Module Catalogue
for the Subject
Ancient Near Eastern Studies
as a Master’s with 1 major
with the degree "Master of Arts"
(120 ECTS credits)

Examination regulations version: 2008
Responsible: Faculty of Arts, Historical, Philological, Cultural and Geographical Studies
Responsible: Institute of Ancient Cultures
Contents

The subject is divided into 3
Content and Objectives of the Programme 4
Abbreviations used, Conventions, Notes, In accordance with 5
Compulsory Courses 6
   Final colloquium related to the Master Thesis 7
Compulsory Electives 8
   Introduction to Linguistics 9
   Akkadian reading 4 10
   Akkadian reading 5 11
   Akkadian reading 6 12
   Sumerian reading 2 13
   Hittite reading 2 14
   Additional Ancient Near Eastern languages 15
   Introduction to Hurrian 17
Thesis 18
   Master Thesis Ancient Near Eastern Studies 19
The subject is divided into

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>section / sub-section</th>
<th>ECTS credits</th>
<th>starting page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory Courses</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory Electives</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Content and Objectives of the Programme

The M.A.-programme in Ancient Near Eastern Studies with the final degree of a Master of Arts is offered as a research programme. Its aim is to introduce the student to an in-depth-work with selected topics of Ancient Near Eastern Studies on an advanced level, to enable him/her to identify research problems and gaps in scientific research and enable him/her to independently develop solutions on the basis of a sound overview of the ancient Near Eastern languages. By training these competences the foundation for a Ph.D. programme in Ancient Near Eastern Studies is laid.

The M.A.-programme in Ancient Near Eastern Studies focuses on independent and critical reflection of Ancient Near Eastern Studies research. The basis is the learning of and earning skills in Ancient Near Eastern languages.

Acquiring knowledge in certain fields within Ancient Near Eastern Studies is conditioned by this aim.

The M.A.-thesis demonstrates that the graduate is able to deal with a thematically limited problem of Ancient Near Eastern Studies within a certain given span of time according to the taught methods and according to scholarly standards. He/she has mostly independently written the thesis under limited supervision.

The internationally comparable degree in the field of Ancient Near Eastern Studies is the second degree within the consecutive Bachelor-Master's programme. Thus it qualifies for the start into a job outside the university and it is the pre-condition for an ensuing Ph.D.-programme. In a colloquium the graduate has proved his/her capability to defend his/her thesis in a scholarly discussion by applying scholarly methods.

The M.A.-programme in Ancient Near Eastern Studies typically aims at the profession of an Assyriologist, Sumerologist or Hittitologist who works in various research institutions, e.g. universities, and academies. For this the studies for the Master's degree lays the foundation for a Ph.D. which qualifies for scholarly work. However, graduates of this programme should also be trained or have skills for further education to work outside academia, e.g. in publishing houses, libraries, diplomatic service, cultural management, media, museology, as well as other/diverse professions demanding general competence skills provided for in this programme of study.

For an academic career the necessary methodological and linguistic knowledge is taught in subject modules. Ancient Near Eastern Studies is a subject which studies a great variety of sources and material remains stretching over 3000 years. Consequently it is impossible to introduce to all specialized fields of the subject equally thoroughly. Therefore in the M.A.- programme students learn the specialized basic linguistic competence and the methodological capability to make themselves familiar with a new and complex Ancient Near Eastern topic efficiently and quickly. Thus the graduate is familiar with and used to permanent learning and to develop solutions by adequate methods. In addition he/she has good skills in modern foreign languages, by courses of the subject modules in the field of key qualifications and by Ancient Near Eastern Studies' courses. A student of Ancient Near Eastern Studies is required to read specialized literature in different languages, particularly in English, as well as in French, Italian, and Spanish, i.e. he/she is familiar to read difficult texts in languages other than his/her native idiom, to understand them and to gain the relevant information from them. At the same time he/she has to express his/her own scientific findings in German, the major scholarly language in Ancient Near Eastern Studies, in a differentiated and precise manner. So he/she has developed linguistic flexibility and competence. Additionally, the graduate shows initiative and has the commitment to get sound information.
Abbreviations used

Course types: E = field trip, K = colloquium, O = conversatorium, P = placement/lab course, R = project, S = seminar, T = tutorial, Ü = exercise, V = lecture

Term: SS = summer semester, WS = winter semester

Methods of grading: NUM = numerical grade, B/NB = (not) successfully completed

Regulations: (L)ASPO = general academic and examination regulations (for teaching-degree programmes), FSB = subject-specific provisions, SFB = list of modules

Other: A = thesis, LV = course(s), PL = assessment(s), TN = participants, VL = prerequisite(s)

Conventions

Unless otherwise stated, courses and assessments will be held in German, assessments will be offered every semester and modules are not creditable for bonus.

