

SAI

SÜDASIEN-INSTITUT



**UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG**
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386

Faculty of Behavioural and Cultural Studies
Department of Anthropology, South Asia Institute

Module Handbook

Consecutive Master's Programme: Health and Society in South Asia

Degree Programme: Master of Arts Health and Society in South Asia
(full- and part-time studies)

First introduced in summer semester 2008

Regular Study Duration: 4 semesters (full-time) with 120, 100 or 20 credit points

Place of Study: Heidelberg

Maximum Number of Students / Year: 25

Fees: According to the general rules of Heidelberg University
(<https://www.uni-heidelberg.de/en/study/management-of-studies/tuition-fees>)

Updated: April 2022

Adressants: Students and Potential Applicants

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1. Qualification Objectives, Profile, and distinctive Features of the Master of Arts Health and Society in South Asia

a. Preamble: Qualification objectives at Heidelberg University

In line with the mission statement and the constitution, Heidelberg University's degree programmes are based on department-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 professional competencies with a pronounced research orientation;
- Development of a trans-disciplinary dialogue competence;
- Development of practical problem-solving skills;
- Development of personal and social competencies;
- Promotion of disposition to assume social responsibility based on the acquired competencies.

b. Overview of the programme

The Master of Arts Health and Society in South Asia (MAHASSA) is an English-language programme comprising 120 credit points with a regular study duration of 4 semesters in full-time. MAHASSA can also be studied as a major subject of 100 CPs accompanied by another minor subject, or as a minor subject of 20 CPs accompanying another major subject. Furthermore, MAHASSA can be partially or fully studied in part-time.

MAHASSA combines medical anthropology with South Asian studies. Students who do not yet speak a South Asian language further attend courses in one South Asian language. The Master's Thesis is usually based on fieldwork or an internship conducted in or related to South Asia. Medical anthropology is the comparative study of different medical and healing systems with a focus on different ways of practicing medicine and healing and of experiencing and understanding illness and health in concrete, socio-cultural and political-economic contexts.

The programme primarily addresses two groups of applicants: 1. Students who intend to pursue a career in medical development work, in the fields of health or public health, or in related areas. 2. Students who aim for an academic career in medical anthropology, social and cultural anthropology, or a related discipline. MAHASSA graduates have, for example, participated in health-related development projects or work for non-governmental organisations in the health sector, in hospitals, or with traditional healers.

MAHASSA comprises a wide variety of themes, such as medical pluralism, Ayurveda and other South Asian medical systems, social inequality, structural violence, and health, ritual healing, mental health, public health, global health, science, technology, and medicine, embodiment and body perceptions and conceptions, gender and reproduction, health and environment, health, migration, and ethnicity, health and nutrition, religion and healing, and research methods and research ethics.

MAHASSA can be studied according to 5 different trajectories. Students who study MAHASSA for 120 CPs and do not yet speak a South Asian language will attend language courses a part of their studies (trajectory a). Students who study MAHASSA for 120 CPs and already speak a South Asian language attend additional courses in anthropology and medical anthropology

(trajectory b). Students who study MAHASSA for 100 CPs with an additional minor subject follow trajectory c, while students studying MAHASSA as a minor subject for 20 CPs can select between trajectories d and e.

c. Subject-specific qualification objectives

Successful MAHASSA-graduates have gained extensive knowledge of medical anthropology and its fundamental as well as current topics of investigation, theories, and analytical approaches. Graduates can explain, evaluate, and discuss these theories and approaches competently, can relate them to new research data, and can analyse own research data through their application. Graduates can therefore independently and responsibly identify, describe, and understand cultural, socio-economic, and political dimensions of medicine and illness, analyse healing systems and their practices, and recognise, describe, and explain interrelationships between culture, society, knowledge, language, medicine, and illness.

Successful MAHASSA graduates are well-versed with medical anthropological and anthropological research methods and can use them responsibly in research projects. They are further familiar with the fundamental principles of medical anthropological research ethics and can integrate them into the design and execution of research and into the presentation and publication of research results in ways beneficial to the research participants.

MAHASSA graduates are able to apply medical anthropological methods flexibly and can integrate them creatively with the methods of other disciplines – especially of South Asian and other regional studies but also of public health, global health, or medicine – in order to develop innovative solutions to problems in complex scenarios. They can thereby contribute to applied problem-solving and to the successful implementation of projects and campaigns in the health sectors and in medical development work constructively, scientifically, and ethically.

Graduates have further acquired reliable knowledge of the societies and the important cultural, socio-economic, political, and international dynamics of contemporary South Asia and can apply this knowledge to health, illness, and healing in South Asia and in other parts of the world. They can distinguish, categorise, and explain different South Asian medical systems and health practices and ideas to varying audiences. They have further acquired basic spoken and written skills in a South Asian language (trajectory a), which allow them to conduct basic conversations and to understand and explain relevant information – in particular pertaining to health, illness, and healing – in speech and writing. MAHASSA graduates are able to analyse and critically evaluate new research and new developments in South Asia or in relation to South Asian discourses and practices regarding health, illness, and healing.

d. General qualification objectives

The subject-specific qualification objectives for graduates stated previously are simultaneously relevant beyond their immediate subjects and disciplines.

MAHASSA students learn interconnected thinking, self-organisational skills, and teamwork abilities, especially also in relation to intercultural competences. MAHASSA graduates are able to engage in critical self-reflection and can empathetically understand other viewpoints and perspectives in intercultural contexts. They are further able to apply knowledge and solve problems in new and unfamiliar situations as well as in broader disciplinary and practical

contexts. They can analyse and discuss difficult subject matters and establish new analytical connections competently and creatively and are further capable of effective time management.

Successful MAHASSA graduates are able to work independently and strategically at a high level, can undertake self-organised research, and are able to acquire and organise complex knowledge effectively. Graduates have learned to independently master new topics and to evaluate new information and developments in relation to various contexts and problems and draw practical conclusions based on their evaluations. They are able to convey and present complex matters concisely in ways suited for different audiences and stakeholders and they act and present themselves confidently in professional and scientific contexts.

