Program-Specific Regulations
for the Bachelor's Program
"European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A.)

Adopted by the Senate on September 11th 2026

Content

Preamble 1
§ 1 Start of Studies, Standard Study Duration 1
§ 2 Study Objectives 1
§ 3 Academic Degree, Credits 2
§ 4 Structure of the Bachelor's program "European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A., full-time (online)) 2
§ 5 Structure of the Bachelor's program "European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A., part-time (online)) 5
§ 6 Entry into Force 8

Preamble

These program-specific regulations for the Bachelor's program "European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A.) supplement the framework study and examination regulations for Bachelor's programs of the NBS Northern Business School dated April 28th 2014 in its applicable version.

§ 1
Start of Studies, Standard Study Duration

(1) The start of the studies for the "European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A.) program (full-time/part-time) is possible in the summer and winter semesters.

(2) The implementation of the program may be dependent on a minimum number of 15 participants. The decision of the implementation of the program is made by the rectorate. A negative decision will be announced no later than four weeks before the start of the program.

(3) Enrollment, in accordance with the admission regulations, takes place in the first semester at the start of studies, unless previous study and examination credits of equivalent achievements are recognized.

(4) Proficiency in English at a B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages is required (proven by certification, such as TOEFL, DAAD Language Certificate, or university entrance qualification). Knowledge of German is not required.

(5) The standard duration of study for the "European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A., full-time) is six semesters. It includes the theoretical study semesters, exams, an internship, and the time allocated for the final thesis.

(6) The standard duration of study for the "European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A., part-time (online)) is eight semesters. It includes the theoretical study semesters, exams, practical assignments, and the time allocated for the final thesis. To ensure a successful completion of the program within the standard study period and to avoid overburdening students, it is recommended that part-time students do not exceed a weekly workload of 30 hours per week.

§ 2
Study Objectives

(1) The degree program provides broad subject knowledge through application-oriented teaching, as well as the ability to responsibly identify practice-relevant problems,

develop potential solutions, critically evaluate them, and successfully implement a chosen solution in practice. Taking on responsible tasks requires not only expertise but also confidence and decisiveness. Accordingly, the program also focuses on imparting key qualifications and promoting personal development. By the end of their studies, students should be able to independently address application-related problems within a given timeframe on a scientific basis.

(2) In the initial semesters, the degree program provides a solid foundation in social and political sciences with a focus on security policy issues. Students acquire knowledge in areas such as international relations, international law, academic writing, and empirical social research. A particular emphasis is placed on analysing current security policy challenges in the European and international context – for example, in the Baltic Sea region, in questions of resilience, cybersecurity, or maritime security. The internship integrated into the full-time program as well as the bachelor's thesis enable students to apply the acquired knowledge in a practical context. The combination of theoretical foundation, methodological training, and practice-oriented specialization specifically prepares students for careers in ministries, international organizations, think tanks, or security-related companies.

§ 3
Academic Degree, Credits

(1) Upon successful completion of the Bachelor's examination, the academic degree "Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)" is awarded.

(2) The Bachelor's program "European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A.) comprises 180 ECTS in both the full-time and part-time models.

(3) In the certificate, it will be documented that the study program was taught in English.

§ 4
Structure of the Bachelor's program "European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A., full-time (online))

(1) The curriculum of the Bachelor's degree program "European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A., full-time (online)) includes the provision of comprehensive foundational knowledge in security policy during the first four semesters. In the fifth semester, students complete a practical semester designed to foster exchange between academia and professional practice, enabling them to write their bachelor's thesis and defend it in the final colloquium during the last semester. Specialization takes place in the form of a competence field in the sixth semester. The competence fields offered will be

announced no later than four weeks before the start of the respective semester. The implementation of a competence field may be subject to a minimum number of ten participants.

(2) The topic of the bachelor thesis can be assigned once the student has earned 150 credits. The bachelor thesis must be written in English.

