

Programme Specification

I. Programme Details

Programme title	African Studies African Studies (African Literature – exit award) African Studies & Intensive Language (Arabic or Swahili)			
Final award (<i>exit awards will be made as outlined in the Taught Degree Regulations</i>)	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>	MA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	BSc	<input type="checkbox"/>	MSc	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other ...	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Mode of delivery	Distance-learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	On-campus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Professional body accreditation (<i>if applicable</i>)	n/a			
Academic year this specification was created	2016/17			
Dates of any subsequent amendments				

II. Programme Aims: What will the programme allow you to achieve?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide broad-based postgraduate study of aspects of African society and culture. 2. To provide the student with the means to further develop their knowledge of specific aspects of African society and culture. 3. To provide the opportunity through the dissertation to concentrate on one particular area (geographical or disciplinary) of African Studies. 4. To provide the opportunity of studying an African language.

III. Programme Learning Outcomes: What will you learn on the programme?

There are four key areas in which you will develop:

Learning Outcomes: Knowledge	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student will gain knowledge and critical awareness of current issues and/or insights into Africa from the perspective of at least two social sciences and/or humanities disciplines. 2. The student will have the opportunity of gaining knowledge or further knowledge of an African language. 3. The student will gain specialized and in-depth knowledge in one particular area of the study of Africa from one disciplinary perspective. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of the subject of any one course will be gained by attending lectures and tutorials for the course, reading the books and articles recommended by the teachers and, where appropriate, through audio-visual materials. • Students taking an African language will be taught reading, writing, speaking and listening comprehension, all of which will 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of a specific area of African Studies will be gained through the focus provided by writing the dissertation, which will be supervised by a member of staff from the appropriate disciplinary department.

be assessed by written examination, coursework and oral examination.	
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Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student will develop a critical and analytical approach to issues relating to Africa in the disciplinary areas chosen. 2. The student will develop skills of synthesizing materials from a variety of sources and presenting these in writing and orally in an academic context. 3. Given the specialist nature of much of what is taught the students have the opportunity of researching topics which have been little commented on in the secondary literature and thus develop research skills by working on primary sources. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through engagement with teachers and other students in tutorials students will develop their critical and analytical skills and the ability to discuss matters relating to Africa in an objective and mutually respectful manner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coursework and the dissertation provide the opportunity to demonstrate the critical and analytical skills, which are developed through guidance and feedback from the teachers.

Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Student will gain specific knowledge of aspects of African life, which will prepare them for working in Africa. 2. The specialist knowledge developed in the individual courses will allow students to add an academically grounded perspective to their particular subsequent work context. 3. If a student takes an African language they will have a strong practical skill, which will help them in any context where the language is used and which will also be of benefit if they need to learn another language in the future. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In most courses the practical skill of presenting a synthesis of material gained from secondary and sometimes, primary sources will be developed through writing essays and, for some courses, by giving presentations. • Students who choose to take a language develop the practical skill of using that language at a level appropriate to the course. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of a competence in academic writing appropriate to the particular disciplinary areas chosen will be acquired through the writing of essays and the dissertation under supervision by teachers.

Learning Outcomes: Transferrable skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Through managing their studies students will develop the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility. 2. In researching and writing coursework and the dissertation students will develop research and writing skills. 3. Students will develop the skills of independent learning required for continuing onto a research degree or for professional development. 	

Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and writing skills will be developed through the writing of coursework and the dissertation. • Students will gain the skills of independent learning as they undertake the reading and writing of coursework during a particular course. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The assessment of written coursework and the drafts of the dissertation will help develop the transferable skill of writing in a suitable register and presenting well ideas and knowledge.