MAHASSA graduates can carry out research or applied projects in self-organisation. They possess a well-developed orientation towards cultural and social scientific research, the ability to engage in inter-disciplinary dialogue, and skills in practical problem-solving. The following table explains how these and further general qualificatory objectives are distributed across the programme's different modules:

| Module | General Qualification Objectives |
|----------|---|
| Module 1 | <p>After completing Module 1, students are able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss, analyse, and present problems and subject matters, especially in the areas of illness, health, healing, and medicine, competently and precisely • Apply scientific and applied theories and analytical approaches to unfamiliar data and problems and draw practical conclusions • Critically analyse and question conventional narratives, ideas, and practices • Convey subject matters and problem-solving propositions in professional contexts to people with different perspectives in adequate ways • Respectfully engage with people from different backgrounds, take their practices and views seriously, and to work together with them in a solution-oriented manner |
| Module 2 | <p>In Module 2, students learn to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View subject matters and problems holistically and to analyse and discuss them interconnectedly and critically • Understand and describe subject matters and problems in their respective regional-historical and socio-cultural contexts • To build professional networks and to position themselves professionally in order to pursue a career |
| Module 3 | <p>Through their introduction to the perspectives and methods of different disciplines in South Asian studies, the students learn to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternate in their thinking quickly and efficiently between different perspectives, standpoints, and approaches and to critically relate them to one another • Express themselves clearly and understandably in interdisciplinary professional and scientific contexts, to engage in interdisciplinary dialogue effectively, and to convincingly put forward their own explanatory approaches, arguments, and hypotheses in interdisciplinary settings • To understand complex subject matters beyond their own perspective and to view them holistically |

| | |
|----------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critically reflect upon and contextualise their own perspective |
| Module 4 | <p>In the language courses, in addition to speaking and comprehension skills, students are also trained to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quickly familiarise themselves with new vocabularies of concepts and different scripts • Act professionally and empathetically in intercultural contexts, especially in South Asia • Acquire a basic understanding of socio-cultural practices, concepts, rules of behaviour, and ways of thinking in South Asian contexts and be able to quickly understand such aspects also in other regional and cultural contexts |
| Module 5 | <p>In the methodological seminars about scientific working skills and medical anthropological research methods, students are taught to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extract and summarise information from complex texts in an analytically sharp and precise manner • Formulate and structure diverse contents and information for presentation in scientific and professional contexts in relation to the expected audience • Plan and carry out oral presentations in a professional manner • Draft, structure, and edit both short and longer texts in a professional manner • Carry out scientific and professional research in a comprehensive and structured manner • Manage time effectively and finish tasks in a given timeframe • Engage with human diversity and differences in every-day professional contexts constructively, respectfully, and sensitively • Integrate in research and project design and apply research methods in an outcome-oriented, practically sensible, and ethically responsible manner and understandably explain their purpose and implementation • Protect and anonymise sensible data effectively and prepare them responsibly for presentation or publication |
| Module 6 | <p>By planning and carrying out their own research, students learn to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independently and in self-organisation plan and carry out projects in international and intercultural contexts • Engage with complex organisational and practical challenges in a professional manner • Conduct themselves in a confident, ethical, and professional manner in scientific and professional contexts • Establish trustful and professional relationships with project partners and research participants through friendly and interculturally sensitive communication |
| Module 7 | <p>Writing their Master's Thesis based on analysing own data, students develop the skills to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Productively organise, code, and analyse raw data and information of different kinds • Connect research results and other empirical information with theories and analytical questions and organise and interpret them in relation to particular problems and questions • Process and present scientific results and other data and information in a comprehensive and coherent manner and develop and convincingly advocate for original arguments in writing |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orally present and defend their own research, results, and hypotheses in a professional manner |
|--|--|

e. Possible areas of employment for graduates

MAHASSA aims to qualify students for research-related or analytically challenging professional activities in the fields of international development, health care, public or global health, intercultural exchange, intercultural communication, and intercultural competence or for further academic qualification, such as doctoral studies in medical anthropology or related disciplines. Potential fields of employment include:

- Development work
- Health care
- Public and global health
- Intercultural exchange, competence, and training
- Research work
- Diversity management
- International communication
- Public relations
- Work in foundations
- Adult education
- Peace and conflict work and research
- Pursuing further academic qualification, such as a doctorate in anthropology or related disciplines.

f. Research, internship, and studies abroad

All MAHASSA students, except for students who study MAHASSA as a minor subject, usually carry out their own medical anthropological research about a topic related to South Asia, South Asian groups, or South Asian concepts of health, illness, and healing. This research can be conducted in South Asia or in other regions of the world. It can also be carried out digitally or as archival research. In special circumstances, for example for reasons of equal opportunities, and after consultation with the programme coordinator, the research can also be carried out as an intensive literature research. The research is intended to be carried out in the break period between the 3rd and 4th semester. It can, in consultation with the programme coordinator, also be continued into the beginning of the 4th semester. Accordingly, the Master's Thesis Colloquium to be taken in the 4th semester can be partly attended remotely.

Instead of a research, students also have the option to carry out a career-related internship in the break period between the 3rd and 4th semester. In this case, the Master's Thesis can also be written as a literature thesis. Students can also, with permission of the organisation in which they carry out their internship, carry out research in the context of their internship and use this research as the basis for their Master's Thesis. A research can also be carried out immediately after or before the internship. The requirements for carrying out research and internships and for their acceptance as part of the MAHASSA programme are explained under section 4, paragraph f, and are listed in detailed manner on the MAHASSA website.

MAHASSA's schedule also allows students to partake in an exchange semester at a university abroad. Such an exchange semester can be carried out anytime between the end of courses in the 2nd semester and the beginning of courses in the 4th semester. In case of such an exchange semester, the courses „Master's Thesis Preparation“ and „Medical Anthropology

Forum“ in the 3rd semester have to be attended remotely, while all other 3rd semester courses can be replaced with equivalent courses from the host university. For this purpose, students are to make a learning agreement with the programme coordinator. The semester abroad can also be combined with research or an internship, as described previously. Detailed criteria for the recognition of courses attended abroad and information about the learning agreement are provided on the MAHASSA website.

g. General remarks regarding the modules

Forms of Teaching and Learning:

- Lecture (L): content is conveyed by the teachers, usually in the form of spoken presentations. Students are encouraged to further engage with the literature and the contents of the courses independently.
- Seminar (S): Students choose a topic or focus area and convey the content through a comprehensive oral presentation and/or submit written work (e.g. a term paper or essay) regarding one or several topics from the course. Other forms of learning and teaching in seminars include plenary discussions or discussions in smaller groups, short reflections, portfolios, learning diaries, annotated bibliographies, practical exercises (e.g. method exercises), or similar oral contributions or written works.
- Practice Class (PC): The language courses in MAHASSA are offered as practice classes. This means that the phonetics, script, and grammatical structure of the chosen South Asian language are conveyed by the teacher, while students develop speaking as well as reading and listening comprehension skills, while also acquiring the basic vocabulary of the language. Students further learn specific language elements (words, terms, idioms) related to health and illness and practice them in small groups. Other forms of teaching and learning in practice groups include smaller written tasks, comprehensive oral presentations and written and oral exams.

Explanations regarding Modules that extend across more than two Semesters

The regular attendance of the Medical Anthropology Forum over 3 semesters as part of Module 1 is an important part of the MAHASSA programme, as the students acquire through it first-hand knowledge of current research and applied projects as well as career opportunities in medical anthropology and related fields. This knowledge is essential for students in order to gain an understanding of different research fields, plan their own research for their Master's Thesis, and gain insights and contacts into future fields of employment. The Medical Anthropology Forum therefore extends across 3 semesters, so as to provide students with a broad overview of these areas.

