

SAI

SÜDASIEN-INSTITUT



**UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG**
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386

Faculty of Behavioural and Cultural Studies
Department of Anthropology at the South Asia Institute

Module Handbook

- consecutive Master of Arts in Health and Society in South Asia -

Full-time degree programme, standard period of study is four semesters, 120 credits

Number of places on the programme: 25

Introduction of the degree programme: SS 2008

as of: June 2016

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Preamble: All titles in this module handbook, be they official, job, status or functions, are used in masculine form, however they refer to men and women equally and may also be used in the corresponding feminine form.

Preamble: Qualification Objectives at Heidelberg University

In line with the mission statement and the constitution, Heidelberg University's degree programmes are based on subject-specific, interdisciplinary and practical goals for comprehensive academic education and for the students' future careers. The resulting competency profile is included in the module handbooks as a universally valid qualification profile and is implemented in the specific qualification objectives as well as the curricula and modules of the individual degree programmes:

- Development of subject-related skills with a pronounced research orientation;
- Development of trans-disciplinary dialogue skills;
- Development of practical problem-solving skills;
- Development of personal and social skills;
- Promotion of disposition to assume social responsibility based on the acquired skills.

1. Qualification Objectives of the Master of Arts in Health and Society in South Asia

The Master's degree programme in Health and Society in South Asia provides training in Medical Anthropology, which is theoretical and empirical and has a regional focus on South Asia. It enables graduates to independently work in a related field or to continue on to further study.

Graduates of the programme are able to independently and responsibly apply anthropological methods in order to understand the cultural dimensions of medicine and disease, and analyse healing systems and the practices which relate to them. The programme provides graduates with broad knowledge relating to the fields of Medical Anthropology and South Asian Studies as well as knowledge of analytical methods which enable the interconnections between culture, language, medicine and disease overall to be described, analysed and explained, while taking limitations in these areas into account. Through the process of writing a Master's thesis, which is usually accompanied by field research and archive and literature research, graduates of the programme acquire the skills necessary to independently develop a research question relating to an academic problem, to follow up this question using current research, and to generate subsequent findings and conclusions using the analytical thinking and judgement skills learned. These findings are significant for both the culture-based understanding of health, disease and healing, and for projects relating to foreign aid and health care systems. Graduates can present their findings to peers and laypersons, and use coherent arguments to defend them. Graduates have also learnt how to independently develop new topics, assess recent information and findings, and form practical conclusions that incorporate social aspects relating to disease, health and healing. Graduates are able to utilise their specialist knowledge of methods from the field of Medical Anthropology and combine them with methods from other disciplines, in particular those relating to South Asian Studies and Regional Studies, but also to disciplines such as Public Health or Medicine. In this way, they are able to develop new solutions with complex

interconnections. The objective of the Master's degree programme is to qualify students for research-related employment in the fields of: foreign aid, health care systems, intercultural exchange and intercultural skills, or further study in related disciplines.

a. Subject-related Qualification Objectives

Graduates of the Master's degree programme in Health and Society in South Asia are familiar with the most important anthropological topics and movements in general, and more specifically, with those relating to Medical Anthropology. They are able to understand them, provide a competent assessment and discussion, and associate them with current research findings. They are also able to analyse their own research material on this basis. They are aware of current methods from the field of Medical Anthropology and are able to apply such methods in a research project. Graduates of the Health and Society in South Asia degree programme are also aware of the most important topics relating to South Asian studies and have broad knowledge of the anthropology, political science, history, geography and linguistics of South Asia. Graduates also have a basic knowledge of one or several South Asian languages. This means that they are able to understand and analyse new research and current developments in the region.

