



Universität
Basel

Departement
Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaften



Studying English

MA English

Dr. Zeynep Köylü & Daniel Ortiz, MA
Anglophone Linguistics and Literary Studies

The MA English in a Nutshell



ANGLOPHONE LITERARY & CULTURAL STUDIES

- English and Irish Literature since the Renaissance
- North American and General Literature
- Postcolonial Literatures and Cultures (includes all former British colonies and protectorates)
- Cultural Media, Drama and Theater
- Literary History
- Literary Theory

ENGLISH LINGUISTICS

- Cognitive Linguistics
- First and Second Language Acquisition
- Sociolinguistics and the Sociology of English (e.g., Interaction, Politeness, etc.)
- Computer-Mediated Communication
- Translation and Interpreting Studies

Why Study English at Basel?

The Premises:

The Department of English is housed in the so-called "Schönes Haus" ("Beautiful House"), the oldest stone building in Basel. We pride ourselves of offering one of the most beautiful study environments in all of Switzerland!

Innovative Research:

Current and recent large-scale projects include WordWeb / Intertextuality in Drama of the Early Modern Period, The Pragmatics of Fictional Dialogues in Improvised Performance, and Dis-Agree.

Exceptional Teaching:

Our instructors are regularly nominated for teaching awards, and our courses often reflect timely issues. Please do browse our course listings for the last couple of years to get an idea of the range of courses we offer.