Notes

Should there be the option to choose between several methods of assessment, the lecturer will agree with the module coordinator on the method of assessment to be used in the current semester by two weeks after the start of the course at the latest and will communicate this in the customary manner.

Should the module comprise more than one graded assessment, all assessments will be equally weighted, unless otherwise stated below.

Should the assessment comprise several individual assessments, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.

In accordance with

the general regulations governing the degree subject described in this module catalogue:

ASPO2007

associated official publications (FSB (subject-specific provisions)/SFB (list of modules)):

26-Mar-2009 (2009-13)

This module handbook seeks to render, as accurately as possible, the data that is of statutory relevance according to the examination regulations of the degree subject. However, only the FSB (subject-specific provisions) and SFB (list of modules) in their officially published versions shall be legally binding. In the case of doubt, the provisions on, in particular, module assessments specified in the FSB/SFB shall prevail.
Compulsory Courses
(5 ECTS credits)
Module title | Abbreviation
---|---
Final colloquium related to the Master Thesis | 04-AO-MKAO-082-m01

Module coordinator | Module offered by
holder of the Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies | Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

ECTS | Method of grading | Only after succ. compl. of module(s)
---|---|---
5 | numerical grade | --

Duration | Module level | Other prerequisites
---|---|---
1 semester | graduate | --

Contents

In the final colloquium, the candidate will demonstrate his/her ability to orally present the key findings of his/her thesis to an expert audience as well as his/her ability to apply the knowledge and skills developed during his/her university education in their entirety, i.e. to identify interrelations between the exam topics, to put specific problems into the context of these interrelations and to possess a broad knowledge of the fundamentals underlying his/her discipline.

Intended learning outcomes

The student will develop a broad knowledge of fundamental principles and will be able to orally present research findings, demonstrating strong verbal skills. He/she will be able to apply this knowledge and these skills in their entirety.

Courses

K (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)

Method of assessment

Final colloquium (approx. 90 minutes)

Allocation of places

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Additional information

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Referred to in LPO I (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

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Compulsory Electives
(85 ECTS credits)
# Module Catalogue for the Subject
## Ancient Near Eastern Studies
### Master's with 1 major, 120 ECTS credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<td>Introduction to Linguistics</td>
<td>04-VS-ESW-082-m01</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>undergraduate</td>
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</table>

## Contents

1. Introductory overview of the early Indo-Germanic languages (geography, chronology, text genres).
2. Introduction to the methodology of diachronic linguistics.
3. Introduction to the academic working methods of linguistics.
4. Introduction to the material and spiritual culture of the Indo-Europeans.
5. Overview of the most important academic literature.

## Intended learning outcomes

This course equips students with the methodical prerequisites for academic work in diachronic linguistics in relation to different languages.

## Courses

S + T (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)

## Method of assessment

written examination (60 to 90 minutes)

## Allocation of places

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## Additional information

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## Referred to in LPO I

(examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)
### Module title
Akkadian reading 4

| Abbreviation          | 04-AO-AKL4-082-m01 |

### Module coordinator
holder of the Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

### Module offered by
Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

<table>
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<th>ECTS</th>
<th>Method of grading</th>
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### Duration
1 semester

### Module level
graduate

### Other prerequisites
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### Contents
In this module, the student will become acquainted with selected rituals, prayers and omens in Akkadian language and will read selected literary texts of the 2nd and 1st millennium BC.

### Intended learning outcomes
The student will develop a good knowledge of the texts to be read. He/she will acquire a general overview of the text genres to be discussed as well as of the relevant academic literature. In addition, the student will become familiar with the respective linguistic particularities.

