

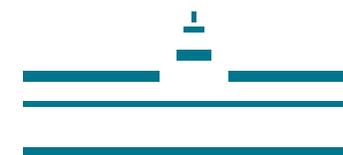
ACQUIRED COMPETENCE

- intercultural communicative competence based on a perceptive awareness of cultural identities and differences;
- methodological skills in designing and implementing empirical research projects;
- ability to contribute to innovative developments in social anthropological theory and knowledge;
- competence to transfer social anthropological knowledge in a socially relevant and ethically responsible manner to both scholarly audiences and the general public;
- skills in orientation, decision-making and informed action in culturally unfamiliar social situations.

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**WESTFÄLISCHE
WILHELMS-UNIVERSITÄT
MÜNSTER**



MÜNSTER CITY

Münster is an ideal place for research and study. It hosts one of Germany's largest Universities offering a wide range of academic facilities. It is also a green city with many parks and tree-lined avenues, making anywhere in the city easy to reach by bike. In and around the city centre with its Prinzipalmarkt, St. Lambert's Church and the historic Town Hall one finds a choice of bars and restaurants and a fresh food and flower market on the Domplatz. Münster has an exciting cultural and social life, offering a variety of entertainments: theatre performances, museums, live concerts, clubs and cinemas.

START

every year in October (Winter semester)

APPLICATION DEADLINE

see: <http://www.uni-muenster.de/Ethnologie/Studieren/Master/index.html>

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English (non-obligatory courses may be taught in German)

Master in Social Anthropology

CONDITIONS OF ADMITTANCE

Applicants must hold a Bachelor or equivalent degree, obtained in a Bachelor course of at least 6 semesters in Social or Cultural Anthropology, or in a discipline containing a major social anthropological component. A good command of English is required.

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PROFILE

Social Anthropology is the science of cultural identities and differences. It aims to observe, analyse and interpret domains of social action that reflect such cultural characteristics in a theoretically grounded and methodically consistent manner.

The comparison of societies therefore provides the basic theoretical perspective and informs the analytical and methodological approaches. Social anthropological knowledge and competence enable one to interact in these domains of action in a scientifically valid, socially relevant and ethically responsible manner.

This Master's Programme transfers knowledge of the theories and current research issues of Social Anthropology, to be applied and further developed in the course of an empirical research project.



CURRICULUM

Module 1 (15 CP): Lectures and seminars on the 'cultural foundations of sociality' are concerned with the ways in which human interactions are grounded in and reflexive of culturally specific ideas and values. They focus on the question, how such interactions can be conceptualised theoretically so as to facilitate their analysis and comparison in empirical research.

Module 3 (15 CP): 'Research methods/intercultural interaction' focuses on the analysis of intercultural communication in various modalities, such as the conceptualisation and valuation of alterity, and inter-regional, transnational and global interactions. It offers courses on the methods of ethnographic data collecting and the audio-visual documentation of social actions. It also offers a special course in trans-cultural psychiatry.

Modules 2 und 4 (2 x 15 CP): 'Regional specialization' offers optional courses on the social anthropological analysis of societies in Southeast Asia, South Asia/Indian Ocean Region and Africa. In each of these modules one seminar may be selected from the curricula offered in affiliated disciplines with a regional focus, taught at Münster University (e.g. Sinology, Arabic and Islamic Studies, History, European Anthropology). The course in a non-European language is taken for two consecutive semesters and may be selected from those offered at the Institute of Ethnology, the Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies, the Institute of Sinology, or other academic institutions.

Module 5 (30 CP): 'Empirical research'. The Master's Programme favours conducting an empirical, self-organized research in Germany or abroad. The data collected provide the empirical basis for the Master's Thesis. Research may be a field study (employing standard techniques such as participant observation, interviews, audio-visual recording) or museum or archival research. International agreements concluded by Münster University facilitate such researches in various European and non-European countries.

Module 6 (30 CP): A 'Master's Thesis' of between 75 and 100 pages is to be written in six months time on the subject studied in the empirical research. In a 'Master's Thesis Colloquium' additional skills relevant for pursuing academic careers (such as conference participation, academic publishing) are developed.

* CP: credit points according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)

Sem. Focal Courses

1 Module 1 Cultural foundations of sociality

- Theories of Social Anthropology (lecture series)
- Social Structure (seminar)

one seminar selected from:

- Research themes in Social Anthropology
- Social Anthropology and Psychiatry (I)

2 Module 3 Research methods/ Intercultural interactions

- Trans-local relations (lecture series)
- Research methods (seminar)

one seminar selected from:

- Research themes in intercultural Communication
- Social Anthropology and Psychiatry (II)
- Visual Anthropology

3 Module 5 Empirical research

- **workshops:** Design, methods and techniques of empirical research
- **seminar:** Visual Anthropology (II) Empirical research (12-18 weeks)

4 Module 6 Excams colloquium Writing Master's Thesis

Regional Specializations

Module 2 Regional specialization (I)

two seminars selected from:

- Social Anthropology of Southeast Asia
- Social Anthropology of Southern Asia
- Social Anthropology of Africa
- Social Anthropology of additional regions
- Social Anthropology of transregional spaces

course in a non-European language of choice

Module 4 Regional specialization (II)

two seminars selected from:

- Social Anthropology of Southeast Asia
- Social Anthropology of Southern Asia
- Social Anthropology of Africa
- Social Anthropology of additional regions
- Social Anthropology of transregional spaces

course in a non-European language of choice (continued)