Subdivided Module Catalogue
for the Subject

Ancient Near Eastern Studies
as a degree subject in a Bacheror’s degree programme with 2
majors
(85 ECTS credits)

Examination regulations version: 2014
Responsible: Institute of Ancient Cultures
Responsible: Faculty of Arts, Historical, Philological, Cultural and Geographical
Studies
Course of Studies - Contents and Objectives

The BA programme Ancient Near Eastern Studies introduces students to the principal fields of Ancient Near Eastern studies, teaching them the methodology of Ancient Near Eastern studies and giving them an overview of the ancient Near Eastern languages and cultures. Students learn to read and understand original ancient Near Eastern sources (texts and artefacts) by themselves and to classify them within their historical and cultural context.

The BA programme Ancient Near Eastern Studies focuses on a thorough basic linguistic training, basic methodology and a good knowledge of ancient Near Eastern history and culture.

The degree is the first degree within a consecutive Bachelor-Master programme. It qualifies for the start of a profession outside academia or for the enrolment in a follow-up MA programme.

The BA degree lays the prerequisite foundations for studying a programme in Ancient Near Eastern studies at MA level as the second step towards a scholarly career. Graduates of this programme also acquire skills for a professional career outside academia or for further training in other fields: e.g., publishing; library services; culture management; media; museums; other professions requiring general skills provided for in this programme of study.

The field of Ancient Near Eastern studies covers a vast variety of textual sources, artefacts and material remains from the various regions of the Middle East stretching over more than 3000 years. Students acquire the methodological competence to familiarize themselves with new and complex topics quickly and efficiently.

Thus the graduate is used to permanent learning and has acquired the methodological skills to develop solutions to new challenges. Students of the BA Ancient Near Eastern Studies are required to read specialized literature in various languages, particularly in English and German, but also in French and Italian; they learn to read difficult texts in languages other than their native language, and to gain the relevant information from them. At the same time they learn to write texts in academic German.

Studying Ancient Near Eastern studies with success requires a proactive attitude, a strong commitment, great diligence and a high degree of motivation.
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:

ASPO2009

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

2-Sep-2014 (2014-38)

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.
The subject is divided into

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<td>01-KPH-BH-121-m01</td>
<td>Biblical Hebrew: Hebraicum advanced course</td>
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<th>Module offered by</th>
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<tr>
<td>holder of the Chair of Old Testament</td>
<td>Faculty of Catholic Theology</td>
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<td>2 semester</td>
<td>undergraduate</td>
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### Contents

An advanced knowledge of biblical Hebrew.

### Intended learning outcomes

At the end of the course, students will have developed the ability to read biblical Hebrew and understand original texts and will thus be able to engage in specialised biblical studies.

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

Ú (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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

- written examination (approx. 120 minutes) and oral examination (approx. 15 minutes)
- Language of assessment: German, Hebrew

### Allocation of places

Only as part of pool of general key skills (ASQ) or extra skills (Freier Bereich): maximum 3 places. Places will be allocated according to the number of subject semesters. A waiting list will be maintained and places re-allocated by lot as they become available.

### Additional information

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

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<th>Module title</th>
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<td>Introductory Sumerian 1</td>
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**Module coordinator**
holder of the Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

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

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**ECTS**
5

**Duration**
1 semester

**Module level**
undergraduate

**Other prerequisites**
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### Contents
The Sumerian language, which is not related to any other known language, is the oldest written language of the ancient Near East. This module gives an introduction to the grammar and vocabulary of Sumerian as well as to the cuneiform in which it was written; the knowledge to be acquired by the student is reinforced through the reading of simple Sumerian royal inscriptions. Emphasis is placed upon the Neo-Sumerian grammar, which is employed in the inscriptions of Gudea of Lagas and elsewhere.

### Intended learning outcomes
The student will acquire an overview of the structure of the Sumerian 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).

He/she will be able

1. to create reasonable genitive constructions in different cases from given nouns and to translate these,
2. to combine given substantives with pronominal suffixes and case endings and to translate these, to analyse verbal forms and to translate these,
3. to read and translate simple royal inscriptions from the original cuneiform writing.

