



Universität Hamburg

DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

OFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF Fachspezifische Bestimmungen für den Masterstudiengang „International M.A. Program in Buddhist Studies“

(Amtlicher Anzeiger Nr. 93 vom 25. November 2011)

**THIS TRANSLATION IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY –
ONLY THE GERMAN VERSION SHALL BE LEGALLY VALID AND
ENFORCEABLE!**

Subject-Specific Provisions (FSBs) for the International Master of Arts (MA) in Buddhist Studies

dated 8 June 2011

On 1 August 2011 in accordance with Section 108 subsection 1 of the Hamburg higher education act (Hamburgisches Hochschulgesetz, HmbHG) dated 18 July 2001 (HmbGVBl. p. 171) as amended on 16 November 2010 (HmbGVBl. p. 605), the Executive University Board of the University of Hamburg ratified the Subject-Specific Provisions for the Master of Arts (MA) in Buddhist Studies adopted by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Humanities on 8 June 2011 in accordance with Section 91 subsection 2 number 1 HmbHG.

Preamble

These Subject-Specific Provisions supplement the Examination Regulations of the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Hamburg dated 5 July 2006, as amended, which govern the Master of Arts degree programs and provide a description of the modules for the International Master of Arts in Buddhist Studies.

I. Additional provisions

Section 1

Program and examination objectives, academic degree, and implementation of the degree program

Section 1 subsection 1:

The International Master of Arts (MA) in Buddhist Studies is research-oriented. The degree program includes an examination of the various traditions of Buddhism in their respective regional manifestations in the past and present. The focus is on the examination and evaluation of original-language sources in a specific area of Buddhism. Graduates of the master's degree program in Buddhist Studies should be able to independently investigate, interpret, and contextualize primary sources relevant to a Buddhist tradition.

The International Master of Arts (MA) program in Buddhist Studies is divided into four main areas:

- a) South Asian Studies,
- b) Tibetan Studies,
- c) Sinology,
- d) Japanese studies.

This ensures a level of language proficiency considered essential for successful study, particularly at a higher level, in at least one of the languages spoken in the region where Buddhism is prevalent.

The compulsory one-semester stay abroad allows students to participate in current research developments in the field of Buddhist Studies in the respective target region while also expanding their intercultural communication skills.

Section 1 subsection 3:

The academic degree Master of Arts (MA) will be conferred on successful completion.

Section 1 subsection 4:

The Faculty of Humanities is responsible for administering the degree program.

Section 4

Study and examination structure Section 4 subsections 2 and 3:

- a) in the required area, modules totaling 48 ECTS credits must be completed in the respective specialization:
 - for the South Asian Studies specialization
 - required module BS-IND: Indic Philology, Philosophy, and Religions (24 ECTS credits),
 - required module BS1: Topics in Buddhist Studies (24 ECTS credits)

- for the Tibetan Studies specialization
 - required module BS-TIB: Tibetan Philology, Religions, and Cultural History (24 ECTS credits),
 - compulsory module BS1: Topics in Buddhist Studies (24 ECTS credits)
 - for the Sinology specialization
 - required module BS-SIN: Literature and Intellectual History (24 ECTS credits),
 - required module BS 1: Topics in Buddhist Studies (24 ECTS credits)
 - for the Japanese Studies specialization,
 - required module BS-JAP: Literature and Society (24 ECTS credits),
 - required module BS 1: Topics in Buddhist Studies (24 ECTS credits).
- b) A total of 30 ECTS credits must be completed during the semester abroad. Students must complete a semester abroad at a partner university in another European country or at a university in one of the target regions.
- To prepare and coordinate the semester abroad, students should seek advice from their lecturers at the beginning of their studies. Students must select courses amounting to 30 ECTS credits in consultation with their supervising teacher from the University of Hamburg and from the university abroad. This is to ensure that the content of the selected modules builds on the students' main areas of study and leads to the writing of the master's thesis. In individual cases on application, students may also complete the semester abroad at a university outside the regions listed in sentence 2. These individual cases are decided by the examination board. Students are responsible for organizing and financing their semester abroad. Students of the partner universities can freely choose modules or courses amounting to 30 ECTS credits from the required and required elective areas of the International Master of Arts in Buddhist Studies to expand their study focus relevant to the master's thesis.
- c) The master's degree program will be complete upon concluding the module, BS 2 Final Module, totaling 30 ECTS credits, comprising the completion of a master's thesis (25 ECTS credits) and an oral examination (5 ECTS credits).
- d) Modules in the free elective area, totaling 12 ECTS credits:
- in the free elective area, students can either supplement and expand their knowledge in an interdisciplinary manner by completing appropriately designated courses from the elective offerings of other degree programs at the University of Hamburg, or expand their knowledge by participating in additional subject-specific courses in the field of Buddhist studies or a regional specialization in the master's program. Courses in the elective area always conclude with an examination, the type and scope of which is announced by the lecturers at the beginning of the semester.