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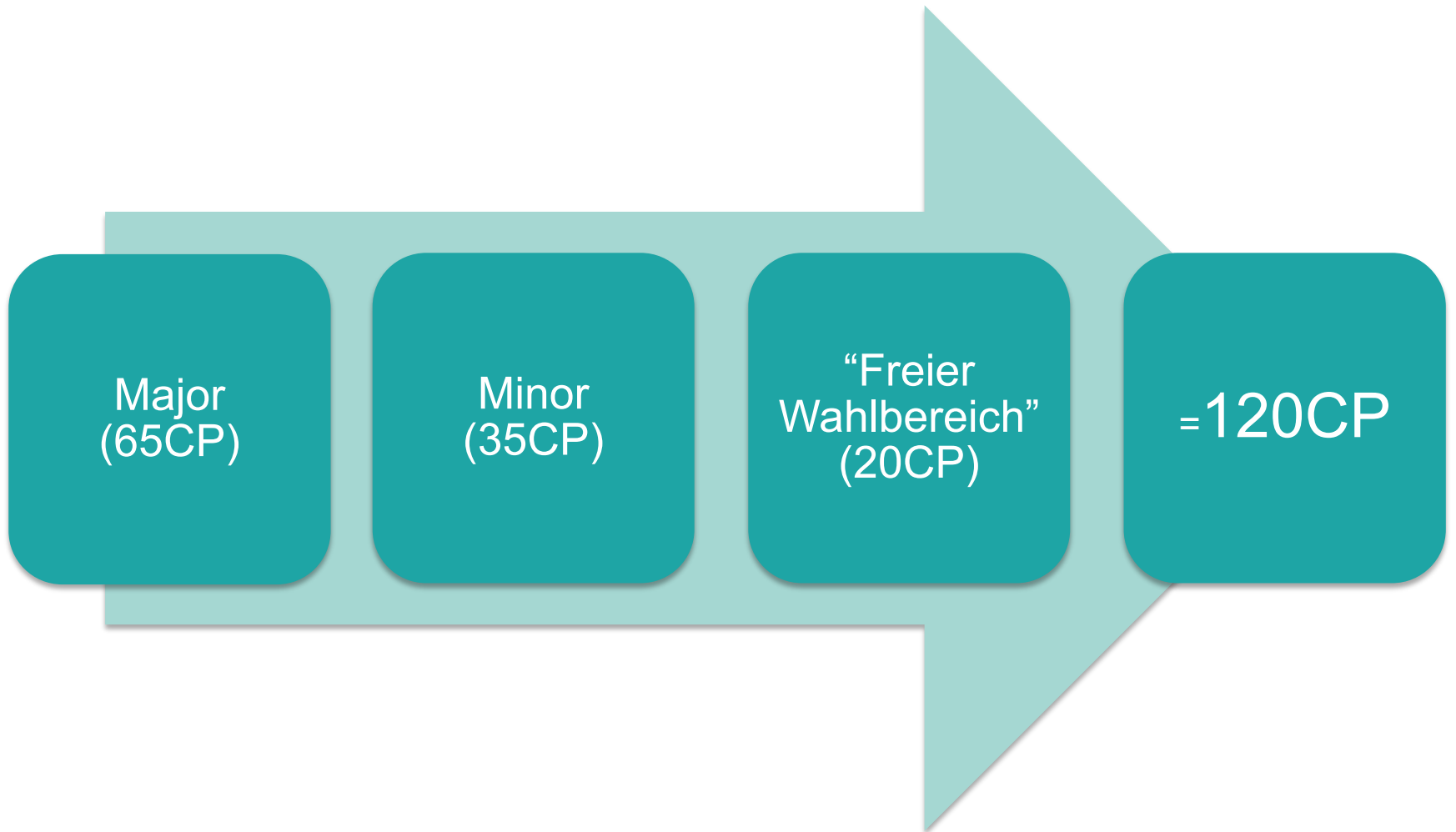
