

## **Admissions Regulations for the Master's Degree Program M.A. Critical Dance Studies within the Department of Philosophy and Humanities at Freie Universität Berlin**

*Disclaimer: Please note that only the German versions of these documents are legally binding. This translation is intended for the convenience of the non-German-reading public and is for information purposes only.*

### **Preamble**

On the basis of Section 14.1.1.2 of the supplemental rules and regulations (*Teilgrundordnung [Erprobungsmodell]*) of Freie Universität Berlin of October 27, 1998 (*FU-Mitteilungen 24/1998*) in conjunction with Section 15 of the Law on Admissions to Higher Education in the Federal State of Berlin for Programs with Admission Requirements (*Berliner Hochschulzulassungsgesetz, BerlHZG*), in the version of the announcement of the amended version from October 9, 2019 (GVBl., p. 695), last amended July 5, 2022 (GVBl., p. 450) in conjunction with Section 10.5.2 of the Berlin Higher Education Act (*Berliner Hochschulgesetz, BerlHG*) in the version of the announcement of the amended version from July 26, 2011 (GVBl., p. 378), most recently amended on July 11, 2023 (GVBl., p. 260), the Department Council (*Fachbereichsrat*) of the Department of Philosophy and Humanities at Freie Universität Berlin issued the following regulations on December 6, 2023).<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, on December 17, 2025, the Department Council of the Department of Philosophy and Humanities at Freie Universität Berlin issued the First Ordinance on the Amendment of the Admissions Regulations for the Master's Degree Program M.A. Critical Dance Studies at Freie Universität Berlin (*FU-Mitteilungen 15/2024*, p. 621), which has also been integrated into this text.<sup>2</sup>

### **Section 1 Scope**

These regulations govern admissions to the study program in accordance with Section 10.5.2 BerlHG and the selection procedure for the allocation of places in accordance with Section 15.1.1 BerlHZG for the master's degree program M.A. Critical Dance Studies within the Department of Philosophy and Humanities at Freie Universität Berlin. This is a consecutive master's degree program as defined under Section 23.3.1b BerlHG.

### **Section 2 Number of Available Places and the Application Process**

- (1) The number of places available for the master's degree program for each given admissions cycle is stipulated in Freie Universität Berlin's General Admissions Regulations.
- (2) The application for admission must be submitted electronically to the Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin – Admissions Office using the online application system.
- (3) The application deadline is May 31 of each year.
- (4) Applications for admission must be accompanied by an official certified copy of the applicant's first university degree (or equivalent professional certification) referred to below in Section 3.1 in the format specified by the Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin – Admissions Office.

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<sup>1</sup> These regulations were approved by the Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin on January 22, 2024, and by the Berlin Senate's department with responsibility for higher education on May 18, 2024.

<sup>2</sup> The ordinance on the amendment of these regulations was approved by the Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin on January 27, 2026, and by the Berlin Senate's department with responsibility for higher education on March 3, 2026, with limited validity ending with the admissions cycle for the 2027/2028 winter semester.

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(5) Applicants can still submit their application for the master's degree program even if they do not have the university degree referred to below in Section 3.1 because certain assessment results are not yet available, as long as they otherwise have a good academic record based on previous assessment results, and if the university degree referred to in Section 3.1 will be obtained before the master's degree program begins and as long as the requirements stipulated in Section 3.2 are also fulfilled in due time. This expectation is fulfilled in particular if at least two-thirds of the total coursework has been evaluated, the application for the final thesis project has been submitted, and the work schedule for the thesis has been set so that it can be completed in due time before the start of the master's degree program. The applicant's grade point average will be considered as part of the application and factors into the selection process. The grade point average is based on the applicant's previous coursework as reflected in their current transcript, which they should submit with the application. In this case, the result of the university degree is considered irrelevant.

(6) Freie Universität Berlin has no obligation to investigate the facts of a case on its own initiative (*ex officio*).

### **Section 3 Admission Requirements**

(1) The admission requirement for the master's degree program is a first university degree from a German or comparable non-German institution of higher education.

(2) Applicants who did not complete a university degree at an institution where coursework was conducted in English must demonstrate English language skills at a level equivalent to C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

(3) Applicants do not need to provide proof of German language proficiency.<sup>3</sup>

(4) The examination board responsible for the master's degree program in the Department of Philosophy and Humanities, Freie Universität Berlin, determines the equivalence of any documentation provided.

### **Section 4 Quotas, Selection Criteria, Organizational Aspects**

(1) After the preliminary quotas have been filled, 80 percent of the study placements that are still available will be distributed according to the selection procedure as outlined in this document (higher education quota). 20 percent of the study placements will be distributed according to Section 15.1.1.2 BerlHZG. 5 percent of the study placements are reserved for the quota stipulated in Section 15.1.3 BerlHZG.

