The Master’s program «International Management and Intercultural Communication / GlobalMBA» is an internationally-oriented graduate business degree offered jointly by two faculties of TH Köln – the Faculty of Business, Economics and Law and the Faculty of Information Science and Communication Studies. This graduate program is intended for students seeking careers in international corporations and organizations and having strong interest in the intercultural as well as new economy perspectives of international business. Given the fact that a modern and innovative graduate management qualification requires intercultural skills, the program offers a fully-integrated curriculum developed jointly with our three international partners: University of North Florida (Jacksonville, USA), University of Warsaw (Poland) and Dongbei University of Finance and Economics (Dalian, China).

The GlobalMBA program’s unique feature is the fact that students from the four participating partners study together as a cohort at each of the partner universities during the 4-term program. Due to the international mobility and multinational cohort structure of the program, students directly experience the challenges and opportunities they will face in an intercultural workplace. They hone their intercultural communication, teamwork and problem-solving skills. Concurrently, the curriculum integrates the new economy subjects of digitalization, business analytics and technology strategy that are critically important for future-oriented corporations and organizations.

Program objectives
The GlobalMBA aims to qualify students for management positions in forward-looking and innovative international corporations and organizations as well as for subsequent academic research. Course modules, case studies and projects are designed to develop the social competencies and intercultural communication skills that help students find creative solutions to management problems in the global digital age. These objectives are obtained through an emphasis on research and problem-based learning in multinational teams. Students are thus required to apply their knowledge and competencies to solve real-world management problems.

Career options
Graduates may choose careers in international corporations, organizations and institutions, or in the fields of intercultural communication and cooperation. Given the strong research focus of the Master’s thesis, graduates also qualify to engage in research work and doctoral studies.

Degrees
Students will be awarded a Master of Arts in International Management and Intercultural Communication (jointly from TH Köln and the University of Warsaw), a Master of Business Administration (MBA) (University of North Florida) and a Certificate of Attendance (Dongbei University of Finance and Economics).

Admission requirements
– Successful completion of Bachelor’s, Master’s, Diplom or Magister degrees from a university or equivalent with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3,0 (German grading)
– Good understanding of business administration concepts and economics
– English language skills at the B2-level or above
– GMAT with a minimum score of 500 or GRE with minimum scores of 150 (verbal) and 150 (quantitative). A copy of the results has to be submitted with the application.

Important dates
The program takes 15 months (including examinations) and is divided into 4 study periods, starting each winter semester (October). The coursework and Master’s thesis preparation start at TH Köln in Cologne, continue to Warsaw, Dalian and end with the Master’s thesis defense in Jacksonville. The language of instruction is English.

Application deadlines:
– June, 01: For German nationals and applicants with degrees from German universities and equivalents
– May, 15 (via uni-assist): For internationals or applicants with degrees from non-German universities

Admission is competitive and follows personal interviews conducted between 1st June and 15th July. See www.th-koeln.de/globalmba/application for more information.
Curriculum
The GlobalMBA program is organized around a Three-Plus-One Pillars structure: The first pillar develops competences in international management through course modules in international economics, corporate strategy, marketing, financial management, human resource management and organizational theory.

The second pillar emphasizes the development of intercultural competences through seminars on the theory and practice of intercultural communication in each of the four countries.

The third pillar aims to develop problem-solving skills in international company settings. International student teams work on Master’s thesis projects within well-defined timeframes.

Thesis topics identify and examine recent developments, innovation and sustainability in global industries. Students conduct research in one or several of the four countries.

Thesis projects simulate the structure and dynamics of international work teams in international corporations and consultancies. Students continue the works of their predecessors and build foundations for the thesis projects of successor cohorts.

Besides these three core pillars, the fourth pillar focuses on developing digital literacy as a transversal competence. This fourth pillar is integrated in all course modules, projects and activities of the aforementioned three pillars. Students develop basic competencies in and familiarity with the important new economy concepts of digitalization, business analytics and technology strategy.

The Three-Plus-One Pillars of the GlobalMBA  Master of International Management and Intercultural Communication

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