| Module title | **Critical Writing and Thinking** |

Module 3 Compulsory module 952001020	Credit points	Weekly semester hours	Student workload (total)	Required classroom hours	Required self- study hours	Period	Frequency of course offering	Stage of study
	5	2 SWS	150 h	30 h	120 h	1 semester	Every autumn semester	1st semester

Learning objective

The module introduces critical and analytical writing, reading and thinking necessary for a university-level academic research. Students become familiarised with the main stages and norms of conduct in the process of academic reading, research and writing and the critical analysis of academic research and discourse. Moreover, based on the 'EUS Academic Writing Guide', students will receive an introduction to the field critically and will practically apply the different steps and rules underlying the conduct of critical academic reading, reasoning and writing in the field

of social sciences (for example research design, structure, citation styles, referencing, language...). Furthermore, they develop their own line

of argumentation, supporting this with scientific evidence from different types of relevant sources. By enhancing the students' academic

writing and research skills, their awareness to the proper conduct of scientific research and writing shall be stimulated and research ethical

errors, such as plagiarism, prevented. The module also aims at developing the ways to clear and critical deliberative argumentation as well as

situating one s research within the wider context.

Professional competence

At the end of this module, students recognise the key academic writing rules, as well as the codes of conduct with regard to academic reading, research and thinking. Students can identify and use different interactive reading strategies relevant for working with academic literature. They can distinguish approaches to critical thinking and argument building and reasoning skills from the perspective of different disciplines relevant for research in the M.A. European Studies. On the one hand, they are able to write well-structured research papers that

are in conformity with academic language, proper citation and referencing and a good line of scientifically rooted argumentation. On the other

hand, they are familiarised with the concepts of ethical data collection and distribution, intellectual property, as well as plagiarism and its

consequences. Thereby, they are not only able to collect, analyse and develop individual academic research in an honest and research ethical

way, but they are also equipped with the ability to critically assess their own research as well as that of other people.

Methodological competence

Students are able to critically read and analyse scientific texts relevant for their future research and studies by identifying, evaluating and debating them. They can develop analytical arguments and reason according to the needs of the different research disciplines they will encounter throughout their studies. Students can identify effective planning, drafting, revision, and editing strategies, as well as summarize, paraphrase, and quote in an academic manner. Having acquired key skills in academic writing and research ethics, students are not only able to

write academic papers that are in accordance with the rules and norms outlined above, they are also able to critically assess their own research

as well as that of others. This enhances their capability to engage in the discussion according to the conduct of good science.

Interpersonal competence

The classroom discussions and group presentations encourage inter-personal engagement and cooperation among students. Moreover, students are able to deliver structured presentations and are accustomed to giving constructive feedback, as well as responding to feedback

received from peers and course instructor. This develops the students' ability to be self-reflective.

Teaching and learning formats

Includes classroom discussions, individual work, different forms of group work, as well as input about reasoning skills and argument development by colleagues from different European Studies disciplines.

Module coordinator	Lecturer in European Integration (Dr. Laura Asarite-Schmidt)
Module prerequisites	None
Module transferability	M.A. European Studies

Sub-modules

Nr.	Title	Teaching method	Weekly semester hours	Compulsory/ compulsory elective	Examination type	Graded?	Planned group size	Student workload		
								Classroom hours	Class preparation and review	Exam preparation and review
1.	952001021 Applied Critical Writing and Thinking	Seminar	2	Compulsory			42	30	60	
x	952001025 Module examination				Written exam (portfolio)	Yes				60

| Notes on the module examination: | Portfolio (8 - 10 pages) |
| Comments/ Other: | |