b. Generic Qualification Objectives

Graduates of the Master's degree programme in Health and Society in South Asia learn the skills needed to think in a joined-up manner, to be organised and to work in a team. They are also able to apply their knowledge and problem solving skills in new and unfamiliar situations, and in a wider specialist context. Graduates of the programme are able to draw their own conclusions from current research and practice, to convey these and discuss the subject on an academic level. They know how to further their own knowledge of health-related topics and of South Asia, particularly in the fields of Social Sciences and the Humanities. They can independently carry out their own research-orientated or practice-orientated projects, particularly in relation to health topics or foreign aid. When it comes to foreign aid, health and intercultural skills, graduates of the Master's in Health and Society in South Asia have a defined cultural and sociological research orientation, transdisciplinary dialogue skills and practice-orientated problem solving skills.

c. Professions Open to Graduates

Various positions and areas of work in the following fields may be open to graduates:

- development aid
- health care systems
- intercultural exchange, skills and training
- work and research relating to peace and conflict
- and further academic qualification in related disciplines. This includes a doctorate in Anthropology or a related field, or an M.Sc. in Public Health.

d. Degree Programme Overview

The Master of Arts in Health and Society in South Asia (MAHASSA) is a full-time degree programme at the South Asia Institute (SAI) at Heidelberg University. It is studied in English and the standard period of study is four semesters. MAHASSA features a combination of Medical Anthropology and South Asian Studies. Students also learn a South Asian language. The Master's thesis is usually accompanied by a period of research or a work placement in

South Asia. The degree programme is primarily aimed at two prospective groups. On the one hand, it is designed for students who intend on working in the field of foreign medical aid, and on the other hand, for students who are pursuing a career in Anthropology or a related field.

MAHASSA combines Medical Anthropology with South Asian Studies. Medical Anthropology includes comparable analysis of different medical and healing systems. A focus is placed on how medical practice is carried out and how states of disease and health are experienced in concrete, sociocultural contexts. To date, graduates of the MAHASSA degree programme have participated in development projects relevant to health, are employed in non-governmental organisations in the health sector, in hospitals or by traditional healers, and have carried out research on topics such as health problems of migrants from South Asia in Europe, to name a few important projects.

The field of study contains a large variety of different topics, such as plural medical systems, ayurveda and other traditional forms of South Asian medicine, social justice and health, healing rituals, mental health, public health, global health, health and environment, health of legal and illegal migrants, religion and healing, and methods of field research.

There are two study plans for the MA in Health and Society in South Asia which are different both in terms of structure and content. The study plan followed is chosen according to whether or not the student has prior knowledge of a South Asian language. For students who have no knowledge of a South Asian language, a relevant language course is to be visited as a separate language module. Students who can prove that they have some knowledge of a South Asian language attend courses in current anthropological fields instead of a language course.

e. General Comments on the Modules

Teaching/Learning methods:

- Lecture (L): Content is usually taught through presentations given by the lecturer. Students are encouraged to read the literature and go over the content in their own time.
- Seminar (S): Students chose e.g. one topic of focus, about which they give a presentation and/or complete a written assignment (such as term paper or essay). Further teaching and learning methods include group discussions, portfolios, learning diaries and practical exercises.
- Practice Class (PC): MAHASSA practice classes take the form of language courses. These courses teach students the phonetics, script and grammatical structures of the South Asian language chosen. By practicing in small groups, students develop their speaking, reading and comprehension skills, acquire a basic vocabulary and specific linguistic elements (words, terms, idioms) relating to health and disease.

Final Module Examinations:

There are no final examinations for the modules in the MA Health and Society in South Asia degree programme. Instead, students sit individual exams during the course of each module. This is because each module teaches students different skills. The examinations therefore test the different skills specific to each module.