**Study plan for the International Master of Arts (MA) in Buddhist Studies
with a South Asian Studies specialization:**

Subject semester	Required Modules		Elective area	Total ECTS credits per semester
First subject semester	Module BS-IND Advanced Seminar A (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	Module BS 1 Topics in Buddhist Studies A (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	6 ECTS credits	30
Second subject semester	Module BS-IND Advanced Seminar B (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	Module BS 1 Topics in Buddhist Studies B (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	6 ECTS credits	30
Third subject semester	Semester abroad			30
Fourth subject semester	Module BS 2 Final module (30 ECTS credits) Master's thesis (25 ECTS credits), oral examination (5 ECTS credits)			30
Total ECTS credits				120

**Study plan for the International Master of Arts (MA) in Buddhist Studies
with a focus on Tibetan Studies:**

Subject semester	Required area		Elective area	Total ECTS credits per semester
First subject semester	Module BS-TIB Advanced Seminar A (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	Module BS 1 Topics in Buddhist Studies A (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	6 ECTS credits	30
Second subject semester	Module BS-TIB Advanced Seminar B (2credit hours per week; 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	Module BS 1 Topics in Buddhist Studies B (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	6 ECTS credits	30
Third subject semester	Semester abroad			30
Fourth subject semester	Module BS 2 Final module Master's thesis (25 ECTS credits), and oral examination (5 ECTS credits)			30
Total ECTS credits				120

**Study plan for the International Master of Arts (MA) in Buddhist Studies
with a focus on Japanese Studies:**

Subject semester	Required area		Elective area	Total ECTS credits per semester
First subject semester	Module BS-JAP Advanced Seminar A (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	Module BS 1 Topics in Buddhist Studies A (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	6 ECTS credits	30
Second subject semester	Module BS-JAP Advanced Seminar B (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	Module BS 1 Topics in Buddhist Studies B (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	6 ECTS credits	30
Third subject semester	Semester abroad			30
Fourth subject semester	Module BS 2 Final module (30 ECTS credits) master's thesis (25 ECTS credits), oral examination (5 ECTS credits)			30
Total ECTS credits				120

**Study plan for the International Master of Arts (MA) in Buddhist Studies
with a focus on Sinology:**

Subject semester	Required area		Elective area	Total ECTS credits per semester
First subject semester	Module BS-SIN Advanced Seminar A (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	Module BS 1 Topics in Buddhist Studies A (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	6 ECTS credits	30
Second subject semester	Module BS-SIN Advanced Seminar B (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	Module BS 1 Topics in Buddhist Studies B (2 credit hours per week, 6 ECTS credits) Term paper (6 ECTS credits)	6 ECTS credits	30
Third subject semester	Semester abroad			30
Fourth subject semester	Module BS 2 Final module (30 ECTS credits) master's thesis (25 ECTS credits), oral examination (5 ECTS credits)			30
Total ECTS credits				120

Section 4 subsection 5:

The degree program can be completed on a part-time basis. The study and examination structure is regulated by individual study agreements, written in accordance with the following regulations:

- (1) Part-time students must inform the examinations office without delay of any changes to their student status (written confirmation from Services for Students is required). The academic office will note the change of status in the file.