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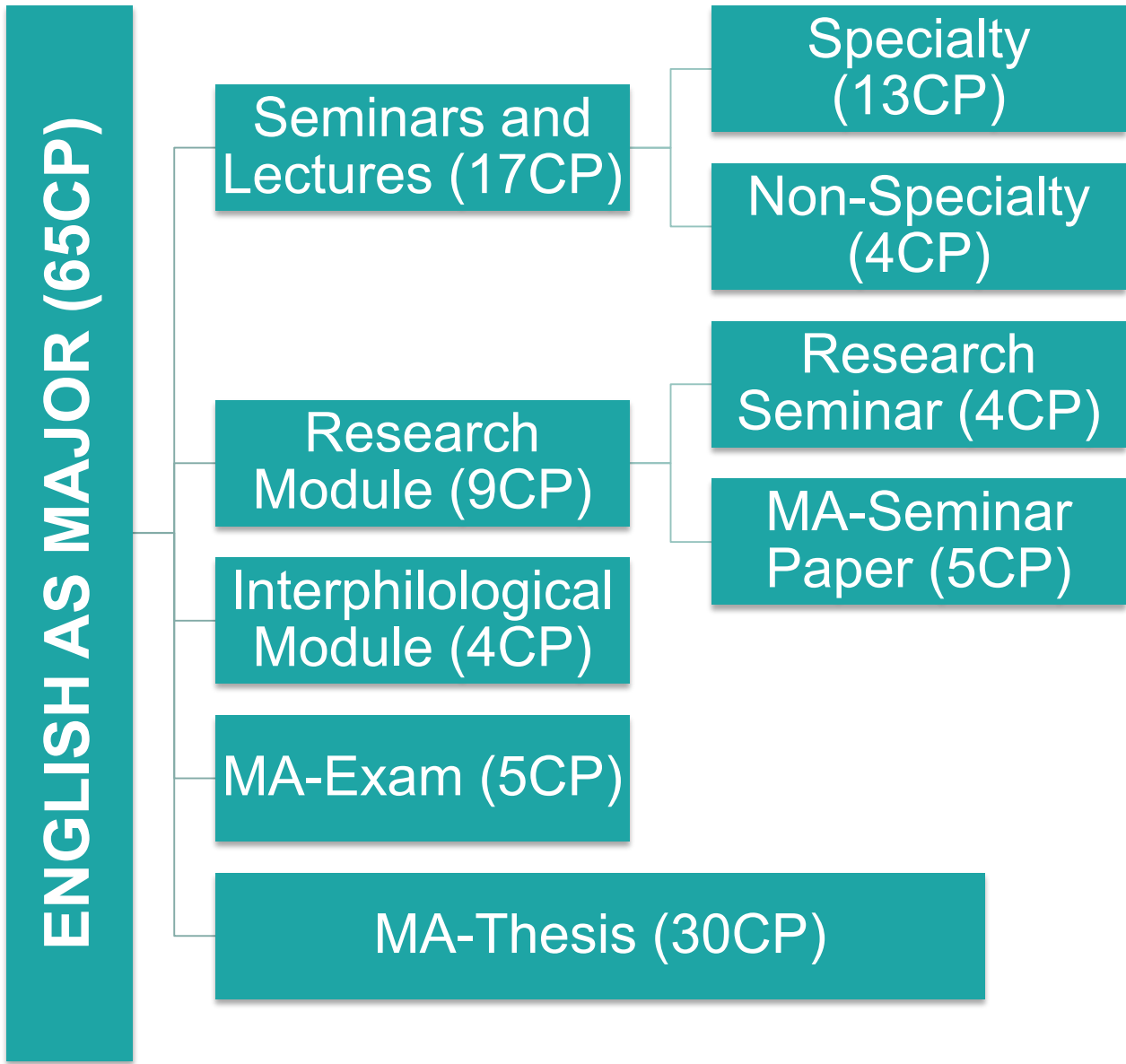