Further information can be found on the programme's website:

www.sai.uni-heidelberg.de/ethno/mahassa

2. Module Overview

a. For students who cannot speak a South Asian language

Module 1: Basics of Medical Anthropology				
<i>Courses</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>WCH</i>	<i>Sem</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
Introduction to Medical Anthropology	S	2	1	6
Healing Systems in South Asia	S	2	2	6
Methods in Medical Anthropology	S	2	2	6
Lecture: Medical Anthropology Forum	L	2	1-3	2
Lecture: Medical Anthropology Forum	L	2	1-3	2
Lecture: Medical Anthropology Forum	L	2	1-3	2
				24

Module 2: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology				
<i>Courses</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>WCH</i>	<i>Sem</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
Seminar to be chosen from: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	S	2	1-3	6
Seminar to be chosen from: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	S	2	1-3	6
Seminar to be chosen from: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	S	2	1-3	6
Seminar to be chosen from: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	S	2	1-3	6
				24

Module 3: Selected themes in South Asian Studies				
<i>Courses</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>WCH</i>	<i>Sem</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
Seminar to be chosen from: Selected themes in South Asian Studies	S	6	1-3	6

Seminar to be chosen from: Selected themes in South Asian Studies	S	6	1-3	6
Seminar to be chosen from: Selected themes in South Asian Studies	S	6	1-3	6
				18

Module 4: South Asian Languages				
<i>Courses</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>WCH</i>	<i>Sem</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
Language course to be chosen from: South Asian Languages	usually PC	usually 2	1-3	usually 6
Language course to be chosen from: South Asian Languages	usually PC	usually 2	1-3	usually 6
				12

Module 5: Preparation of Master's Thesis				
<i>Courses</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>WCH</i>	<i>Sem</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
Scientific Working Skills	S	2	1	6
Master's Thesis Preparation	S	2	3	6
Colloquium Master's thesis	S	2	4	6
				18

Module 6: Master's thesis			
<i>Content</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Sem</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
Fieldwork, Archive or Literature research	Self-study	Lecture-free period following the third semester	6
Master's thesis	Self-study	4	18
			24

b. For students who can speak a South Asian language

Module 1: Basics of Medical Anthropology				
<i>Courses</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>WCH</i>	<i>Sem</i>	<i>ECTS</i>

Introduction to Medical Anthropology	S	2	1	6
Healing Systems in South Asia	S	2	2	6
Methods in Medical Anthropology	S	2	2	6
Lecture: Medical Anthropology Forum	L	2	1-3	2
Lecture: Medical Anthropology Forum	L	2	1-3	2
Lecture: Medical Anthropology Forum	L	2	1-3	2
				24

Module 2: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology

<i>Courses</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>WCH</i>	<i>Sem</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
Seminar to be chosen from: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	S	2	1-3	6
Seminar to be chosen from: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	S	2	1-3	6
Seminar to be chosen from: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	S	2	1-3	6
Seminar to be chosen from: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	S	2	1-3	6
Seminar to be chosen from: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	S	2	1-3	6
Seminar to be chosen from: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	S	2	1-3	6
				36

Module 3: Selected themes in South Asian Studies

<i>Courses</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>WCH</i>	<i>Sem</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
Seminar to be chosen from: Selected themes in South Asian Studies	S	6	1-3	6
Seminar to be chosen from: Selected themes in South Asian Studies	S	6	1-3	6
Seminar to be chosen from: Selected themes in South Asian Studies	S	6	1-3	6
				18

Module 5: Preparation of Master's Thesis

<i>Courses</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>WCH</i>	<i>Sem</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
Scientific Working Skills	S	2	1	6

Master's Thesis Preparation	S	2	3	6
Colloquium Master's thesis	S, thesis	2, thesis	4	6
				18

Module 6: Master's thesis			
	<i>Type</i>	<i>Sem</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
Fieldwork, Archive or Literature research	Self-study	Lecture-free period following the third semester	6
Master's thesis	Self-study	4	18
			24