- (2) During part-time study, modules and credits designated in the Subject-Specific Provisions for completion over the course of a subject semester during full-time study (30 ECTS credits) must be completed within two university semesters. Modules must generally be completed in the order set for full-time study.
- (3) Courses offered only once a year should be completed at the earliest opportunity.
- (4) As a rule, part-time study is not permitted during the semester abroad.

Section 4 subsection 6:

Students may not begin their studies later than two weeks after the start of lectures.

Section 5
Types of courses

Section 5 sentence 3:

The language of instruction for the South Asian Studies and Tibetan Studies specializations is English; for the Sinology and Japanese Studies specializations the languages are German, English, and Chinese or Japanese.

Section 5 sentence 4:

In-person attendance of the seminar sessions is not compulsory.

Section 10
Deadlines for module examinations and retaking module examinations

Section 10 subsection 1:

The first examination option must be taken for each module examination.

Section 13
Completed coursework and module examinations

Section 13 subsection 4:

- (1) Examination may also take the form of translating a literary or scientific text from a Southeast Asian language into German or English. A translation should be based as closely as possible on the original text and be annotated according to the type of text.
- (2) The preparation and moderation of a class can also serve as an alternative form of an oral presentation. This comprises the planning and presentation of a lesson on a given topic, including the preparation of media, key questions and (interim) results. The student takes the lead in the discussion and moderates the class.

Section 14
Master's thesis

Section 14 subsection 2 sentence 1:

For admission to the master's thesis, the required and required elective modules listed in the provisions of Section 4 subsections 2 and 3 must be successfully completed. A total of 78 ECTS credits must be acquired in the required area; and 12 ECTS credits in the elective area. The completion of a total of 90 ECTS credits is required to register for the master's thesis.

Section 14 subsection 7 sentence 2:

The master's thesis must be completed within five months. A successfully completed master's thesis will be awarded 25 ECTS credits.

Section 15
Grading of examinations

Section 15 subsection 3 sentence 5:

If a module examination is comprised of multiple components, the grade for the module is calculated on the basis of the average grades for each component weighted according to the ECTS credits assigned to each part.

The overall grade for the module examination of the final module is calculated from the ECTS credit-weighted average of the grades for the oral examination and master's thesis.

Section 15 subsection 3 sentence 9:

The final grade is calculated as follows: the results of the required module examinations contribute 50 percent to the final grade and the result of the final module contributes 50 percent.

Section 15 subsection 3 sentence 10:

Results of examinations and component examinations from the elective area are not taken into account when calculating the overall grade.

Section 15 subsection 4:

An overall final grade "passed with distinction" will be awarded for exceptional performance (an average of less than or equal to 1.0).

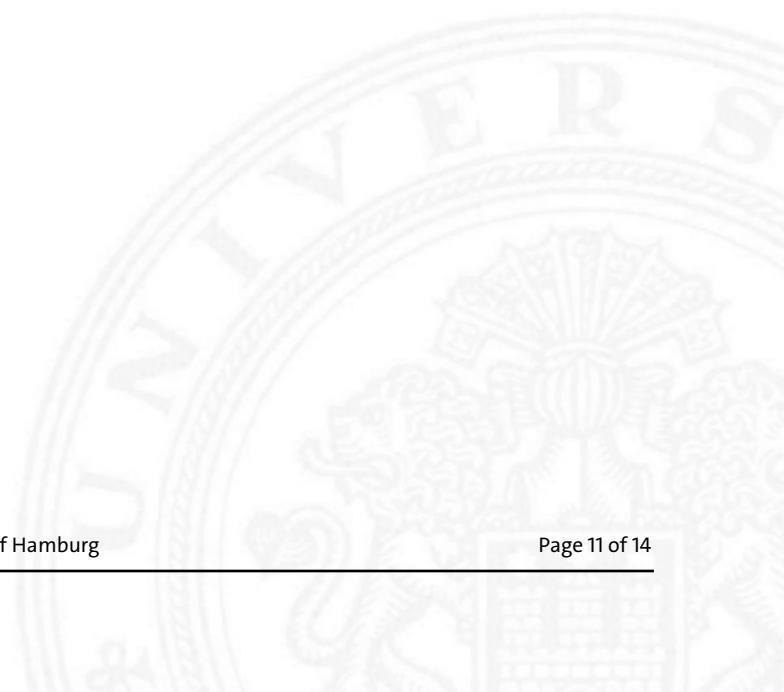
II. Module descriptions for the International Master of Arts (MA) in Buddhist Studies

