practice.

Students' M.A. theses generate new knowledge and understanding of the quality and diversity of young people's lives – their circumstances, their ideas, their lifestyles and their prospects. Its graduates go on to make their mark as Europe's first generation of youth sector specialists capable of bridging gaps and forging innovative action across occupational, linguistic and national borders.

EU-LLP consortium universities

University of Innsbruck,

Institute of Educational Science (Austria)

Paissii Hilendarski State University Plovdiv,

Department of Applied and Institutional Sociology (Bulgaria)

National University of Ireland Maynooth,

Department of Applied Social Studies (Ireland)

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,

School of Psychology (Greece)

University of Lleida,

Department of Sociology and Geography (Catalonia/Spain)

University of Salerno,

Department of Political, Social and Communication Sciences (Italy)

University of Luxembourg,

Faculty of Language and Literature, Humanities, Arts and Education (Luxembourg)

University of Oslo,

Department of Educational Research (Norway)

University of Tampere,

School of Social Sciences and Humanities (Finland)

University of Glamorgan,

Faculty of Business and Society (Wales/UK)

Consortium Leader:

University of Innsbruck,

Institute of Educational Science (Austria)

Consortium Chairperson:

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Lynne Chisholm (Austria)

How to find out more

M.A. EYS website: www.youthstudies.eu

VLE: <http://dip.youthstudies.eu>

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M.A. EYS
EUROPEAN YOUTH STUDIES

EUROPEAN
POSTGRADUATE
EDUCATION
IN YOUTH STUDIES
RESEARCH. POLICY AND PRACTICE



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The idea...

for the M.A. European Youth Studies (M.A. EYS) goes back to the early 1990s. At that time an international community of research and practice in the youth field began to emerge. This happened in response to social, political and economic changes and challenges facing young people and youth workers, youth policy and youth research in the 'New Europe'.

The Council of Europe's European Youth Centres in Strasbourg and Budapest played a key role in facilitating the debates and exchanges from which the vision of an M.A. EYS developed.

The M.A. EYS development project...

was established in 2006 with the support of the European Commission/Council of Europe Youth Partnership. The Ministries responsible for youth and science in Austria and Luxembourg also provided valuable financial support. From 2009 to 2011 the EU's Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) covered 75% of the costs of the M.A. EYS curriculum development project.

From 2012, basic resources must be provided by the universities accrediting the degree. But additional sponsors will be needed – for student bursaries, for the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), for new multi-language teaching and learning materials.

M.A. EYS course description

The M.A. EYS is a full Bologna Masters degree, jointly awarded by the participating universities. It consists of 120 credits taken over two years (four semesters), including a mobility semester (semester 2) hosted in rotation by one of the participating universities.

There are residential seminars at the start of the course (10 days) and at the end of both academic years (5 days each). Programme modules, scheduling and credit weightings are set out in the table on the right.

The M.A. EYS adopts a blended learning approach. In addition to face-to-face teaching during the residential seminars and mobility semester, ongoing e-learning and tutorial support is provided through the programme's customised online Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

There are no tuition fees for the M.A. EYS programme but students must cover the costs for travel and attendance at the three residential seminars and for the mobility semester – wherever possible, with Erasmus student mobility support.

Annual intake: 30 students (annual application and selection).

Course structure

Intercultural learning is the keystone of the M.A. EYS – in its perspectives, its reference materials and its interaction style. It also privileges self-directed, peer-focussed and autonomous learning in mutually respectful settings between faculty and students. Last but not least, the course philosophy commits itself to an open approach to creating, recognising and sharing knowledge about social worlds and capacities to change our worlds.

Modules	Semester				ECTS
	1	2	3	4	
European Youth Realities and Youth Policy					9
European Youth Research					9
Theoretical Foundations: Social, Cultural and Educational Perspectives					9
Personal and Professional Development (PPD)					9
Professional Practice (Placement)					10
Teaching units selected from existing M.A. degree courses at the mobility semester university					20
Communication, Management and Leadership					9
Intercultural and Comparative Research Methods					9
Reflective Synthesis					10
M.A. Thesis Seminar and Defence					6
M.A. Thesis					20
Total ECTS points	30	30	30	30	120