3. Study plan for the MA in Health and Society in South Asia

a. Recommended study plan for students who cannot speak a South Asian language

Period	Module	Course	ECTS
1st semester	1	Introduction to Medical Anthropology	6
		Medical Anthropology Forum	2
	2	Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	6
	3	Selected themes in South Asian Studies	6
	4	South Asian Languages	6
2nd semester	1	Healing Systems in South Asia	6
		Methods in Medical Anthropology	6
		Medical Anthropology Forum	2
	2	Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	6
	3	Selected themes in South Asian Studies	6
4	South Asian Languages	6	
3rd semester	1	Medical Anthropology Forum	2
	2	Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	6
		Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	6
	5	Master's Thesis Preparation	6
	3	Selected themes in South Asian Studies	6

Semester break	6	Fieldwork, Archive or Literature research	6
4th Semester¹	5	Colloquium Master's thesis	6
	6	Master's thesis	18
			120

b. Recommended study plan for students who can speak a South Asian language

Period	Module	Course	ECTS
1st semester	1	Introduction to Medical Anthropology	6
		Medical Anthropology Forum	2
	2	Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	6
		Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	6
	5	Scientific Working Skills	6
	3	Selected themes in South Asian Studies	6
2nd semester	1	Healing Systems in South Asia	6
		Methods in Medical Anthropology	6
		Medical Anthropology Forum	2
	2	Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	6
		Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	6
	3	Selected themes in South Asian Studies	6
	3rd semester	1	Medical Anthropology Forum
2		Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	6
		Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology	6
5		Master's Thesis Preparation	6
3		Selected themes in South Asian Studies	6
Semester break	6	Fieldwork, Archive or Literature research	6
4th Semester¹	5	Colloquium Master's thesis	6
	6	Master's thesis	18
			120

4. Module Descriptions

a. Module 1: Basics of Medical Anthropology

¹In addition to completing module 3, one seminar worth a maximum of 6 ECTS from modules 2, 4, 5 can be attended in the fourth semester.

Code:	Module name: Basics of Medical Anthropology
Type of module	Compulsory
Module administrator	Dr. Roman Sieler
Language	English
Credits	24
Module content	<p>This module introduces students to the most important theories in the field of Medical Anthropology. Students are familiarised with the following basic concepts with reference to South Asia: the difference between disease and illness, health-promoting behavioural strategies and doctor/patient interaction, medical pluralism and areas in which medical anthropology is applied. Early medical anthropological concepts are primarily discussed with reference to South Asia and are supplemented by modern concepts, such as critical medical anthropology, and symbolic and phenomenological approaches.</p> <p>The module also covers the history of healing in South Asia, cultural ideas and approaches to health, disease and the body, indigenous healing systems such as ayurveda, unani and siddha medicine, the current state of biomedicine in South Asia, current health problems in South Asia such as HIV/AIDS and STDs, infanticide and the preference for sons, diabetes and obesity, and infectious and vector-borne diseases.</p> <p>In this module, students learn to work using anthropological sources (literature, data, video footage). They also learn and practice anthropological research methods such as participant observation, structured and unstructured interviews, focus group interviews, surveys and their evaluation, the extended case method, census data and anthropological census, which the students learn to apply through practical exercises. These research techniques and methods are taught and practised with reference to medical anthropological fields of research such as: health care providers, health care facilities (hospitals, doctors' surgeries), health concepts and practices.</p> <p>These and other topics are illustrated using current research examples, which are presented by speakers and researchers invited to speak as part of an ongoing lecture series.</p>
Learning objectives	<p>After attending this module, students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognise and understand key theoretical concepts and the most important medical anthropological topics. • classify and evaluate different theoretical schools of thought from the past 60 years, and to establish connections to related disciplines (Public Health, Anthropology, Health Sciences). • understand and classify different forms of Medical Anthropology, and record and evaluate the differences between theoretical trends and practical approaches in the field of study. • understand the influences of cultural thought processes on the concepts of health, disease and therapy. • identify the most urgent health problems in South Asia. • identify and understand current research methods and techniques, and main points of criticism for sociological research methods. • determine and apply research methods relevant to specific questions.

