

Module 3	Critical Writing and Thinking				
	Module type		Required		
	Module number		952006030		
	Credit points (LP)		5 LP		
	Semester hours per week (SWS)		2 SWS		
	Semester	1st semester	Workload (total)		150 h
	Term	Every fall semester	of which	Classroom hours	30 h
	Duration	1 semester		Self-study	120 h
Qualification objective		<p>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 be introduced to 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 train to in developpe 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 ones research within the wider context.</p>			
Expertise		<p>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 critical 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.</p>			

Continuation of Module 3:

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.
Social and personal skills	The classroom discussions and group presentations are designed to 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.
Course and study format	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	Dr. Jonathan Mole
Prerequisites	None
Applicable degree program	M.A. European Studies
Comments/Other	-

M 3: Sub-module 1	Applied Critical Writing and Thinking				
	Sub-module ID number	952006031	Course type	Seminar	
	SWS	2 SWS	Workload (sub-module)	90 h	
	Type of sub-module	Required	of which	Classroom hours	30 h
	Planned group size	42		Self-study	60 h
M 3: Module examination	Module Examination				
	<i>Modulprüfung</i>				
	Examination number	952006035	Scope of the exam	8-10 pages	
	Examination type	Written examination (portfolio)	Exam preparation and examination time	60 h	
	Graded exam?	Yes			
	Comments on the module examination	-			
Last change: 13.07.2023					