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

written examination (90 minutes)
Language of assessment: German, English

### 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

**Bachelor’s degree programme with 2 majors, 85 ECTS credits**

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## Contents

Hittite, which is the earliest attested language of the Indo-European family of languages, was written in Babylonian cuneiform. Thus, the Hittite culture forms an established component of the cuneiform culture. The module gives an introduction to the grammar and vocabulary of the Hittite language as well as the cuneiform in which it was written and reinforces the acquired knowledge with the reading of simple Hittite historical and/or legal texts.

### Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire an overview of the structure of the Hittite 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).

He/she will be able

1. to attach possessive suffixes to nouns and to decline these,
2. to analyze and translate verb forms,
3. to analyze conjunctions with enclitics,
4. to construct logical sentences from given lexemes and to translate these,
5. to transliterate, analyze and translate Hittite cuneiform texts from the class curriculum.

### Courses

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

written examination (90 minutes)

Language of assessment: German, English

### 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
---|---
Introductory Akkadian 1 | 04-AO-AKKE1-122-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 | undergraduate | --

Contents

Akkadian, which belongs to the Semitic family of languages, was the most widespread language of the ancient Near East. Thus, the student must begin learning the language from the start of the programme. The module gives an introduction to cuneiform writing as well as to the grammar and vocabulary of Akkadian, although the main emphasis is on the Old Babylonian dialect.

Intended learning outcomes

The student will become familiar with the structure of the Akkadian language and especially with the criteria necessary for the analysis of forms.

He/she will be able

1. to create reasonable genitive constructions from given nouns and to translate these,
2. to combine given substantives with pronominal suffixes and to translate these,
3. to render verbal forms given in transliteration with a bound transcription, to analyse and to translate these forms,
4. to name the phonetic values of simple cuneiform signs,
5. to transliterate, transcribe and translate simple practice sentences.

The student will learn to use the most important resources (grammars, dictionaries, text editions).

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

written examination (approx. 90 minutes)
Language of assessment: German, English

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**

**Bachelor's degree programme with 2 majors, 85 ECTS credits**

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### Contents

Akkadian, a member of the Semitic family of languages, was the most widespread language of the ancient Near East. Thus, the student must begin learning the language from the start of the programme. The module gives an introduction to reading Akkadian texts, with special emphasis on the Old Babylonian dialect. Sections of the Code of Hammurabi in Neo-Assyrian cuneiform as well as other selected Old Babylonian texts (documents, letters, omens) will be read in class. By means of these text examples, the student will become familiar with the cuneiform signs as well as with Old Babylonian cursive. On the basis of the texts, the student will also develop a knowledge of Old Babylonian history, especially the history of society and of law.

### Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire detailed knowledge of the structure of Akkadian and will be able to use this knowledge to independently read Akkadian texts. He/she will be able to transliterate, transcribe and translate texts from the Code of Hammurabi and other selected Old Babylonian texts and to give a grammatical analysis of these. In addition to the Neo-Assyrian form of cuneiform, the student will know the elementary signs of the Old Babylonian cursive and monumental script. He/she will be familiar with Old Babylonian history and, in particular, the history of society and law.

### Courses

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

written examination (approx. 90 minutes)

Language of assessment: German, English

### 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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<tr>
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<td>The modules of Altorientalistik (Ancient Near Eastern Studies) that are part of the pool of general transferable skills (ASQ) cannot be chosen in the area of 'general transferable skills' by students of the following subjects: BA Altorientalistik (Ancient Near Eastern Studies) (85 and 60 ECTS credits), BA Alte Welt (Ancient World) (120 and 60 ECTS credits).</td>
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Contents

The module gives an overview of the cultural history of Western Asia from the Early Bronze age to the Neo-Babylonian period based primarily on written sources. Lecture course 1: The lecture gives an overview of the emergence, development and structure of cuneiform as well as of other selected ancient Near Eastern writing systems. The geographical distribution, cultural significance, relationships and fundamental structural phenomena of numerous languages of the ancient Near East will be presented. In addition, a systematic genre-oriented survey of the written remains of the ancient Near East will be given, with an emphasis on the history of ancient Near Eastern literature. Lecture course 2: The lecture gives an overview of the history of ancient Western Asia from the beginnings of "civilisation" in Southern Mesopotamia in the middle of the 4th millennium BC to the end of the Neo-Babylonian empire in 539 BC. The emphasis lies upon Mesopotamia, but Southwest Iran, Syria and Anatolia will also be taken into account. Special attention will be paid to the critical analysis of sources. The lecture combines brief survey accounts with a detailed discussion of individual examples.

Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire an overview knowledge of ancient Near Eastern history and will be able to discuss historical developments and their attestation in written sources critically and in detail on the basis of selected examples. He/she will be familiar with the emergence, development and structure of cuneiform as well as of other selected ancient Near Eastern writing systems. He/she will acquire an overview knowledge of the text corpora of the ancient Near East and of their typical genres.

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

V + V (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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

written examination (approx. 90 minutes)

Language of assessment: German, English

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: Introduction to Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology

**Module Code:** 04-AO-GVA-112-m01

**Module Coordinator:**
holder of the Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

**Module Offered by:**
Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

**ECTS:** 5

**Method of Grading:**
numerical grade

**Duration:** 2 semester

**Module Level:** undergraduate

**Other Prerequisites:**
The modules of Altorientalistik (Ancient Near Eastern Studies) that are part of the pool of general transferable skills (ASQ) cannot be chosen in the area of 'general transferable skills' by students of the following subjects: BA Altorientalistik (Ancient Near Eastern Studies) (85 and 60 ECTS credits), BA Alte Welt (Ancient World) (120 and 60 ECTS credits).

**Contents**
The module gives an overview of the cultural history of Western Asia from the Epipalaeolithic period to the Islamic conquest based on archaeological sources. Lecture course 1: The lecture gives an overview of ancient Near Eastern cultural history from the Paleolithic to the end of the Early Bronze Age. The different types of historic monuments and especially the different ceramic styles will be presented in their geographic environment and specific context of discovery and will be diachronically traced. The most important finds and results of important ancient Near Eastern sites will be discussed. In addition, the lecture introduces students to archaeological methods and tools for dating, analysis and systematisation of finds and explains archaeological technical terminology. Lecture course 2: The lecture gives an overview of ancient Near Eastern cultural history from the beginning of the Middle Bronze Age (early second millennium B.C.) to the rise of Islam with an emphasis on the two last pre-Christian millennia. The different types of historic monuments will be presented in their geographic environment and specific context of discovery and will be diachronically traced. The most important finds and results of important and thoroughly excavated ancient Near Eastern cities will be discussed. The description of connections between archaeological finds and historical episodes will be particularly emphasised.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**
The student will acquire an overview of the basic lines of ancient Near Eastern cultural history. He/she will be familiar with the predominant types of historic monuments and most important find places and will be able to discuss diachronic developments. He/she will develop a knowledge of archaeological methods and fundamental technical terminology.

**Courses**
V + V (no information on SWS (weekly contact hours) and course language available)

**Method of Assessment**
written examination (approx. 90 minutes)
Language of assessment: German, English

**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
Bachelor's degree programme with 2 majors, 85 ECTS credits

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### Contents

Complementary to the module Einführung ins Akkadische 1 (Introductory Akkadian 1), this course gives an introduction to the methods and tools of ancient Near Eastern studies as well as to scholarly methods in general. The course also serves to practise and deepen the knowledge of Akkadian grammar acquired in the module Einführung ins Akkadische 1.

### Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire the ability to use the most important tools of ancient Near Eastern studies (encyclopaedias, bibliographies, significant journals, web-based tools).

He/she will acquire basic knowledge of scholarly methods in the field of ancient Near Eastern studies (scholarly writing, developing arguments, techniques for bibliographies and research, proper citation and plagiarism, using sources).

The student will acquire knowledge of the structure of the Akkadian language and, in particular, of the criteria necessary for the analysis of forms.

He/she will be able

1. to create reasonable genitive constructions from given nouns and to translate these,
2. to combine given substantives with pronominal suffixes and to translate these,
3. to render verbal forms given in transliteration with a bound transcription, to analyse and to translate these forms,
4. to name the phonetic values of simple cuneiform signs,
5. to transliterate, transcribe and translate simple practice sentences.