Modules 2 and 3 are designed to allow students to find their own thematic foci in addition to the compulsory courses and to either specialise in one area or to gain broad knowledge across different areas of anthropology and South Asian studies. Accordingly, different courses are offered each semester. Modules 2 and 3 are intended to span 3 semesters, so that students can make optimal use of the diversity of topics offered and are not overwhelmed by attending too many different courses simultaneously.

Completion of Modules:

A module is completed, when all courses within it have been completed. Thus, passing all examinations in the respective courses of a module leads to its completion and there are no separate examinations for completing a module outside of the individual courses. This is so, because different courses teach and examine different skills and competences and the individual course examinations accordingly test different competences.

Further information: www.sai.uni-heidelberg.de/ethno/mahassa

2. Overview of Modules

a. For students who do not yet speak a South Asian language (120 CPs)

| Module 1: Basics of Medical Anthropology | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Introduction to Medical Anthropology | S | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Healing in South Asia | S | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Theory in Science and Technology Studies | S | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Lecture Series: Medical Anthropology Forum | L | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Lecture Series: Medical Anthropology Forum | L | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Lecture Series: Medical Anthropology Forum | L | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| | | | | 24 |

| Module 2: Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology Variant 1 | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (with extended term paper or term paper and additional written submissions) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 8 |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (with term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 6 |
| Practical Seminar | S / L | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| | | | | 18 |

| Module 2: Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology Variant 2 | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (with extended term paper or term paper and additional written submissions) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 8 |
| Practical Seminar (with additional assignment) | S / L | 2 | 2 | 6 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|-----|-----------|
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (no term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 4 |
| | | | | 18 |

| Module 3: Selected Themes in South Asian Studies Variant 1 | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (with extended term paper or term paper and additional written submissions) | S | 6 | 1-3 | 8 |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (no term paper) | S | 6 | 1-3 | 4 |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (no term paper) | S | 6 | 1-3 | 4 |
| | | | | 16 |

| Module 3: Selected Themes in South Asian Studies Variant 2 | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (with term paper) | S | 6 | 1-3 | 6 |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (with term paper) | S | 6 | 1-3 | 6 |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (no term paper) | S | 6 | 1-3 | 4 |
| | | | | 16 |

| Module 4: South Asian Languages | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Selected Language Course | Usually PC | Usually 2 | 1-2 | Usually 6 |
| Selected Language Course | Usually PC | Usually 2 | 2-3 | Usually 6 |
| | | | | 12 |

| Module 5: Scientific and Medical Anthropological Methods | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Scientific Working Skills (including workshop “Gender and Difference in Everyday University Life”) | S | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Methods in Medical Anthropology | S | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| | | | | 12 |

| Module 6: Research Preparation and Research | | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Master’s Thesis Preparation | S | 2 | 3 | 8 |
| Field, archival, or literature research or internship | Self-study | Break between the 3. und 4. Semester | | 8 |
| | | | | 16 |

| Module 7: Master’s Thesis | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Master’s Thesis Colloquium | S | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| Master’s Thesis | Self-study | | 4 | 18 |
| | | | | 22 |

b. For students who already speak a South Asian language (120 CPs)

| Module 1: Basics of Medical Anthropology | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Introduction to Medical Anthropology | S | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Healing in South Asia | S | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Theory in Science and Technology Studies | S | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Lecture Series: Medical Anthropology Forum | L | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Lecture Series: Medical Anthropology Forum | L | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Lecture Series: Medical Anthropology Forum | L | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| | | | | 24 |

| Module 2: Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology Variant 1 | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (with extended term paper or term paper and additional written submissions) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 8 |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (with extended term paper or term paper and additional written submissions) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 8 |
| Practical Seminar (with additional assignment) | S / L | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (no term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 4 |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (no term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 4 |
| | | | | 30 |

| Module 2: Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology Variant 2 | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (with extended term paper or term paper and additional written submissions) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 8 |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (with extended term paper or term paper and additional written submissions) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 8 |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (with term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 6 |
| Practical Seminar | S / L | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (no term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 4 |
| | | | | 30 |

| Module 3: Selected Themes in South Asian Studies Variant 1 | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (with extended term paper or term paper and additional written submissions) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 8 |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (no term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 4 |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (no term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 4 |
| | | | | 16 |

| Module 3: Selected Themes in South Asian Studies Variant 2 | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (with term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 6 |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (with term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 6 |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|-----|-----------|
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (no term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 4 |
| | | | | 16 |

| Module 5: Scientific and Medical Anthropological Methods | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Scientific Working Skills (including workshop “Gender and Difference in Everyday University Life”) | S | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Methods in Medical Anthropology | S | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| | | | | 12 |

| Module 6: Research Preparation and Research | | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Master’s Thesis Preparation | S | 2 | 3 | 8 |
| Field, archival, or literature research or internship | Self-study | Break between the 3. und 4. Semester | | 8 |
| | | | | 16 |

| Module 7: Master’s Thesis | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Master’s Thesis Colloquium | S | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| Master’s Thesis | Self-study | | 4 | 18 |
| | | | | 22 |

c. As major subject with 100 CPs and another minor subject

| Module 1: Basics of Medical Anthropology | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Introduction to Medical Anthropology | S | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Healing in South Asia | S | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Theory in Science and Technology Studies | S | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Lecture Series: Medical Anthropology Forum | L | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Lecture Series: Medical Anthropology Forum | L | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Lecture Series: Medical Anthropology Forum | L | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| | | | | 24 |

| Module 2: Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (with extended term paper or term paper and additional written submissions) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 8 |
| Practical Seminar | S / L | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Selected Seminar from Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (no term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 4 |
| | | | | 16 |

| Module 3: Selected Themes in South Asian Studies | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (with term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 6 |
| Selected Seminar from Selected Themes in South Asian Studies (no term paper) | S | 2 | 1-3 | 4 |
| | | | | 10 |

| Module 5: Scientific and Medical Anthropological Methods | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Scientific Working Skills (including workshop “Gender and Difference in Everyday University Life”) | S | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Methods in Medical Anthropology | S | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| | | | | 12 |

| Module 6: Research Preparation and Research | | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Master’s Thesis Preparation | S | 2 | 3 | 8 |
| Field, archival, or literature research or internship | Self-study | Break between the 3. und 4. Semester | | 8 |
| | | | | 16 |

| Module 7: Master’s Thesis | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Master’s Thesis Colloquium | S | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| Master’s Thesis | Self-study | | 4 | 18 |
| | | | | 22 |

d. As minor subject for 20 CPs with another major subject: Version 1

| Module 1: Basics of Medical Anthropology | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Introduction to Medical Anthropology | S | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Healing in South Asia | S | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| Lecture Series: Medical Anthropology Forum | L | 2 | 1-4 | 2 |
| | | | | 14 |

| Module 5: Scientific and Medical Anthropological Methods | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Methods in Medical Anthropology | S | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| | | | | 6 |

e. As minor subject for 20 CPs with another major subject: Version 2

| Module 1: Basics of Medical Anthropology | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Course</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Hours/Week</i> | <i>Sem</i> | <i>CPs</i> |
| Introduction to Medical Anthropology | S | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Theory in Science and Technology Studies | S | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Healing in South Asia | S | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| Lecture Series: Medical Anthropology Forum | L | 2 | 1-4 | 2 |
| | | | | 20 |

