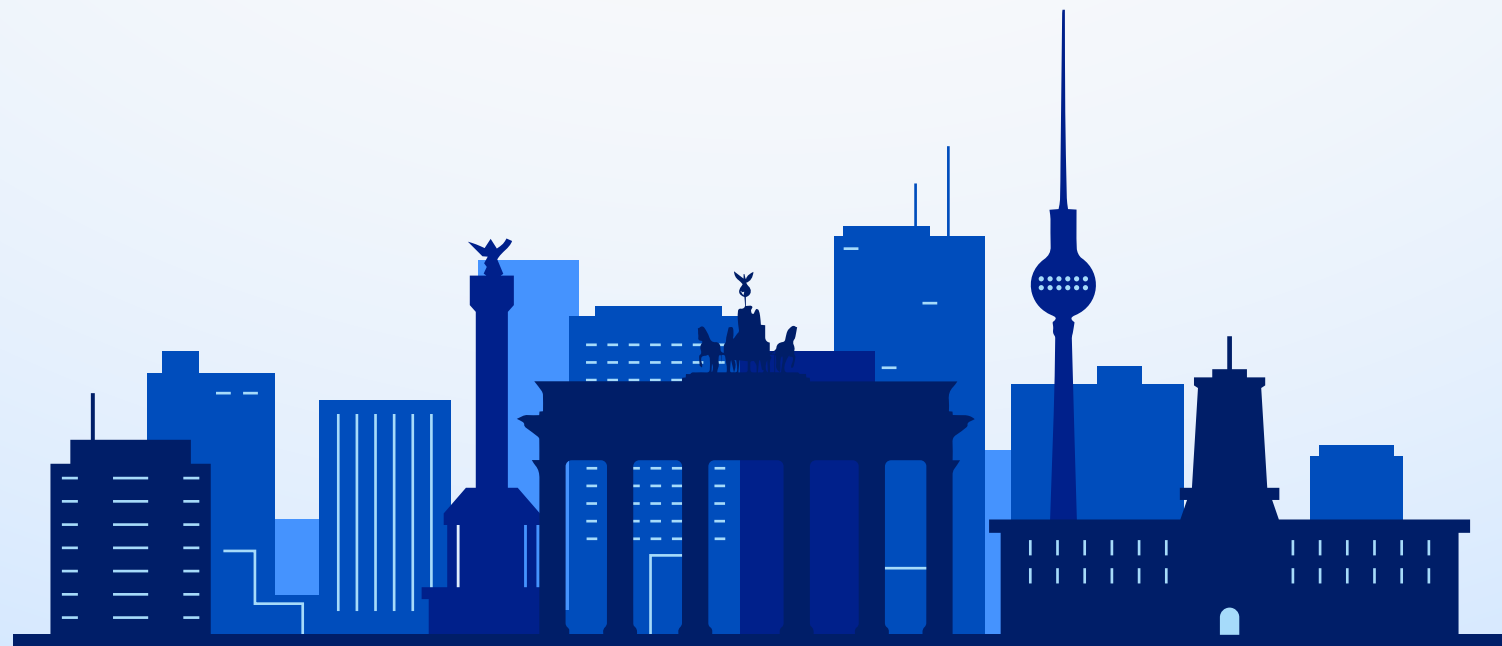


MASTER OF ARTS in Modern German and European Studies at the University of Haifa



HCGES - Who are we?

Joint project of the University of Haifa and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) founded in 2007.

Goal: Inform students, researchers and the broader community about modern Germany and Europe.

