

## Programme specification 2012/2013

### School of Oriental and African Studies

The following information forms the programme specification at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. It gives definitive information relating to a programme of study and is written for a public audience, particularly prospective and current students. It is also used for other purposes such as initial programme approval, and is therefore produced at the start of the programme development process. Once approved, it forms the base-line information for all statements relating to the programme and is updated as approved amendments are made.

#### CORE INFORMATION

Programme title	BA Indonesian and ...
Final award	BA Honours
Intermediate awards	n/a
Mode of attendance	Full-time
UCAS code	Indonesian may be combined with: Arabic TTJ6 BA/IA Chinese TT13 BA/ICH Development Studies LT93 BA/IDVS Economics LTCH BA/IEC French * Geography ** History VTC3 BA/IH History of Art/Archaeology VT33 BA/HAAI Law MTDH BA/LWI Linguistics QTCH BA/ILG Music TWHH BA/MSI Politics LTFH BA/POLI Social Anthropology LTPH BA/SAI  * Taught at University College, London (Apply to UCL only) ** Taught at King's College, London
Professional body accreditation	n/a
Date specification created/updated	April 2011

#### WHY CHOOSE THIS PROGRAMME?

Why study at SOAS?	SOAS is unique as the only higher education institution in the UK specialising in the study of Africa, Asia and the Middle East. The School also has the largest concentration of specialist faculty concerned with the study of these areas at any university in the world. SOAS is consistently ranked among the top higher education institutions in the UK and the world and it also offers a friendly, vibrant environment for students in a diverse and close-knit community.
What is special about this programme?	SOAS is the only University in the UK with a Department focusing solely on the study of the Languages and Cultures of South East Asia, complemented across the School by broad multi-

	<p>disciplinary expertise in the region. It is the only institution where Indonesian is taught in the UK, and one of only a handful in Europe.</p> <p>BA Indonesian and another subject is one half of a two-subject degree, studied in combination with the disciplines listed above. Indonesian courses aim to develop the learner's interest in and understanding of the Indonesian language and Indonesian society, and to produce graduates who possess a high level of linguistic competence and cultural awareness and sensitivity, and who have a sound knowledge of the country's history, culture and literature. The discipline will normally additionally include courses with a specific South East Asian focus which help to bridge language and discipline, while final year extended essay options also provide potential scope for drawing together the two sides of the degree.</p> <p>BA Indonesian and another subject may be studied over three years, or over four years if the third year of study is spent studying in Indonesia. The degree is therefore a three- or four-year programme that strikes an exciting balance between the study of Indonesian and the cultures of Indonesia and the South East Asian region.</p> <p>Competence in Indonesian language will enable you to come into close contact with authentic material from Indonesia help you acquire an understanding of the culture and society of the country.</p>
Who would it suit?	<p>The BA Indonesian and another subject programme prepares you for a career working in, or in connection with, Indonesia and South East Asia. As the economies of South East Asia continue to expand, linked inextricably to the economies of neighbouring regions, a knowledge of language and culture is an invaluable asset in a number of career paths.</p> <p>This degree is ideal for students who seek the intensive engagement with Indonesian language and who may consider spending a year in Indonesia to acquire a solid foundation in the language coupled with experience of living in Indonesia and engage with Indonesian people in their country.</p> <p>Career paths of our graduates include international development and aid agencies, print journalism and media, local, national and international government agencies, overseas companies, teaching, law, librarianship, arts administration.</p> <p>Graduates from this programme may also choose to pursue Masters' programmes that either focus on particular aspects of Indonesia or South East Asia, or are linked to professional qualifications in law, development, media, etc.</p>
Programme	BA Indonesian and another subject allows for the study of

structure	<p>Indonesia and South East Asia in a broad context, with the possibility of focusing on culture, history, music, art, literature, politics, economics, law, or anthropology.</p> <p>You will study four course units each year chosen from a range of available courses relating to various aspects of South East Asia, including a Indonesian language course. Certain courses may, if you wish, be an open option course not related to the degree programme, subject to availability and approval of the Department.</p> <p>The first year features an introductory Indonesian language course for complete beginners in the language taught at a deliberately intensive pace. You will also take the courses Introduction to South East Asia and South East Asia on Film, which together provide a foundation in the past and present of South East Asian culture. The other two courses are taken in the other subject of your degree.</p> <p>In Year 2 you will take Indonesian Language 2, an intermediate language course designed to develop the language skills acquired in the first year, incorporating the study of a range of contemporary prose texts and recorded audio material. In addition students have regular practice in Indonesian language conversation with a native speaker of Indonesian.</p> <p>You will also take two half units in Indonesian studies, including the half-unit Cultural Foundations of Indonesia which explores the development of the idea of Indonesia as a nation. You will take two further courses in your other subject.</p> <p>If you choose to do so, you may spend the third year studying Indonesian in Indonesia. Arrangements vary from year to year to suit your preferences and the situation in the country at the time.</p> <p>In the final year, you will continue your language studies with the advanced language course Indonesian Language 3 (or with the fourth year course Indonesian Language 4 if you spend the third year in Indonesia). These courses are designed to develop language skills and at the same time enhance your understanding of Indonesian culture and values through the study of a range of contemporary texts. You may also take further courses in Indonesian studies, or complete an undergraduate dissertation (Independent Study Project) or Extended Essay on a topic of your choice related to Indonesian. The topic of this project is chosen by you in consultation with your teachers, and may be tailored as far as possible to suit your own interests. You also take one or two courses in your second subject or an open option course.</p>
Assessment summary	Assessment for language courses typically involves a balance between classroom tests and/or written coursework during the