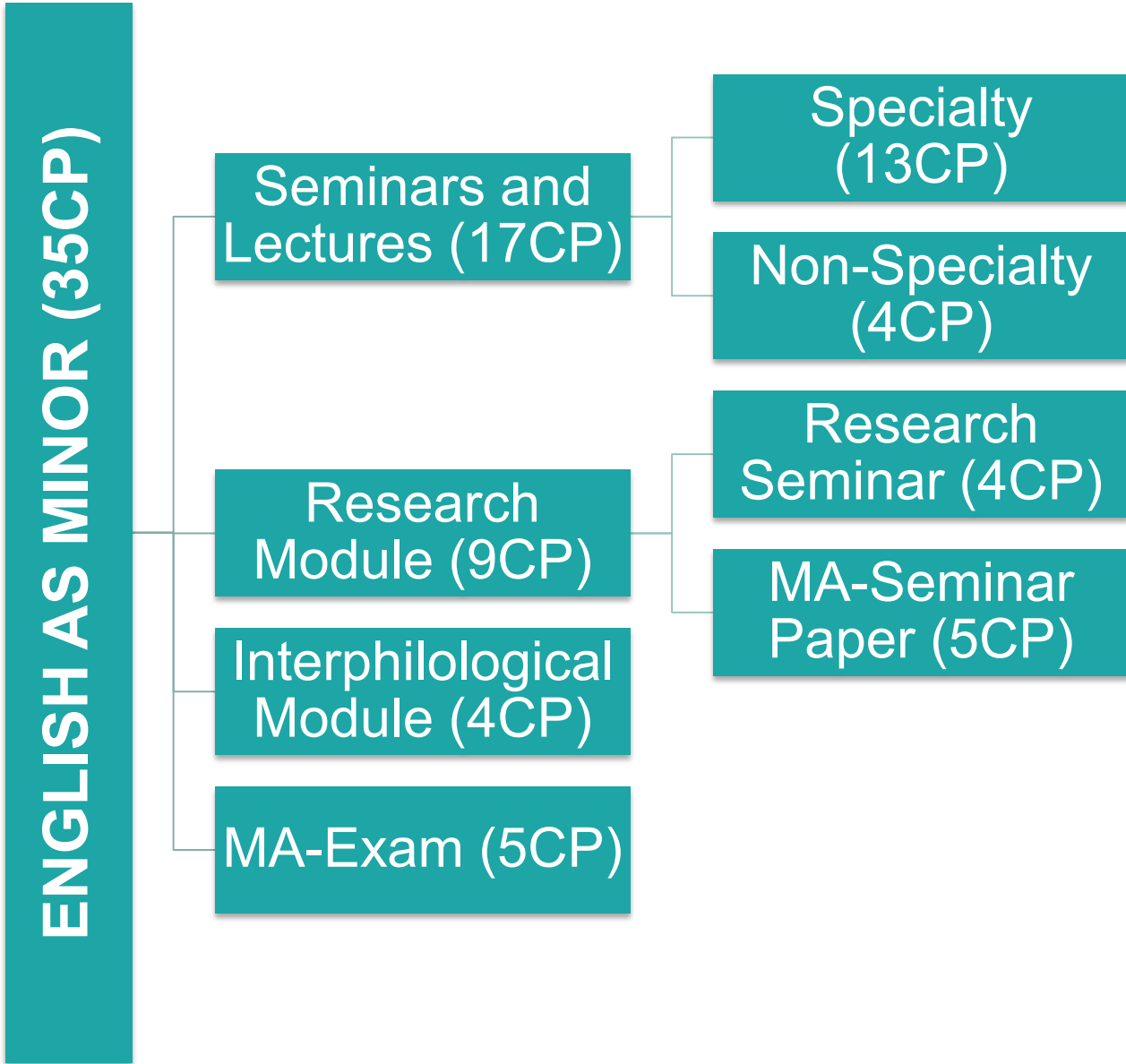
Degree Structure



MA English



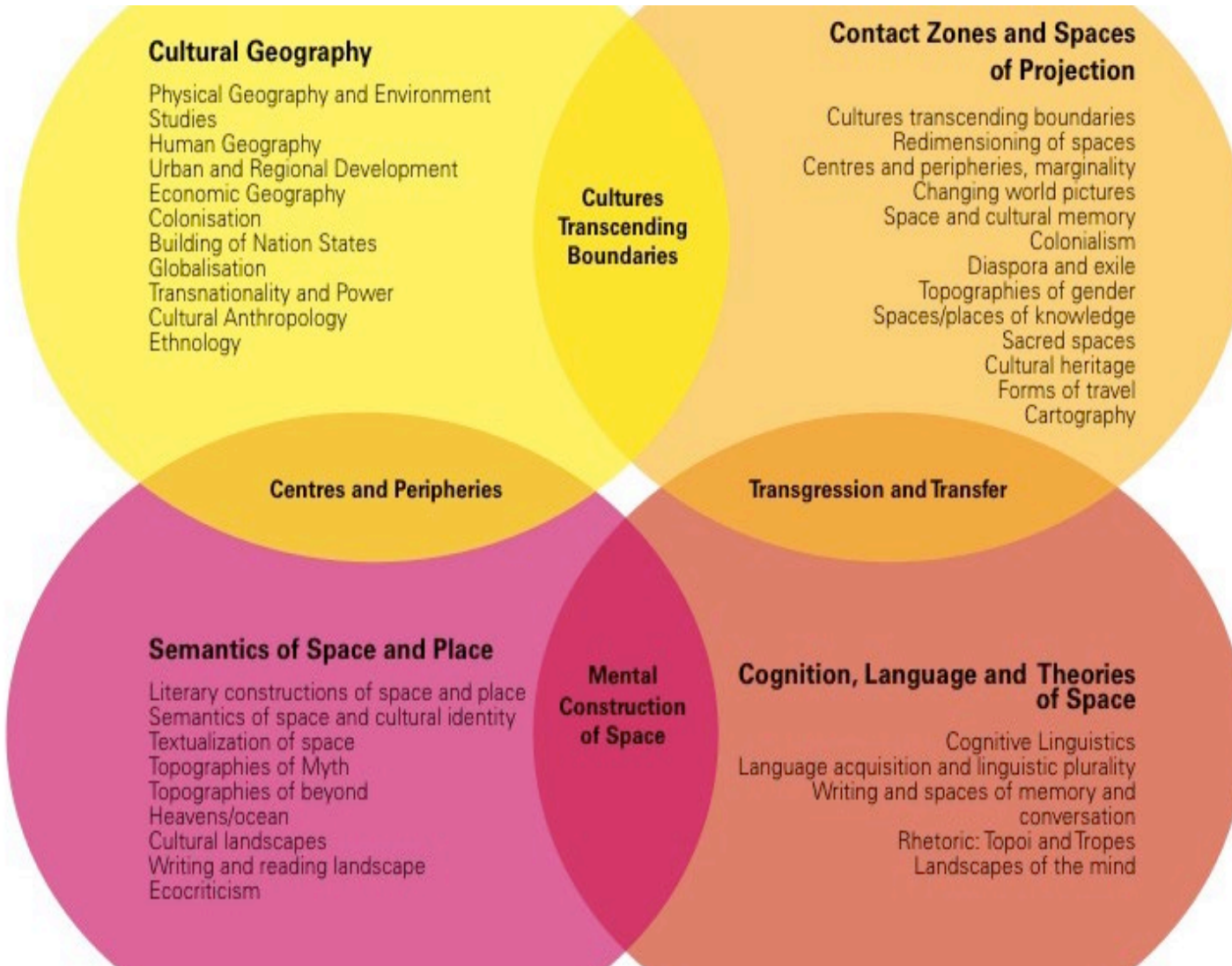




Certificates

- Ancient Greek and Modern Theatre & Performance Studies
- Croatian / Serbian Language and Culture
- Literature and Poetics: Mythopoetics
- Russian Language and Culture
- Czech Language and Culture
- Cultural Topographies

Certificate in Cultural Topographies



kompetenzzentrum kulturelle topographie

Career Prospects

Our graduates take on jobs in various areas:

- education
- cultural institutions
- information and documentation services
- marketing
- newspapers, radio and television
- public relations
- publishing houses
- the diplomatic corps
- academic research and teaching

Students are advised to think about their career choices and to acquire work experience while still at university. The department is happy to help with [internship and teaching practice opportunities](#).



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Research & Teaching: Two Examples



Research Projects in English Linguistics

Our department has housed a variety of groundbreaking **research projects in English Linguistics** funded by internal and external sources.

These are some of our recent and ongoing projects:



- **UniBas:** Subtitling in Action: Pragmatic Processes of Intersemiotic Translation (PIs: Prof. Dr. Miriam Locher and Dr. Thomas Messerli)
- **UniBas:** Linguistic Manifestations of Different Attachment Types (Pis: Prof. Dr. Heike Behrens and Prof. Dr. Stefan Pfänder)
- **UniBas:** A Dynamic Usage-Based Approach to L2 Development (PI: Dr. Zeynep Köylü)
- **Eucor:** Dis-Agree (PI: Prof. Dr. Miriam Locher)

Select MA Seminars 2018-2023

2023

GOTHIC! (Habermann)

Digital Discourse Analysis (Messerli)

2022

Humanitarian Aid Narratives (Schlote)

Learning Context Effects in Second Language Acquisition (Köylü)

2021

A History of American Literary Criticism, 1930s-2020s (Schweighauser)

English Online Health Interaction (Locher)

2020

Green Poetry (Habermann)

English and the Sociolinguistics of Globalization (Lorente)

2019

Shakespeare's Roman Plays (Bezzola Lambert)

Temporal Reference (Behrens)

Plus: Annual EUCOR English Trilateral MA and PhD Conference