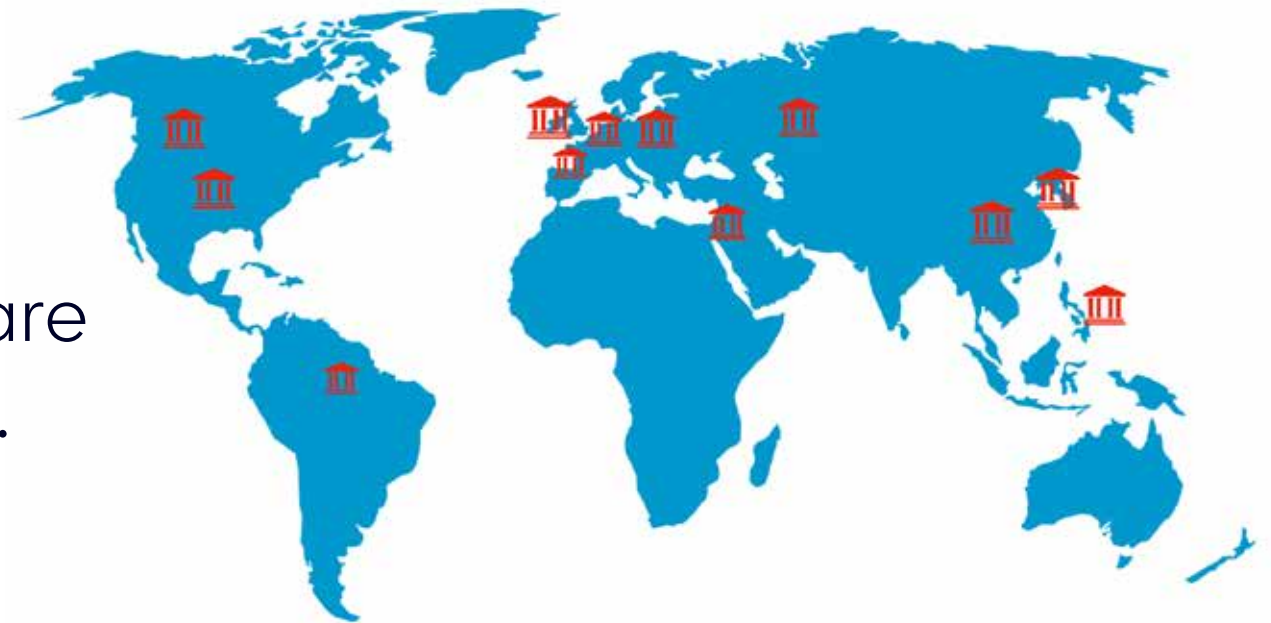
The center emphasizes the social, political, legal, economic, and cultural developments and tendencies in Germany and Europe since 1945.

“Europe is a challenge to which German studies must also increasingly devote their attention. The future of Germany is inextricably linked with that of Europe.”

– Prof. Dr. Christoph Wulf, FU Berlin, Vice President of the German Commission for UNESCO

The DAAD networking of the Centers for German and European Studies

Academics and up-and-coming academics in the centers all have something in common – they all share an interest in Germany and Europe.



Advantage: many cross linkages that such an international, interdisciplinary program automatically affords.

“Making highly qualified young researchers part of international networks and enriching their experience is the key element in the Centers' work.”

– Stephanie Knobloch, Head of Section for Project Funding for German Language, Alumni Projects, Research Mobility at the DAAD

Master of Arts (M.A.) in German and European Studies

M.A. Track A - Thesis Track	M.A. Track B - Non-Thesis Track
Requirements: • Mandatory courses: 24 credit points • Elective courses: 4 credit points • One seminar paper • Master thesis	Requirements: • Mandatory courses: 24 credit points • Elective courses: 12 credit points • Two seminar papers • Final exam
Each track can be completed in 1 or 2 years.	

Structuring M.A. Program

What is the final grade made up of?

Track A - Thesis Track	Track B - Non-Thesis Track
Mandatory Courses: 24 credit points Elective Courses: 4 credit points 28 credit points 50%	Mandatory Courses: 24 credit points Elective Courses: 12 credit points 36 credit points 50%
One seminar paper in the course defined as seminar 10%	Two seminar papers in the courses defined as seminars 20%
M.A. Thesis of about 80-100 pages 40%	Final exam in conjunction with one lecturer 30%

% - of the final grade

M.A. in 1 Year

Track A - Thesis Track

- From 2-3 study days per week: Tuesday **and** Thursday, sometimes with additional day for elective course.
- + 1 additional year for Thesis writing.

Total: 1+1(thesis) year

Track B - Non-thesis Track

- From 2-3 study days per week: Tuesday **and** Thursday, sometimes with additional day for elective courses.

Total: 1 year

M.A. in 2 Years

Track A - Thesis Track

- From 1-2 study day per week: Tuesday **or** Thursday, sometimes with additional day for elective course.
- + 1 additional year for Thesis writing.

Total: 2+1(thesis) years

Track B - Non-thesis Track

- From 1-2 study day per week: Tuesday **or** Thursday, sometimes with additional day for elective courses.

Total: 2 years

Mandatory Courses

These courses are mandatory for students in both academic tracks (24 credits).