Module ID:	MA module BS 1
Module type:	Required module
Title:	Topics in Buddhist Studies
Learning outcomes	Ability to independently analyze and interpret aspects of Buddhism in the material culture, philosophy, academia and religion in the regions where Buddhism is prevalent in history and the contemporary period. Ability to convey aspects of the Buddhist tradition of one's own focus region within an interdisciplinary framework.
Module content	Instruction in the independent scientific analysis and interpretation of aspects of Buddhism in the areas of material culture, literature, art, philosophy, science and religion in the past and present in the areas where Buddhism is prevalent on the basis of thematic focuses (e.g., monastic forms of life, canon formation, Buddha representations, reform movements, or paths to salvation); Methodological skills in contextualizing cultural, spiritual, and religious phenomena in Buddhism; Skills in the analysis and evaluation of Buddhist traditions in the past and present; Discussion of similarities and differences in the central aspects of various Buddhist traditions.
Teaching format(s)	Advanced seminar A (2 credit hours per week) Advanced seminar B (2 credit hours per week)
Language of instruction	English
Prerequisites	None
Module applicability	Required module for the International Master of Arts in Buddhist Studies
Type, prerequisites, and language of module examination (components)	Prerequisites for registration to take the module examination: Regular, active, participation in the above-mentioned classes, session preparation and follow-up, one presentation in each of the two main seminars. Type of examination: Advanced seminar A: Term paper Advanced seminar B: Term paper Examination language: German or English
Workload (components)	Advanced seminar A: 6 ECTS credits Advanced seminar B: 6 ECTS credits Term paper A: 6 ECTS credits Term paper B: 6 ECTS credits
Total module workload	24 ECTS credits
Reference semester	First subject semester
Module frequency	every semester
Module duration	2 semesters

Module ID:	MA module BS-IND
Module type:	Required module for the South Asian Studies specialization; elective module for the other specializations
Title:	Indic Philology, Philosophy and Religions (BS)
Learning outcomes	Knowledge in the field of languages, literatures, philosophies and religions of premodern South Asia from a synchronic and diachronic perspective; ability to read difficult texts in Sanskrit and analyze them in their historical context.
Module content	Survey of a) the relationships between South Asian languages, especially the Indo-Aryan group, on the diachronic and synchronic levels, taking into account their cultural, religious and socio-political functions, b) genres of the literatures of the Indian subcontinent; Reading of philosophical and religious texts in Sanskrit; analysis of their structure and content, taking into account the historical context.
Teaching format(s)	Advanced seminar A (2 credit hours per week) Advanced seminar B (2 credit hours per week)
Language of instruction	English
Prerequisites	None
Module applicability	The module is required for the International Master of Arts in Buddhist Studies in the South Asian Studies specialization, and an elective module for the Sinology, Japanese Studies, and Tibetan Studies specializations.
Type, prerequisites, and language of module examination (components)	Prerequisites for registration to take the module examination: Regular, active participation in the above-mentioned classes, session preparation and follow-up, a presentation in one of the main seminars. Type of examination: one term paper in each main seminar Examination language: English
Workload (components)	As a required module: Advanced seminar A: 6 ECTS credits Advanced seminar B: 6 ECTS credits Term paper A: 6 ECTS credits Term paper B: 6 ECTS credits As an elective module: Advanced seminar A or B: 6 ECTS credits Term paper: 6 ECTS credits
Total module workload	As a required module: 24 ECTS credits As an elective module: 12 ECTS credits
Reference semester	First subject semester
Module frequency	Every winter semester
Module duration	Required module: 2 semesters; Elective module: 1 semester

