

Module Description

1	Module 1	Interdisciplinary Studies of Decision-Making I	10 ECTS
2	Courses	<p>Winter Semester</p> <p>Workshop Series I (2 SWS)</p> <p>Seminar: Interdisciplinary Methodologies (2 SWS)</p> <p>Lecture: Is It Already Decided? An Enquiry Into the Social Life of Decision-Making (2 SWS)</p> <p>CAS Colloquium (2 SWS)</p>	
3	Lecturers	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier	

4	Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
5	Contents	<p>Workshop Series I The workshops provide a space for practical participation in topics like intercultural competences, counter speech against racism, academic writing, professional presenting, etc.</p> <p>Seminar: Interdisciplinary Methodologies What distinguishes a sociological study from an historical or ethnographic one? What methodology is employed in the field research or interview process? What are the ethical issues associated with conducting research involving human subjects, and how can these challenges be addressed? How might one navigate the interplay between emotions, subjectivity, and the ways in which interlocutors situate and evaluate their or your identity and position in society? How might one approach the analysis of politically sensitive issues? This course will address these questions and others through an examination of methodology texts, exemplary pieces of research, and concrete practice. The aim is to equip students with a range of methodological tools for the production of qualitative data, which is the material of qualitative social sciences.</p> <p>Lecture: Is It Already Decided? An Enquiry Into the Social Life of Decision-Making</p>

		<p>Opposed views on humans' capacities to make decisions have always existed. On one side, more liberal, human beings are seen as having their fate in their own hands. They can create, innovate, renew, make a change, it depends all on themselves. On the other, more deterministic, everything is already decided. Life is in the hands of the divine, or of a great underlying mechanism, humans have no real capacity of choice. Social sciences also deal with these age-old questions and have attempted to address them in two ways: on one side, examining how and to which extent people's lives and ways of thinking are determined by the cultural or social milieu they originate from; on the other, studying how people the world over deal with predetermined conditions, try to find out what the future will be, and attempt to change it. Through theories of individual agency and concrete cases of decision-making, this course will trace back these two trends.</p> <p>This course will be held as a double session happening every two weeks. It will be based on the discussion of texts and on the examination of varying cases and circumstances by the students.</p> <p>Lecture: CAS Colloquium & Workshop Series Lecture series with changing guest speakers about alternative rationalities and esoteric practices from a global perspective.</p>
6	<p>Learning objectives and skills</p>	<p>Workshop Series I Students acquire practical skills related to the different disciplines of the program and useful for future scenarios in their professional life.</p> <p>Seminar: Interdisciplinary Methodologies Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - learn to differentiate between research methodologies and how to conduct research in different fields - learn to produce qualitative data <p>Lecture: Is It Already Decided? An Enquiry Into the Social Life of Decision-Making Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - acquire different international cultural knowledge and how culture and social context affect decision-making - receive profound insights into the cultural, social and historical dimensions involved in processes of decision-making <p>CAS Colloquium Students gain knowledge about current research topics from different experts.</p>

7	<p>Prerequisites</p>	<p>None</p>
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8	Integration in curriculum	1st semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)
10	Method of examination	Oral examination (20 minutes) and 2 page handout
11	Grading procedure	100% module examination
12	Module frequency	Winter semester
13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Contact hours: 120 h (SWS x 15 in Winter semester) Independent study: 300 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One semester
16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	Will be determined by the teaching staff at the beginning of the semester. A list of recommended reading will be provided on StudOn.

Module Description

1	Module 2	Transregional Competences	5-15 ECTS
2	Courses	<p>Winter Semester</p> <p><i>Students are required to choose between one and three of the following classes</i></p> <p>Seminar: Public Participation in Authoritarian Regimes (2 SWS)</p> <p>Seminar: Contentious Politics (2 SWS)</p> <p>Seminar: Islam and Queer: Reframing the Narrative on LGBTQIA+ (2 SWS)</p> <p>Seminar: Transcultural Studies and Global Asia (2 SWS)</p> <p>Seminar: Research Ethics in Anthropology (2 SWS)</p> <p>Seminar: Poetics and Anthropology: Voices from the Margins (2 SWS)</p> <p>Seminar: Eugenics, Euthanasia, Genocide: Decision-Making on the Destruction of Human Life (2 SWS)</p>	
3	Lecturers	<p>Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Mallika Shakya</p> <p>PD Dr. Viola Thimm</p> <p>Dr. Ferdiansyah Thajib</p> <p>Dr. Maria Bondes</p> <p>Dr. Zezhou Yang</p> <p>Jessica Wengel, M.A.</p>	

