

## Programme Specification

### I. Programme Details

<b>Programme title</b>	South Asian Area 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. Completing intensive introduction to several academic disciplines relating the study of South Asia</li> <li>2. An opportunity to learn a South Asian language</li> <li>3. The ability to participate in the ongoing research and cultural activities concerning South Asia offered through the SOAS South Asian Area Centre</li> <li>4. Undertaking an extended piece of independent research and writing</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:

<b>Learning Outcomes: Knowledge</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How to assess data and evidence critically from printed and digital sources, solve problems of conflicting sources and interpretations, locate materials, use research sources (particularly research library catalogues) and other relevant traditional sources.</li> <li>2. Subject specific skills, for instance familiarity with a South Asian language and the ability to read texts in that language, or advanced study of a South Asian literature in its original language.</li> <li>3. Aspects of South Asian history, economics, political, management and legal systems, art and archaeology, literature, visual and popular culture, anthropology and music.</li> </ol>	
<b>Typical Teaching Methods</b>	<b>Typical Assessment Methods</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisition of point 1 through one-hour taught lectures, through one-hour or two-hour seminars and/or student-centred tutorials and through language classes (typically three or four hours per week). Students are required to attend all classes, study extensively on their own and prepare non-assessed work regularly.</li> <li>• Acquisition of points 2 and 3 through all courses, preparation for student-led tutorials and presentations, through the use of library resources and through set essays.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through unseen examinations, long essays, coursework and a dissertation.</li> </ul>

<b>Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students should become precise and cautious in their assessment of evidence.</li> <li>2. Students should question interpretations, however authoritative, and reassess evidence for themselves</li> <li>3. Apply language learning skills to new linguistic challenges, or to new oral or written texts.</li> </ol>	
<b>Typical Teaching Methods</b>	<b>Typical Assessment Methods</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisition of points 1 and 2 is fostered in all courses offered in the Programme, in that all courses will introduce information that will need to be assessed critically and will demonstrate how conflicting interpretations can arise from the same information.</li> <li>• Acquisition of point 3 through language tuition and practice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through unseen examinations, coursework, long essays and a dissertation.</li> </ul>

<b>Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills</b>	
<p>The programme aims to help students with the following practical skills:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Communicate effectively in writing.</li> <li>2. Retrieve, sift and select information from a variety of sources.</li> <li>3. Present seminar papers.</li> <li>4. Participate constructively in the discussion of ideas introduced during seminars</li> <li>5. Work to strict deadlines</li> <li>6. Use and apply foreign language skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking</li> </ol>	
<b>Typical Teaching Methods</b>	<b>Typical Assessment Methods</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisition of point 1 through the writing of long essays, coursework and dissertations.</li> <li>• Acquisition of point 2 through guided and independent reading, web-based research.</li> <li>• Acquisition of point 3 through regular seminar presentations.</li> <li>• Acquisition of point 4 through seminar discussion.</li> <li>• Acquisition of point 5 through the setting of clear deadlines for the submission of written work.</li> <li>• Acquisition of point 6 through class tuition and practice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By unseen examination, dissertation, long essays and coursework, and language oral exams.</li> </ul>

<b>Learning Outcomes: Transferrable skills</b>
<p>The programme will encourage students to:</p> <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. Understand unconventional ideas</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 (non – assessed) material orally</li> <li>6. Communicate in a foreign language</li> </ol>

Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisition of point 1 through long essays, coursework and dissertation.</li> <li>• Acquisition of point 2 through seminar presentations, discussions and essays.</li> <li>• Acquisition of points 3 and 4 through reading, long essays and class discussion.</li> <li>• Acquisition of point 5 through oral presentations in class with feedback from tutor and peers.</li> <li>• Acquisition of point 6 through class tuition and practice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through unseen examinations, dissertation, long essays and coursework and language oral exams.</li> </ul>

<b>General statement on contact hours – postgraduate programmes</b>
<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 <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 South Asian Area Studies

	<b>Dissertation</b>
credits	60
module code	15PSAC997
module title	Dissertation in South Asia Studies
status	compulsory module

	<b>Taught Component</b>	+	<b>Taught Component</b>	+	<b>Taught Component</b>
credits	30		60		30
module title	major - see list		minor - see list		see list below
status					