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

a. Study schedule for students who do not yet speak a South Asian language (120 CPs)

| Semester | Module | Course | CPs |
|--------------------------------|--------|--|------------|
| 1. Semester | 1 | Introduction to Medical Anthropology | 6 |
| | | Healing in South Asia | 6 |
| | | Medical Anthropology Forum | 2 |
| | 3 | Selected Course in South Asian Studies (no term paper) | 4 |
| | 4 | South Asian Language | 6 |
| | 5 | Scientific Working Skills | 6 |
| 2. Semester | 1 | Theory in Science and Technology Studies | 6 |
| | | Medical Anthropology Forum | 2 |
| | 2 | Practical Seminar | 4 |
| | 3 | Selected Course in South Asian Studies (extended term paper) | 8 |
| | 4 | South Asian Language | 6 |
| | 5 | Methods in Medical Anthropology | 6 |
| 3. Semester | 1 | Medical Anthropology Forum | 2 |
| | 2 | Selected Course in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (extended term paper) | 8 |
| | | Selected Course in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (term paper) | 6 |
| | 3 | Selected Course in South Asian Studies (no term paper) | 4 |
| | 6 | Master's Thesis Preparation | 8 |
| Break | 6 | Field, archival, or literature research | 8 |
| 4. Semester¹ | 7 | Master's Thesis Colloquium | 4 |
| | 7 | Master's Thesis | 18 |
| | | | 120 |

¹ Apart from Module 7, one seminar from Module 2, 3, or 4 for a maximum of 6 CPs can be attended in the 4th semester. In case of an extension of the duration of studies beyond the regular study duration, however, all courses in Modules 1 to 5 as well as the course "Master's Thesis Preparation" (90 CPs in total) have to be completed before Module 7 can be attended (see section 4, paragraph g).

b. Study schedule for students who already speak a South Asian language (120 CPs)

| Semester | Module | Course | CPs |
|--------------------------|--------|--|------------|
| 1. Semester | 1 | Introduction to Medical Anthropology | 6 |
| | | Healing in South Asia | 6 |
| | | Medical Anthropology Forum | 2 |
| | 2 | Selected Course in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (no term paper) | 4 |
| | 3 | Selected Course in South Asian Studies (no term paper) | 4 |
| | 5 | Scientific Working Skills | 6 |
| 2. Semester | 1 | Theory in Science and Technology Studies | 6 |
| | | Medical Anthropology Forum | 2 |
| | 2 | Selected Course in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (extended term paper) | 8 |
| | | Practical Seminar (additional assignment) | 6 |
| | 3 | Selected Course in South Asian Studies (no term paper) | 4 |
| | 5 | Methods in Medical Anthropology | 6 |
| 3. Semester | 1 | Medical Anthropology Forum | 2 |
| | 2 | Selected Course in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (extended term paper) | 8 |
| | | Selected Course in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (no term paper) | 4 |
| | 3 | Selected Course in South Asian Studies (extended term paper) | 8 |
| | 6 | Master's Thesis Preparation | 8 |
| Break | 6 | Field, archival, or literature research | 8 |
| 4. Semester ² | 7 | Master's Thesis Colloquium | 4 |
| | 7 | Master's Thesis | 18 |
| | | | 120 |

² Apart from Module 7, one seminar from Module 2 or 3 for a maximum of 6 CPs can be attended in the 4th semester. In case of an extension of the duration of studies beyond the regular study duration, however, all courses in Modules 1 to 5 as well as the course "Master's Thesis Preparation" (90 CPs in total) have to be completed before Module 7 can be attended (see section 4, paragraph g).

c. Study schedule for 100 CPs

| Semester | Module | Course | CPs |
|--------------------------|--------|--|------------|
| 1. Semester | 1 | Introduction to Medical Anthropology | 6 |
| | | Healing in South Asia | 6 |
| | | Medical Anthropology Forum | 2 |
| | 2 | Selected Course in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (no term paper) | 4 |
| | 5 | Scientific Working Skills | 6 |
| 2. Semester | 1 | Theory in Science and Technology Studies | 6 |
| | | Medical Anthropology Forum | 2 |
| | 2 | Practical Seminar | 4 |
| | 3 | Selected Course in South Asian Studies (term paper) | 6 |
| | 5 | Methods in Medical Anthropology | 6 |
| 3. Semester | 1 | Medical Anthropology Forum | 2 |
| | 2 | Selected Course in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology (extended term paper) | 8 |
| | 3 | Selected Course in South Asian Studies (no term paper) | 4 |
| | 6 | Master's Thesis Preparation | 8 |
| Break | 6 | Research or Internship | 8 |
| 4. Semester ³ | 7 | Master's Thesis Colloquium | 4 |
| | 7 | Master's Thesis | 18 |
| | | | 100 |

³ Apart from Module 7, one seminar from Module 2 or 3 for a maximum of 6 CPs can be attended in the 4th semester. In case of an extension of the duration of studies beyond the regular study duration, however, all courses in Modules 1 to 5 as well as the course "Master's Thesis Preparation" (90 CPs in total) have to be completed before Module 7 can be attended (see section 4, paragraph g).