4	Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
5	Contents	<p>Seminar: Public Participation in Authoritarian Regimes</p> <p>This course introduces students to the so-called “dictator’s dilemma” (Svolik 2012, Dickson 2016) and authoritarian rulers’ varying strategies towards public participation and political control, focusing on the case of China. Rulers of authoritarian regimes around the globe face a fundamental dilemma: They live in the constant threat of being overturned by the masses over which they rule. However, without elections they have incomplete information about citizens’ preferences and are</p>

		<p>uncertain how best to please public opinion so as to stay in power. While authoritarian regimes are often associated with hard political control, it has become common ground for non-democratic regimes to choose a strategy for survival that combines “hard” elements of coercion and repression with “soft” elements of responsiveness and inclusion. Authoritarian rulers integrate bottom-up input mechanisms and institutions of public participation into their system of governance with the goal of enhancing political stability and effective policymaking. Such an instrumental approach to public participation faces the challenge of mobilizing citizens without promoting political pluralism or democracy.</p> <p>The course will address questions such as: Why do rulers of authoritarian regimes choose varying strategies of political control and how do these relate to authoritarian resilience? Through which formal and informal institutions do authoritarian regimes integrate public participation into their system of governance? Why does an authoritarian regime like China permit civil society and public protest? And how do political actors at different political levels respond to public demands? The course will approach these issues through the reading of relevant academic literature, in-class group exercises and discussion rounds.</p> <p>Seminar: Contentious Politics Fridays for Future demonstrations, street protests, petitions or outright rebellions – citizens around the world express their demands and grievances in more or less contentious ways. This seminar introduces students to the many facets of such “contentious politics” and asks questions such as: How do people get from political grievances to the streets? Why do citizens in some cases and regions become politically active but others don’t? How do political actors organize contention and mobilize others to participate? What makes some episodes of contention more “successful” than others? How do state actors react to such public demands and what drives their responses? And what does contentious politics look like in an authoritarian regime like China? The course addresses these questions through the reading of relevant literature, in-class exercises and discussion rounds. Students will be organized in groups and learn to investigate their own case of contention.</p>
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		<p>Seminar: Islam and Queer: Reframing the Narrative on LGBTQIA+</p> <p>How do being queer and being Muslim fit together? What does it mean for young Muslims when they discover that they are transgender or homosexual, for example? Queer Muslims exist all over the world and their identities are often disregarded as implausible. “Islamic” views of sexuality have been subjects of curiosity, interest, and, in many cases, misunderstanding.</p> <p>In fact, debates on this tension field “Queer and Islam” is much more limited today than it was in the past. Societies in the Islamic world have recognized both erotic attraction and sexual behavior between members of the same sex. Homoeroticism was idealized in the form of poetry or artistic declarations of love. While official, and in many cases colloquial, acceptance of at least some homosexual behavior was commonplace in pre-modern periods, later developments, starting from the 19th-century on the basis of colonialism and Islamic fundamentalism such as Wahhabi ideology, have created a generally hostile environment for LGBTQIA+ people.</p> <p>Thus, there are multiple institutionalized “Islamic” views on sexuality and these are, in turn, challenged by Muslims and their sexualities and identities in various ways. For example, gay men from the US perform pilgrimage in Mecca in secret to avoid being recognized and therewith prosecuted. In Indonesia exists a mosque founded by and run for transgender people who have to struggle against Muslim orthodox groups who had closed the mosque in the meantime. In Malaysia, some Muslim transgender people fight for their rights on the streets, while others want to find their way “back to nature” with the help of Islamic state education and shake off their transgender existence in order to enter paradise sooner.</p> <p>In this course, students are introduced to many diverse issues of being LGBTQIA+ in Islam, mainly from socio-cultural and political perspectives. We will read academic literature but a variety of teaching materials and techniques such as videos and in-person lectures by activists and academics will also be incorporated. In class discussions, we will emphasize the value of mutual respect for individual personal beliefs as well as in the appropriate ways to express these beliefs and opinions.</p>
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		<p>Seminar: Transcultural Studies and Global Asia</p> <p>What is culture? What is transculturality? How does this term differ from similar concepts such as interculturality and multiculturalism? How are cultures shaped, reshaped, negotiated, appropriated, and challenged? What are the relationships between the notion of culture and other key topics such as place, representation, race, nation, and class? This course investigates the theories and practices of Transcultural Studies. Situated within the debates on decolonisation and Global Asia, the key concepts and methods of Transcultural Studies will be explored by examining Asian realities across various temporal-spatial constellations.