	<p>year, oral exam, and written exam.</p> <p>Assessment for culture courses involves a balance between coursework essays and final written exam; some courses are assessed by coursework essays only. Consult the course convenor or the SOAS website for details of the assessment arrangement for each course.</p>
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## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

SOAS has general minimum entrance requirements for registration for an undergraduate degree and these can be viewed at <http://www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/ug/entryreq/>

- **A Levels:** AAB
- A Level language preferred
- **IB:** 36 (6/6/6)
- **BTEC:** DDM
- **Scottish Highers:** AAABB
- **Scottish Advanced Highers:** AAB
- **Irish LC:** 340 points from 5 Higher level subjects at grade C1 or above
- **Advanced Placement:** 4 4 5 (Two semesters UCAS Group A) plus US HSGD with GPA 3.0
- **Euro Bacc:** 80%
- **French Bacc:** 14/20
- **German Abitur:** 2.0
- **Italy DES:** 80/100
- **Austria Mat:** 2.0
- **Polish Mat:** 75%

## PROGRAMME AIMS

- To provide an excellent and broad-ranging foundational knowledge of the culture of Indonesia in particular and South East Asia in general;
- A working knowledge of Indonesian with an awareness of its cultural context.
- To prepare the student for either working in Indonesia or in communication with Indonesia.

## PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES

### Knowledge

- a broad knowledge and understanding of Indonesian society and culture, past and present;
- competence in speaking, reading and writing Indonesian to a level which will be of practical use when communicating with or working with a native speaker of that language;

### Intellectual (thinking) skills

- the ability to devise and sustain arguments, question established views, reassess evidence and weigh up contrasting views in general, and in particular on matters relating to Indonesia and South East Asia

- the ability to describe and comment upon particular aspects of current research in various disciplines relating to Indonesia and South East Asia;
- an appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge related to Indonesia and South East Asia, and in particular of conflicting ideas and debates relating to economics, history, language, culture, and politics.
- the ability to manage one's own learning, and to make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources such as research articles and/or original materials related to Indonesia and South East Asia.

#### **Subject-based practical skills**

- Analyse cultural data and make judgements on the basis of conflicting evidence.
- Analyse quantitative data for the purposes of management and finance.
- Assess the validity of different approaches to the same data or ideas.
- Research cultural and economic phenomena through both primary and secondary sources, making appropriate use of library and online resources.
- Comprehend, and communicate in, Indonesian — through both speech and writing.

#### **Transferable skills**

The programme will encourage students to:

- Write and speak with clarity and concision.
- Use a variety of sources as research materials.
- Work to deadlines.
- Develop self-reflexiveness.
- Develop an understanding of the relativity of cultures and “cultural” (or encultured) attitudes.
- Assess the validity of arguments and make judgements on complex situations

### **PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS FOR GAINING AN AWARD**

#### **Structure, duration and requirements for gaining an award**

SOAS has standard requirements relating to the structure and duration of undergraduate programmes and for the award and classification of these programmes. Details can be found at

<http://www.soas.ac.uk/registry/degreeregulations/file60378.pdf>

Students take the equivalent of 4 course units each year. In this programme, one unit each year may be an open option course.

**Programme structure** for this programme.

Level	Yr	Course code	Course title	Credit	Status	Notes
4	1	155900448	<a href="#">Indonesian Language 1</a>	30	Core	Students with any prior knowledge of Indonesian should contact the programme convenor before applying.