4. Module Descriptions

a. Module 1: Basics of Medical Anthropology

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Code | Module name: Basics of Medical Anthropology |
| Module Type | Compulsory |
| Language | English |
| Credit Points | 24 in trajectories a, b, and c (120 und 100 CPs); 14 in trajectory d and 20 in trajectory e |
| Module Content | <p>This module introduces students to the most important topics, theories, and analytical perspectives in medical anthropology as well as to fundamental concepts of the discipline. All of these are taught by the teachers, conveyed through students presentations, and discussed in the consecutive seminars „Introduction to Medical Anthropology“ and „Theory in Science and Technology Studies.“</p> <p>Topics include, for example, approaching health, illness, and suffering as cultural, social, and discursive phenomena, ethnomedicine, ritual healing, medical pluralism and hegemony, anthropology of the body, local biologies, critical medical anthropology, structural violence and health, the anthropologies of medicine, global health, and practical applications of medical anthropology.</p> <p>These and other medical anthropological theories and concepts are extended in the second semester with concepts from Science, Technology, and Society (STS) and Science, Technology, and Medicine Studies (STMS) as well as with important works on scientific and medical knowledge and discourses. This includes theories and studies regarding the social generation of scientific knowledge, debates about scientific realism, relativism, and „strong objectivity,“ bio-medicine in the context of scientific and colonial history, clinical gaze and the agency of discursive practices and categorisations, ontological and praxiological approaches like actor-network-theory or enactment, and biopolitics and bioethics in the context of modern biotechnologies.</p> <p>The seminar „Healing in South Asia“ further engages with the history of healing in South Asia, South Asian ideas and concepts of health, illness, and body, South Asian healing systems like Ayurveda, Unani, and Siddha medicine, colonial and post-colonial transformations and developments in regard to South Asian healing systems and bio-medicine, anthropology of bio-medicine in South Asia, and contemporary health problems in South Asia.</p> <p>These and other topics are further illustrated and extended through examples from current research and practice in medical anthropology and related fields and professions that are provided by guest speakers from research and professional praxis in the ongoing lecture series „Medical Anthropology Forum.“ In the context of the forum, students can also directly engage with the speakers and thereby gain important insights into academic and professional fields and directly establish contacts.</p> |

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| Learning Objectives | <p>Students without prior education in anthropology use the seminars „Introduction to Medical Anthropology“ and „Theory in Science and Technology Studies“ to familiarise themselves with the foundational theories, approaches, and perspectives of medical anthropology and to deepen their engagement with them in their oral presentations and term papers.</p> <p>Students with previous education in anthropology or medical anthropology use their oral presentations and term papers in the courses „Introduction to Medical Anthropology“ and „Theory in Science and Technology Studies“ to deepen and broaden their knowledge of specific areas and topics in medical anthropology.</p> <p>After completing Module 1, students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinguish and specify the key theoretical concepts and themes of medical anthropology, relate them with one another, and apply them independently and with analytical competence to new subject matters and situations • Distinguish and evaluate different medical anthropological approaches and theory schools from the last 60 years and connect them to neighbouring disciplines (public health, anthropology, health sciences). • Distinguish different applied approaches in medical anthropology, critically reflect on them, and evaluate them based on their analytical strengths and weaknesses in relation to their practical applications. • Recognise and understand the influence of culturally specific ways of thinking, social relations and dynamics, and political and economic factors on health, illness, and therapy and on different perceptions and understandings of the latter in concrete cases. • Know the most important contemporary health problems as well as the major medical systems and traditions of South Asia and relate them analytically to relevant socio-cultural and political-economic factors and historical developments. |
| Teaching and Learning Methods | Module 1 consists of 3 seminars, each with weekly sessions of 2 hours per week and of 3 lectures usually consisting of 2-hour sessions every 2 weeks. Students in trajectories d and e have to attend only one semester of the „Medical Anthropology Forum.“ |
| Requirements for Attendance | None |
| Applicability of Module | Module 1 is designed for MAHASSA students. The courses are central to the MAHASSA programme and constitute the core of the students' medical anthropological education. The successful completion of Module 1 is a mandatory prerequisite for carrying out the research and for admission to the Master's Thesis. |
| Workload, Requirements for Receiving Credit Points, and Grading | <p><u>Seminars:</u> Attendance of course sessions, including self-study and smaller written assignments, e.g. regular submissions regarding the required readings (3 CPs) Comprehensive oral presentation of ca. 30 minutes and subsequent moderation of seminar discussion; including preliminary discussion and review (1 CP) Term paper of 4000 – 4800 words (2 CPs)</p> |

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| | <p>Grades are given for the oral presentation and the term paper and – at the discretion of the course conductor – also potentially for the smaller written assignments.</p> <p><u>Lecture Medical Anthropology Forum:</u> Attendance of lecture sessions, including self-study and smaller written assignments (2 CPs)</p> <p>Grades are given for the smaller written assignments.</p> |
| Frequency of Courses | <p><u>Trajectories a, b, and c:</u> „Introduction to Medical Anthropology“ and „Healing in South Asia“ are offered each winter semester and are to be completed in the first semester of study. „Theory in Science and Technology Studies“ is offered each summer semester and to be completed in the second semester. „Medical Anthropology Forum“ is offered every semester and is to be attended during the first three semesters.</p> <p><u>Trajectories d and e:</u> „Introduction to Medical Anthropology“ is attended in the first and „Healing in South Asia“ in the third semester of study (winter semester). „Medical Anthropology Forum“ can be attended in any semester. Students of trajectory e (variant 2) are required to complete „Theory in Science and Technology Studies“ in the second semester (summer semester).</p> |
| Duration | 3 Semesters |
| Courses | <p><u>Trajectories a, b, and c:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Medical Anthropology (Seminar) • Healing in South Asia (Seminar) • Theory in Science and Technology Studies (Seminar) • Medical Anthropology Forum (Lecture Series) <p><u>Trajectory d (variant 1):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Medical Anthropology (Seminar) • Healing in South Asia (Seminar) • Medical Anthropology Forum (Vorlesungsreihe) <p><u>Trajectory e (variant 2):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Medical Anthropology (Seminar) • Healing in South Asia (Seminar) • Theory in Science and Technology Studies (Seminar) • Medical Anthropology Forum (Lecture Series) |

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

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Code | Module name: Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology |
| Module Type | Compulsory for trajectories a, b, and c |
| Language | English |
| Credit Points | 18 CPs for trajectory a. 30 CPs for trajectory b. 16 CPs for trajectory c. |
| Module Content | <p>This module provides the students with in-depth theoretical, analytical, and applied knowledge of current and classical themes and study areas in medical anthropology as well as in other branches of anthropology. In the seminars, diverse theoretical, methodological, or applied questions are investigated and analysed in different regional, historical, or thematic contexts based on anthropological studies.</p> <p>The topics of the seminars offered vary each semester and include topics from both medical anthropology and other areas of anthropology.</p> <p>Each summer semester, a practical seminar is offered as part of Module 2, which introduces the students either to different occupational and applied fields of medical anthropology and related anthropological disciplines or to one particular occupational or applied field in detail. According to the didactical approach of the course conductor, the practical seminar can take place in a seminar format, as a workshop, or as a lecture series and can further be combined with an excursion, so as to allow for the best possible form of engagement with the course's contents.</p> |
| Learning Objectives | <p>Students without previous education in anthropology use Module 2 to acquire basic knowledge of anthropological theories and analytical perspectives and to deepen and apply this knowledge in their oral presentations and term papers. Students with prior education in anthropology use Module 2 to deepen and extend their knowledge of selected areas of medical anthropology or related anthropological fields.</p> <p>After completing the module, students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply selected theories, methods, and knowledge from medical anthropology or other areas of anthropology to relevant situations and subject matters. • Evaluate and relate with one another different anthropological theories, studies, and methods in relation to the discipline's history as well as in particular contexts of analytical and practical application. • Sensibly and productively apply or convey anthropological knowledge and methods in applied contexts, for example in health care or development work. • Be familiar with potential career opportunities for medical anthropologists and be able to pursue them in an active and structured manner. |