</p> <p>How does the bubble tea become a symbol of resistance and enable a transnational political campaign? What can we learn from the process of adapting a Japanese manga into an Indian TV show? How are superheroes of Asian origin differently represented in Hollywood blockbusters? By examining these and other cultural products, expressions, and practices, we interrogate how Asia and Asian cultures are understood and practiced in both historical and contemporary complexities. This course seeks to motivate students to reconsider conventional notions of culture and Asia. The course format does not follow a straightforward lecture model. Students are encouraged to participate in in-class discussions, bringing their own interests, life experiences, and knowledge from diverse backgrounds.</p> <p>Seminar: Research Ethics in Anthropology</p> <p>Ethical questions are on the minds of every (prospective) researcher, but certain topics are generally not discussed; they are sometimes even taboo. How do I appropriately anonymise my interviewees if their identity can still be traced by simply “exchanging” their name? What are the implications of researching with children? What strategies can I use to counter illness or even death in the field? What do I do if my interlocutors prefer to remain silent instead of engaging in ethnographic conversations with me in order to protect themselves from persecution? How do I deal with my own socio-structural positioning in the field? How can I protect myself as a FLINTA* (female, lesbian, inter*, non-binary, trans*, a-gender) from sexualised violence during research? By addressing these and other questions, the seminar offers a critical examination of ethical dilemmas in anthropological research. The seminar readings and discussions are intended to help students learn to reconcile ethically conflicting and contradictory situations in</p>
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		<p>ethnographic field research and to be able to assess expectations of fieldwork more realistically.</p> <p>Seminar: Poetics and Anthropology: Voices from the Margins</p> <p>What can poetry offer anthropology (and social sciences) towards studying marginality? The new movement calling for decolonising anthropology stemmed from the rejection of elite feminism's implicit nod in keeping the racially, economically and sexually oppressed people out. At the peril of being dismissed as 'derivative', anthropologists who began the movement 'decolonising anthropology' chose to continue their engagement with the classic book 'Writing Culture' by Clifford and Marcus (1986) but critique it. They insisted that the book had inspired an empowering rage in them, nudging them to forge an anthropological collaboration with a radical literary (counter) movement initiated over a decade ago. What came out of this interdisciplinary – and interracial – solidarity was a new concept and method reshaped by social and political movements centring on race, class, sexuality and nation. Early anthropological interlocutors' persistent reminder that we cannot afford to read ethnography through lenses tinted with privilege allows us an opening in probing marginalisation in everyday claims on society, nation and civilization. It is in this context that the method on 'poetics' was brought within anthropology to question the conventional theorizing of 'written culture'.</p> <p>Feminism allowed 'heart' to matter and brought vulnerability to the process of rationalisation, i.e., it turned on its head the racist colonial construct that had defined the 'savage' as someone who is not in control of his or her emotions. This course considers that oppression and exclusion imposed by the privileged were also sprouting from the visceral even if explained in bureaucratised language that claimed rationality, scientifism, meritocracy and a diplomatic 'win-win'. This course explores how poetics is a deeply contested field prompting and accentuating symbolic violence and counter-resistance at the level of the visceral. It reads poetry and fiction written by people from the margins, and this is done in juxtaposition with the meanings attached to those writings in the way affiliated anthropologists and social scientists have engaged with those texts.</p>
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		<p>Seminar: Eugenics, Euthanasia, Genocide: Decision-Making on the Destruction of Human Life</p> <p>In this course we will have a look at the historical circumstances and cultural impact surrounding the systematic destruction of human life carried out by government bodies. The fascist regime of the national socialists in Germany will be our main example, as they committed these atrocities during their reign from 1933 to 1945 on a never seen before institutionalized and systemic scale. We will go over their race theory, its historical origins and their views on race hygiene, which were the ideological basis for their acts. Then we will explore the decision-making and internal processes of the regime that lead to: The forced sterilisation and euthanasation of people with hereditary and mental illnesses (known under the code name „Aktion T4“), the abortion on forced laborers and the genocide of jews in the holocaust and other parts of the population (like Sinti and Roma). An important aspect is also the legal consequences after the end of the Second World War. Were key actors adequately punished for their involvement? What was the opinion of the general public and the culture of remembrance on the committed atrocities and how did they change over time? How did all of this influence and shape Germany culturally and politically?</p>
6	Learning objectives and skills	<p>Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - get acquainted with different academic disciplines, regions and research issues - get more familiar with current research topics - will be provided with cross-cultural competences in the realm of both theory and practice and become more sensitive for questions of cultural differences
7	Prerequisites	None
8	Integration in curriculum	1st semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)
10	Method of examination	Term paper (10 pages)
11	Grading procedure	100% module examination

12	Module frequency	Winter semester
13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Contact hours: Between 30 and 90 h (contact hours in SWS x 15 per semester) Independent study: Between 150 and 450 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One semester
16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	Will be determined by the teaching staff at the beginning of the semester. A list of recommended reading will be provided on StudOn.

