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**International cooperation in the Master's program
Intercultural Communication and Business**

**Double degree program
between Faculty 05 – Language, Literature, Culture – at
Justus Liebig University Gießen, Germany, and
the Faculté de langues et cultures étrangères et régionales (UFR2) at
University Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3, France**

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1. Scope of application (re § 1 in SpezO, § 1 AIB)

(1) In addition to the general regulations for the Bachelor's and Master's degree programs at Justus Liebig University (JLU) Gießen dated 20 February 2019 (AIB) and the specific regulations for the Master's degree program Intercultural Communication and Business (ICB), the present regulations apply to the study and examinations in the ICB Master's program as part of the Double degree program.

(2) An internationally unified Master's program here is offered based on the specific inter-university collaborative agreement regarding the award of diplomas and degrees within the framework of an international partnership between JLU Giessen and the University of Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3 (UPVM3). This spans two years (4 semesters). The course offers the opportunity to obtain a double degree to those students who are admitted to the ICB Master's program at JLU, in Faculty 05 - Language, Literature, Culture - and in Department 02 - Economics - as well as to those students who are admitted to the Masters Langues étrangères appliquées (LEA) "Négociation de projets internationaux", parcours tri-langue franco-allemand at UPVM3, which is offered by the Faculté de langues et cultures étrangères et régionales (UFR2) and the Faculté des sciences sociales, des organisation et des institutions (UFR4).

2. Academic degree (re § 2 in SpezO, § 3 AIB)

Faculty 05 - Language, Literature, Culture - at the Justus Liebig University Giessen awards the academic degree Master of Arts (MA) to students participating in the Double degree program after the successful completion of their studies. UPVM3 awards the academic degree Master "mention langues étrangères appliquées, parcours négociation de projets internationaux" to students participating in the Double degree program after the successful completion of their studies.

3. Start of studies (re § 3 in SpezO, § 5 AIB)

The Double degree program of the ICB master's program can only be started in the winter semester.

4. German language test for university entrance (GLT) (re § 4 para. 2 AIB, DSH-Ordnung)

The students of the UPVM3 may take courses that are held exclusively in English at FB 02 and exclusively in the foreign languages included in the Double degree program at FB 05, and thereby achieve their necessary foreign language qualifications. Proof of language proficiency through the German language test for university admission (DSH) is therefore not required.

5. Eligibility

(1) Students who are eligible for the JLU ICB Master's degree program or the UPVM3 Master's degree program LEA may apply for the Double degree program.

(2) Upon application for the Double degree program, students should submit the following documents to the academic coordinator at their home university: Bachelor's certificate, transcript of records or relevé de notes, letter of motivation and CV. JLU students should submit their letter of motivation and CV in German, UPVM3 students in French.

6. Admission (re § 4 in SpezO, § 5 AIB)

(1) The admission procedures for the Double degree program are carried out by the home universities. However, the host university reserves the right to reject candidates selected by the home university.

(2) Eligibility is met for UPVM3 students for the ICB Master's program if they participate in the Double degree program at their home university and are enrolled in the UPVM3 master's course. This overrides § 4 in SpezO,

7. Workload (re § 5 in SpezO, § 6 AIB)

(1) According to the European System for the Transfer and Accumulation of Academic Credits (ECTS), the workload to obtain a Master's degree in the ICB Master's program and in the LEA Master's program is 120 CP (ECTS credit points), i.e. 30 CP per semester or 60 CP per year. 1 CP corresponds to an average of 30 hours. This includes: hours of attendance in module courses, time for preparatory as well as follow-up work, individual study time and work design, as well as examinations.

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(2) The JLU modules span between 4 CP (120 h) and 30 CP (900 h). The Master's thesis comprises 15 CP (450 h).

(3) The modules of the UPVM3 span between 3 CP (90 h) and 7 CP (210 h). The internship and the academic thesis comprise a total of 30 CP (900 h).