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| Teaching and Learning Methods | <p>Module 2 consists of several courses, each of which is usually conducted in weekly sessions of 2 hours in length.</p> <p>The amount of courses and credit points to be completed differs according to the different study trajectories:</p> <p>In trajectory a, Module 2 contains 3 courses, at least one of which has to be completed for 8 CPs.</p> <p>In trajectory b, Module 2 comprises 5 courses, in at least 2 of which 8 CPs have to be obtained.</p> <p>Module 2 courses can be attended for 4 CPs (no term paper), 6 CPs (with term paper), or 8 CPs (with extended term paper or with term paper and additional written submissions). The practical seminar can also be attended for 4 or 6 CPs (see below).</p> <p>According to their preferences, students in trajectories a and b can choose between two different ways of allocating CPs in Module 2: variants 1 and 2 (see section 2).</p> <p>Trajectory c also includes 3 courses, of which one has to be completed for 8 CPs and the other two for 4 CPs each (see below).</p> |
| Requirements for Participation | None |
| Applicability of Module | <p>This module addresses MAHASSA students. It teaches discipline-specific competences in medical anthropology and anthropology as well as general competences and provides students with insights into and preparation for their subsequent professional careers. Module 2 can in particular also be used by students to establish a medical anthropological foundation for their subsequent research and Master's Thesis.</p> |
| Workload, Requirements for Receiving Credit Points, and Grading | <p><u>Seminars:</u> Attendance of course sessions, including self-study and smaller written assignments, e.g. regular submissions regarding the required readings (3 CPs) Comprehensive oral presentation of ca. 30 minutes and subsequent moderation of seminar discussion; including preliminary discussion and review (1 CP)</p> <p><u>Additional Requirements for 6 and 8 CPs:</u></p> <p><u>6 CPs:</u> Term paper of 4000 – 4800 words (2 CPs)</p> <p><u>8 CPs:</u> Term paper of 4000 – 4800 words (2 CPs) and additional written submissions (2 CPs), or Extended term paper of 6.000 – 7.000 words (4 CPs)</p> <p>Grades are given for the oral presentation, the term paper (if applicable), the additional written submissions (if applicable), and – at the discretion of the course conductor – also potentially for the smaller written assignments.</p> |

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| | <p>Practical Seminar: Practical seminars are designed in relation to particular occupational and applied areas and can thus also contain other kinds of assignments, such as portfolios, short essays, fictional project applications or action plans, group projects, poster presentations, or excursions, as requirements for credit points. The practical seminar can be attended for 4 CPs or, with an additional assignment, for 6 CPs. The nature of the additional assignment depends on the specific form and didactic concept of the seminar.</p> |
| Frequency of Courses | Different courses are offered each semester. The practical seminar is offered every summer semester. Module 2 should usually be completed by the end of the 3rd semester. |
| Duration | 3 Semesters |
| Courses | <p>Selected courses in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Themes in Anthropology and Medical Anthropology • Applied Topics and Introduction to (Medical) Anthropological Occupational Fields (Practical Seminar) |

c. Module 3: Selected Themes in South Asian Studies

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Code | Module name: Selected Themes in South Asian Studies |
| Module Type | Compulsory for trajectories a, b, and c |
| Language | English |
| Credit Points | 16 (trajectories a and b); 10 (trajectory c) |
| Module Content | This module provides students with an overview of relevant topics and methods of investigation in the different disciplines situated at the South Asia Institute and the Heidelberg Centre for Transcultural Studies (HCTS). It gives students the opportunity to acquire interdisciplinary and comprehensive knowledge in relation to South Asia and to gain expertise on current and recent socio-cultural, political-economic, geographical, historical, and linguistic aspects of South Asia and its societies. The courses offered and their topics and content vary from semester to semester. |
| Learning Objectives | <p>After completing Module 3, students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know and understand the most important contemporary socio-cultural and political-economic dynamics and particularities of South Asia and consider them when analysing and evaluating health-related situations and problems in South Asia or in relation to South Asian communities located outside South Asia. • Approach, analyse, and understand health-related and similar topics in relation to South Asia from different disciplinary and analytical perspectives. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically evaluate scientific studies, approaches, and data regarding South Asia or South Asia-related topics from various disciplines and put them in relation to one another. |
| Teaching and Learning Methods | <p>In trajectories a and b, Module 3 consists of 3 seminars, each of which usually contains weekly sessions of 2 hours each. Students can choose between 2 variants of distributing CPs between the 3 courses (see section 2). They can either attend one seminar for 8 and two seminars for 4 CPs or two seminars for 6 and one seminar for 4 CPs (see below).</p> <p>In trajectory c, the module comprises two seminars, one of which has to be attended for 6 and the other for 4 CPs (see below).</p> |
| Requirements for Participation | None |
| Applicability of Module | Module 3 is directed at MAHASSA students. In it, students learn about South Asia and South Asian societies and are introduced to the perspectives and methods of other disciplines in South Asian studies. This Module can be used to firmly situate the subsequent research and Master's Thesis in a regional context. |
| Workload, Requirements for Receiving Credit Points, and Grading | <p>Attendance of course sessions, including self-study and smaller written assignments, e.g. regular submissions regarding the required readings (3 CPs)</p> <p>Comprehensive oral presentation of ca. 30 minutes and subsequent moderation of seminar discussion; including preliminary discussion and review (1 CP)</p> <p><u>Additional Requirements for 6 and 8 CPs:</u></p> <p><u>6 CPs:</u> Term paper of 4000 – 4800 words (2 CPs)</p> <p><u>8 CPs:</u> Term paper of 4000 – 4800 words (2 CPs) and additional written submissions (2 CPs), or Extended term paper of 6.000 – 7.000 words (4 CPs)</p> <p>Grades are given for the oral presentation, the term paper (if applicable), the additional written submissions (if applicable), and – at the discretion of the course conductor – also potentially for the smaller written assignments.</p> |
| Frequency of Courses | Different courses are offered each semester. Module 3 should usually be completed by the end of the 3rd semester. |
| Duration | 3 Semesters |
| Courses | <p>Selected Seminars in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected Themes in South Asian Studies |