Module Description

1	Module 3	Research Issues	5-15 ECTS
2	Courses	<p>Winter Semester</p> <p><i>Students are required to choose between one and three of the following classes</i></p> <p>Seminar: What is East Asia? (2 SWS) Seminar: What is Southeast Asia? (2 SWS) Seminar: What is South Asia? (2 SWS) Seminar: What is West Asia? (2 SWS)</p>	
3	Lecturers	<p>Prof. Dr. Mallika Shakya Dr. Ferdiansyah Thajib Dr. Maryam Abbasi Wen Wang, M.A.</p>	

4	Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
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5	<p>Contents</p>	<p>Seminar: What is East Asia? Looking at a world map and searching for the very far east of the Eurasian super-continent, we find China, North and South Korea, Japan... The names of these few countries strike our mind as being part of the same region: East Asia. Cultural common points also seem to unify these populations in our imagination: chopsticks, buddhist temples, traditional roofs, martial arts, rice and tea, or filial piety... Yet like so many other similar territorial divisions, the more we try to make sense of it, the more elusive the unity becomes.</p> <p>Are these populations not too different to be assimilated in the same space? Does East Asia exist outside our geography textbooks? What do these populations really share in common? And what separates them?</p> <p>This course examines the construction of this region and its present realities. Breaking away from the discourses of the nation-states as well as the orientalist vision of a little differentiated cultural space, we will investigate, in a transversal manner, several major themes, ranging from the writing system to the governmental structures, or the food and drinks. At the end, students will be able to gain a deeper understanding of the complex links that interconnect this region.</p> <p>Seminar: What is Southeast Asia? As a modern history invention, Southeast Asia has come to have a living reality which bears critical investigation and articulation. `Southeast Asia` and its various constituent countries are being made and remade through the movements and flows of goods, peoples, ideas and technologies across and beyond the region. This course is an introduction to how the region is shaped through a history of similarities and differences, and why it remains an important area to study today. The first part of the course focuses on the region's historical evolution through diverse typologies of precolonial, colonial and postcolonial encounters. We will critically engage with the complexity of Southeast Asian cultures and societies, by studying its diverse ethnicities, plural patterns of gender and sexuality and vernacularized forms of world religions and local beliefs. The final part examines the dynamics that constitute the region's sociopolitical realities in current times, including democratization, populism, religious bureaucracy and gendered mobilities.</p> <p>Seminar: What is South Asia? The term "South Asia" emerged during the Cold War era whose geopolitical strategies originated far away from the region's actual landscapes. Previously known by other names, this course aims to explore the historical and</p>
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		<p>contemporary construction of South Asia as a region as a socio-cultural sphere and also as a field of study.</p> <p>Historically, South Asia has been the symbolic-geographic site where distinct modes of philosophy, religion and epistemology have evolved over the course of centuries and maybe even millennia. Today, its contemporary contributions in global popular culture and deliberative democracy are very significant. These underpin the selection of text materials I use as a teacher and an interlocutor, and this course invites students to discuss South Asia's role in global history but also reflect on the diversities of politico-economy, culture and social stratification systems within this region as a way of problematizing the ongoing lop-sidedness this region faces in terms of hegemony and power.</p> <p>South Asia defies simple categorization. It is important to recognize eclecticism and tension within the region which strives for regional harmony while offering intriguing perspectives on border and nationalism. The largest country in South Asia, India, itself is far from monolithic; it is the site of multiple layers of history and multiple perspectives on culture and economy. All other countries have their own diversities rooted in geography, culture and politics. This course seeks to navigate this eclecticism while exploring everyday rhythms of South Asia in terms of work and livelihood but also leisure and being.</p> <p>Seminar: What is West Asia?</p> <p>This comprehensive seminar offers an in-depth exploration of West Asia, examining its geopolitical landscape and vibrant cultural heritage. During this seminar, participants will engage with key aspects of the region such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Religious Diversity: West Asia is home to a wide array of religious beliefs and practices, making it a melting pot of faiths and traditions. In this seminar we delve into the various religions of the region, their historical significance, and the role they play in shaping the social and political landscape.2. Economic and Political Landscape: This exploration of the contemporary economic and political realms of West Asia provides students with the analytical tools to discern the region's global impact.3. Contemporary Challenges: Addressing political upheavals, economic dynamics, and environmental concerns, this seminar provides a comprehensive understanding of the pressing issues affecting the region and its people. <p>Through discussions and insightful readings, the seminar aims to cultivate a general understanding of West Asia's history, current state, and future possibilities. By engaging with these multifaceted themes, students will develop the ability to</p>
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		<p>critically assess the complexities of this vital world region, guided by a comprehensive perspective on its rich tapestry and dynamic evolution.</p>
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6	Learning objectives/skills	Students - will be provided with deep insights into different regions and their cultural, political, and historical identities - analyze the impact of a different world-view on decision-making in politics, economy, and daily life in different cultures - will be provided with cross-cultural competences in the realm of both theory and practice and become more sensitive for questions of cultural differences
7	Prerequisites	None
8	Integration in curriculum	1st semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)
10	Method of examination	Written Exam (90 minutes)
11	Grading procedure	100% module examination
12	Module frequency	Winter semester
13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Contact hours: Between 30 and 90 h (contact hours in SWS x 15 per semester) Independent study: Between 150 and 450 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One semester
16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	Will be determined by the teaching staff at the beginning of the semester. A list of recommended reading will be provided on StudOn.

