Application

We look forward to your application. An electronic application form can be downloaded at the institute's website www.uni-leipzig.de/~afrika. The following documents are part of the application:

- A copy of your first degree, including official certificates and transcripts of all previous university studies (non-German or non-English texts have to be accompanied by authenticated English translations)
- A letter of motivation in which you explain why you are interested in this particular Master programme
- A curriculum vitae in English, a photocopy of passport or ID and an e-mail contact address
- For further information see website

How to contact us

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The city of Leipzig

The university is based in the city of Leipzig and is one of the oldest universities on the European continent. Leipzig is a modern university city with more than 50,000 students, a vintage “Altstadt” and affordable housing. The city offers a rich cultural life with a tradition of classical music and thriving modern arts. Leipzig is only one hour away from places like Berlin, Dresden and Weimar, and three to four hours from Frankfurt/Main or Prague.
About us

The Institute of African Studies is a multi-disciplinary institute offering cutting-edge research and teaching on Africa at B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. level. The institute’s approach is to look at a broad variety of issues and developments on the African continent, drawing on the manifold views and disciplines encompassed by the institute. It includes both African and external perceptions in a critical perspective that questions established categories. Three thematic fields are at the core of our teaching and research:

- African languages and media with a focus on their roles in the re/production of knowledge in local, regional and translocal societies and cultures
- History and culture in Africa with a focus on the dynamic production of history and culture inside Africa
- Social, political and economic phenomena in Africa in the context of transnational entanglements and global processes

Master’s programme

The Master in African Studies is a two-year study programme. It is interdisciplinary and offers a comprehensive systematic study of Africa. The programme is fully modularised and based on the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

Study programme

First year: Winter Semester modules

1 compulsory and 2 out of 7 elective modules, 10 ECTS each:

- Africa: Knowledge, Belief and Representations (compulsory)
- Society and Politics in Africa
- International Studies
- Regions of Africa I
- East African Studies I
- West African Studies I
- Hausa I
- Swahili I

Second year: Winter Semester modules

Semester in Africa

- Study, internship or research project (30 ECTS)

Second year: Summer Semester modules

- Advanced African Studies I–VI
- Master Thesis (20 ECTS)

Exchange programmes

The Institute is widely networked and in regular exchange with key African Studies institutions. It is a member of the Africa-Europe Group for Interdisciplinary Studies (AEGIS). It maintains a number of partnerships for student exchange under the EU Erasmus+ programme: Bordeaux, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Lisbon, Naples, Paris (Université de Paris 7, INALCO), Roskilde, Vienna and Zurich. The Institute has also entered into partner agreements with the universities of Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), Stellenbosch (South Africa) and Yaoundé (Cameroon). Through the DAAD-sponsored programme “Welcome to Africa”, students and doctoral candidates can apply for studies or internships at these places.

PhD training programmes

The Institute is actively involved in Ph.D. training programmes such as for instance at the Graduate Centre Humanities and Social Sciences (Research Academy Leipzig). Ph.D. projects may also be pursued individually, upon agreement with a supervising professor.