(2) Candidates are selected for the master's program according to the following criteria:

1. The level of qualification as demonstrated by the applicant's academic performance in their degree programs (Section 15.2.1 BerlHZG),

2. Considerations of the applicant's academic background in their choice of previous degree program and academic interests that provide an indication of their specific motivation and suitability for the subject (Section 15.2.1.4 BerlHZG),

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<sup>3</sup> As per the First Ordinance on the Amendment of the Admissions Regulations for the Master's Degree Program M.A. Critical Dance Studies at Freie Universität Berlin (*FU-Mitteilungen* 15/2024, p. 621).  
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3. Other qualifications acquired outside of a university degree program (Section 15.2.1.5 BerlHZG).

(3) In the selection process, selection points will be awarded under the criteria defined above in Sections 4.2.1 to 4.2.3. The maximum number of points that can be awarded is 120.

(4) For the selection criteria listed under Section 4.2.1 of these regulations, a maximum of 60 selection points can be awarded in relation to the average grade stated on the degree certificate for the candidate's previous degree program. The points for each average grade are listed in Appendix 1 to these regulations.

(5) A maximum of 30 selection points can be awarded under Section 4.2.2 of these regulations in accordance with Appendix 2. In considering the applicant's academic background in their choice of previous degree program and academic interests, qualifications in the following subjects will be weighted as follows:

1. Critical dance studies, theater studies
2. Film studies, literary studies, philosophy, fine arts/art history
3. Cultural sciences, gender studies, other artistic subjects

(6) A maximum of 30 selection points can be awarded under Section 4.2.3 of these regulations. Qualifications from non-university contexts must be relevant to the proposed area of study and indicate the candidate's suitability for the master's degree. Qualifications are considered particularly relevant and demonstrative of suitability when they were obtained in the field of dance or a related field. These qualifications must have involved at least six months of employment, study, or equivalent.

(7) At least two admissions officers will be appointed to supervise the selection process. The dean of the Department of Philosophy and Humanities appoints these two people under the authority of Freie Universität Berlin's Executive Board and at the suggestion of the Institute for Theater Studies at Freie Universität Berlin. The appointed admissions officers must be authorized examiners for the master's degree program and must be university employees with Freie Universität Berlin as their main employer. These positions may not be filled by substitutes or alternates.

## **Section 5 Admission Decision**

(1) The decision on which applicants are to be selected is made by the Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin – Admissions Office on the basis of how candidates have been ranked.

(2) The selected candidates receive a formal notification of admission stating the deadlines for their written acceptance and enrollment. Failure to meet these deadlines will result in the place being offered to another candidate.

(3) Candidates selected based on their transcripts are granted tentative admission and can enroll in the first semester of the program, but the duration of their enrollment is limited. Generally, the university degree required for admission as described in Section 3.1 must be submitted by the end of the first semester of study, together with relevant documentation proving that any other requirements associated with the degree have also been met. If the necessary documents are not submitted on time, the student's admission will be retracted.

(4) Applicants who are not admitted will receive a rejection letter that states the reasons for the decision.

(5) The documents submitted for the selection procedure are to be kept until the decision is final; in the case of legal proceedings, they are to be kept until a legally binding decision has been made.

### **Section 6 Entry into Force**

(1) These regulations enter into force on the day following their publication in *FU-Mitteilungen* (the official bulletin of Freie Universität Berlin).

(2) The Admissions Regulations for the Master's Degree Program M.A. Dance Studies within the Department of Philosophy and Humanities at Freie Universität Berlin from May 2, 2012 (*FU-Mitteilungen* 41/2012, p. 670), therefore lapse when the new regulations come into force.

**Appendix 1  
(to section 4.4)**

Allocation of selection points based on the grade point average as recorded in the documentation for the first university degree in accordance with Section 4.4.

Grade point average	Selection points
1.0	60
1.1	58
1.2	56
1.3	54
1.4	52
1.5	50
1.6	48
1.7	46
1.8	44
1.9	42
2.0	40
2.1	38
2.2	36
2.3	34
2.4	32
2.5	30
2.6	28
2.7	26
2.8	24
2.9	22
3.0	20
3.1	18
3.2	16
3.3	14
3.4	12
3.5	10
3.6	8
3.7	6
3.8	4
3.9	2
4.0	0

**Appendix 2  
(to Section 4.5):**

Allocation of selection points based on a weighting of the subjects studied as part of the previous degree program in accordance with Section 4.5

<b>Subjects in the field of</b>	<b>Selection points</b>
Critical dance studies, theater studies	30
Film studies, literary studies, philosophy, fine arts/art history	25
Cultural studies, gender studies, other artistic subjects	20