Teaching and Learning Methods	Module 1 consists of three weekly courses, usually seminars, each lasting 2 WCH, and three fortnightly lectures, also lasting 2 WCH.
Requirements for participation	none
Applicability of module	This module forms the basis of the Master's in Health and Society in South Asia degree programme and must be completed in order to attend all other courses in the programme.
Requirements for the Award of Credits, Workload and Grades	<p>Course attendance and self-study (2 credits) An extensive presentation, including a preliminary discussion and review, and/or a written examination (1 credit) A detailed term paper (3 credits) Grades are given for spoken performance and/or the examination, and the term paper.</p> <p>Lecture: Course attendance, self-study and term paper (2 credits)</p>
Frequency of Module	Module is available in the first three semesters and is usually to be completed in the first three semesters of study.
Duration	3 semesters
Courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Medical Anthropology (seminar) • Healing Systems in South Asia (seminar) • Methods in Medical Anthropology (seminar) • Lectures on: Medical Anthropology Forum

b. Module 2: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology

Code:	Module name: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology
Type of module	Compulsory
Module administrator	Dr. Roman Sieler
Language	English
Credits	24 for students who can speak a South Asian language. 36 for students who cannot speak a South Asian language
Module content	<p>The content of this module constitutes one of the two focuses of the MA in Health and Society - the communication and consolidation of medical anthropological knowledge. The theoretical instruction in Medical Anthropology is focused on South Asia and is taught in combination with South Asia Studies. Module 2 is complemented by the programme's regional focus (module 3, South Asian Studies).</p> <p>This module provides students with thorough knowledge of, and the ability to criticise, recent and early topics and questions in Medical Anthropology. Regional comparative studies are at the core: various topics (e.g. HIV/AIDS, malaria, reproductive health, medical pluralism, lifestyle diseases) are examined and analysed in a regional comparison; analytical comparative studies: theoretical topics (critical Medical Anthropology, Ritual Theory and healing, international health, anthropology of the body) are examined and analysed through regional and/or historical</p>

	comparison; expanded studies on a range of topics in a region (e.g. health and ethnicity in the Philippines, traditional Chinese medicine, Tibetan medical practices, stress and stress management in South Asia, Tamil health concepts). The modules available vary from semester to semester and include medical anthropological seminars on different topics and seminars on “Theoretical Medical Anthropology”.
Learning objectives	After attending this module, students are able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acquire and expand initial medical anthropological skills. • understand, evaluate and practice specific medical anthropological approaches both theoretically and methodically.
Teaching and Learning Methods	Module 2 consists of four or six weekly courses, usually seminars, each lasting 2 WCH.
Requirements for participation	none
Applicability of module	This module teaches students specialist and cross-disciplinary skills, and can be used to validly root Master’s theses in a medical anthropological setting.
Requirements for the Award of Credits, Workload and Grades	Seminars: Course attendance and self-study (2 credits) An extensive presentation, including a preliminary discussion and review, and/or a written examination (1 credit) A detailed term paper (3 credits) Grades are given for spoken performance and/or the examination, and the term paper.
Frequency of Module	Module is available in all semesters and is usually to be completed in the first three semesters of study.
Duration	3 semesters
Courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of seminars on: Current themes in Medical Anthropology and Anthropology

c. Module 3: Selected themes in South Asian Studies

Code:	Module name: Selected themes in South Asian Studies
Type of module	Compulsory
Module administrator	Dr. Roman Sieler
Language	English
Credits	18
Module content	Module 3, which conveys cross-disciplinary knowledge of South Asian studies, constitutes the regional emphasis of the Master’s programme, and complements module 2 (Medical Anthropology), the programme’s focus on content. This module imparts an overview of relevant questions and methods from different disciplines that are taught at the South Asia Institute, and at the Karl Jaspers Centre for Advanced Transcultural Studies, namely South Asian History, Political Science of South Asia, Anthropology, Geography, Buddhism, Cultural and Religious History in South Asia, Art History and Visual Culture in South Asia. It helps students to acquire and understand cross-disciplinary knowledge related to South Asia.

