

## Programme Specification

### I. Programme Details

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

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

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To obtain a thorough grounding in the theories on Cultural Studies and their use, application and adaptation in the cross-cultural contexts of Africa, Asia and the Middle East.</li> <li>2. To learn about the cultures and societies of the regions of Asia, Africa and the Middle East.</li> <li>3. To develop a critical approach to Asian, African and Middle Eastern cultural productions.</li> <li>4. To train students to develop good research, analytical and interpretative skills to undertake their own research project.</li> </ol>
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### III. Programme Learning Outcomes: What will you learn on the programme?

There are four key areas in which you will develop:

Learning Outcomes: Knowledge	
<p>Students learn:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How to analyse and interpret cultural practices critically.</li> <li>2. How to apply a variety of critical theories to Asian, African and Middle Eastern cultural productions including film, media, literature, art, etc.</li> <li>3. How to explore a research topic and locate materials, use research sources (particularly research library catalogues and electronic databases) and other relevant traditional sources.</li> <li>4. How to develop a critical approach to Asian, African and Middle Eastern cultures in which students question the tenets of Western-derived theories and their applicability to non-Western contexts, and through a variety of approaches gain an understanding of the social and political role and function of and role of culture in Asian, African and Middle Eastern societies.</li> <li>5. The specificity of cultural paradigms of a region or regions of Asia/Africa and the Middle East.</li> <li>6. A thorough grounding in the theories and methodologies of Cultural Studies</li> </ol>	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisition of critical and analytical skills of cultural studies theories and methodologies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through unseen examinations, long essays, course work and a dissertation.</li> </ul>

<p>through lectures, seminars, tutorials and oral presentations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students are required to attend all classes, study extensively on their own and prepare assessed and non-assessed work regularly.</li> <li>• The core course ‘Cultural Studies Theories and the Study of Asia, Africa and the Middle East’ introduces the developments of Cultural Studies Theories over the last thirty years to students in the first term and trains them in how these may be applied critically to Asian, African and Middle Eastern cultures.</li> <li>• Acquisition of the cultural paradigms of a region or regions of Asia, Africa and the Middle East by taking two courses from a region or regions of Asia, Africa, or the Middle East and by taking a language course. Students will be expected to analyse cultural products in the context of one or more of the theories introduced and question their effectiveness.</li> <li>• Acquisition of the theories and methodologies of cultural studies through attending the core course “Cultural Studies Theories and the Study of Asia, Africa and the Middle East”.</li> </ul>	
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<b>Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students are introduced to a number of theoretical approaches to cultural productions such as literature, film and media.</li> <li>2. Students are taught the importance of how theories raise questions about cultural products.</li> <li>3. Having successfully completed the programme, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• analyse cultural products in a systematic and creative way from a variety of perspectives</li> <li>• research the data necessary for making cultural analytical judgements</li> <li>• evaluate and apply independent research methods</li> <li>• demonstrate originality in dealing with cultural studies issues</li> <li>• successfully conduct an advanced independent research project</li> <li>• formulate and test interpretations</li> <li>• understand cultural studies practice and critically examine the social and political contexts of cultural production.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Students will become aware of and think through problems involved when applying a mainly ‘Western’ body of literary theory to Asian, African and Middle Eastern cultures.</li> </ol>	
<b>Typical Teaching Methods</b>	<b>Typical Assessment Methods</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisition of analytical and critical skills is fostered in all courses offered in the Programme, in that all courses will introduce information that will need to be</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through unseen examinations, course work, long essays and a dissertation.</li> </ul>

<p>assessed critically and will demonstrate that how conflicting interpretations arise from different approaches to the same texts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will learn successfully how to conduct an advanced research project through supervision.</li> <li>• Evaluation of theory and its applications is acquired through lectures, seminars and the writing of essays on topics relating to theory and Asian, African and Middle Eastern cultural practices.</li> </ul>	
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<b>Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Communicate effectively and analytically in writing on subjects related to cultural studies theories and their application in the contexts of Asia, Africa and the Middle East</li> <li>2. Retrieve, sift and select information from a variety of sources.</li> <li>3. Listen and discuss critically ideas introduced during seminars.</li> <li>4. Practice research techniques in a variety of specialized research libraries and institutes.</li> <li>5. Gain knowledge of Asian or African cultures</li> </ol>	
<b>Typical Teaching Methods</b>	<b>Typical Assessment Methods</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisition of critical and analytical writing through the practice of researching and writing of long essays and dissertations.</li> <li>• Research work in the library in preparation for essays, course work and dissertation</li> <li>• seminar and tutorial preparation, discussion and presentation of ideas</li> <li>• Acquisition of knowledge of Asian, African and Middle Eastern cultures and societies through the selected area courses on these topics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By unseen examination, dissertation, and long essays</li> </ul>