(4) Both the mutual recognition of coursework completed at the partner university as well as the mutual recognition of the program at the partner university for the acquisition of the double degree are guaranteed. The workload of the program is calculated based on the guidelines of the universities involved. The mutual recognition of the study time (modules/courses or CP/credit points) is based on the following table, which contains a comparison of the workload at the JLU and the UPVM3 respectively.

(5) Recognition of academic performance:

Semester	CP / Workload	JLU	UPVM3
1. Semester + 2. Semester + 3. Semester	90 CP / 2.700h	Intercultural Communication and Business 10 CP (2 x 5 CP)	Communication numérique 1, 2, 3 9 CP (3 x 3 CP)
Language major 40 CP ¹		Langue majeure 42 CP (2 x 7 CP + 2 x 7 CP + 2 x 7 CP)	
Second business language 20 CP ²		Langue mineure 21 CP (3 x 7 CP)	
Economics minor 20 CP		AES 18 CP (2 x 3 CP + 2 x 3 CP + 2 x 3 CP)	
4. Semester	30 CP / 900h	Internship + MA thesis 30 CP (2 x 15 CP)	Stage + mémoire de stage 30 CP
Total:		120 ECTS / 3.600h	

8. Structure of the program (re § 6 in SpezO, § 7 AII B)

(1) The curriculum of the Double degree program consists of the two Master's programs ICB and LEA, which focus on interculturality and communication in an international business context.

(2) The **ICB Master's program at JLU** is divided into the module Intercultural Communication and Business (10 CP), a foreign language major (40 CP), an economics minor (20 CP), a second business language (20 CP), and an internship and thesis module totaling 30 CP.

¹ The distribution of the 40 CP differs depending on the foreign language major chosen (see Appendix 1: Study plans of the specific regulations for the Intercultural Communication and Business Master's program of Faculty 05 - Language, Literature, Culture).

² The distribution of the 20 CP differs depending on the second foreign language chosen (see Appendix 1: Study plans of the specific regulations for the Master's degree in Intercultural Communication and Business of Faculty 05 - Language, Literature, Culture).

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(3) The foreign language majors in this program are: "Gallo-Romance Studies/French", "Anglophone Literary, Cultural and Media Studies", "English Linguistics", "Russian Studies/Russian", "Hispanic/Spanish" and "Lusitanian/Portuguese". It is permitted to change the major once.

(4) French, English, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish can be chosen as the second business language in the Double degree program of the ICB Master's program. Two identical foreign languages cannot be chosen. It is permitted to change the second business language once.

(5) In the Double degree program of the ICB Master's program, either the foreign language major or the second business language must be French.

(6) The subjects for the economics minor (20 CP) will be studied in accordance with the respective specific regulations of the programs offered by Faculty O2 – Economics – as per availability in those departments. The economics minor is worth 20 CP and comprises three modules. There are two options within the ICB Master's program: Business Administration (BWL) and Economics (VWL).

(7) The **Master's program LEA at UPVM3** consists of a foreign language major (Langue majeure) (42 CP), a second business language (Langue mineure) (21 CP), digital communication 1, 2, 3 (Communication numérique 1, 2, 3) (9 CP) and an economics minor (AES: Administration économique et sociale) (18 CP). The fourth Master's semester consists of an internship (Stage), which acts as the subject and basis of a applied but academically sound thesis (Mémoire de stage; 30 CP in total).

(8) Structure of the Master's program LEA at UPVM3:

2 nd year of study (60 ECTS)	Semester	4	Internship, applied academically sound thesis, and defense			
		3	digital communication	foreign language major	second business language	economics minor
		2	digital communication	foreign language major	second business language	economics minor
1 st year of study (60 ECTS)	Semester	1	digital communication	foreign language major	second business language	economics minor
2		digital communication	foreign language major	second business language	economics minor	

(9) Students enrolled in the **Double degree program** must complete one semester at the respective partner universities and the internship in the fourth semester in the respective partner countries. During the semester at the partner university, students must attend all courses that are specified in the individual study plans drawn up by mutual agreement between the academic coordinators of JLU and UPVM3. The study plan displays the typical workload per semester, i.e. approx. 30 CP.