### Courses
This module comprises 2 module components. Information on courses will be listed separately for each module component.

- 04-AO-AKL4-1-082: S + S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)
- 04-AO-AKL4-2-082: S + S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)

### Method of assessment
Assessment in this module comprises the assessments in the individual module components as specified below. Unless stated otherwise, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.

**Assessment in module component 04-AO-AKL4-1-082:** Akkadian rituals, prayers and omens Akkadian rituals, prayers and omens

- 8 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- term paper (approx. 15 pages) and oral examination (approx. 30 minutes)

**Assessment in module component 04-AO-AKL4-2-082:** Akkadian literary texts Akkadian literary texts

- 7 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- written examination (approx. 90 minutes)

### Allocation of places
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### Additional information
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**Referred to in LPO I** (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

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### Module title

Akkadian reading 5

### Abbreviation

04-AO-AKL5-082-m01

### Module coordinator

holder of the Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

### Module offered by

Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

### ECTS

15

### Method of grading

Only after succ. compl. of module(s)

### numerical grade

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### Duration

1 semester

### Module level

graduate

### Other prerequisites

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### Contents

This module will equip the student with a knowledge of the characteristics of the Assyrian dialect. Reading texts written in old, middle and neo-Assyrian dialect, the student will also acquire an insight into topics such as long-distance trade (through old Assyrian texts from the Karum Kanis) or cult (through neo-Assyrian texts). In addition, the module will cover Akkadian texts written in a language that was influenced by a contact language.

### Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire a good knowledge of the grammatical features of the Assyrian dialect in contrast to Old Babylonian as well as of the most important monographs. He/she will acquire an overview of old, middle and neo-Assyrian texts as well as a sound basic knowledge of old Assyrian trade (goods traded, trading companies, legal forms, relations with local Anatolian authorities, organisation and functions of the karum). In addition, the student will develop a good knowledge of the peripheral Akkadian texts read. He/she will acquire a general overview of the text groups discussed as well as of the relevant academic literature. The student will also become familiar with the respective linguistic particularities.

### Courses

This module comprises 2 module components. Information on courses will be listed separately for each module component.

- 04-AO-AKL5-1-082: S + S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)
- 04-AO-AKL5-2-082: S + S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)

### Method of assessment

Assessment in this module comprises the assessments in the individual module components as specified below. Unless stated otherwise, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.

**Assessment in module component 04-AO-AKL5-1-082:** Old-, Middle- and Neoassyrian texts Old-, Middle- and Neoassyrian texts

- 8 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- term paper (approx. 15 pages) and oral examination (approx. 30 minutes)

**Assessment in module component 04-AO-AKL5-2-082:** Peripheral-Akkadian texts Peripheral-Akkadian texts

- 7 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- term paper (approx. 15 pages) and oral examination (approx. 30 minutes)

### Allocation of places

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### Additional information

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### Referred to in LPO I

(examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

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<table>
<thead>
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**ECTS Method of grading**

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>numerical grade</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Duration Module level Other prerequisites**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Module level</th>
<th>Other prerequisites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>graduate</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Contents**

Reading selected literary and scientific sources, the student will consolidate his/her Akkadian language skills as well as his/her knowledge of the history of Mesopotamian culture, literature and science.

**Intended learning outcomes**

The student will acquire advanced Akkadian language skills and, reading texts, will acquire a more in-depth knowledge of Mesopotamian cultural history as well as the history of Mesopotamian literature and science.

**Courses** (type, number of weekly contact hours, language — if other than German)

This module comprises 2 module components. Information on courses will be listed separately for each module component.

- 04-AO-AKL6-1-082: S + S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)
- 04-AO-AKL6-2-082: S + S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)

**Method of assessment** (type, scope, language — if other than German, examination offered — if not every semester, information on whether module is creditable for bonus)

Assessment in this module comprises the assessments in the individual module components as specified below. Unless stated otherwise, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.

