Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln
German Sport University Cologne

Zentrum für Olympische Studien
Olympic Studies Centre

Centre d'Estudis Olímpics
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

UC University of Canterbury
Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha
CHRISTCHURCH NEW ZEALAND

CAU Kiel University
Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel
Institute of Sports Science

Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul

The University of Edinburgh
Moray House School of Education and Sport

INTERNATIONAL PART-TIME PROGRAMME

Master of Arts
Olympic Studies

With the support of the
International Olympic Committee

»The M.A. Olympic Studies has been an impressive programme to me, enriching me with much knowledge and skills related to my daily work, and has tremendously opened my eyes on the international Olympic Movement.«

JEAN DE DIEU MUKUNDIYUKURI, RWA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RWANDA NATIONAL OLYMPIC AND SPORTS COMMITTEE

Master of Arts
Olympic Studies

The M.A. is a unique international part-time programme in Olympic studies. It is a two-year programme organised in six modules of six working days each and a thesis. The IOC Olympic Studies Centre contributed to the development of the academic project concept and the programme is organised with the support of the IOC.

The programme implements a high-level, interdisciplinary curriculum in Olympic Studies which fosters the links between the academic world and the Olympic world.

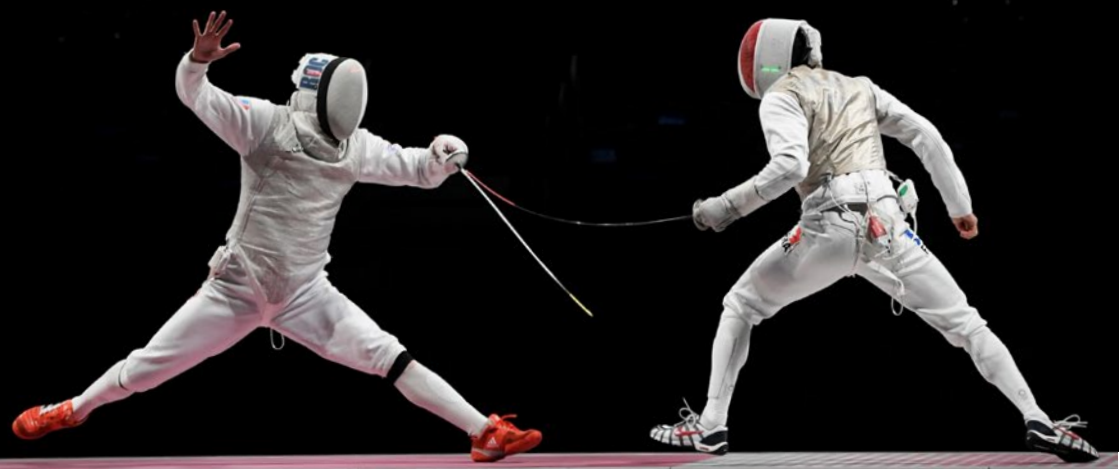
Olympic Solidarity, through its Promotion of Olympic Values World Programme, provides scholarships for the M.A. Olympic Studies via National Olympic Committees.

Main objectives of the study programme are to:

- enhance the individual participant's Olympic knowledge in social sciences and humanities
- promote the individual participant's critical appreciation of the nature and significance of values in the advocacy and practice of Olympism, Olympic sport and the Olympic Movement
- foster critical reflection on processes of continuity and transformation in the Olympic Movement and on the relationship between Olympism and Olympic practices and wider social contexts
- develop the individual participant's capacity to undertake independent research on relevant areas of the Olympic Movement by using appropriate methodologies
- facilitate lifelong learning for professionals within the Olympic Movement and the world of sport while continuing to work.

»The M.A. Olympic Studies is a really unique and dynamic programme. A few years ago I made a switch from athlete relations work to anti-doping, and I can say with certainty that my transition was smooth in large part due to the knowledge that I gained during my studies.«

OLYA ABASOLO OVTCHINNIKOVA OLY, CAN/RUS, EDUCATION SENIOR MANAGER, INTERNATIONAL TESTING AGENCY



Management
and Organization

The programme is delivered by a core network of international universities, including the German Sport University Cologne (Germany), Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain), University of Canterbury (New Zealand), Kiel University (Germany), Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil) and Scottish Centre of Olympic Research and Education (SCORE) at the University of Edinburgh (Scotland). Affordable accommodation is available on site. The teaching language is English.