MA Seminar in Literary Studies: *Literature for Future*

Course Description:

- *Suppose as a last ditch, we gathered
empty-handed at the town's edge and called
each bird by name, might we yet prevail
upon wren, water rail, tiny anointed goldcrest*

*to remain within our sentience in this,
the only world? (Kathleen Jamie, "Flight of Birds")*

Climate change and the destruction of the environment is one of the greatest challenges of our time, now often called the 'Anthropocene'. While ecocriticism debates the cultural and political implications of this challenge, various forms of literature, such as nature writing and ecopoetry, explore the ethical and aesthetic dimensions of human beings' place in the world, our impact on the natural environment, and our relationship with other forms of life. **This course focuses on ecopoetry and nature writing supplemented by ecotheory and is designed to facilitate research in a vibrant and fascinating field that is also of special interest to many people beyond the academy.** Ecological writing is a buoyant | phenomenon that looks back to Romanticism as a response to the industrial revolution, even as it tries to come to terms with the present and help shape and imagine the future. **While we will include some American contemporary poetry, the emphasis will be on British literature.**

MA Seminar in Linguistics:

Practical Explorations into English Metaphor and Metonymy

Course Description:

This seminar examines the variety of approaches and **methods in cognitive-linguistic research on English metaphor and metonymy** and illustrates a number of key ways in which they can be combined. The focus is on the plethora of areas and aspects to which the **analysis of metaphor and metonymy can be fruitfully applied, ranging from lexicology, phraseology and morphology to political and scientific discourse, social media communication, cross-cultural variation and the expression of emotions**. Students have the opportunity to conduct their own empirical research on a topic of their choice. Part of our class time is dedicated to providing you with the skills and methods you need for successful empirical work.