### Courses

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### Method of assessment

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### 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: Field Trip

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### Contents

The seminar gives an introduction to the ancient Near Eastern collection of a museum or to the historical sites of a specific region of the Near East. Understanding of the monuments will be acquired in advance and the monuments themselves studied on site under the guidance of students and instructors.

### Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire an overview of the ancient Near Eastern monuments of a museum or region of the Middle East and will acquire detailed knowledge of selected groups of monuments. He/she will study original monuments of the ancient Near East.

### Courses

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### Method of assessment

- Presentation (approx. 45 minutes) with handout (4 to 6 pages)
- Language of assessment: German, English

### Allocation of places

- 

### Additional information

- 

### Referred to in LPO I

(examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

- 


## Module title

Practical Tutorials in Ancient Near Eastern Studies 1

## Abbreviation

04-AO-PRAK1-122-m01

## Module coordinator

holder of the Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

## Module offered by

Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

## ECTS

5

## Method of grading

numerical grade

## Only after succ. compl. of module(s)

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## Duration

1 semester

## Module level

undergraduate

## Other prerequisites

--

## Contents

The module gives an introduction to reading cuneiform texts from photos and from the original tablets. The student acquires various methods for the technical drawing of cuneiform texts and practises deciphering and autographing cuneiform tablets. The cuneiform tablet as an archaeological object will be discussed with regard to various aspects (format of tablets, joins, aspects of conservation, museological questions). The student will attempt to write cuneiform in clay him/herself.

## Intended learning outcomes

The student will gain initial experience in the decipherment and technical drawing of cuneiform tablets and will have attempted to write cuneiform in clay him/herself. He/she will acquire critically reflected knowledge of archaeological and museological questions and problems associated with the cuneiform tablet as a physical object.

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

term paper (2,000 to 2,500 words excluding bibliography)
Language of assessment: German, English

## Allocation of places

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## Additional information

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## Referred to in LPO 1 (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

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Module title: Practical Tutorials in Ancient Near Eastern Studies 2
Abbreviation: 04-AO-PRAK2-122-m01

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

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

Duration: 1 semester
Module level: undergraduate
Other prerequisites: --

Contents
The class gives an introduction to the historical geography of the Middle East. Essential information will be provided concerning the geography and environment of the various regions of Western Asia, the topography of certain regions in selected historical periods as well as the elements of ancient Near Eastern and modern toponymy. Special emphasis will be given to the "correct" transliteration and pronunciation of ancient and modern place and regional names of the Middle East; varying conventions and their backgrounds will be presented.

Intended learning outcomes
The student will acquire a good knowledge of the historical geography of the Middle East as well as of the typical environmental conditions in the regions of Western Asia. He/she will be familiar with the various conventions for transliterating ancient and modern geographical names of the various regions of the Middle East and will be familiar enough with the phonemic inventory of Arabic, Turkish and Persian to be able to correctly pronounce modern place names.

Courses (type, number of weekly contact hours, language — if other than German)
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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)
term paper (2,000 to 2,500 words excluding bibliography)
Language of assessment: German, English

Allocation of places
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Additional information
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### Contents

The Bachelor's thesis consists of an independently 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). In the case of a Bachelor's with two majors, the Bachelor's thesis may be of an interdisciplinary nature, addressing a problem related to both fields. The topic will be selected in consultation with the thesis supervisor or, in the case of an interdisciplinary thesis, with the two supervisors.

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

no courses assigned

### Method of assessment (type, scope, language — if other than German, examination offered — if not every semester, information on whether module can be chosen to earn a bonus)

Bachelor's thesis (9,500 to 10,000 words excluding bibliography)

Language of assessment: German or English

### Allocation of places

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### Additional information

Additional information on module duration: 8 weeks.

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

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### Module Catalogue for the Subject

**Ancient Near Eastern Studies**

Bachelor's degree programme with 2 majors, 85 ECTS credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
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### Contents

The course gives an introduction to the younger literary language of Akkadian, so-called Standard Babylonian. The readings focus on Akkadian epic and mythological texts, such as the canonical version of the Gilgames Epic, Istar's Descent to the Netherworld, the Legend of Sargon's Birth and the Anzû Myth. A selection of literary texts of the Old Babylonian period may also be studied (e.g. the Old Babylonian version of the Gilgames Epic). Reading the texts, the students will also acquire a knowledge of Babylonian mythology and theology.

### Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire knowledge of the structure and characteristics of Standard Babylonian, with special emphasis on the criteria which are decisive for the analysis of forms.

He/She will be able to transliterate and translate the Standard Babylonian literary and historical texts assigned in class, and comment upon their content, form and style. With the help of dictionaries and sign lists, he/she will also be able to transliterate, translate and classify the contents of Standard Babylonian texts beyond the class curriculum.

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

- term paper (3,000 to 3,500 words excluding bibliography)
- Language of assessment: German, English

### 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>
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**Contents**

The course gives an introduction to the younger literary language of Akkadian, so-called Standard Babylonian. The readings focus on royal inscriptions, especially from the Neo-Assyrian period. Inscriptions of the Sargonid kings (Sennacherib, Esarhaddon or Assurbanipal) form the central part of the curriculum. Reading the texts, the students will also acquire a knowledge of the history of the ancient Near East in the 1st millennium BC.

**Intended learning outcomes**

The student will acquire knowledge of the structure and characteristics of Standard Babylonian, with special emphasis on the criteria which are decisive for the analysis of forms. He/She will be able to transliterate and translate the Standard Babylonian literary and historical texts assigned in class, and comment upon their content, form and style. With the help of dictionaries and sign lists, he/she will also be able to transliterate, translate and classify the contents of Standard Babylonian texts beyond the class curriculum.

**Courses**

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

term paper (3,000 to 3,500 words excluding bibliography)

Language of assessment: German, English

**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
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Akkadian Texts 2/1 | 04-AO-AKKL2/1-141-m01

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Duration | Module level |
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1 semester | undergraduate |

Contents
The course gives an introduction to more difficult Akkadian literary texts. Simultaneously, in the context of the text readings, the students will acquire a detailed knowledge of the history of Mesopotamian religion and literature. The text readings usually focus on the Babylonian Epic of Creation, the Erra Epic, incantations and rituals, hymns and prayers, omen texts, wisdom literature or lyric texts.

Intended learning outcomes
The student will acquire detailed knowledge of the language of Babylonian literature and of Akkadian dialectology. The student will be able to transliterate, translate and comment upon (with regard to content and formal style) the literary and documentary texts read or assigned in class.
He/She will acquire the ability to transliterate, translate and categorise the content of more difficult Akkadian texts beyond the class curriculum with the help of dictionaries and sign lists.

Courses (type, number of weekly contact hours, language — if other than German)
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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)
term paper (3,000 to 3,500 words excluding bibliography)
Language of assessment: German, English

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
Bachelor’s degree programme with 2 majors, 85 ECTS credits

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Contents

The course gives an introduction to selected dialects or historical stages of the Akkadian language. Simultaneously, in the context of the text readings, the students will acquire a detailed knowledge of the history of Mesopotamian society, economy and law. The text readings usually focus on archival documents and letters in one or two selected dialects of Akkadian (at least one of which being a stage of the Assyrian dialect).

Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire detailed knowledge of Akkadian dialectology; he/she will acquire knowledge of the structure and the rich forms of the Assyrian dialect of Akkadian. The student will be able to transcribe, translate and comment upon (with regard to content and formal style) the literary and documentary texts read or assigned in class.

He/She will acquire the ability to transcribe, translate and categorize the content of more difficult Akkadian texts (including selected texts in the Assyrian dialect) beyond the class curriculum with the help of dictionaries and sign lists.

Courses

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Method of assessment

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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
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Introductory Sumerian 2 | 04-AO-SUME2-141-m01

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

Contents

The Sumerian language, which is not related to any other known language, is the oldest written language of the ancient Near East. This module expands upon the introduction to the grammar and the vocabulary of Sumerian and the cuneiform in which it was written; the knowledge to be developed by the student is reinforced through the reading of simple Sumerian texts from various genres. Emphasis is placed upon the Neo-Sumerian grammar, which is employed in the inscriptions of Gudea of Lagas and elsewhere. In addition to the linguistic analysis of the texts, the inscriptions will also be considered from the perspective of political history, the history of religion and historical topography.

Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire an overview of the structure of the Sumerian 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).

He/she will be able
(1) to create reasonable genitive constructions in different cases from given nouns and to translate these,
(2) to combine given substantives with pronominal suffixes and case endings and to translate these, to analyse verbal forms and to translate these,
(3) to read and translate simple royal inscriptions and other simple non-literary texts from the original cuneiform writing and
(4) to analyse verbal forms given in transliteration from more difficult texts.

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

written examination (90 minutes)
Language of assessment: German, English

Allocation of places

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Additional information

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**Contents**

Hittite, which is the earliest attested language of the Indo-European family of languages, was written in Babylonian cuneiform. Thus, the Hittite culture forms an established component of the cuneiform culture. The module gives an introduction to the grammar and vocabulary of the Hittite language as well as the cuneiform in which it was written and reinforces the acquired knowledge with the reading of simple Hittite historical and/or legal texts. In addition, the course will convey a fundamental knowledge of the cultural history of the Hittites and of the historical-cultural background of the text readings.

**Intended learning outcomes**

The student will acquire an overview of the structure of the Hittite 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).

He/she will be able

1. to attach possessive suffixes to nouns and to decline these,
2. to analyse and translate verb forms,
3. to analyse conjunctions with enclitics,
4. to construct logical sentences from given lexemes and to translate these,
5. to transliterate, analyse and translate Hittite cuneiform texts from the class curriculum,
6. to transliterate, analyse and translate simple Hittite texts beyond the class curriculum from the cuneiform texts with the help of dictionaries and sign lists;
7. he/she will acquire a good basic knowledge of the historical-cultural background of the texts in question.

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

written examination (90 minutes)
Language of assessment: German, English

**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

Topics in the Cultural History of the Ancient Near East  

### Abbreviation

04-AO-TAO-141-m01

### Module coordinator

holder of the Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

### Module offered by

Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

### ECTS

5

### Method of grading

numerical grade

### Only after succ. compl. of module(s)

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### Duration

1 semester

### Module level

undergraduate

### Other prerequisites

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### Contents

The module gives a comprehensive overview of a specific topic of ancient Near Eastern cultural history. Possible topics include various areas of the intellectual and cultural life of the ancient Near East, such as literature, art, music, law, sciences, divination, calendars, deities and myths, temple and palace, the structure of societies and many more. There is an emphasis on the discussion of original sources, their historical development as well as theoretical and methodological issues in the analysis of the sources. In addition, the module gives an overview of current research on the relevant topic.

### Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire detailed knowledge of a topic in ancient Near Eastern cultural history and will be able to discuss a selected topic critically and in detail, taking into account the written and iconographic sources. The student will acquire an overview of the theoretical and methodological issues associated with the respective topic.

### Courses

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

V (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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

term paper (3,000 to 3,500 words excluding bibliography)

Language of assessment: German, English

### 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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<td>Topics in the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East A (Regions and Landscapes)</td>
<td>04-AO-TVAA-141-m01</td>
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**Contents**

The module gives a comprehensive overview of the archaeology of a region or landscape of the ancient Near East, such as Anatolia, Assyria, Babylonia, Elam, Northern Syria etc. The geographic characteristics and socio-economic conditions of the landscape as well as the diachronic development of the region will be portrayed with regard to the most important cities and settlements. In addition, the most important individual finds and find assemblages as well as the current archaeological issues concerned with the region will be discussed.

**Intended learning outcomes**

The student will acquire a comprehensive overview of one region (landscape) of the ancient Near East. He/she will acquire detailed knowledge about the diachronic development of the region, its major sites as well as important finds and find assemblages. He/she will be able to identify current archaeological issues concerned with the region with regard to specific sites or finds.

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

- term paper (3,000 to 3,500 words excluding bibliography)
  Language of assessment: German, English

**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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**Contents**

The module gives a comprehensive overview of one of the pivotal groups of monuments and artefacts in the archaeology of the ancient Near East. Possible topics include: reliefs, sculpture, glyptic, smaller artefacts, architecture, painting and many more. The topics will be discussed with regard to their systematic classification, geographical spread and diachronic development. In addition, the relationship to other groups of monuments and artefacts will be described.