**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.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Anthropology (minor only)</b>		
15PANH064	Culture and Society of South Asia	15
15PANH010	African and Asian Diasporas in the Modern World	15
<b>Art and Archaeology</b>		
15PARC034	The Indian Temple	30
15PARH067	Arts of the Tamil Temple	15
<b>Cinema</b>		
15PSAH001	Indian Cinema: Its History and Social Context	15
15PSAH002	Indian Cinema: Key Issues	15
<b>Culture</b>		
15PAIC001	Contemporary Punjab: Society and Culture across Borders	30
15PSAC314	The Politics of Culture in Contemporary South Asia	30
15PSAH017	Culture and Conflict in Nepal	15
<b>Economics</b>		
<b>Some background in Economics is a prerequisite for these modules. Please contact the convenor for details.</b>		
15PECC026	Economic development of South Asia a) the macroeconomy	15
15PECC027	Economic Development of South Asia B) Major Sectors & The International Economy	15
<b>History</b>		
15PHIH044	Islam in South Asia	15
15PHIH023	Environmental History of Asia	15
15PHIH041	Colonialism and Nationalism in South Asia	15
15PHIH030	Gender, law and the family in the history of modern South Asia	15
<b>Language [one language option as minor only]</b>		
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
15PSAC305	Readings in Contemporary Hindi (PG)	30
15PSAH024	Nepali Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSAH025	Nepali Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSAC299	Nepali Language 2 (PG)	30
15PSRC176	Basic Pali (PG)	30
15PSRC053	Pali: Intermediate Level	30
15PSAC309	Prakrit Language 1 (PG)	30
15PSAH020	Sanskrit Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSAH021	Sanskrit Language 1 B (PG)	15

15PSAC306	Sanskrit Language 2 (PG)	30
15PSAH030	Punjabi Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSAH031	Punjabi Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSAH026	Urdu Language 1 A (PG)	15
15PSAH027	Urdu Language 1 B (PG)	15
15PSAC301	Urdu Language 2 (PG)	30
15PSAC302	Urdu Literacy (PG)	30
15PNMH016	Elementary Written Persian A (PG)	15
15PNMH017	Elementary Written Persian B (PG)	15
15PNMC415	Intensive Persian Language	60
15PNMC033	Persian Language 2 (PG)	30
15PNMC408	Persian Language 3 (PG)	30
15PNMC033	Persian Language 2 (PG)	30
15PEAC020	Introduction to Classical Literary Tibetan (Masters)	30
<b>Law</b>		
15PLAC129	Law and Society in South Asia	30
<b>Literature</b>		
15PSAC284	Literatures of South Asia	30
15PCSC003	Postcolonial Theory and Practice	30
15PCSC002	Theory and techniques of Comparative Literature	30
15PSAC003	Sanskrit Literature	30
15PSAC016	Directed Readings in the Literature of a Modern South Asian Language	30
15PSAC014	Sanskrit Texts from the Hindu Tradition	30
15PSAH005	Literature & Colonialism in North India (Masters)	15
15PSAH006	Narratives of Mobility in Contemporary Hindi Literature (Masters)	15
<b>Music</b>		
15PMUH020	Raga: concept and practice (PG)	15
15PMUH025	Indian vocal music: Styles and histories	15
15PMUH021	Sacred Sound in South Asia	15
<b>Politics</b>		
15PPOC003	Government and politics of modern South Asia	30
<b>Study of Religions &amp; Philosophies</b>		
15PARH078	Imag(in)ing Buddhahood in South Asia (1)	15
15PSRH051	Imag(in)ing Buddhahood in South Asia (2)	15
15PSRH049	Religions and Development	
15PSRC169	Modern Muslim Thinkers of South Asia	30
15PSRC059	History and Doctrines of Indian Buddhism	30
15PSRH047	Issues in Religion and Media	15
15PSRH008	Buddhism in Tibet	15
15PSRH009	The Buddhist Conquest of Central Asia	15
15PSRC024	Jainism: History, Doctrine and the Contemporary World	30
15PSRC168	Oriental religions in European academia and imagination, 1815-1945	30
15PSRH014	Features of Buddhist Monasticism	15
15PSRC170	Contemporary Islamism in South Asia: Readings in Sayyid Abu al-A'la Mawdudi	30
15PSRC172	Buddhist Meditation in India and Tibet	30
15PSRC173	The Origins and Development of Yoga in Ancient India	30