Prof. Dr. Christine Hatzky, Latin American History

The programme aims at a deeper understanding of the formation of our own culture, which has emerged from the entanglements with African and Latin American peoples since the early 16th century. It is fascinating to study these cultures because it broadens our horizon and prepares us for intercultural encounters. Personally, I was fascinated by Latin American history and cultures, studying Latin American History and Romance Languages, also living and studying in Mexico for a while. This was one of the best experiences of my whole life and made a deep impression on me. I appreciated the possibility to see beyond my own country and culture.

The origin of the programme is the deep interest in social, political, cultural and economic transformation processes which go beyond nation states and which characterize. We examine such phenomena as migration, intercultural encounters, violence, urbanization, environmental questions, questions of identity and gender. Therefore the Master programme obviously addresses some of the grand challenges of humanity. Courses combine science with practical work, e.g. cooperation with museums, cinemas, cultural centres, conceptualizing exhibitions.

Beyond the aptitude for scientific work and research in the different fields, the Master programme will train students in important skills such as writing, oral presentation, intercultural communication in different languages or hosting discussions. These skills are in high demand for leading positions in a wide range of job openings beyond an academic career: in all cultural sectors, in development organizations or NGOs, marketing, tourism, education of adults and journalism, or in executive positions in enterprises, especially transnational ones.