	<p>The specific content depends on the topics of the discipline's courses, which are ideally related to health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anthropology: Anthropological theories with a focus on South Asia • History: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowledge of the main discussions on the history of South Asia - Medical history of South Asia: This seminar covers the historical teaching methods of indigenous healing (e.g. ayurveda, siddha) and the history of western medical systems (biomedicine, homopathy) during the classical, precolonial, colonial and postcolonial periods. • Cultural and Religious History of South Asia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To learn about and understand the foundations of the traditional and modern forms of the religions in South Asia. - South Asian Knowledge Systems: This seminar covers the content and history of classical South Asian knowledge systems (philosophy, religion, astrology, medicine) with reference to health and disease. • Geography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics relating to the regional geography of South Asia and geographical research methods. - Health and Environment in South Asia. What effects do health and environment exert on each other? What impact does environmental change (e.g. urbanisation and modernisation, climate change) have on health and disease in South Asia? • Political Science of South Asia: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theories and methods from political science on a macro and micro level with reference to the regional context of South Asia. - Health Policy in South Asia. The link between federal health programmes and national and international health policy guidelines are a central focus. • Buddhism: Tibetan culture, language and religion. <p>Module availability varies from semester to semester.</p>
Learning objectives	<p>After attending this module, students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acquire, and expand, skills and knowledge specific to the region. • approach and analyse South Asian, health-related topics in an interdisciplinary manner.
Teaching and Learning Methods	
Module 3 consists of three weekly courses, usually seminars, each lasting 2 WCH. Requirements for participation	none
Applicability of module	This module can be used to validly root Master's theses in a specific regional context.

Requirements for the Award of Credits, Workload and Grades	Course attendance and self-study (2 credits) An extensive presentation, including a preliminary discussion and review, and/or a written examination (1 credit) A detailed term paper (3 credits) Grades are given for spoken performance and/or the examination, and the term paper.
Frequency of Module	Module is available in all semesters and is usually to be completed in the first three semesters of study.
Duration	3 semesters
Courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of seminars on: Selected themes in South Asian Studies

d. Module 4: South Asian Languages²

Code:	Module name: South Asian Languages
Type of module	Compulsory for all students who cannot speak a South Asian language
Module administrator	Dr. Roman Sieler
Language	English
Credits	12
Module content	<p>Mastering a language indigenous to South Asia, is a prerequisite for medical anthropological research. This module teaches students the phonetics, script and grammatical structures of the South Asian language chosen. Students develop speaking, reading and comprehension skills, and acquire a basic vocabulary and learn specific linguistic elements (words, terms, idioms) relating to health and disease. Courses in the following South Asian languages are regularly offered at the South Asia Institute:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hindi • Tamil • Urdu • Bengali • Sanskrit <p>Depending on the capacity, other languages such as Singhalese, Nepali, Tibetan etc. are occasionally offered. With permission from the examinations board, students may attend external language courses not offered at Heidelberg University.</p>
Learning objectives	<p>After attending this module, students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are able to read and write in the chosen language • have a basic vocabulary of around 1,000 words • are familiar with the basic grammatical and syntactical rules • are able to have simple conversations • are able to use terminology and idioms specific to health and the body. This is important for field work relating to health and society.
Teaching and Learning Methods	Module 3 consists of language courses.

²This module is only to be attended and completed by students who do not speak a South Asian language.