Module Description

1	Module 4	Interdisciplinary Studies of Decision-Making II	5 ECTS
2	Courses	Summer Semester Workshop Series II (2 SWS) CAS Colloquium OR Research Seminar Guest Lecture (2 SWS)	
3	Lecturers	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier	

4	Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
5	Contents	<p>Workshop Series II The second module of workshops provide more space for practical participation in topics like intercultural competences, counter speech against racism, academic writing, professional presenting, etc.</p> <p>CAS Colloquium OR Research Seminar Guest Lecture Students can choose between the CAS Colloquium, a lecture series with changing guest speakers about alternative rationalities and esoteric practices from a global perspective, or need to attend a guest lecture provided by our Research Seminar. The CAS Lecture and research seminar guest lectures offers students the opportunity to learn about cutting edge research from distinguished scholars of socioculturally oriented decision-making studies from across the world. Guests include university-based researchers from a range of disciplines alongside practitioners working at the intersections of academic research and applied decision-making.</p>

6	Learning objectives and skills	<p>Workshop Series I Students acquire practical skills related to the different disciplines of the program and useful for future scenarios in their professional life</p> <p>CAS Colloquium OR Research Seminar Guest Lecture Students gain knowledge about current research topics from different experts.</p>
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7	Prerequisites	None
8	Integration in curriculum	2nd Semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)
10	Method of examination	Handout (2 pages)
11	Grading procedure	100% module examination
12	Module frequency	Summer semester
13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Contact hours: 60 h (contact hours in SWS x 15 per semester) Independent study: 150 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One semester
16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	Will be determined by the teaching staff at the beginning of the semester. A list of recommended reading will be provided on StudOn.

Module Description

1	Module 5	Advanced Disciplinary Competences	5-15 ECTS
2	Courses/lectures	<p>Summer Semester</p> <p><i>Students are required to choose between one and three of the offered courses</i></p> <p>2 SWS per Seminar</p> <p>List of Seminars TBA</p>	
3	Lecturers	<p>Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Mallika Shakya</p> <p>PD Dr. Viola Thimm</p> <p>Dr. Ferdiansyah Thajib</p> <p>Dr. Zezhou Yang</p> <p>Dr. Maria Bondes</p> <p>Dr. Maryam Abbasi</p> <p>Mingqing Yuan, M.A.</p> <p>Jessica Wengel, M.A.</p> <p>Wen Wang, M.A.</p>	