<b>Learning Outcomes: Transferable skills</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Write good essays and dissertations.</li> <li>2. Structure and communicate ideas effectively both orally and in writing.</li> <li>3. Question the assumptions or theories and methodologies.</li> <li>4. Study a variety of written and digital materials, in libraries and research institutes of a kind they will not have used as undergraduates.</li> <li>5. Present assessed and non – assessed material orally.</li> </ol>	
<b>Typical Teaching Methods</b>	<b>Typical Assessment Methods</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisition of writing skills through the writing of long essays and dissertations.</li> <li>• Through research work in the library in preparation for essays, course work and dissertation.</li> <li>• Through seminar preparation, discussion and presentation of ideas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By unseen examination, dissertation, and long essays</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Through the setting of clear deadlines for the submission of written work, and through guidance when writing essays and thesis</li></ul>	
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<b>General statement on contact hours – postgraduate programmes</b>
<p>Masters programmes 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 <a href="https://www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/ug/teaching/">https://www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/ug/teaching/</a>) 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 Cultural Studies**

	<b>Dissertation</b>			
credits	60			
module code	15PSC999			
module title	Dissertation in Cultural, Literary, and Postcolonial			
status	compulsory module			
	<b>Taught Component</b>	<b>Taught Component</b>	<b>Taught Component</b>	
credits	30	60	30	
module code	15PSC001			
module title	Cultural studies theories and the study of Asia, Africa and the Middle East	see list	open option	
status	core module	guided option*	open option	

\*List of modules (subject to availability)  
 The options below are recommended due to their relevancy to the programme. However, students are allowed to take any postgraduate optional module that SOAS offers (see individual web pages for list), provided they receive the approval of the degree convenor and the relevant module convenor.  
 NB: Students can choose an uncredited fifth module for the duration of term 1.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>List A</b>		
15PAFH009	Philosophy and Decolonization (PG)	15
15PAFH008	African Philosophy (PG)	15
15PNMC377	Turkey, Continuity and Change	30
15PNMC374	Selected Topics in 20th Century Turkish Literature	30
15PAFH010	Curating Africa: African Film and Video in the Age of Festivals	15
15PAFC139	Travelling Africa: Writing the Cape to Cairo	15
15PEAH013	Japanese Traditional Drama (Masters)	30
15PEAH012	Modern Japanese Literature (Masters)	15
15PCHH001	Modern Chinese Film and Theatre (MA)	30
15PCHH002	Modern Film from Taiwan and the Chinese Diaspora	15
15PCHC004	Traditional Chinese Literature in Translation	15
15PAFC124	Literatures in African languages	30
15PSAC284	Literatures of South Asia	30
15PSAC314	The Politics of Culture in Contemporary South Asia	30
15PNMC230	Film and Society in the Middle East	30
15PSEH008	Post-crisis Thai Cinema (1997-2007)	30
15PSEH010	(Post) Colonialism and Otherness in South East Asia on Screen	15
15PSEH011	Genders and Sexualities in South East Asian Film	15
15PSEH013	English Literatures of South East Asia	15
15PAFH006	The Story of African Film: Narrative Screen Media in Africa	15
15PAFH012	Realism and Magical Realism in the African Novel (PG)	15
15PAFH013	Sci-fi and Afrofuturism in the Afrophone Novel (PG)	15
15PJKH034	Censoring Japan: A Socio-Cultural History of Japanese Television	15
15PSAH001	Indian Cinema: Its History and Social Context	30
15PSAH002	Indian Cinema: Key Issues	15
15PSEH015	Indonesia on Screen (PG)	15
15PSEH014	Vietnam on Screen (PG)	15
15PSEH017	Under Western Eyes: European Writings on South East Asia (PG)	15
15PSEH016	Directed Readings in a South East Asian Language	15
15PNMC412	Identity and Language in Hebrew Literature	15
<b>Anthropology and Sociology</b>		
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
15PANH010	African and Asian Diasporas in the Modern World	15
15PANH009	African and Asian Cultures in Britain	15
<b>Media and Film Studies</b>		
15PMSH006	The Transnational News Environment: Production, Representation and Use	15
15PMSH004	Transnational Communities and Diasporic Media: Networking, Connectivity, Identity	15
15PJKH007	Japanese Transnational Cinema: From Kurosawa to Asia Extreme and Studio Ghibli	15
15PJKH008	Japanese Post-War Film Genres and the Avant-Garde	15
15PMSH003	Mediated Culture in the Middle East: Politics and Communications	15
15PMSH009	International Political Communication	15
15PMSH007	Studies in Global Media and Post-National Communication	15
<b>Music</b>		
15PMUH014	Pop and Politics in East Asia (Masters)	15
15PMUH009	Gender and Music (MMus)	15
<b>Department of the Study of Religions</b>		
15PSRC158	Muslim Britain: Perspectives and Realities	30
<b>History</b>		
15PHIH011	Histories of Ethnicity and Conflict in South East Asia 1 - Making States and Building Nations	15
15PHIH012	Histories of Ethnicity and Conflict in South East Asia 2 - Non-National Perspectives	15
15PHIH003	Social and Cultural Transformations in Southern Africa Since 1945	15
15PHIH013	Japanese Modernity I	15
15PHIH014	Japanese Modernity II	15
15PHIH024	Knowledge and Power in Early Modern China	15
15PHIH022	Nationhood and Competing Identities in Modern China	15
<b>Art and Archaeology</b>		
15PARH048	Modern and Contemporary Arts in Africa	15
15PARH039	Representing Conflict: A Cross-Cultural and Inter Disciplinary Approach	15
15PARH034	Islam and the West: Artistic and Cultural Contacts	15
<b>List B</b>		
<b>You may only take 30 credits from List B.</b>		
15PGNC002	Gender theory and the study of Asia, Africa and the Middle East	30
15PSC003	Postcolonial Theory and Practice	30
15PSC002	Theory and techniques of Comparative Literature	30
<b>List C</b>		
<b>You may take 30 credits from List C.</b>		
<b>Africa</b>		
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 (PG)	15
15PAFH018	Advanced Somali: Literature (PG)	15
15PAFH029	Swahili 1 A (PG)	15
15PAFH030	Swahili 1 B (PG)	15
15PAFC141	Intermediate Swahili 2A (PG)	30
15PAFC142	Swahili 3 (PG)	30
15PAFH014	Practical Translation Swahili into English	15
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