Study and examination plan for the Bachelor's program "European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A., full-time (online))

Semester 1

Module	Workload/Teaching*	Examination	ECTS
Introduction to Security Policy	150/48	Written Exam	5
Theories of International Relations	150/48	Written Exam	5
Academic Work (Methods)	150/48	Portfolio Examination	5
War & Conflict Studies I (Politics)	150/48	Presentation	5
Basics of Military Organizations & Operations (Polity)	150/48	Written Assignment and Presentation	5
Empirical Social Research (Methods)	150/48	Written Exam	5
Total	**900/288**		**30**

* In the full-time model, teaching consists of online attendance sessions.

Semester 2

Module	Workload/ Teaching	Examination	ECTS
Hybrid Threats (Policy)	150/48	Case Study	5
Arms Industry, Arms Control & Proliferation (Policy)	150/48	Written Exam	5
Current Challenges in Security Policy (Politics)	150/48	Case Study	5
War & Conflict Studies II (Politics)	150/48	Project	5
Crisis Communication & Information Management (Methods)	150/48	Practical Exam	5
Intelligence Cycle I (Structured Analysis) (Methods)	150/48	Written Exam	5
Total	**900/288**		**30**

Semester 3

Module	Workload/Teaching	Examination	ECTS
International Law & Security Policy (Polity)	150/48	Written Assignment and Presentation	5
History & Actors of Security Policy I (Politics)	150/48	Written Assignment and Presentation	5
International Organizations (Polity)	150/48	Case Study	5
Societal Resilience (Policy)	150/48	Project	5
Cultural History of Violence	150/48	Written Exam	5
Intelligence Cycle II (Methods of Future Analysis) (Methods)	150/48	Written Exam	5
Total	**900/288**		**30**

Semester 4

Module	Workload/Teaching	Examination	ECTS
Hospitation in Security & Defence Institutions	150/48	Portfolio	5
AI & Autonomous Weapon Systems	150/48	Written Assignment and Presentation	5
History & Actors of Security Policy II (Politics)	150/48	Written Exam	5
Communication & Protocol in Authorities & International Organizations (Methods)	150/48	Case Study	5
The Baltic Sea and Northern Europe as a Security Region (Integrative Module)	150/48	Written Exam	5
Geostrategic Challenges & Maritime Security	150/48	Written Assignment and Presentation	5
Total	**900/288**		**30**

Semester 5

Module	Workload/Teaching	Examination	ECTS
Internship	600/0	Certificate	20
Internship Report	300/0	Written assignment	10
Total	**900/0**		**30**

Semester 6

Module	Workload/Teaching	Examination	ECTS
Competence Field	150/48	See below	5
Comparative Analysis of Conflicts & Security Policy	150/48	Written Assignment and Presentation	5
Resources and Logistics – Germany as a Strategic Hub	150/48	Project	5
Bachelor's Thesis	360/0	Bachelor's Thesis	12
Bachelor's Colloquium	90/0	Colloquium: oral presentation and defense of the contents of the bachelor's thesis	3
Total	**900/144**		**30**
Total workload/contact	**5.400/1.296**		**180**

Competence Fields

War Gaming	150/48	Written Exam	5
Scandinavian Studies	150/48	Written Exam	5
Interdisciplinary Module	150/48	As chosen	5

§ 5
Structure of the Bachelor's program
"European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A., part-time (online))

(1) The curriculum of the Bachelor's degree program "European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A., part-time (online)) includes the teaching of comprehensive foundational knowledge in security policy during the first six academic semesters. Specialization takes place in the form of a competence field in the seventh semester. The specific competence fields offered will be announced no later than four weeks before the start of the respective semester. The implementation of a competence field may be subject to a minimum number of ten participants.

(3) The topic of the bachelor thesis can be assigned once the student has earned 150 credits. The bachelor thesis must be written in English.