4	1	155901320 155901318	<a href="#">Introduction to SEAsia</a> <a href="#">SEAsia on Film</a>	15 15	Core	
4	1		Two courses in the other subject / open option at an approved level	60		
5/6	2	155901022	<a href="#">Indonesian Language 2</a>	30	Core	
5/6	2	155901308	<a href="#">Cultural Foundations of Indonesia</a> AND another approved Indonesia-relevant half-unit from List A	15 15	Core	Choice determined by which Indonesian courses can be taught in a given year.
5/6	2		Two courses in the other subject / open option at an approved level	60		
	(3)		A year abroad in Indonesia		Optional	Contact the programme convenor for details
5/6	3/4	155901023 155901024	<a href="#">Indonesian Language 3</a> (3-year degree) <b>OR</b> <a href="#">Indonesian Language 4</a> (4-year degree)	30	Core	
5/6	3/4	155901243 155901307	<a href="#">Independent Study Project in SEA Studies</a> <b>OR</b> <a href="#">Extended Essay in SEA Studies</a> and a further approved Indonesia-relevant half-unit from List A	30	Compulsory	Students will be expected to write on a topic relating to Indonesia
5/6	3/4		Two courses in the other subject / open option at an approved level	60		

*The availability of optional/elective courses may vary in a given academic session due to factors such as staff absence and student numbers. For an up to date list of courses running in a given academic session please refer to the degree structures as listed on the SOAS website for the degree programmes taught by each Department.*

**Course lists - subject to courses being available in a given year: always check with the programme convenor.**

For reference - **language units** available (also available as open option courses)

		Level
155900910 155900448 155901388 155901366 155900704	<a href="#">Burmese Language 1</a> <a href="#">Indonesian Language 1</a> <a href="#">Khmer (Cambodian) Language 1</a> <a href="#">Thai Language 1</a> <a href="#">Vietnamese Language 1</a>	4
155900997 155901022 155901367 155900705	<a href="#">Burmese Language 2</a> <a href="#">Indonesian Language 2</a> <a href="#">Thai Language 2</a> <a href="#">Vietnamese Language 2</a>	5
155900998 155901023 155901353 155901049	<a href="#">Burmese Language and Texts</a> <a href="#">Indonesian Language 3</a> <a href="#">Thai Language 3</a> <a href="#">Vietnamese Language and Texts</a>	6
155901357	<a href="#">Thai Language 4</a>	6

155901024	<a href="#">Indonesian Language 4</a>	
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#### **List A - non-language courses convened within SEA Dept - all level 5/6**

155901317	<a href="#">Thailand on Screen</a> (0.5 Unit)
155901354	<a href="#">Indonesia on Screen</a> (0.5 Unit)
155901319	<a href="#">Sex and the City in South East Asian Cinema</a> (0.5 Unit)
155901316	<a href="#">War, Revolution and Independence in South East Asian Literature in Translation</a> (0.5 Unit)
155901326	<a href="#">The City and the Countryside in South East Asian Literature in Translation</a> (0.5 Unit)
155901308	<a href="#">The City and the Countryside in South East Asian Literature in Translation</a> (0.5 Unit)
155901309	<a href="#">Cultural Foundations of Indonesia</a> (0.5 Unit)
155901312	<a href="#">Indonesian literature: generation of the revolution</a> (0.5 Unit)
155901313	<a href="#">Jawi and the Malay manuscript tradition</a> (0.5 Unit)
155901314	<a href="#">Pre-modern historical texts of Java, Bali and the Malay World in English translation</a> (0.5 Unit)
155901358	<a href="#">Traditional Malay literature: adventure romance in texts and film</a> (0.5 Unit)
155901352	<a href="#">Language in South East Asia</a> (0.5 Unit)
	<a href="#">Thai Cultural Texts</a>

#### **List B - other SEA-related courses - - all level 5/6**

155901307	<a href="#">Extended Essay in South East Asian Studies</a> (0.5 Unit)
154900156	<a href="#">Introduction to the art and archaeology of South and South East Asia</a> (0.5 Unit)
157400020	<a href="#">An Introduction to Islam</a>
158000110	<a href="#">Buddhism: Foundation</a> (0.5 Unit)
158000118	<a href="#">Hinduism: Foundation</a> (0.5 Unit)
158000117	<a href="#">Christianity: Foundation</a> (0.5 Unit)
158000107	<a href="#">Religions of South East Asia</a> (0.5 Unit)
151802048	<a href="#">Ethnography of a selected region - South East Asia</a>
154800232	<a href="#">Introduction to the History of South East Asia</a>
154800237	<a href="#">South East Asia during the Cold War, 1945-1991</a>
154900148	<a href="#">Arts of the Buddha in South East Asia</a> (0.5 Unit)
154900149	<a href="#">Contemporary Arts in South East Asia</a> (0.5 Unit)
153400022	<a href="#">South East Asian Government and Politics</a>
153400012	<a href="#">Economic development of South East Asia</a>

