Programme Objective and Exit Qualifications Master’s Programme Political Science

Programme objective
The key objectives of the Master’s programme in Political Science are to enable students to critically examine political issues at a high level of conceptual abstraction and to carry out in-depth academic theoretical and empirical research on a political topic in a globalising context. For this purpose, the programme familiarises them with a broad range of theories and approaches that serve both explanatory and critical aims. After completion of the programme, students are equipped to carry out successful independent research work. While the programme has a strong academic orientation, it also prepares graduates to solve complex political questions within various professional fields, in government and public policy, and in profit and non-profit private organisations.

Exit qualifications
After completing the programme in Political Science, students will be able to:
• critically examine political issues at a high level of conceptual abstraction as well as translate them into terms understandable by a wider public;
• summarise, evaluate, and synthesise research results from political science and related fields and assess the policy relevance of these results;
• carry out in-depth academic theoretical and empirical research on a topic within the areas of political systems, public policies or international relations.
In addition, with regard to the field that is covered by their respective specialisation track (International Relations & Transnational Governance, Comparative European politics, or Global Environmental Governance), students will:
• have a thorough knowledge of the key issues and main theories;
• have an advanced understanding of a number of selected topics;
• have a thorough understanding of how the field is affected by the deepening interaction between national and international politics in the context of globalisation;
• produce a research-based thesis that shows intellectual rigor and proficiency in the field.