Study and examination plan for the Bachelor's program "European Security and Defense Studies" (B.A., part-time (online))

Semester 1

Module	Workload/Teaching *	Examination	ECTS
Introduction to Security Policy	150/48	Written Exam	5
Theories of International Relations	150/48	Written Exam	5
Academic Work (Methods)	150/48	Portfolio	5
War & Conflict Studies I (Politics)	150/48	Presentation	5
Basics of Military Organizations & Operations (Polity)	150/48	Written Assignment and Presentation	5
Total	**750/240**		**25**

* In the part-time model, teaching consists of online attendance sessions.

Semester 2

Module	Workload/Teaching	Examination	ECTS
Empirical Social Research (Methods)	150/48	Written Exam	5
Hybrid Threats (Policy)	150/48	Case Study	5
Arms Industry, Arms Control & Proliferation (Policy)	150/48	Written Exam	5
Current Challenges in Security Policy (Politics)	150/48	Case Study	5
Total	**600/192**		**20**

Semester 3

Module	Workload/Teaching	Examination	ECTS
War & Conflict Studies II (Politics)	150/48	Project	5
Crisis Communication & Information Management (Methods)	150/48	Practical Exam	5
International Law & Security Policy (Polity)	150/48	Written Assignment and Presentation	5
History & Actors of Security Policy I (Politics)	150/48	Written Assignment and Presentation	5
Practical Project I	150/4	Term Paper	5
Total	**750/196**		**25**

Semester 4

Module	Workload/Teaching	Examination	ECTS
Intelligence Cycle I (Structured Analysis) (Methods)	150/48	Written Exam	5
International Organizations (Polity)	150/48	Case Study	5
Societal Resilience (Policy)	150/48	Project	5
Cultural History of Violence	150/48	Written Exam	5
Total	**600/192**		**20**

Semester 5

Module	Workload/Teaching	Examination	ECTS
Intelligence Cycle II (Methods of Future Analysis) (Methods)	150/48	Written Exam	5
Hospitation in Security & Defence Institutions	150/48	Portfolio	5
AI & Autonomous Weapon Systems	150/48	Written Assignment and Presentation	5
History & Actors of Security Policy II	150/48	Written Exam	5
Practical Project II	150/4	Case Study	5
Total	**750/196**		**25**

Semester 6

Module	Workload/Teaching	Examination	ECTS
Communication & Protocol in Authorities & International Organizations (Methods)	150/48	Case Study	5
The Baltic Sea and Northern Europe as a Security Region (Integrative Module)	150/48	Written Exam	5
Practical Project III	150/8	Written Assignment and Presentation	10
Total	**600/104**		**20**

Semester 7

Module	Workload/Teaching	Examination	ECTS
Geostrategic Challenges & Maritime Security	150/48	Term Paper and Presentation	5
Competence Field	150/48	See below	5
Resources and Logistics – Germany as a Strategic Hub	150/48	Project	5

Practical Project IV	150/8	Written Assignment and Presentation	10
Total	**750/152**		**25**

Semester 8

Module	Workload/Teaching	Examination	ECTS
Comparative Analysis of Conflicts & Security Policy	150/48	Written Assignment and Presentation	5
Bachelor's Thesis	360/0	Bachelor's Thesis	12
Bachelor's Colloquium	90/0	Colloquium: oral presentation and defense of the contents of the bachelor thesis	3
Total	**600/48**		**20**
Total Workload/Contact	**5.400/1.320**		**180**

Competence Fields

War Gaming	150/48	Written Exam	5
Scandinavian Studies	150/48	Written Exam	5
Interdisciplinary Module	150/48	As chosen	5

§ 6
Entry into Force

These program-specific regulations shall enter into force on the day after their approval by the Ministry of Science, Research, Equality, and Districts of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg. They shall apply for the first time to students who commence their studies at NBS Northern Business School in the winter semester 2027/28.

Hamburg, September 11th, 2026

Signed, the Rector