Module Overview

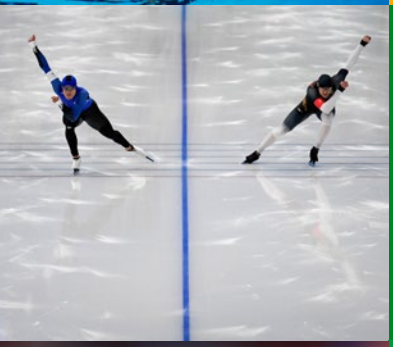
1 Ethics, Values and Olympic Education

Pierre de Coubertin´s Olympic idea and its relevance today; Olympism 365; ethical and cultural dimensions of Olympism; Olympic and Paralympic values; Olympism and life skills; concepts and applications of Olympic education; Youth Olympic Games.

1 TERM

2 Olympic Athletes and Elite Sport in Transition

Athletes as key actors of the Olympic Movement; athletes´ institutional positioning; athletes' rights and responsibilities; diversity and anti-discrimination; safeguarding and protection of athletes; the athlete´s entourage; career transitions; the athlete-coach relationship.



3 Research Methodologies in Olympic Studies

Research methods in humanities and social sciences; philosophy of methodology in social sciences and humanities; qualitative and quantitative research methods; Olympic research tools and databases (e.g. The Olympic World Library); professional application of Olympic studies research.

2 TERM

4 Governance, Policy and Olympic Organisations

The Olympic system and its institutional stakeholders; the Paralympic Movement; Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement; Olympic reform agendas; anti-doping policies; Olympic legacies and impacts; gender equality, diversity and inclusion; environmental sustainability and climate change; Olympic Virtual Sports.

5 Olympic Games - Media and Commercialisation

Nature and evolution of the Olympic Games as a mega event; trends, benefits and limits of sponsorships; Olympic Games broadcasting, production and marketing; the Olympic Channel; the role of traditional and social media; new media and its implications for the Olympic Movement.

3 TERM

6 International Relations and the Olympic Movement

The dual relationship of international relations and sport; the Olympic Movement´s role in international diplomacy; the Olympic Truce concept; global challenges facing the Olympic Movement; political utilization and boycotts of the Olympic Games; The Olympic Movement and its contribution to The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals; multiculturalism and the Olympic Movement.

Thesis

Core requirements: Undertaking a research project of theoretical and/or practical relevance for the Olympic Movement; employing methods and approaches which draw on humanities and social sciences; applying a critical analysis of the material delivered in the programme.
The thesis may be used as an opportunity to apply the programme's study contents within the professional environment and further develop participant career skills and capabilities.