#### **List C - language possibilities - various levels; other languages may additionally be available as open option courses**

155901303	<a href="#">Sanskrit Language 1</a>
155901202	<a href="#">Arabic 100</a>
155900948	<a href="#">Basic Pali</a>
	A second SEA language at an appropriate level - see table above (Burmese, Indonesian, Thai, Vietnamese, Khmer)

### **TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT**

#### **Knowledge**

- a broad knowledge and understanding of Indonesian and South East Asian culture, in its historical and contemporary developments is taught through a pair of core half-unit courses Introduction to South East Asia and South East Asia on Film which together survey the present and past cultures and societies of the region through a combination of lectures, films and tutorials. These are assessed through coursework essays and unseen exam;

- the detailed knowledge of Indonesia will be developed through the combination of language learning, essay-questions and the Independent Study Project related to the area.
- basic competence in speaking, reading and writing in Indonesian achieved through a progression of language courses taught in small groups that will develop and test all four skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing); assessment will consist of classroom tests, written coursework, oral presentations and written and oral exams. Intermediate and advanced language courses and text courses will use a wide range of “real world” cultural texts; the Year Abroad in Indonesia will give students an understanding of the Indonesian in its native cultural setting, and allow them to work at a more advanced level of linguistic competence when they return for the fourth year of study.

### **Intellectual (thinking) skills**

- the ability to describe and comment upon particular aspects of current research in the discipline of choice, with particular focus on Indonesia and South East Asia, will be developed through readings for lectures, tutorials, and oral presentations, and through classroom discussions and essay-writing;
- the appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge related to Indonesia and South East Asia will be developed through the discussion of the conflicting ideas and debates relating to economics, history, language, culture, and politics in lectures, tutorials, classroom discussions and questions set for coursework and exam essays.
- the ability to manage one’s own learning, and to make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources such as research articles and/or original materials related to Indonesia and South East Asia will be developed by encouraging students to choose their own topics for coursework essays in years 2 and 3 and for the Independent Study Project.

### **Subject-based practical skills**

- The ability to analyse cultural data and make judgements on the basis of conflicting evidence will be fostered through course readings from year 1 onwards;
- The ability to analyse quantitative data will be developed in lectures and assignments;
- The ability to assess the validity of different approaches to the same data or ideas within the same discipline will be fostered through essay questions and classroom discussions;
- The ability to research economic and cultural phenomena through both primary and secondary sources, making appropriate use of library and online resources, will be fostered in particular in the written essays, oral presentations and Independent Study Project.
- The ability to comprehend, and communicate in, Indonesian through both speech and writing will be fostered in the language courses; the optional year abroad in Indonesia is an opportunity to reach a good level of linguistic competence

### **Transferable skills**



The programme will encourage students to:

- Write and speak with clarity and concision by setting clear guidelines and giving detailed feedback to essays and presentations from year 1 onward;
- Use a variety of sources as research materials in their essays, oral presentations and Independent Study Project. This is particularly exhilarating for students in their final year, who find they can write on quite original topics using materials that no one has used before;
- Work to deadlines, with clear deadlines for essays and penalty for late submission.
- Develop self-reflexiveness through classroom discussion, feedback on essays and presentations, and course assessment.
- Develop an understanding of the relativity of cultures and “cultural” (or encultured) attitudes, particularly through classroom discussion.
- Assess the validity of arguments and make judgements on complex situations, in particular in essays and presentations.

### **REFERENCE POINTS**

The following reference points were used in designing the programme:

- School Learning and Teaching Strategy
- Staff research
- QAA framework for higher education qualifications
- QAA subject benchmark statement Languages and related studies (2007)

### **QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ENHANCEMENT**

SOAS has internal procedures to assure the quality of provision to be offered to students and to enhance the quality in the light of experience following delivery, taking into account the input of external experts and students. The procedures are set out in the School’s Quality Assurance Handbook and can be viewed at (<http://www.soas.ac.uk/add/qualityassurance/quality-assurance-handbook/>).

SOAS is also subject to periodic external review from bodies such as the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education and relevant professional and statutory regulatory bodies.

The procedures described in the Quality Assurance Handbook are in place to provide a high quality student experience for those choosing to study at SOAS, and student input and evaluation of their experiences is greatly valued. Students make an input to the ongoing development of their programmes, and the environment in which they operate, in a number of ways, including:

- formal student evaluation as part of the annual programme review;
- student representation on School committees at various levels (through the Students’ Union) where many relevant issues are discussed.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

- [SOAS Vision and Strategy Statement](#);
- [Undergraduate Handbook](#);
- [Quality Assurance Handbook](#);
- [UCAS website](#);
- [QAA website](#).