**Intended learning outcomes**

The student will acquire a comprehensive overview of one of the groups of monuments and artefacts of the ancient Near East. He/she will acquire detailed knowledge about the archaeological contexts, the diachronic development and geographical spread as well as the socio-historical significance of the relevant group of monuments and artefacts.

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

term paper (3,000 to 3,500 words excluding bibliography)
Language of assessment: German, English

**Allocation of places**

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**Additional information**

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**Referred to in LPO 1** (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

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## Contents

The module gives an introduction to more difficult Hittite texts of various epochs of the development of the Hittite language and enhances the students' knowledge of Hittite grammar. The text readings focus on the history, society and legal system of the Hittites with the help of selected historiographical texts, treaties, letters and archival documents. Reading the texts, the students will also develop a knowledge of Hittite history.

## Intended learning outcomes

The student will acquire detailed knowledge of Hittite grammar and vocabulary in various historical stages of the language. He/she will be able to transliterate, translate and comment upon the content and form of the Hittite texts read or assigned in class. The student will be able to transliterate, translate and classify the content of simple Hittite texts beyond the class curriculum with the help of dictionaries and sign lists. He/she will acquire basic knowledge of Hittite history and society.

## Courses

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

term paper (3,000 to 3,500 words excluding bibliography)
Language of assessment: German, English

## Allocation of places

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## Additional information

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**Module coordinator**

holder of the Chair of Ancient Near Eastern Studies

**Module offered by**

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 | undergraduate | -- |

**Contents**

The module gives an introduction to more difficult Hittite texts of various epochs of the development of the Hittite language and enhances the students' knowledge of Hittite grammar. The text readings focus on the Hittite religion, especially prayers, incantations and festival rituals. Reading the texts, the students will also develop a knowledge of the history of Hittite religion.

**Intended learning outcomes**

The student will acquire detailed knowledge of Hittite grammar and vocabulary in various historical stages of the language. He/she will be able to transliterate, translate and comment upon the content and form of the Hittite texts read or assigned in class. The student will also be able to transliterate, translate and classify the content of simple Hittite texts beyond the class curriculum with the help of dictionaries and sign lists. He/she will acquire basic knowledge of the history of Hittite religion.

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

term paper (3,000 to 3,500 words excluding bibliography)

Language of assessment: German, English

**Allocation of places**

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**Additional information**

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**Contents**

This module introduces the student to more difficult Sumerian texts from various epochs of the development of the Sumerian language and deepens his/her knowledge of Sumerian grammar. The text readings focus on archival texts, especially legal documents, letters and administrative documents from the Old Sumerian and Ur III periods. Reading the texts, the student will also acquire a knowledge of the history of law, economy and society of Mesopotamia of the 3rd and early 2nd millennia BC.

**Intended learning outcomes**

The student will acquire detailed knowledge of the grammar and vocabulary of Sumerian in its various historical stages. He/she will be able to transliterate, translate and comment upon the form and content of the texts read or assigned in class. The student will acquire the ability to transliterate, translate and classify the contents of simple Sumerian archival texts beyond the class curriculum with the help of dictionaries and sign lists.

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

term paper (3,000 to 3,500 words excluding bibliography)
Language of assessment: German, English

**Allocation of places**

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**Additional information**

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**Contents**

This module introduces the student to Sumerian literary texts and deepens his/her knowledge of Sumerian grammar. The text readings focus on Sumerian myths and epics; in addition, Sumerian hymns, prayers and incantations may also be read. Reading the texts, the student will also acquire a knowledge of the history of Mesopotamian literature and religion in light of the Sumerian literary texts.

**Intended learning outcomes**

The student will acquire detailed knowledge of the grammar and vocabulary of Sumerian literary texts. He/she will be able to transliterate, translate and comment upon the form and content of the texts read or assigned in class. The student will acquire the ability to transliterate, translate and classify the contents of simple Sumerian literary texts beyond the class curriculum with the help of dictionaries and sign lists.

**Courses**

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

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 can be chosen to earn a bonus)

term paper (3,000 to 3,500 words excluding bibliography)

Language of assessment: German, English

**Allocation of places**

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**Additional information**

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**Referred to in LPO 1**

(examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)

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