

Master in Intercultural Studies: Information letter

Bergen, June 2024

Dear student,

We are delighted to welcome you to NLA's Master programme in Intercultural studies. This year we will have students from a variety of countries, as well as from Norway, which will make for an exciting and fertile learning environment.

Orientation days: practical information

The international office at NLA will coordinate the orientation days for international students and include the Norwegian students on parts of the program. We want everyone to feel welcome and included during the first week at NLA!

It is important that you plan to be in Bergen when the semester starts!

Important dates are therefore:

Monday 12 August: International students' first orientation day.

Tuesday 13 August: Introduction class and dinner with fellow students and professors (for all students taking Master in Intercultural Studies).

Wednesday 14 August: Welcome ceremony for all new NLA-students + afternoon hike to Fløyen.

Social gathering on Friday 16 August will be later announced.

The detailed programme will be sent closer to the start of the semester.

Please contact international@nla.no if you have any questions regarding the orientation program.

The structure of the master programme

There are two courses offered in the first semester (August to December), and two courses in the second semester (January to June), one of which is the project design for your master thesis that serves as the final preparation for your fieldwork (compulsory). Thus, we would already now encourage you to think through what kind of topic you would like to specialize in for your Master thesis. This draft will be helpful but of course will not be binding for you in any way.

The work of a Master's thesis is expected to be one-year full time work. This implies up to 2 months of fieldwork and up to 6-7 months for the write-up.



This first semester (“fall” in reference to the season of the year) starts with the course IKF 301 Intercultural theory (starting August 20) with exams in December. The course is paralleled by the course IKF 302 Methodology (starting Monday October 16) with exam in the beginning of December, after which we go into recess.

The introduction class will take place on Tuesday 13 August at 12:30-14:30 (Auditorium 5). The first sessions will obviously focus on the “nuts and bolts” of the ICSM program. We employ various forms of teaching, not just lectures but seminars focusing on active learning including case-seminars and workshops with opportunities to practice oral presentation, develop communicative and collaborative skills, as well as to analyse intercultural cases and suggest solutions to intercultural challenges or dilemmas.

Course content

You are welcome to access the NLA homepage: [Home - NLA](#) to familiarize yourself with our institution. For specific information about the master in Intercultural Studies, see [Master in Intercultural Studies - NLA](#).

An exciting programme

Lastly, in my role as academic coordinator, I want to highlight that we believe the Master programme in Intercultural studies will be both exciting and personally stimulating for all students. Throughout the study, you will meet a spectrum of NLA’s lecturers and co-students with diverse experiences. Within two years, if you follow the expected progress, you will have earned an MA degree in an area that opens up a variety of opportunities, both academically and professionally.

If you have any questions to the practicalities or contents of the programme, do not hesitate to get in touch.

We look forward to receiving you at NLA in August!

Programme coordinator, Master in Intercultural Studies

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