Module ID:	MA module BS-TIB
Module type:	Required module for the Tibetan Studies specialization; elective module for the other specializations
Title:	Tibetan Philology, Religions and Cultural History (BS)
Learning outcomes	Ability to independently understand the content, structure, and message of difficult Tibetan texts; Broadening and consolidating acquired knowledge of the classical Tibetan written language; competent application of historical-philological methods; Familiarity with the most important monolingual and bilingual dictionaries, standard scientific aids, and relevant secondary literature; knowledge of important categories and issues in Tibetan religious and cultural history; Ability to independently explore new areas of knowledge and consolidate existing knowledge in individual research areas;
Module content	The reading exercises of this module introduce students to selected topics of Tibetan religious and cultural, and literary history on the basis of difficult texts from classical literature. Texts are philologically and contextually analyzed as well as examined for their nascent historical conditions and historical effect.
Teaching format(s)	Advanced seminar A (2 credit hours per week) Advanced seminar B (2 credit hours per week)
Language of instruction	English
Prerequisites	In the Tibetan Studies specialization: none In the other specializations of the MA degree program: very good knowledge of Tibetan language.
Module applicability	The module is required for the International Master of Arts in Buddhist Studies in the Tibetan Studies specialization and an elective module for the Japanese Studies, Sinology, and South Asian Studies specializations .
Type, prerequisites, and language of module examination (components)	Prerequisites for registration to take the module examination: Regular participation in the lectures; preparation and review of class work and course-related oral and written assignments. The type and scope of requisite coursework will be announced at the beginning of the course. Type of examination: An annotated translation or term paper in each main seminar. The exact type of examination will be announced at the beginning of the course. Examination language: English/Tibetan
Workload (components)	As a required module: Advanced seminar A: 6 ECTS credits Advanced seminar B: 6 ECTS credits Annotated translation/term paper A: 6 ECTS credits Annotated translation/term paper B: 6 ECTS credits As an elective module: Advanced seminar A or B: 6 ECTS credits Annotated translation/term paper: 6 ECTS credits
Total module workload	As a required module: 24 ECTS credits As an elective module: 12 ECTS credits

Reference semester	First semester
Module frequency	Every winter semester
Module duration	Compulsory module: two semesters, elective module: one semester



Module ID:	MA module BS-SIN
Module type:	Required module for the Sinology specialization; elective module for the other specializations
Title:	Literature and Intellectual History (BS)
Learning outcomes	Ability to independently analyze and interpret literature and media as well as material aspects of the culture, art, philosophy, academia, and religion in past and present China; methodological skill in dealing with primary sources.
Module content	Instruction in the independent scholarly analysis and interpretation of literature and media as well as aspects of material culture, art, philosophy, academia, and religion in the past and present using examples; teaching of methods in dealing with different media (e.g., manuscript, film, internet); teaching methodological skills in the contextualization of cultural and intellectual phenomena (e.g., politics, society); skills for dealing with historic and contemporary Chinese research traditions.
Teaching format(s)	Advanced seminar A (2 credit hours per week) Advanced seminar B (2 credit hours per week)
Language of instruction	German
Prerequisites	With a focus on Sinology: None In the other specializations: very good knowledge of Chinese
Module applicability	Required module for the International Master of Arts in Buddhist Studies in the Sinology specialization; elective module for Japanese Studies, South Asian Studies and Tibetan Studies specializations.
Type, prerequisites, and language of module examination (components)	Prerequisites for registration to take the module examination: regular and active attendance of classes listed above are required Type of examination: presentation, translation, and term paper in each seminars Examination language: German
Workload (components)	As a required module: Advanced seminar A: 6 ECTS credits Advanced seminar B: 6 ECTS credits Presentation, translation and term paper A: 6 ECTS credits Presentation, translation and term paper B: 6 ECTS credits As an elective module: Advanced seminar A or B: 6 ECTS credits Presentation, translation and term paper: 6 ECTS credits
Total module workload	As a required module: 24 ECTS credits As an elective module: 12 ECTS credits
Reference semester	First subject semester
Module frequency	Every winter semester
Module duration	Compulsory module: two semesters, elective module: one semester

