International M.A.-Program in Tibetan Studies M.A.

Application information

Application period: 1 June - 15 July (winter semester) and 1 December - 15 January (summer semester)

Semester start: 1 October (winter semester) and 1 April (summer semester)

Language(s) of instruction: English

Introduction

Program’s Content and Qualification Aims

The general objective of the International M.A. program in Tibetan Studies (“Tibetology”) at the University of Hamburg is to further train students to independently and critically investigate any given theme dealing with various aspects of the Tibetan culture transmitted primarily in the form of written texts. For the successful fulfilment of this objective the acquiring of two skills is decisive: (a) proficiency in both classical and modern Tibetan, and (b) skills in the employment of historical-philological tools and techniques. Given that Tibetan culture is predominantly impregnated with Buddhism, the program lays emphasis on Tibetan Buddhism. Courses thus include seminars on Tibetan philology, Tibetan Buddhist literature, religion, philosophy, culture, and history of ideas, in which a variety of texts in classical Tibetan are studied in depth. Tibetan Buddhist textual scholarship is one of the main research areas of the Department and is well represented in teaching. By the end of the course, students will have acquired their skills in using sources in classical (and also modern) Tibetan for research, and will have deepened their knowledge of the Tibetan civilisation.

Admission requirements

(List of all admission requirements as per the current admission bylaws)

University degree

A Bachelor’s degree „Sprachen und Kulturen des Indischen Subkontinents und Tibet“ from the Universität Hamburg or a comparable Bachelor of a German or officially recognized international academic institution in one of the following subjects: Language and Culture of the Indian Subcontinent and Tibet (focus on Language and Culture of Tibet), South Asian Studies (focus on Tibet), Tibetology or an equivalent subject.

or
a first qualifying degree of a German or officially recognized international academic institution with a minimum of 50 credit points (ECTS) in courses with a clearly tibetological focus.

If you have not received your degree certificate yet, you can submit this by the end of the first semester of your master's program. Please see the “Documents to submit” section below for details.

**Additional special admission requirements**

Proof of competence in classical Tibetan with a minimum of 20 credit points or proof of an equivalent language training.

In case no sufficient evidence for competence in one modern language of the Indian subcontinent or Sanskrit can be provided within the application period the candidate will have the possibility to undergo a placement test conducted by the Universität Hamburg which has to be passed.

Tibetan Native Speakers need a proof of competence in classical Tibetan with a minimum of 20 credit points (ECTS).

For details of the legal basis for this regulation, please see the admission bylaws for your chosen degree program: [www.uni-hamburg.de/zugang-master](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/zugang-master)

**Recognition of transcripts for degree programs completed at foreign higher education institutions**

If you obtained your first degree abroad, your certificate will be reviewed during the application procedure in the Faculty of Humanities (Fakultät für Geisteswissenschaften).

If your degree certificate is not in German or English, please include a certified German or English translation of this together with your application documents.

**Application**

**Online application**

You will need to complete the online application available on Universität Hamburg’s application portal during the application period: [www.uni-hamburg.de/online-bewerbung](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/online-bewerbung)

Please create a user account, enter your information online, and submit your application electronically.

You will then need to print out your online application and submit it together with the following documents to the application address indicated below.
Documents to submit

Please submit uncertified copies of all documents. For documents not issued in German or English, a certified German or English translation is required.

- Signed printout of your online application
- Degree certificate or provisional Transcript of Records
  If you are still studying when you apply and cannot yet provide a final certificate containing your grades, please submit your current Transcript of Records confirming your provisional grade point average. You will then need to submit your degree certificate by the end of the first semester of your master’s program.
- If the relevance for Tibetan Studies of the area (or sub-area) in which you completed your first University degree is not evident from the certificate, please enclose further certification (e.g. Transcript of Records).
- Curriculum Vitae
- A brief Statement of Motivation
- All applicants must provide evidence for proficiency in English (equivalent to B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)).
  (paper copy)

Application address

Universität Hamburg
Asien-Afrika-Institut
Prof. Dr. Dorji Wangchuk
Abteilung für Kultur und Geschichte Indiens und Tibets
Alsterterrasse 1
D-20354 Hamburg

Please note that your application can only be considered if your complete application documents reach the application address by the application deadline. The date on which your application is received and not the postmark is decisive! This deadline is final; no extensions can be granted.
Please bind all supporting documents required for your application or ensure that loose pages are otherwise bound. The printout of your online application should be the top page. Do not use paper clips, folders, or transparent sleeves.

If you want to submit an additional special application (e.g., hardship application), you will need to send this directly to the Application and Admissions Team (Team Bewerbung und Zulassung) together with the required proof separately from the application documents indicated above by the application deadline. For more information on special applications, please see www.uni-hamburg.de/sonderantrag and www.uni-hamburg.de/info-master.

Selection criteria

If the number of applicants exceeds the number of places available, a selection procedure will be necessary:

For details of the legal basis for this regulation, please see the selection bylaws for your chosen master’s program: www.uni-hamburg.de/auswahl-master

Admission and enrollment

Once your application has been reviewed, an acceptance or rejection letter will be made available in your STiNE account under the Dokumente (Documents) tab. Please see the information on applying online for a master’s program for details of when this will become available: www.uni-hamburg.de/international-master. An enrollment deadline will be indicated in your acceptance letter—please submit the documents required for enrollment to the Application and Admissions Team (Team Bewerbung und Zulassung) by this date. Please submit certified copies of all documents—see www.uni-hamburg.de/beglaubigung for details.

Contact

If you have questions or require further information, please contact indologie@uni-hamburg.de or Prof. Dr. Dorji Wangchuk at dorji.wangchuk@uni-hamburg.de.

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