4	Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
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5	Contents	<p>The module is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of key concepts, methodologies, and debates within the social sciences and humanities. This interdisciplinary module brings together seminars in Anthropology, Political Science, Sociology, Gender Studies, and History, allowing students to explore the focal points of each discipline on an advanced level.</p> <p>By engaging with a diverse range of perspectives, students will develop a critical awareness of how different fields approach social and cultural issues. The module emphasizes the importance of interdisciplinary insights in understanding complex phenomena, offering students the tools to analyze and interpret societal dynamics more effectively.</p> <p>Throughout the course, students will enhance their research capabilities and analytical skills, learning to appreciate the distinct methodologies that each discipline employs. Collaborative discussions and projects will foster an environment of shared learning, encouraging students to draw connections between disciplines and apply integrative thinking to real-world challenges.</p> <p>By the conclusion of the module, students will have cultivated advanced competencies that not only highlight the individual strengths of each discipline but also demonstrate the value of interdisciplinary inquiry in addressing contemporary issues. This foundational knowledge prepares students for further academic pursuits or professional careers in research, policy analysis, advocacy, and education.</p>
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6	Learning objectives and skills	Students will have cultivated advanced competencies that not only highlight the individual strengths of each discipline but also demonstrate the value of interdisciplinary inquiry in addressing contemporary issues.
7	Prerequisites	None
8	Integration in curriculum	2nd semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)
10	Method of examination	Written exam (90 minutes)
11	Grading procedure	100% module examination

12	Module frequency	Summer semester
13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Contact hours: Between 30 and 90 h (contact hours in SWS x 15 per semester) Independent study: Between 150 and 450 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One semester
16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	Will be determined by the teaching staff at the beginning of the semester. A list of recommended reading will be provided on StudOn.

Module Description

1	Module 6	Advanced Regional Competences	5-15 ECTS
2	Courses/lectures	<p>Summer Semester</p> <p><i>Students are required to choose between one and three of the offered courses</i></p> <p>2 SWS per Seminar</p> <p>List of Seminars TBA</p>	
3	Lecturers	<p>Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier Prof. Dr. Mallika Shakya PD Dr. Viola Thimm Dr. Ferdiansyah Thajib Dr. Zezhou Yang Dr. Maria Bondes Dr. Maryam Abbasi Mingqing Yuan, M.A. Jessica Wengel, M.A. Wen Wang, M.A.</p>	

4	Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
5	Contents	<p>This module offers seminars providing students with an in-depth understanding of key issues, cultural dynamics, and socio-political developments specific to significant regions of the world. A focus hereby lays on topics concerning East, Southeast and South Asia. Students are encouraged to immerse themselves in the unique characteristics, historical contexts, and contemporary challenges facing each of these regions.</p> <p>Through a thorough exploration of regional topics, students will develop a nuanced awareness of the interconnectedness of cultural, economic, and political factors that shape the societies within these areas. The module highlights the importance of regional perspectives in addressing global issues, offering students the analytical tools necessary to assess and interpret complex regional dynamics effectively.</p> <p>Throughout the course, students will enhance their research skills and critical thinking abilities, gaining insights into the methodologies employed in regional studies.</p>
6	- Learning objectives and skills	Students will cultivate advanced competencies that emphasize the distinct attributes of each region while also showcasing the significance of regional analysis in addressing contemporary global challenges and research issues.

7	Prerequisites	None
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8	Integration in curriculum	2nd semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)
10	Method of examination	Term paper (12-15 pages)
11	Grading procedure	100% module examination
12	Module frequency	Summer semester
13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Contact hours: Between 30 and 90 h (contact hours in SWS x 15 per semester) Independent study: Between 150 and 450 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One Semester
16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	Will be determined by the teaching staff at the beginning of the semester. A list of recommended reading will be provided on StudOn.

Module Description

1	Module 7	Advanced Research Issues	5-15 ECTS
2	Courses/lectures	<p>Summer Semester</p> <p><i>Students are required to choose between one and three of the offered courses</i></p> <p>2 SWS per Seminar</p> <p>List of Seminars TBA</p>	
3	Lecturers	<p>Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier Prof. Dr. Mallika Shakya PD Dr. Viola Thimm Dr. Ferdiansyah Thajib Dr. Zezhou Yang Dr. Maria Bondes Dr. Maryam Abbasi Mingqing Yuan, M.A. Jessica Wengel, M.A. Wen Wang, M.A</p>	

4	Module coordinator	Prof Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
5	Contents	<p>The "Advanced Research Issues" module is designed to provide students with a comprehensive examination of contemporary research topics at an advanced level across various fields of study. This module encourages students to engage critically with cutting-edge research methodologies, theoretical frameworks, and the ethical implications of research practices.</p> <p>Through an exploration of current debates and innovations, students will deepen their understanding of significant issues that are shaping scholarly discourse today. The module emphasizes the importance of critical inquiry, allowing students to analyze and assess the impact of research findings on society and various academic disciplines.</p> <p>Throughout the course, students will enhance their research capabilities, developing skills in designing, conducting, and presenting original research projects. They will also gain insights into the collaborative nature of research, participating in discussions and activities that foster a culture of shared knowledge and interdisciplinary dialogue.</p>