d. Module 4: South Asian Languages⁴

| | |
|---|---|
| Code | Module name: South Asian Languages |
| Module Type | Compulsory for students who study MAHASSA for 120 CPs and do not yet speak a South Asian language (trajectory a) |
| Language | English |
| Credit Points | 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 structure of the chosen South Asian language. Students develop skills in speaking, reading and listening comprehension, acquire a basic vocabulary, and learn specific linguistic elements (words, terms, idioms) related to health and disease.</p> <p>The Department of Anthropology offers Hindi courses for medical anthropologists each semester. If available, other language courses at the South Asia Institute can also be attended. With permission from the examinations office, students may also attend language courses outside of Heidelberg University, for example as part of summer schools in South Asia, to fulfill the requirements of this module.</p> |
| Learning Objectives | <p>After completing this module students have acquired the following competences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading and writing in the chosen language • Knowing a basic vocabulary of ca. 1000 words • Recognising and applying the chosen language's basic rules of grammar and syntax • Engage in basic conversations • Knowing terms and idioms related to health and body, which is important for fieldwork or an internship in the areas of health and society. |
| Teaching and Learning Methods | Module 4 consists of language courses. |
| Requirements for Attendance | Only students who study MAHASSA for 120 CPs and do not yet speak a South Asian language can attend this module. |
| Applicability of Module | The module is targeted towards MAHASSA students. It provides students who do not yet speak a South Asian language with a linguistic basis for a research or an internship in or related to South Asia and helps them to better understand South Asian conceptions of health, disease, and healing as well as texts that work with terms from South Asian languages. |
| Workload, Requirements for Receiving Credit Points, and Grading | <p>Course attendance, including self-study (3 CPs)</p> <p>Comprehensive oral presentation including preliminary discussion and review or smaller written assignments (1 CP)</p> <p>Written or oral exam (2 CPs)</p> |

⁴ This module is only to be taken by students who study MAHASSA for 120 CPs and who do not yet speak a South Asian language.

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| | Grades are given for the oral requirements and/or written exam and – at the discretion of the course conductor – also potentially for the smaller written assignments. |
| Frequency of Courses | Language courses are offered every semester. Module 4 is usually to be completed within the first 2 semesters. |
| Duration | Usually 2 semesters |
| Courses | <u>Trajectory a:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language Courses |

e. Module 5: Scientific and Medical Anthropological Methods

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Code | Module name: Scientific and Medical Anthropological Methods |
| Module Type | Compulsory |
| Language | English |
| Credit Points | 12 (trajectories a, b, c); 6 (trajectory d) |
| Module Content | <p>In „Scientific Working Skills,“ students learn or solidify the fundamental rules and methods of scientific work in anthropology and related disciplines. This includes, in particular, engaging critically and analytically with academic texts (e.g. creating scientific excerpts, text analysis), preparing and giving academic presentations, and academic writing (citing and paraphrasing, indicating sources, creating a bibliography, structuring a text, writing style and formatting, writing term papers, essays, and academic texts, etc.).</p> <p>As part of the course „Scientific Working Skills,“ students are required to participate in the workshop „Gender and Difference in Everyday University Life,“ in which students practice engaging tolerantly, respectfully, and constructively with human diversity in everyday university and professional contexts.</p> <p>In the course „Methods in Medical Anthropology,“ students learn and practice anthropological research methods, which they learn to apply through practical exercises. Methods taught include participant observation, structured, semi-structured, and unstructured interviews, focus group interviews, questionnaires and surveys, digital ethnography, and multi-sited ethnography. Students are further introduced to coding, analysing, and representing data. The research methods are conveyed and practiced in relation to medical anthropological fields of research. Furthermore, anthropological and medical anthropological research ethics are extensively conveyed and discussed in relation to examples. Emphasis is especially placed on the informed consent of research participants, data protection, and assessing and minimising potential risks for research participants and researchers.</p> |

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| | Both courses prepare the students for conducting their medical anthropological research and for analysing their data and writing their Master's Thesis. Students in trajectory d only attend the course „Methods in Medical Anthropology.“ |
| Learning Objectives | <p>After completing the module, students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and present written and oral scientific presentations. • Distinguish between academic and professional forms of presentation and apply them appropriately. • Know the foundational rules of scientific work and apply them in written and oral formats. • Develop and independently pursue a scientific research question. • Plan and conduct anthropological research. • Work with anthropological sources (literature, data, video materials) scientifically and evaluate them critically. • Know and apply common medical anthropological and anthropological research methods. • Determine and apply the appropriate research methods for a given research question. • Be aware of the main points of critique against anthropological research methods and apply research methods in an ethically and analytically reflected manner. • Independently generate and code research data. • Know the ethical principles and foundations of anthropology and medical anthropology and integrate them into the planning and conducting of research and the publication of research results. • Understand why and how anthropological data need to be protected and anonymised. • Engage with human diversity in academic, professional, and research settings constructively and reflexively and to behave respectfully. |
| Teaching and Learning Methods | Module 5 consists of 2 courses, each of which is usually conducted in weekly sessions of 2 hours per week. |
| Requirements for Attendance | None |
| Applicability of Module | The module addresses MAHASSA students, providing them with instructions, practice, and support regarding the creation of the written assignments and oral presentations that are to be carried out as part of MAHASSA. Students are further introduced to the most important research methods of medical anthropology and learn to apply these methods and analyse the generated research data. The module therefore prepares students for their written and oral assignments and for developing a research topic and research plan, carrying out their research, and realising their Master's Thesis. The successful completion of Module 5 is a mandatory prerequisite for conducting the research and registering the Master's Thesis. |
| Workload, Requirements for Receiving Credit Points, and Grading | <p><u>Scientific Working Skills:</u> Attendance and self-study (2 CPs) Several written and/or oral exercises or assignments (2 CPs) Active participation in the workshop „Gender and Difference in Everyday University Life“ (2 CPs)</p> |

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| | <p>The course „Scientific Working Skills“ is not graded.</p> <p><u>Methods in Medical Anthropology:</u> Course attendance, including self-study (2 CPs) Detailed oral presentation and moderation of subsequent discussion, including preliminary discussion and review (1 CPs) Individual or group-based research or method exercises, including written reflections and/or portfolio, or group-based research project, including oral presentation of research design and of research results and submission of written research report (3 CPs)</p> |
| Frequency of Courses | <p>The courses of Module 5 are to be completed in the first and second semester. „Scientific Working Skills“ including the workshop „Gender and Difference in Everyday University Life“ is offered each winter semester, while „Methods in Medical Anthropology“ is offered each summer semester.</p> <p>In trajectory d, „Methods in Medical Anthropology“ is to be completed in the second semester.</p> |
| Duration | 2 Semesters |
| Courses | <p>Trajectories a, b, c:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific Working Skills (Seminar and Workshop) • Methods in Medical Anthropology (Seminar) <p>Trajectory d:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methods in Medical Anthropology (Seminar) |

f. Module 6: Research Preparation and Research or Internship

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| Code | Module name: Research Preparation and Research or Internship |
| Module Type | Compulsory |
| Language | English |
| Credit Points | 16 |
| Module Content | <p>In the course „Master Thesis Preparation,“ the students plan the thematic focus and research question of their Master’s Thesis and plan and prepare their research. This involves searching and organising relevant literature and developing the research question and concept. It further includes developing strategies regarding the research methodology, ethical research praxis, and risk minimisation together with the first thesis supervisor.</p> <p>Students further repeatedly present their research concepts in class and submit a research proposal that also contains an extensive annotated bibliography.</p> <p>Students subsequently, in the course-free period between the 3rd and 4th semester, conduct their own medical anthropological research. The</p> |