Module ID:	MA module BS-JAP
Module type:	Required module for the Japanese Studies specialization; elective module for the other specializations
Title:	Literature and Society (BS)
Learning outcomes	Ability to independently analyze and interpret literature in a cultural and intellectual-historical context, taking into account cultural-historical and current media issues as well as aspects of politics and society in Japan's past and present.
Module content	Instruction in the independent scientific analysis and interpretation of literary works and phenomena with special consideration of their cultural and intellectual-historical classification and aspects of politics and society in Japan's past and present using examples; instruction in independent scholarly analysis, and interpretation of works with special consideration of typical media issues (manuscript, print, film, digital media); media skills in the development and contextualization of political and social phenomena; practice in the independent use of Japanese-language sources from all eras; skills for dealing with historic and contemporary Japanese research traditions.
Teaching format(s)	Advanced seminar A (2 credit hours per week) Advanced seminar B (2 credit hours per week)
Language of instruction	German, English, Japanese
Prerequisites	For the Japanese Studies specialization: none In the other specializations: very good knowledge of Japanese
Module applicability	Required module for the International Master of Arts in Buddhist Studies Japanese Studies specialization; elective module for the Sinology, South Asian Studies and Tibetan Studies specializations.
Type, prerequisites, and language of module examination (components)	Prerequisites for registration to take the module examination: regular and active attendance of classes listed above is required Type of examination: presentation, translation, and term paper in one of the seminars. Exact type of examination announced at the beginning of the course. Examination language: German or English
Workload (components)	As a required module: Advanced seminar A: 6 ECTS credits Advanced seminar B: 6 ECTS credits Presentation, translation and/or term paper A: 6 ECTS credits Presentation, translation and/or term paper B: 6 ECTS credits As an elective module: Advanced seminar A or B: 6 ECTS credits Presentation, translation and term paper: 6 ECTS credits
Total module workload	As a required module: 24 ECTS credits As an elective module: 12 ECTS credits
Reference semester	First subject semester
Module frequency	every semester
Module duration	Compulsory module: two semesters, elective module: one semester

Module ID:	MA module BS 2
Module type:	Required module
Title:	Final module International MA Topics
Learning outcomes and content	Students are able to independently develop academic and scholarly work within the discipline and focus on problematic issues using academic and scholarly methods as well as present these issues systematically in oral discourse (oral examination) and in lengthy academic and scholarly essays (master's thesis) within the field of Buddhist studies.
Teaching format(s)	-
Language of instruction	German or English
Prerequisites	Successful participation in all required and required elective modules of the International Master of Arts in Buddhist Studies
Module applicability	The module is a component of the Master of Arts in Buddhist studies
Type, prerequisites, and language of module examination (components)	Type of examination: oral examination (45 minutes) and master's thesis (approx. 70–80 pages; requisite completion time 5 months). The master's thesis also contains an additional requirement for a written summary of the master's thesis totaling 7000 characters written in an international working language, as agreed with the supervising professor. Examination language: a) Students who complete a semester abroad at a non-European university: English or German b) Students who complete the semester abroad at one of the European partner universities must write their master's thesis in a language that has been approved by the supervising professor of the partner university and the supervising professor of the International Master of Arts in Buddhist Studies at the Asia Africa Institute of the University of Hamburg and approved by the examinations board.
Workload (components)	Master's thesis: 25 ECTS credits Oral examination: 5 ECTS credits
Total module workload	30 ECTS credits
Module frequency	every semester
Module duration	1 semester

Section 23 Entry into force

These Subject-Specific Provisions become effective on the day after they are ratified by the Executive University Board. They apply to students commencing their studies from the Winter Semester 2011/2012.

Hamburg, 1 August 2011
University of Hamburg