German Economy	2 credits
German Society	2 credits
Introduction to the European Union	2 credits
German Culture	2 credits
German Language	4 credits
Basics of Academic Writing	2 credits
German Political System	2 credits
HCGES Research Seminar (2 Parts)	4 credits
Introduction to Modern German History	2 credits
Introduction to European Law	2 credits

which is one Semi-Intensive German course or two Standard German courses (details on the next slide). **Note:** German courses are counted at half credit, as they are defined as skills courses rather than academic courses. For example, only 4 of the 8 credits will be counted toward the degree.

2 credits each part

German Courses

Semester A

Semester B

Semi-intensive Course

8 credits

German A1.1 - A1.2

Tuesdays +
Thursdays
8:15-11:45

German A2.1 - A2.2

Tuesdays +
Thursdays
8:15-11:45

Standard Courses

4 credits

German A1.1

Tuesdays
8:15-11:45

German A2.1

Wednesdays
8:15-11:45

German A1.2

Tuesdays
8:15-11:45

German A2.2

Wednesdays
8:15-11:45

Elective Courses

Students may choose from these courses those that best match their academic interests and fulfill the required number of credit units for the completion of their degree within the chosen track.

Thesis Workshop German History (2 Parts)	4 credits	2 credits each part
German-Israel Relations	2 credits	
German and European Foreign Policy	2 credits	
The Historian and the Archive	2 credits	
Project Seminar: Doing Oral History: Interviewing German-Speaking Jews	4 credits	
Austria's Foreign Policy	2 credits	
European Integration	2 credits	Students may add more German Courses to their schedule and earn up to 16 credits from German courses, in addition to 4 mandatory credits.
Study Trip	2 credits	
German Language	4-16 credits	

Seminar Papers

Students select a course that defined as seminar, choose a related topic they are interested in and prepare a seminar paper.

The seminar paper is a separate project and does not replace the final paper or exam that students complete at the end of each course.

The seminar paper grade is weighted as part of the final course grade.

Thesis

This is the main research project for students who choose the thesis track.

After completing all requirements, including submitting all final papers and one seminar paper, students may submit a thesis proposal and dedicate full time to writing the thesis.

Regardless of whether students are enrolled in a one-year or two-year program, they are given one additional year to complete the thesis.

Final Exam

This is the final step for students who choose the non-thesis track.

After completing all requirements, including submitting all final papers and two seminar papers, students may arrange a final exam date with the instructor of the chosen course.

Scholarships and Funding

Tuition Fee Scholarship

A Scholarship for all our students, Israeli and International - **covers 80-90% from the tuition fee**. The tuition fee scholarship cannot be replaced by a living scholarship and is given in addition to it.

Living Scholarship

The Haifa Center for German and European Studies (HCGES) is happy to announce that this year we are able to provide **3 living scholarships** for our first year M.A. students. Each scholarship is of **4.500 Euro**.

Please note that the scholarship will be transferred only upon the arrival of the student in Haifa and just to an Israeli bank account.

Call for Applications

Living Scholarship for First-Year M.A. Students (2026–2027)

If you wish to apply, please send the following documents by July 15, 2026 to **zghaida@univ.haifa.ac.il**:

- Short motivation letter (½ page)
- CV
- Short financial statement (¼ page)

Applicants will be notified of the results by the end of August 2026.

If you have any further questions, please approach our academic coordinator Ghaidaa Zoabi.

Study Trip

Each year, during the summer semester, we offer our students a special course: **a Study Trip to Germany**. Each trip focuses on a specific topic. In 2026, the topic is: Germany and the World: Colonies, Migration, and Memory.

The trip to Berlin and through the last 100+ years of history with a keen eye on the present. We are going to investigate how Germany navigates and understands its positions in the world, through visits at museums, talks with experts and activists, city tours as well as prior explorations of literature and popular culture...



How to apply the program?

To apply as international student please follow this link:

<https://uhaifainternational.haifa.ac.il/applynow?CampId=70168000000UY2N&des=2>

To apply as a local student please follow this link:

<https://applicants.haifa.ac.il/adm/#/>

Contact us:

Student Coordinator, Polina Fainbark: pfainbark@staff.haifa.ac.il

Academic Coordinator, Ghaidaa Zoabi: zghaida@univ.haifa.ac.il

Thank you!