6	Learning objectives and skills	Students will cultivate advanced competencies that prepare them to navigate the complexities of contemporary research environments. This foundation equips students for further academic pursuits, professional careers in research, and within organizations that require advanced analytical skills, critical thinking, and a nuanced understanding of current research trends and challenges.
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7	Prerequisites	None
8	Integration in curriculum	2nd semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)
10	Method of examination	Oral exam (20 minutes)
11	Grading procedure	100% module examination
12	Module frequency	Summer semester
13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Contact hours: Between 30 and 90 h (contact hours in SWS x 15 per semester) Independent study: Between 150 and 450 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One semester
16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	Will be determined by the teaching staff at the beginning of the semester. A list of recommended reading will be provided on StudOn.

Module Description

1	Module 8	Praxis	10 ECTS
2	Courses/lectures	Winter Semester Fieldwork or Internship	
3	Lecturers		

4	Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
5	Contents	This module is designed to provide students with practical, hands-on experience that complements their academic studies and enriches their research for the master's thesis. This module encourages students to engage in fieldwork (preferably abroad) or undertake an internship, allowing them to gather primary data and gain valuable insights into real-world contexts relevant to the research topics of their Master's thesis. Students are required to depict their experiences in a supervised report.
6	Learning objectives and skills	Students will gain practical knowledge and primary data necessary to write their Master's thesis.

7	Prerequisites	None
8	Integration in curriculum	3rd semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)
10	Method of examination	Report (20-25 pages)
11	Grading procedure	100% module examination
12	Module frequency	Winter semester

13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Independent study: 300 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One semester
16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	No additional reading required

Module Description

1	Module 9	Theory	5 ECTS
2	Courses/lectures	Winter Semester Literature Review	
3	Lecturers		

4	Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
5	Contents	Students are required to identify and review the existing literature of their planned Master's thesis project and be able to depict the current state of research surrounding their thesis topic and analyze which literature is relevant to them in a supervised report.
6	Learning objectives and skills	This module provides students with the skills necessary to identify, analyze, and synthesize existing research pertinent to their chosen topic, enabling them to establish a solid foundation for their own scholarly work.

7	Prerequisites	None
8	Integration in curriculum	3rd semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)
10	Method of examination	Report (15 pages)
11	Grading procedure	100% module examination

12	Module frequency	Winter semester
13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Independent study: 150 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One semester
16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	No additional reading required

Module Description

1	Module 10	Exchange Semester	10 ECTS
2	Courses/lectures	<p>Winter Semester</p> <p>Lecture/Seminar/Language Course (2 SWS)</p> <p>Lecture/Seminar (2 SWS)</p> <p>Lecture/Seminar (2 SWS)</p>	
3	Lecturers	Staff of the partner University	

4	Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
5	Contents	Students are required to attend 3 lectures or seminars (one of them can be substituted by a language course) during their semester abroad.
6	Learning objectives and skills	<p>Through participation in international lectures and seminars, students will gain a broader perspective on their field of study, enriching their knowledge through diverse academic viewpoints and cultural contexts. They will develop cultural competence by engaging with local customs and practices, enhancing their ability to navigate multicultural environments.</p> <p>In addition, students can expect to improve their language skills, particularly in academic vocabulary and discourse, while acquiring advanced research methodologies specific to their host institution.</p>

7	Prerequisites	None
8	Integration in curriculum	3rd semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)

10	Method of examination	Written exam (90 minutes) or term paper (12-15 pages) or Oral exam (20 minutes)
11	Grading procedure	100% module examination
12	Module frequency	Winter semester
13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Contact hours: 90 h (contact hours in SWS x 15 per semester) Independent study: 300 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One semester
16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	Will be determined by the teaching staff at the partner University.

Module Description

1	Module 11	Semester in Germany I	10 ECTS
2	Courses/lectures	<p>Winter Semester</p> <p><i>The modules "Semester in Germany I and II" are required instead of module 10 "Exchange Semester" in case the student is not doing an exchange semester</i></p> <p>Advanced Research Seminar I (2 SWS)</p> <p>Lecture/Seminar (2 SWS)</p>	
3	Lecturers	SDAC Staff or other FAU lecturers	

4	Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
5	Contents	In case the student does not want to participate in an exchange semester abroad, they have to attend the Advanced Research Seminar I. Additionally they have to choose one lecture or seminar offered by FAU.
6	Learning objectives and skills	This module allows students to tailor their academic experience to their personal interests. This flexibility enables them to choose topics that resonate with their individual experiences and research interests, fostering a deeper engagement with the material and promoting a more meaningful learning journey. The advanced research seminar will help students to get more insight into innovative research topics, diverse methodological approaches and current debates.