4 TERM

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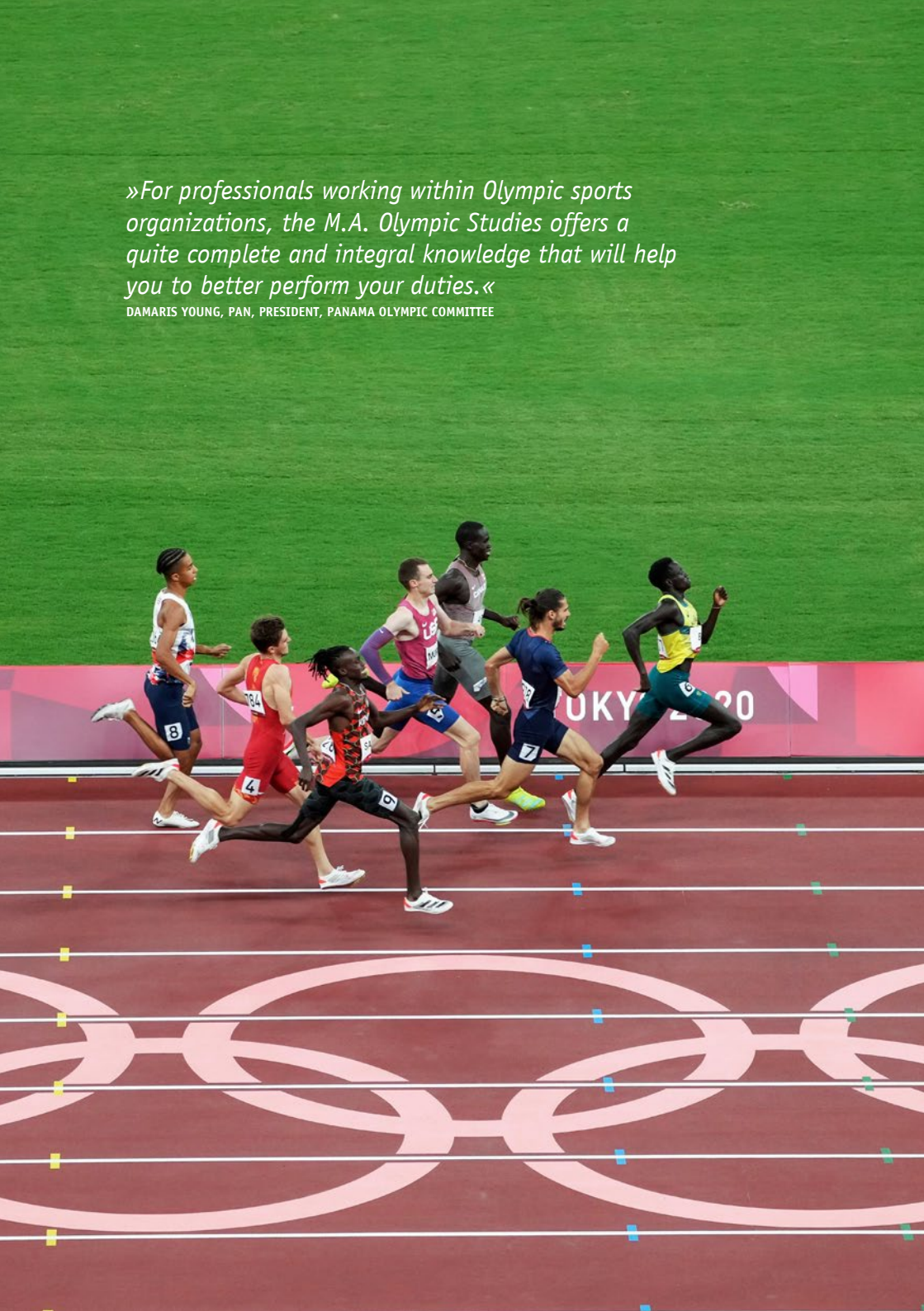
»For professionals working within Olympic sports organizations, the M.A. Olympic Studies offers a quite complete and integral knowledge that will help you to better perform your duties.«

DAMARIS YOUNG, PAN, PRESIDENT, PANAMA OLYMPIC COMMITTEE



Teaching Structure

The on-campus study weeks of the six modules are spread over two years. Each study week consists of six working days per module as outlined below. Attendance of the on-campus study weeks is compulsory.

		SUNDAY	MONDAY-FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
YEAR ONE	1 TERM	Arrival	**Study and Teaching Module 1**	Assignment	Departure
		→ Independent Learning			
		Arrival	**Study and Teaching Module 2**	Assignment	Departure
		→ Independent Learning			
	2 TERM	Arrival	**Study and Teaching Module 3**	Assignment	Departure
		→ Independent Learning			
		Arrival	**Study and Teaching Module 4**	Assignment	Departure
		→ Independent Learning			
YEAR TWO	3 TERM	Arrival	**Study and Teaching Module 5**	Assignment	Departure
		→ Independent Learning			
		Arrival	**Study and Teaching Module 6**	Assignment	Departure
		→ Independent Learning			
	4 TERM	**Thesis**			
		Organised as an independent study with a main supervisor teaching on the programme			

»The M.A. Olympic Studies helped me to reflect and build a solid academic foundation to my 30 years of activity and involvement within the Olympic Movement. It was a fantastic opportunity to share and grow my personal and professional expertise.«

PHILIPP WAEFFLER OLY, SUI, LECTURER/COACHING EDUCATION MANAGER, SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF SPORT MAGGLINGEN

Target Groups and Admission

The programme is designed to facilitate recruitment of a wide range of participants from diverse academic and professional backgrounds.

Main target groups of the study programme include but are not limited to:

- Current and former athletes
- Coaches and Athletes' Entourage
- Representatives of:
  - The International Olympic Committee
  - National Olympic Committees
  - International Sport Federations
  - Sponsors and Marketing Companies
  - Universities, Elite Sport Schools and Sport Academies
  - Media and Production Companies
  - Organising Committees and Applicant Cities

Admission:

Candidates will be required to hold a bachelor´s or equivalent degree, and have at least two years of work experience in an environment ideally relevant to the interests of the Olympic family.

Application:

For further details on the application process please visit the M.A. Olympic Studies website on www.dshs-koeln.de/olympicstudies.

Study Fee:

€ 5.000

Participants:

Max. 30

Degree:

Master of Arts (M.A.)
120 Credit Points

Contact:

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