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Mobility & Extracurricular Activities


Universität Basel
 SAUTE
Swiss Association of University Teachers of English

16.00-18.00
 Guest talk by Prof. Michelle Witen on James Joyce's *Ulysses*
 Brief presentations on: British life in Basel, past and present English as a Lingua Franca
From 18.00
 Party, with music and dance from:
 Bluejay
 Scottish Country Dance Group Basel
 Andrew Shields and the Alumni Band: The Literati

Friday 13th May
 From 16.00 hrs.
 Englisches Seminar
 Nadelberg 6
EVERYBODY WELCOME!

SAUTE
75TH ANNIVERSARY!
 A CELEBRATION OF BRITISH AND IRISH CULTURE IN BASEL





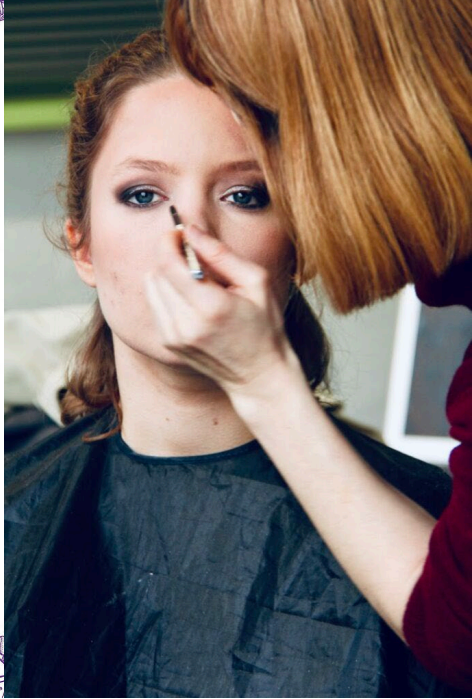
BLOOMSDAY IN BASEL

JUNE 16, 5 PM ONWARDS
 Schönes Haus, Nadelberg 6, CH-4051

BBQ + DRINKS
 (bring your own)
FREE ADMISSION
 donations welcome

featuring
DRAMATIC SCENES
 from Joyce's Works
"MILKING IT"
 A Culinary Odyssey through *Ulysses*
LIVE MUSIC
 Scéalta + Nimmermeer
 + Joyce Division + Stephanie Zundel

webpages
<https://english.phillett.unibas.ch/en/about-us/extra-curricular-activities/bloomsday/>
<https://www.facebook.com/BloomsdayInBasel>

Mobility

➤ EUCOR

All Basel students are eligible to attend courses at our EUCOR partner universities Freiburg i. Br., Mulhouse, and Strasbourg

➤ Studying Abroad

The English Department and the University of Basel have teamed up with a range of international partner institutions to provide you with the best possible study abroad experience

➤ Contact

Simone Sumpf (studienberatung-dslw@unibas.ch)

➤ Mobility Office



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Extracurricular Opportunities and Support



- Student Association
(Fachgruppe Englisch)
- The Gay Beggars
- Mind-Map
- English Seminar Choir

Frequently Asked Questions

When can I start the MA in English?

The MA English can be started **both in the fall and the spring term**. The registration deadline for the fall term is 30 April, for the spring term 30 November.

How long does it take to study English at the MA level?

The MA is conceived as a **two-year course of full-time study**. It may, however, be taken part-time. This results in prolonged studies.

With what other MA subjects can the MA English be combined?

In general, the MA English can be combined with **any other MA subject** offered by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and a selection of other subjects from other faculties at the University of Basel.

Which language requirements do I have to fulfill?


A **BA in English** qualifies you to enroll without any restrictions. Generally, we expect **C2 Proficiency**.

More Information: Department Website

Degree Programmes Documents Contact Search

University of Basel
Department of Languages and Literatures

Anglophone Linguistics and Literary Studies



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[Research](#)

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Join In!

For a treat of some **actual live teaching**, please get in touch with Dr. Zeynep Köylü (zeynep.koylu@unibas.ch), with whom you can sign up to **join one to two sessions of our current spring term courses**. Please browse our [course offerings](#) and tell Zeynep which course you would like to sign up for.



Contact Details

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Thank you!
Questions?