

Programme Specification

I. Programme Details

Programme title	Medical Anthropology Medical Anthropology & Intensive Language (any available)
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"/> LLM <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. All students are introduced to the types of problem and areas of questioning which are fundamental to the anthropology of medicine. 2. Students new to the discipline are given knowledge of the general principles of anthropological enquiry 3. All students develop advanced knowledge and understanding of the theoretical approaches which help form an anthropological perspective. 4. All students gain an understanding of the practical methods by which this perspective is applied in field research. 5. In the two-year pathway, the student will also be provided with a near proficient ability in a 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. Students will be familiar with the foundational literature on the basis of which medical anthropology is linked to and emerges from broader disciplinary concerns. 2. Students will have knowledge of the intersections linking medical anthropology to related fields, such as social studies of science, studies in bioethics, and critical approaches to public health. 3. Students will be familiar with the numerous ethnographic studies of health and illness. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition of knowledge is achieved through the combination of guided reading, lectures and seminar tutorials. • Each student's course of study is conditioned by that student's particular aims and interests, as well as by the student's previous experience with anthropology. Particular course units are decided by the student in discussion with the director of studies. • Students are required to attend all classes. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In addition, the ethnographic film series, departmental seminar, and medical anthropology seminars in the Russell Square area offer further, less formal opportunities for learning. 	
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Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Students will learn to deploy an ethnographic kind of questioning – one directed toward teasing out of complex situations the sets of particular norms or principles which condition or shape them. As anthropologists, they will be trained to look for the specifically social in everything (even & especially in the “natural”). Students will learn how to form an anthropological problem – that is to distinguish an anthropological problem from a mere topic or area of interest. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical thinking is developed during class discussion as students come to engage with theoretical perspectives that might be new to them, and which encourage them to see social life in an anthropological (particularly medical) way. Skills are further emphasized and developed during the series of meetings with the course convenor and subsequently with the dissertation supervisor, as students come to give shape to their individual research projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through coursework, unseen paper and particularly by/in the dissertation, students develop the ability to think clearly and to organize material systematically.

Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Personal drive: Students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning Students will develop research skills: including location and adjustment to differing types of library collection, as well as locating organizations and people who hold significant information Listening & understanding: Students will be able to assimilate complex arguments quickly on the basis of listening – and to discuss or disagree constructively with points made by others. Planning and problem solving: students will be able to set targets and achieve them, and will be able to work well to deadlines. Working in a group: students will learn to lead by contributing to the development of consensus. In the two year intensive language pathway, to acquire/develop skills in a language to Effective Operational Proficiency level, i.e., being able to communicate in written and spoken medium in a contemporary language. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of personal drive: Students must not only decide what among possible options will best achieve their goals, they must also decide, on a week to week basis, which of the many possible readings they will accomplish. They must also develop their own dissertation topic. Class in the core course as a group sets/agrees 	

<p>the sequence of topics for much of the second term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition of research skill: Students must all attend a Research Methods seminar, offered in Term 1, which introduces them to the varied methods used by anthropologists today. • Listening, understanding and working in a group: Students achieve these skills by means of participation in small group seminars, and working in teams for seminar presentations. • Development of planning and problem solving skills: Stretches across the experience of the course as a whole. 	
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Learning Outcomes: Transferable skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will develop an ability to begin from a general question or issue and develop an appropriate research model and method. 2. Ability to clearly represent a concise understanding of a project/problem and its solution. 3. An ability to recognize and appreciate for what it is an unconventional approach or an unfamiliar idea 4. An ability creatively to resolve conflict while working in a team; being able to see the other person's point of view 5. An ability to work and feel at ease in multicultural or cross cultural environments. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transferable skills are acquired as part and parcel of the general training process whose details have already been noted above. • Convenor and other tutors are there to offer support • In addition, the experience of being at SOAS, with its varied and lively environment also contributes to the learning and teaching process. 	

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 Medical Anthropology

	Dissertation
credits	60
module code	15PANC999
module title	Dissertation in Anthropology & Sociology
status	compulsory module

For students WITHOUT previous Anthropology degree:

	Taught Component		Taught Component		Taught Component		Taught Component		Taught Component
credits	30		0		30		15		45
module code	15PANC093		15PANH002		15PANC008		from List A		List A or List B or language option
module title	Medical Anthropology in Global Perspective	+	Ethnographic Research Methods	+	Theoretical Approaches to Social Anthropology	+	from List A	+	List A or List B or language option
status	Discipline Component		compulsory module		compulsory module		guided option*		guided option*

For students WITH previous Anthropology degree:

	Taught Component		Taught Component		Taught Component		Taught Component
credits	30		0		15		75
module code	15PANC093		15PANH002		from List A		List A or List B or language option
module title	Medical Anthropology in Global Perspective	+	Ethnographic Research Methods	+	from List A	+	List A or List B or language option
status	Discipline Component		compulsory module		guided option*		guided option*

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

Code	Title	Credits
List A:		
15PANH032	Issues in Mind, Culture and Psychiatry	15
15PANH033	Perspectives On Development	15
15PANH009	African and Asian Cultures in Britain	15
15PANH010	African and Asian Diasporas in the Modern World	15
15PANH053	Anthropological approaches to agriculture, food and nutrition	15
15PANH061	Anthropology of Globalisation	15
15PANH024	Issues in the Anthropology of Gender	15
15PANH002	Ethnographic Research Methods	15
15PANC008	Theoretical Approaches to Social Anthropology	15
15PDSH027	Aid and development	15
15PDSH013	Development practice	15
15PDSH022	Famine and food security	15
15PDSH010	Gender and development	15
List B:		
Anthropology & Sociology		
15PANH058	Anthropology of Human Rights (PG)	15
15PANH056	Anthropology of Law	15
15PANH062	Culture and Society of China	15
15PANH063	Culture and Society of East Africa	15
15PANH065	Culture and Society of Japan	15
15PANH064	Culture and Society of South Asia	15
15PANH066	Culture and Society of South East Asia	15
15PANH067	Culture and Society of Near and Middle East	15
15PANH068	Culture and Society of West Africa	15
15PANH002	Ethnographic Research Methods	15
15PANH050	Media Production Skills	15
15PANH055	Religions on the move: New Currents and Emerging Trends in Global Religion	15
15PANH059	Tourism and Travel: A Global Perspective	15
History		
15PHIH013	Japanese Modernity I	15
15PHIH014	Japanese Modernity II	15
Religions and Philosophies		
15PSRH008	Buddhism in Tibet	15
15PSRC162	Death and Religion	30
15PSRH018	East Asian Buddhist Thought	15
15PSRC055	Eastern and Orthodox Christianity	30
15PSRC024	Jainism: History, Doctrine and the Contemporary World	30
15PSRC071	Religious Practice in Japan: Texts, Rituals and Believers	30

Language Modules

<http://www.soas.ac.uk/languagecultures/courses/>