**Assessment in module component 04-AO-AKL6-1-082:** Akkadian literary and scholarly texts 1 Akkadian literary and scholarly texts 1
- 8 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- term paper (approx. 15 pages) and oral examination (approx. 30 minutes)

**Assessment in module component 04-AO-AKL6-2-082:** Akkadian literary and scholarly texts 2 Akkadian literary and scholarly texts 2
- 7 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- term paper (approx. 15 pages) and oral examination (approx. 30 minutes)

**Allocation of places**

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**Additional information**

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**Referred to in LPO I** (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

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### Module Catalogue for the Subject
Ancient Near Eastern Studies

#### Master's with 1 major, 120 ECTS credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sumerian reading 2</td>
<td>04-AO-SUL2-082-m01</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>graduate</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Contents

Reading texts from various text groups, the student will consolidate his/her knowledge of Sumerian literature and, thus, of Sumerian cultural history. This module will deal with mythological-epic, historical or literary texts, letters, legal sources or administrative texts and will also take into account material that has not been covered previously.

### Intended learning outcomes

The student will be able to independently review and translate more difficult Sumerian texts and will thus be qualified for engaging in further studies and research.

### Courses (type, number of weekly contact hours, language — if other than German)

This module comprises 2 module components. Information on courses will be listed separately for each module component.

- 04-AO-SUL2-1-082: S + S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)
- 04-AO-SUL2-2-082: S + S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)

### Method of assessment (type, scope, language — if other than German, examination offered — if not every semester, information on whether module is creditable for bonus)

Assessment in this module comprises the assessments in the individual module components as specified below. Unless stated otherwise, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.

**Assessment in module component 04-AO-SUL2-1-082: Sumerian reading 2.1 Sumerian reading 2.1**
- 8 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- term paper (approx. 15 pages) and oral examination (approx. 30 minutes)

**Assessment in module component 04-AO-SUL2-2-082: Sumerian reading 2.2 Sumerian reading 2.2**
- 7 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- term paper (approx. 15 pages) and oral examination (approx. 30 minutes)

### Allocation of places

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### Additional information

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**Referred to in LPO I** (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

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### Module title

**Hittite reading 2**

**Abbreviation**

04-AO-HEL2-082-m01

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ECTS</th>
<th>Method of grading</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>graduate</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Contents

This module will usually cover one or several Hittite rituals and prayers as well as relevant legal texts in Hittite language.

### Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire an overview of Hittite rituals, prayers and legal texts as well as a sound basic knowledge of the application of literary criticism methods, the palaeographic dating method as well as the modern method of editing.

### Courses

This module comprises 2 module components. Information on courses will be listed separately for each module component.

- 04-AO-HEL2-1-082: S + S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)
- 04-AO-HEL2-2-082: S + S (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)

### Method of assessment

Assessment in this module comprises the assessments in the individual module components as specified below. Unless stated otherwise, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.

**Assessment in module component 04-AO-HEL2-1-082:** Texts related to Hittite religion

- 8 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- term paper (approx. 15 pages) and oral examination (approx. 30 minutes)

**Assessment in module component 04-AO-HEL2-2-082:** Hittite juridical texts

- 7 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- written examination (approx. 90 minutes)

### Allocation of places

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### Additional information

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**Referred to in LPO I** (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

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Module title | Abbreviation
---|---
Additional Ancient Near Eastern languages | 04-AO-AOWEI-082-m01

Module coordinator | Module offered by
---|---
holder of the Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies | Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

ECTS | Method of grading | Only after succ. compl. of module(s)
---|---|---
15 | numerical grade | --

Duration | Module level | Other prerequisites
---|---|---
1 semester | graduate | --

Contents
This module will introduce the student to the ancient Anatolian languages Hattic, Luwian (cuneiform and, in particular, hieroglyphic Luwian) and Urartian. At the same time, the module will equip the student with source-based knowledge of ancient Anatolian literature as well as of the history of late Hittite states and the country of Urartu in the first half of the 1st millennium BC. The Elamite language, which has no demonstrable relationship to any other known language, is attested in Southwest Iran in inscriptions from the last third of the 3rd millennium BC. Numerous ("Middle Elamite") inscriptions of the kings of Elam (residing in Susa) date from the 13th/12th century. Even in the Achaemenid Empire was Elamite the language used for administrative documents. In the first part of the course, the student will acquire an overview of the corpus and research history. The module will then move on to provide an introduction to Elamite grammar. This will be followed by the reading of several Elamite inscriptions and a more in-depth overview of Elamite history on the basis of major sources.