(10) Structure of the Double degree program for students at JLU: Students on the ICB master's course begin their studies at JLU in October and complete the first two semesters at JLU. During these two semesters they must acquire a total of 60 CP, which is the prerequisite for the semesters abroad.³ JLU students then complete the third semester at the UPVM3 from September and take courses within the modules listed in the following table (approx. 30 CP). JLU students then complete an internship in France in their fourth semester and write and defend their MA thesis (30 CP in total).

2 nd year of study (60 ECTS)	Semester	4	JLU: write and defend MA thesis			
			Internship in France			
1 st year of study (60 ECTS)	Semester	3	Stay at UPVM3			
			digital communication	foreign language major	second business language	economics minor
1 st year of study (60 ECTS)	Semester	2	JLU			
			Intercultural Communication and Business	foreign language major	second business language	economics minor
1 st year of study (60 ECTS)	Semester	1	JLU			
			Intercultural Communication and Business	foreign language major	second business language	economics minor

(11) Structure of the Double degree program for students at UPVM3: Students of the Master's program LEA start their studies in September at the UPVM3. Students must acquire a total of 30 CP in the first semester, which is a prerequisite for the stay abroad. The second semester is completed at JLU starting in April, which entails taking courses within the modules listed in the table below.⁴ The UPVM3 students spend the third semester at their home university (approx. 30 CP). In the fourth semester an internship in Germany is completed, on the basis of which an applied but academically sound thesis is written and defended (yielding a total of 30 CP).

³ If students acquire more than 60 CP in the first year of study, the academic coordinators of the JLU and the UPVM3 mutually determine which modules, module parts or examinations these students will be exempted from in the further course of their studies.

⁴ If UPVM3 students acquire fewer than 30 CP based on the courses offered at JLU, the difference of up to 30 CP (within 1 to 4 CP) will be in the form of a project that is linked to one of the courses offered at JLU and which the academic coordinators of the JLU and the UPVM3 provide to them by mutual agreement. The accomplishments within the project can be done in French or English.

2 nd year of study (60 ECTS)	Semester	4	UPVM3: Applied academically sound thesis and defense			
		Internship in Germany				
3		UPVM3	digital communication	foreign language major	second business language	economics minor
2		stay at JLU	Intercultural Communication and Business	foreign language major	second business language	economics minor
1		UPVM3	digital communication	foreign language major	second business language	economics minor
1 st year of study (60 ECTS)						

9. Modules (re § 7 in SpezO, § 8 AIIb)

- (1) Each JLU module is outlined in detail in a module description (e.g. with regard to the qualification goals, content, professorship or position responsible for the module, workload, module examination).
- (2) The module descriptions of FB 05 are attached to the specific regulations for the ICB Master's program as Appendix 2. The course plans are listed in Appendix 1 to the Specific Regulations for the ICB Master's program. The study plans for the foreign language major and the respective second business languages defines the compulsory, the optional and the free choices.
- (3) The module descriptions of FB 02 can be found in Appendix 2 of the specific regulations for the Bachelor's degree in economics and the Master's degree in business administration and economics.
- (4) Each module of the UPVM3 is outlined in detail in a module description (e.g. with regard to content, qualification goals, attendance hours). The module descriptions (Fascicule - Descriptif) are available at the following link: <https://ufr2.www.univ-montp3.fr/fr/langues-etrang%C3%A8res-appliqu%C3%A9es/master-lea/n%C3%A9gociation-de-projets-internationaux-npi-0> (last access 29 March 2022). The examination regulations of the UPVM3 primarily apply to modules of the UPVM3.