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| | <p>research can be carried out as a field research, research in combination with an internship, or an archival or literature research. Alternatively, students can also solely engage in a career-oriented, professional internship and subsequently write a literature-based Master's Thesis. A combination between research and internship or of different kinds of research is also possible.</p> |
| Learning Objectives | <p>After completing the module, students are able to develop a research question and a research design for a medical anthropological research topic and to independently conduct a medical anthropological field, archival, or literature research.</p> |
| Teaching and Learning Methods | <p>The seminar „Master's Thesis Preparation“ is offered as weekly sessions of 2 hours per week. Students who spend their 3rd semester as an exchange semester abroad can, after consultation with the programme coordinator and the course conductor, also attend sessions remotely. The module contains a field, archival, or literature research (ca. 4 – 6 weeks). Alternatively, a career-related internship can be carried out.</p> |
| Requirements for Attendance | <p>Successful completion of Modules 1 and 5.</p> |
| Applicability of Module | <p>The module is directed at MAHASSA students. It creates the basis for the writing of the Master's Thesis, since students research and determine the topic of their thesis and prepare and conduct their research. Successful completion of the course „Master's Thesis Preparation“ is a mandatory prerequisite for conducting the research and for registering the Master's Thesis.</p> |
| Workload, Requirements for Receiving Credit Points, and Grading | <p><u>Master's Thesis Preparation:</u> Course attendance, including self-study (2 CPs) Several oral presentations, including preliminary discussion and review (2 CPs) Detailed research proposal with extensive annotated bibliography (3 CPs) Finding a first supervisor for the research and Master's Thesis and carrying out 2 extensive consultations with the first supervisor for methodically planning the research and to fill in, discuss, and submit the questionnaires concerning research ethics and risk assessment (1 CP).</p> <p>Grades are given for the oral presentations and the research proposal and annotated bibliography.</p> <p>Students are required to have 2 consultations for research planning with their first supervisor, during which they discuss their topic, their methodology and the questionnaires regarding research ethics and risk assessment (see homepage) with their first supervisor. The written acceptance of the completed research ethics and risk assessment questionnaires by the first supervisor and the submission of the research proposal and annotated bibliography are mandatory prerequisites for conducting the research and for the awarding of CPs for the research.</p> <p><u>Field, Archival, or Literature Research and/or Internship:</u> Self-organised field, archival, or literature research according to scientific standards or carrying out of a career-related, self-organised internship with a duration of 4 – 6 weeks, and</p> |

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| | <p>Subsequent submission of a research or internship protocol of ca. 1800 words to the first supervisor and the examination office for confirmation and awarding of CPs (8 CPs)</p> <p>The research and/or internship is not graded.</p> |
| Frequency of Courses | <p>Students attend „Master’s Thesis Preparation“ in their 3rd semester. The „Field, Archival, or Literature Research and/or Internship“ is carried out in the course-free period between the 3rd and 4th semester. „Master’s Thesis Preparation“ is offered every semester, so that, in case of an extended study duration, students can begin Module 6 also in the summer semester.</p> |
| Duration | <p>1 Semester and break period between the 3rd and 4th semester.</p> |
| Courses | <p>Trajectories a, b, c:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master’s Thesis Preparation (Seminar) • Field, Archival, or Literature Research and/or Internship |

g. Module 7: Master’s Thesis

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| Code | Module name: Master’s Thesis |
| Module Type | Compulsory |
| Language | English |
| Credit Points | 22 |
| Module Content | <p>In this module, students engage with their own medical anthropological topic and thereby demonstrate that they are capable of independently pursuing a relevant research question in the medical anthropology of South Asia. The Master’s Thesis is usually based on original research carried out by the students (see Module 6) but can also be written as a literature thesis.</p> |
| Learning Objectives | <p>After completing the module, students are able to systematically code and analyse self-generated research data and to design and write an anthropological thesis based on original research data and in accordance with common rules of citation and other scientific norms and standards.</p> |
| Teaching and Learning Methods | <p>Module 7 includes writing the Master’s Thesis (16 weeks) and simultaneously attending the „Master’s Thesis Colloquium.“</p> |
| Requirements for Attendance | <p>Successful completion of Modules 1 – 5 and of the course „Master’s Thesis Preparation“ and registration of the Master’s Thesis at the examination office between 1st March and 30th April of the final year. In order to be able to register the Master’s Thesis, all courses in Modules 1 – 5 as well as the course “Master’s Thesis Preparation” (90 CPs in total)</p> |

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| | must have been completed. ⁵ For further information see „Frequency of Courses“ (below). |
| Applicability of Module | This module accompanies students during the analysis of their research data, the revision of their research question and topic, and the writing of their Master’s Thesis. The Master’s Thesis constitutes an independent scientific achievement and demonstrates the analytical, theoretical, and methodological skills and knowledge the students have gained through attending the programme. |
| Workload, Requirements for Receiving Credit Points, and Grading | <p><u>Master’s Thesis Colloquium:</u> Active participation (2 CPs) Several detailed oral presentations (2 CPs) The colloquium is not graded.</p> <p><u>Master’s Thesis:</u> Completion of a thesis of approximately 20,000 words in length according to the scientific standards (16 weeks; 18 CPs).</p> |
| Frequency of Courses | Module 7 is to be carried out in the 4th semester. In case of an extension of the study duration, the module can be attended in any following semester, since the Master’s Thesis Colloquium is offered every semester. If the module is attended in a winter semester, the Master’s Thesis has to be registered between 1st September and 30th October. |
| Duration | 1 Semester |
| Courses | Trajectories a, b, and c: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master’s Thesis Colloquium (Seminar) |

⁵ One course from Module 2, 3, or 4 of 6 CP or less can still be attended during the 4th semester (full-time studies) parallel to attending Module 7. In order to register the Master’s Thesis and attend Module 7, however, all other courses from Modules 1 to 5 as well as the course „Master’s Thesis Preparation“ must have been completed with at least 84 CPs in total. In case of an extension of the duration of studies beyond the regular study duration (in full-time) of 4 semesters, this rule is no longer applicable and students must have completed all courses from Modules 1 to 5 and the „Master’s Thesis Preparation“ and thus have achieved 90 CPs in order to register their Master’s Thesis and attend Module 7.