Intended learning outcomes
Reviewing relevant sources, the student will acquire basic Hattic, Luwian and Urartian language skills, an overview of Hattic, Luwian and Urartian tradition as well as a basic knowledge of Hittite hieroglyphic writing and will become familiar with late Hittite and Urartian history. The student will gain a good overview of Elamite tradition and will learn how to use the most important resources (corpora, grammars, dictionaries). He/she will become familiar with Elamite grammar and will be able to analyse and translate simple Elamite text passages. In addition, the student will gain an overview of Elamite history.

Courses (type, number of weekly contact hours, language — if other than German)
This module comprises 3 module components. Information on courses will be listed separately for each module component.
- 04-AO-AOWEI-1-082: Ü (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)
- 04-AO-AOWEI-2-082: Ü (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)
- 04-AO-AOWEI-3-082: Ü (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)

Method of assessment (type, scope, language — if other than German, examination offered — if not every semester, information on whether module is creditable for bonus)
Assessment in this module comprises the assessments in the individual module components as specified below. Unless stated otherwise, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.

Assessment in module component 04-AO-AOWEI-1-082: Hattian and Luwian
- 5 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- written examination (approx. 60 minutes)

Assessment in module component 04-AO-AOWEI-2-082: Urartian
- 5 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- written examination (approx. 90 minutes)

Assessment in module component 04-AO-AOWEI-3-082: Elamite
- 5 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- written examination (approx. 60 minutes)

Allocation of places
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### Additional information

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**Referred to in LPO I** (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

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## Module Catalogue for the Subject
### Ancient Near Eastern Studies
#### Master's with 1 major, 120 ECTS credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Hurrian</td>
<td>04-AO-HURE-082-m01</td>
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</thead>
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<td>1 semester</td>
<td>graduate</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Contents

Although Hurrian, an ancient Near Eastern language that is related to Urartian only, was widespread and culturally significant in the 2nd millennium BC, it has so far been attested in a relatively small text corpus only and has yet to be fully analysed. This module will provide an introduction to Hurrian grammar and will then move on to the reading of Hurrian texts.

### Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire an overview of the structure of the Hurrian language and especially of the criteria necessary for the analysis of forms as well as the ability to use the most important resources (grammars, dictionaries, bibliographies, text editions).

### Courses

This module comprises 2 module components. Information on courses will be listed separately for each module component.

- **04-AO-HURE-1-082**: L (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)
- **04-AO-HURE-2-082**: L (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)

### Method of assessment

Assessment in this module comprises the assessments in the individual module components as specified below. Unless stated otherwise, successful completion of the module will require successful completion of all individual assessments.

**Assessment in module component 04-AO-HURE-1-082: Introduction to the Hurrian language**
- 6 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- written examination (approx. 90 minutes)

**Assessment in module component 04-AO-HURE-2-082: Hurrian reading**
- 4 ECTS, Method of grading: numerical grade
- written examination (approx. 90 minutes)

### Allocation of places

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### Additional information

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**Referred to in LPO I** (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)
Thesis
(30 ECTS credits)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Master Thesis Ancient Near Eastern Studies</td>
<td>04-AO-MTAO-082-m01</td>
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<th>Module coordinator</th>
<th>Module offered by</th>
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<tr>
<td>holder of the Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies</td>
<td>Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies</td>
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<th>ECTS</th>
<th>Method of grading</th>
<th>Only after succ. compl. of module(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>numerical grade</td>
<td>--</td>
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<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Module level</th>
<th>Other prerequisites</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>graduate</td>
<td>Registration for assessment on a continuous basis as agreed upon with supervisor.</td>
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</table>

**Contents**

The Master’s thesis consists of a written research paper addressing a specific problem within the field of ancient Near Eastern studies, which utilises scholarly methods and is completed within the time frame stipulated by ASPO (general academic and examination regulations).

**Intended learning outcomes**

The student will acquire the ability to address a specific problem within the field of ancient Near Eastern studies, using scholarly methods, and to present his/her results in an appropriate written form.

**Courses**

no courses assigned

**Method of assessment**

written thesis (approx. 80 pages)

**Allocation of places**

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**Additional information**

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**Referred to in LPO I**

(examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)