General statement on contact hours – postgraduate programmes
<p>Masters programmes (with the exception of two-year full-time MAs) consist of 180 credits, made up of taught modules of 30 or 15 credits, taught over 10 or 20 weeks, and a dissertation of 60 credits. The programme structure shows which modules are compulsory and which optional.</p> <p>As a rough guide, 1 credit equals approximately 10 hours of work. Most of this will be independent study (see https://www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/ug/teaching/) such as reading and research, preparing coursework, revising for examinations and so on. Also included is class time, for example lectures, seminars and other classes. Some subjects may have more class time than others – a typical example of this are language acquisition modules.</p> <p>At SOAS, most postgraduate modules have a one-hour lecture and a one-hour seminar every week, but this does vary.</p> <p>More information can be found on individual module pages.</p>

MA African Studies

Dissertation	
credits	60
module code	15PAFC990
module title	Dissertation in African Studies
status	compulsory module

Taught Component	
credits	90
module title	see list below
status	guided option*

+

Taught Component	
credits	30
module title	see list below
status	guided option*

OR	
credits	30
module title	open options
status	open option

NB: In Area Studies degrees:
 1) a maximum of **60 credits** can be taken in any one discipline.
 2) a minimum of **three disciplines** must be covered.
 3) for students opting to take two language acquisition modules, **only one** of these can be at introductory level.

***List of taught modules (subject to availability)**

Anthropology (minor only)

15PANH068	Culture and Society of West Africa	15
15PANH063	Culture and Society of East Africa	15
15PANH010	African and Asian Diasporas in the Modern World	15
15PANH009	African and Asian Cultures in Britain	15

Art

15PARH052	Arts and Society in sub-Saharan Africa	15
15PARH048	Modern and Contemporary Arts in Africa	15

Economics

15PECC203	Economic development in Africa	30
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History

15PHIH002	Colonial Conquest and Social Change in Southern Africa	15
15PHIH003	Social and Cultural Transformations in Southern Africa Since 1945	15
15PHIH028	Slavery in West Africa in the 19th and 20th Centuries	15
15PHIH029	Historical Perspectives on Gender in Africa	15

Language (minor only)

15PAFH021	Amharic 1 A (PG)	15
15PAFH022	Amharic 1 B (PG)	15
15PAFC131	Amharic 2 (PG)	30
15PAFH027	Hausa 1 A (PG)	15
15PAFH028	Hausa 1 B (PG)	15
15PAFC138	Hausa 2 (PG)	30
15PAFH023	Somali 1 A (PG)	15
15PAFH024	Somali 1 B (PG)	15
15PAFC133	Somali 2 (PG)	30
15PAFH017	Advanced Somali: Language	15
15PAFH018	Advanced Somali: Literature	15
15PAFH029	Swahili 1 A (PG)	15
15PAFH030	Swahili 1 B (PG)	15
15PAFC141	Intermediate Swahili 2A (PG)	30
15PAFC142	Swahili 3 (PG)	30
15PAFC029	Practical translation from and into Swahili	30
15PAFC047	Directed Readings in an African Language	30
15PAFH025	Yoruba 1 A (PG)	15
15PAFH026	Yoruba 1 B (PG)	15
15PAFC135	Yoruba 2 (PG)	30
15PAFH019	Zulu 1 A (PG)	15
15PAFH020	Zulu 1 B (PG)	15
15PAFC129	Zulu 2 (PG)	30
15PAFC137	Zulu 3 (PG)	30

Law

15PLAC121	Islamic law (MA/LLM)	30
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Linguistics

15PAFH011	The Structure of Bantu Languages (PG)	15
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Literature

15PAFH013	Sci-fi and Afrofuturism in the African Novel (PG)	15
15PAFH018	Advanced Somali: Literature	15
15PAFH016	Introduction to Swahili Literature	15
15PAFH015	Advanced Swahili Literature	15
15PAFC124	Literatures in African languages	30
15PAFC139	Travelling Africa: Writing the Cape to Cairo	30
15PAFH012	Realism and Magical Realism in the African Novel (PG)	15
15PAFH008	African Philosophy (PG)	15
15PAFH009	Afrophone Philosophies (PG)	15

Media

15PAFH006	The Story of African Film: Narrative Screen Media in Africa	15
15PAFH007	Aspects of African film and video 2	15
15PAFH010	Curating Africa: African Film and Video in the Age of Festivals	15
15PARH082	Photography and the Image in Africa	15

Politics

15PPOC205	Government and politics in Africa	30
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Religions & Philosophies

15PSRH042	Preaching, Prayer and Politics: Independent Christians in Southern Africa	15
15PSRH043	Colonial and Christian Missions in Africa: Readings from the Archives	15
15PSRH049	Religions and Development	15