Requirements for participation	none
Applicability of module	The module is the basis, and a requirement, for students to carry out field work. It helps students to better understand health and disease, and also facilitates reading texts that feature terms from a South Asian language.
Requirements for the Award of Credits, Workload and Grades	Course attendance and self-study (2 credits) An extensive presentation, including a preliminary discussion and review, and/or a written examination (1 credit) A detailed term paper (3 credits) Grades are given for spoken performance and/or the examination, and the term paper.
Frequency of Module	Module is available in all semesters and is usually to be completed in the first three semesters of study.
Duration	1-2 semesters
Courses	Language courses in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hindi • Tamil • Urdu • Bengali • Sanskrit Depending on the capacity, other languages such as Singhalese, Nepali, Tibetan etc. may be offered.

e. Module 5: Preparation of Master's Thesis

Code:	Module name: Preparation of Master's Thesis
Type of module	Compulsory
Module administrator	Dr. Roman Sieler
Language	English
Credits	18
Module content	Through this module, students learn the fundamental rules for carrying out academic work. It contains oral and written presentation techniques, especially relating to academic writing (citations, sources, producing a bibliography, structure, style, text formatting, writing reports, proposals, essays and academic texts), presentation methods in English (presentations and specialist presentations, panel chairing, discussion leading), rhetoric and time management. Students also specifically prepared for developing a research topic and writing a thesis.
Learning objectives	After attending this module, students are able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop and hold written and oral presentations. • differentiate between, and apply, academic and professional presentation methods • recognise the fundamental rules of academic working and apply them both orally and in writing. • plan and carry out anthropological research. • develop and independently work on an academic question.
Teaching and Learning Methods	Module 5 consists of three weekly courses, usually seminars, each lasting 2 WCH.

Requirements for participation	Successful completion of modules 1 - 4
Applicability of module	On the one hand, this module aids students in the composition of written components, and in the preparation of oral components which are to be completed as part of the Master's in Health and Society in South Asia. On the other hand, it also prepares students for developing of a research topic and for writing their Master's thesis. The module represents a constituent part of the Master of Arts in Health and Society in South Asia.
Requirements for the Award of Credits, Workload and Grades	Course attendance and self-study (2 credits) An extensive presentation, including a preliminary discussion and review, and/or a written examination (1 credit) A detailed term paper (3 credits) Grades are given for spoken performance and/or the examination, and the term paper.
Frequency of Module	Courses from module 5 are available in semesters 1, 3 and 4.
Duration	3 semesters
Courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific Working Skills • Master's Thesis Preparation • Colloquium Master's thesis

f. Module 6: Master's thesis

Code:	Module name: Master's thesis
Type of module	Compulsory
Module administrator	Dr. Roman Sieler
Language	English
Credits	24
Module content	In this module, students work on a medical anthropological topic. They should thereby illustrate that they are able to successfully and independently work on a relevant question relating to Medical Anthropology in South Asia. The Master's thesis usually includes field work. It can, however, also be purely based on literature.
Learning objectives	After attending this module, students are able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • independently carry out medical anthropological research, field work, or archive or literature research. • plan and compose an anthropological academic paper using current citation methods and other fundamental academic principles.
Teaching and Learning Methods	Module 6 consists of the completion of a Master's thesis (ca. 12 weeks), which is usually accompanied by field research, field work or archive research (ca. 12 weeks). It can, however, also be purely based on literature.
Requirements for participation	Successful completion of modules 1 - 4
Applicability of module	On the one hand, this module aids students in the composition of written components, and in the preparation of oral components which are to be completed as part of the Master's in Health and Society in South Asia. On the other hand, it also prepares students for developing of a research topic and for writing their Master's thesis. The module represents a constituent part of the Master of Arts in

	Health and Society in South Asia.
Requirements for the Award of Credits, Workload and Grades	Self-study; independent completion of field research, archive or literature research according to academic standards (ca. 12 weeks; 6 credits). Completion of a written thesis according to academic standards, which does not contain more than 15,000 words (ca. 12 weeks; 18 credits).
Frequency of Module	Module 6 is to be started during the semester brake following the third semester (field, archive, literature research or work placement). It is to be completed in the fourth semester.
Duration	1 semester, lecture-free period following the 3rd semester