7	Prerequisites	None
8	Integration in curriculum	3rd semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)
10	Method of examination	Written exam (90 minutes) or term paper (12-15 pages) or Oral exam (20 minutes)
11	Grading procedure	100% module examination
12	Module frequency	Winter semester
13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Contact hours: 60 h (contact hours in SWS x 15 per semester) Independent study: 300 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One semester

16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	Will be determined by the teaching staff at the beginning of the semester. A list of recommended reading will be provided on StudOn.

Module Description

1	Module 12	Semester in Germany II	5 ECTS
2	Courses/lectures	<p>Winter Semester</p> <p><i>The modules "Semester in Germany I and II" are required instead of module 10 "Exchange Semester" in case the student is not doing an exchange semester</i></p> <p>Lecture/Seminar/Language Course (2 SWS)</p>	
3	Lecturers	SDAC Staff or other FAU lecturers	

4	Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
5	Contents	In case the student does not want to participate in an exchange semester and they take module 11 "Semester in Germany I" they also have to take this module and attend a lecture, seminar or and advanced language course at FAU.
6	Learning objectives and skills	This module allows students to tailor their academic experience even more to their individual research interests and should prepare them for the topic of their Master's thesis.

7	Prerequisites	None
8	Integration in curriculum	3rd semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)
10	Method of examination	Written exam (90 minutes) or term paper (12-15 pages) or Oral exam (20 minutes)
11	Grading procedure	100% module examination
12	Module frequency	Winter semester
13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Contact hours: 30 h (contact hours in SWS x 15 per semester) Independent study: 150 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One semester
16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	Will be determined by the teaching staff at the beginning of the semester. A list of recommended reading will be provided on StudOn.

1	Module 13	Master's Thesis	30 ECTS
2	Courses/lectures	Master's Thesis Advanced Research Seminar II (2 SWS)	
	Lecturers	Respective supervisor of the MA Thesis	

4	Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Jean-Baptiste Pettier
5	Contents	Master's Thesis and Advanced Research Seminar II. Will be agreed individually between the students and the respective supervisor.

6	Learning objectives and skills	<p>Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - demonstrate their ability to work independently according to academic standards and for a longer period of time, in particular to comprehend subject-specific research questions and problems, to apply theories and methods, and to evaluate their benefits and limitations. - acquire profound academic and methodological knowledge, as well as additional key skills regarding decision-making processes in East Asia. - are able to discuss the chosen research topic in a linguistic cultural, comparative-philosophical and/or cultural-religious way. - receive profound insights into the processes of decision-making, e.g. in entrepreneurial, political, and cultural situations. - are able to provide decision-making processes with a new foundation, to make use of their knowledge in an interdisciplinary way, to analyze research questions from an academic perspective, and to cultivate their independent thinking and thereby the ability to delicately deal with intra-cultural and cross-cultural decision-making processes. - acquire knowledge from the fields of sinology, history, philosophy, religious studies, gender studies, comparative studies, social and cultural anthropology . - develop communication and critical thinking skills, as well as to work in an independent, solution-oriented, critical-analytical, and application-oriented manner in various professional circumstances requiring expertise from humanities, area studies, and social sciences. - are able to deal with issues regarding culture-specific processes and culture-borne decision making. - develop a specific sensitivity for intercultural settings, which is based on an in-depth, theoretical and methodological examination of linguistic, philosophical, historical, and cultural phenomena in East Asia. - are capable of placing issues of culture in a transnational context and of putting them into perspective. - develop a determined, critical, and self-reflected attitude towards cross-cultural situations.
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7	Prerequisites	None
8	Integration in curriculum	4th semester
9	Module compatibility	M.A. Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC)
10	Method of examination	Master's Thesis (ca. 80 pages) Presentation (20 minutes)
11	Grading procedure	70 % (thesis) + 30 % (presentation)

12	Module frequency	Summer semester
13	Resit examinations	Once
14	Workload	Contact hours: 30 h (contact hours in SWS x 15 per semester) Independent study: 900 h (ECTS credits x 30 - contact hours)
15	Module duration	One semester
16	Teaching and examination language	English
17	Recommended reading	Will be agreed individually between the students and the respective supervisor, depending on the topic of the master's thesis.