

Updated information on obtaining credit points for the AWE modules

Dear students,

we understand that due to the current circumstances and restrictions caused by the pandemic some of you may experience difficulties in finding and gaining access to scholarly activities to collect credit points (CPs) for the modules in Academic Work Experience. In this document we will detail again the regulations and provide information on further opportunities to gain credit points.

First, however: Don't panic and **read the module descriptions** for both modules carefully! You may find answers to some of your questions there. The descriptions can be found on the program's website at <https://blogs.uni-bremen.de/maesc/modules/>

Also **read the FAQs** provided on the program's website here:
<https://blogs.uni-bremen.de/maesc/academic-work-experience-1-2/>

The idea of these two modules is for you to gain first-hand experience of the manifold facets of academic work and practice. Targeted competencies and skills are for example:

- organizing skills when co-organising a workshop / conference,
- gaining some first teaching experience,
- professionalising your presentation skills (e.g. giving an oral presentation, designing and presenting a poster),
- professionalising your academic writing skills (e.g. writing a conference abstract, a proceedings or research paper, a book review etc.),
- gaining first reviewing and editing experience,
- gain advanced research skills by participating in research projects carried out by faculty members.

Also, it is always a good idea to **be pro-active** and think of possible activities yourself. Then **consult your mentor or a person from the subject area you intend to specialise in**. They are the experts in their respective fields and know what activities may be feasible, available, relevant and suitable for you. It is also a good idea to choose activities that are relevant for your future field of occupation (e.g. academia, education/teaching, translation, publishing, cultural activities, public relations etc.).

As there is currently limited access to institutions, schools, conferences and other academic events, we recommend that you engage in the following activities which will become available soon.

1) MA E-SC student conference

To organise and participate in a student conference is probably the best way to engage in a variety of activities mentioned above and collect a substantial number of CPs. The first MA student conference was organised by the first student cohort of the program last year, see here:

<https://mastervisionesc.wixsite.com/mysite/schedule>

Due to the current circumstances it is advisable to organise such a conference online. Organising and running such a conference comprises numerous tasks that small teams of students can tackle while the large majority of students can participate by sending in an abstract, giving a presentation, and submitting their paper for publication in the conference proceedings. The following list is a collection of the **major activities** that evolve around a conference:

- thinking of a conference theme and drafting a call for papers (CFP),
- announcing the conference and making it public known in the (student) community (through social media and mailing lists),
- inviting plenary speakers,
- creating a blog or website for the conference with information about the conference, the CFP and the program once it is ready (this can easily be done through UniBremen/logs: <https://blogs.uni-bremen.de/blogs/>, for example),
- writing and sending in an abstract for your presentation at the conference,
- organising and helping in the reviewing process of the abstracts,
- soliciting and collecting peer feedback on the abstracts, and submitting this feedback to the presenters,
- acting as a conference chair / moderator at the conference,
- participating in the conference and presenting your paper,
- organising an online publication of the conference proceedings (this can be done through the SuUB: <https://www.suub.uni-bremen.de/home-english/refworks-and-publishing/publishing-documents/publishing-academic-texts/>),
- writing up your paper and submitting it for publication in the proceedings,
- helping in the reviewing process of the proceedings,
- writing a best-practice paper about organising an (online) conference for future cohorts.

Students who are part of the organising committee should form smaller teams to tackle the bigger tasks mentioned above (organisation, website, peer review, proceedings). They should keep a diary of their working hours to document their workload. **They can receive CPs acc. to this workload** (note that one CP is approximately equivalent to 30 hours of work). Of course, they can also submit, present and publish their own scholarly work.

Students who write and submit an abstract to the conference, participate and present a paper, and then write up and submit their proceedings paper can expect to **gain up to 6 CP** (depending on the workload).

2) Intercultural training

The International Office has been offering intercultural trainings for international students. We will announce when the next trainings will take place as soon as we know about this. Your participation in such a training can get you **3 CPs**.

3) Extracurricular course offerings

As a general rule, seminars etc. that are offered in the regular course catalogue do **NOT** qualify as activities for AWE 1 and 2. Because of the current exceptional circumstances, course offerings in the General Studies modules that are relevant academically (i.e. from a related field, classes from faculties 8, 9, 10, 12) can be considered for the AWE modules. Please check with Prof. Callies (currently AWE module convener) before registering for such a course. The number of CPs you can obtain depends on the course and its form of assessment.

4.) Specific AWE course

Because of the pandemic and lacking opportunities for practical AWE work, Prof. Knopf will offer a special AWE course in the summer term of 2021: "Creating a Bremen Student Critical Edition." In the seminar, we will get a sense of critical editions, their functions and potentials, and create such a critical edition of a postcolonial novel. We will go through the processes of selecting areas for necessary background texts and contextual information, writing, reviewing, and editing these texts as well as analytical/critical articles, and, finally, publishing these texts on a blog. Depending on your engagement, this class will gain you **6-9 CPs**.

Prof. Marcus Callies

Prof. Kerstin Knopf

Directors of MA English-Speaking Cultures