**China and Inner Asia**

15PCHC006	Elementary Spoken Cantonese (PG)	30
15PCHC007	Elementary spoken Hokkien (Minnanyu, Taiwanese) (PG)	30
15PCHH033	Tibetan (Modern) 1 A (PG)	15
15PCHH034	Tibetan (Modern) 1 B (PG)	15
15PCHH031	Chinese 1 A (PG)	15
15PCHH032	Chinese 1 B (PG)	15
15PCHC011	Chinese 2 (PG)	30
15PCHC009	Chinese 3 (PG)	30
15PCHC012	Chinese 4 (PG)	30
15PCHC010	Reading Classical and Literary Chinese (PG)	30

**Japan and Korea**

15PJKH035	Japanese 1 A (PG)	15
15PJKH036	Japanese 1 B (PG)	15
15PJKC009	Japanese 2 (PG)	30
15PJKC010	Japanese 3 (PG)	30
15PJKC011	Japanese 4 (PG)	30
15PJKH037	Korean 1 A (PG)	15
15PJKH038	Korean 1 B (PG)	15
15PJKC024	Korean 2 (PG)	30
15PJKC018	Korean Readings (PG)	30

**Near and Middle East**

15PNMC384	Elementary Persian Texts (PG)	30
15PNMH016	Elementary Written Persian A (PG)	15
15PNMH017	Elementary Written Persian B (PG)	15
15PNMH014	Elementary Written Turkish A (PG)	15
15PNMH015	Elementary Written Turkish B (PG)	15
15PNMC383	Intermediate Modern Turkish Language (PG)	30
15PNMH018	Hebrew 1 A (PG)	15
15PNMH019	Hebrew 1 B (PG)	15

**South Asia**

15PSAH028	Bengali Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSAH029	Bengali Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSAC304	Bengali Language 2 (PG)	30
15PSAH022	Hindi Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSAH023	Hindi Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSAC296	Hindi Language 2 (PG)	30
15PSAC297	Hindi Language 3 (PG)	30
15PSAC308	Hindi Language 4 (PG)	30
15PSAH024	Nepali Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSAH025	Nepali Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSAC299	Nepali Language 2 (PG)	30
15PSAH030	Punjabi Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSAH031	Punjabi Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSAH020	Sanskrit Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSAH021	Sanskrit Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSAC306	Sanskrit Language 2 (PG)	30
15PSAC309	Prakrit Language 1 (PG)	30
15PSAH026	Urdu Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSAH027	Urdu Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSAC301	Urdu Language 2 (PG)	30

**South East Asia**

15PSEH022	Burmese Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSEH023	Burmese Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSEC045	Burmese Language 2 (PG)	30
15PSEH018	Indonesian Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSEH019	Indonesian Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSEC033	Indonesian Language 2 (PG)	30
15PSEC034	Indonesian Language 3 (PG)	30
15PSEC035	Indonesian Language 4 (PG)	30
15PSEH024	Thai Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSEH025	Thai Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSEC041	Thai Language 2 (PG)	30
15PSEC042	Thai Language 3 (PG)	30
15PSEH020	Vietnamese Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSEH021	Vietnamese Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSEC037	Vietnamese Language 2 (PG)	30