10. Master's exam (re § 20 AIIb)

- (1) Exclusively those students who have completed a semester at the partner university and have there acquired 30 CP (900 h) are eligible for admission to the Master's examination as part of the Double degree program.
- (2) JLU students must also demonstrate language skills in French:
 1. through a language certificate, level GER B2 or

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2. by passing a French exam at a university which is certified level B2 awards of the European Framework of Reference for Languages.

(3) Students of the UPVM3 must also prove language skills in German:

1. through a language certificate, level GER B2 or

2. by passing a German test at a university which is certified for level B2 awards of the European Framework of Reference for Languages.

11. Thesis (re § 11 in SpezO, §§ 19, 21 AIIb)

(1) At the end of the program, the students will prepare an MA thesis, for which one person from the home university and one from the partner university are appointed as examiners. The MA thesis is to be defended orally to the examiners. The oral examination begins with a synopsis of a maximum of 15 minutes by the examinee, which is followed by an examination discussion of a maximum of 30 minutes. The oral examination takes place in German and French at the examinee's home university. The respective examiner from the partner university takes part via digital means.

(2) The final thesis is written and produced according to the regulations applicable at the home university, which are mutually recognized by both universities.

(3) If the MA thesis is not written in the language of the partner university, a summary of approx. 600 words must be included. The summary will not be graded.

(4) The allocated time for producing an MA thesis is 10 weeks.

12. Grades (re § 31 AIIb)

(1) All of the achievements made as part of the Double degree program are to be graded according to the grading scales applicable at the respective universities.

(2) As a basis for the recognition of the academic achievements, both universities must compile a summary of all examination results for each student, which as a minimum shows the module title, the module grades and the credit points achieved (Transcript of Records or Relevé de notes). In order to obtain the overall grade, the module grades at the JLU are converted into UPVM3 grades and vice versa according to the following table:

(3)

JLU			UPVM3
Percentage points	Grade	Evaluation	Grade
≥ 97	15	Excellent	18-20
≥ 92	14	very good	
≥ 87	13	very good	16-17,9
≥ 82	12	good	14-15,9
≥ 77	11	good	
≥ 73	10	good	
≥ 68	9	satisfactory	12-13,9
≥ 64	8	satisfactory	
≥ 59	7	satisfactory	
≥ 54	6	sufficient	10-11,9
≥ 50	5	sufficient	
< 50	4-0	fail	< 10

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13. Examination certificate (re § 34 AIB)

After passing the Master's examination, the examinee receives both a certificate from the JLU, which refers to the Double degree program, and a certificate from the UPVM3.

14. MA certificate (re § 35 AIB)

After passing the Master's examination, the examinee receives both a certificate of the academic degree from the JLU and a final certificate from the UPVM3.

15. Diploma supplement (re § 36 AIB)

In addition to the examination certificate and the MA degree certificate, the examinee receives a diploma supplement from the JLU, which refers to the Double degree program.

16. Transcript of records (re § 37 AIB)

At the end of the program, each examinee receives both a Transcript of Records from the JLU and a Relevé de notes from the UPVM3.

17. Academic coordination

In order to ensure and facilitate the implementation of the Double degree program, each university appoints an academic coordinator as a contact person. They are authorized to jointly determine the individual work plan for the students for the semester abroad at the partner university - within the framework of the regulations there - and to certify the workload and the achievements of the students.

18. Internship: Implementation of professional and occupational internships (re § 2 in Internship regulations)

- (1) As part of the double Master's degree, the professional and occupational internship comprises 450 hours / 11.8 weeks.
- (2) The internship must be completed as part of the double Master's program in France.

19. Internship: Proof, recognition and evaluation (re § 3 in Internship regulations)

- (1) As part of the double Master's degree, the internship is part of the module "MA thesis + internship - DD program". The theoretical discussion and examination of the experiences and activities of the internship follow in the academic MA thesis. The MA thesis should comprise 75,000-90,000 characters and must be submitted to the person responsible for the module.