

Proseminar and Seminar Paper Regulations, BA English 2013

Proseminar Paper Regulations

All three introductory modules (i.e. ‘English Linguistics’, ‘Anglophone Literary and Cultural Studies’, and ‘Academic Communication in English’) need to be completed before you can proceed to the advanced modules ([see sample study plan](#)). This includes the credit points for one compulsory proseminar paper in linguistics and one compulsory proseminar paper in literary and cultural studies. These credit points must be registered into the system (services.unibas.ch) in order for you to proceed to the advanced level. If you wish to complete your studies within six semesters, please take note of the following deadlines:

- **November 1:** If you wish to proceed to the advanced modules in the spring term (usually Semester 4), you should submit your paper at the latest by Nov 1. This ensures that you have three weeks in which to revise your paper (if needed), and that the instructor has six weeks to mark the first submission, and four weeks to mark the rewrite, so that grades can be entered into the system by January 31.
- **May 1:** If you wish to proceed to the advanced modules in the fall term (usually Semester 5), you should submit your papers at the latest by May 1. This ensures that you have three weeks in which to revise your paper (if needed), and that the instructor has six weeks to mark the first submission, and four weeks to mark the rewrite, so that grades can be entered into the system by July 31.

Recommendation on when to write the proseminar paper in linguistics:

The proseminar papers are supervised by the instructors of proseminars II and III and are written in connection with those courses. The writing process should start only after the completion of proseminar II. You can write your paper during the summer break (between Semester 2 and 3) or during Semester 3, in case you are aiming at proceeding to the advanced module in semester 4 (later transitions are of course possible). Please note that writing a proseminar paper during the semester in which you also take the course requires good time management; you can approach the instructor of proseminar III already during the summer to start the supervision process.

Recommendation on when to write the proseminar paper in literary and cultural studies:

The proseminar papers are supervised by the instructors of proseminar III and are written in connection with those courses. This paper should be written during the autumn semester in consultation with your instructor, and should pertain to the theme or works studied in the proseminar III. If your goal is to proceed to the advanced module in the spring semester, then the above deadlines are particularly important. If you plan to proceed to the advanced module in the following autumn semester, then please consult your instructor to negotiate a different deadline if necessary. Please note that writing a proseminar paper during the semester in which you also take the course requires good time management. Readings for the proseminar can be done during the summer.

Supervision process:

Supervisors are free to set other / individual dates with regard to topic and outline discussions. Furthermore, supervisors can also set different (earlier) dates for submission if, for instance, students write papers during the summer (e.g. a September deadline). Supervisors are also able to set different (later) deadlines for students wishing to proceed to the advanced level during the autumn term of the following year (rather than the spring term).

Seminar Paper Regulations

In the advanced modules ‘Advanced English Linguistics’ and ‘Advanced Anglophone Literary and Cultural Studies’, you are required to take two seminars in each division (see [sample study plan](#)). For **one** of these seminars you must write a seminar paper (i.e. in either English linguistics or literary and cultural studies; no revisions possible). The accepted seminar paper is part of the required 60KP to register for the BA exam. Since the deadlines for the exam registration are early in the following semester, the following deadlines for the paper submission apply:

- **31 August:** For those students wishing to sit the BA exam in the winter term
- **31 January:** For those students wishing to sit the BA exam in the spring term

Note for prospective students of the ‘MSG Sprache und Kommunikation’ and ‘MSG Literary Studies’: If you want to ensure that you can enter the PH FHNW to obtain a teacher’s degree (Sek II) in English, you might want to write your seminar paper in the discipline you will *not* focus on in your MA. No special requirements apply for MA students in English who wish to become teachers.