



MA PROGRAMME IN AFRICAN STUDIES

2005-CURRICULUM

Applies from 1 September 2017
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1. Introduction

1.1. Introduction

Pursuant to Danish Ministerial Order on Bachelor's and Master's (Candidatus) Programmes at the Universities (the University programme Order), Ministerial Order No. 1328 of 15 November 2016, and to Danish Ministerial Order on University Examinations and Grading (the Examination Order), Ministerial Order No. 1062 of 30 June 2016, the Faculty of Theology, University of Copenhagen, offers a two-year MA programme in African Studies.

1.2. Description of purpose

The aim of the African Studies programme at the University of Copenhagen is to provide students with insights into and a critical engagement with and understanding of Africa's cultural, religious, social, economic, political and developmental conditions, and to cultivate strong research, writing and analytical capacities. This aims to qualify students to work independently on contemporary issues related to Sub-Saharan Africa in a range of relevant professional fields, including as future academics.

The programme takes a broad interdisciplinary approach to the study of Africa, with a particular emphasis on combining disciplines from within the social sciences and humanities. In this regard, students are trained in the use of central themes and concepts from among the core disciplines associated with African Studies, which they will be able to apply when working on empirical material of a broad and complex nature.

The aim is for the student to acquire interdisciplinary skills in abstract problem formulation, application of suitable research methodologies, developing appropriate theoretical frameworks for analysis, and engaging analytically with empirical material, thus becoming qualified to work independently on contemporary issues related to Sub-Saharan Africa.

The programme is research-based. Emphasis is therefore placed on students acquiring the ability to carry out independent research and analyses, including the ability to make critical judgements concerning the use of relevant literature, theoretical approach, methodology, and what constitutes appropriate evidence. Moreover, students are expected to be able to communicate their academic knowledge and expertise to the general public.

1.3. Quality assurance and quality development

The principle of using external and internal examiners plays a key role in terms of maintaining the high academic level and continued quality development with due regard to the special conditions that apply to area studies. The Corps of External Examiners are appointed by the Board of Higher Education. A chairmanship is elected by and among the external examiners that after consultation with the university distributes tasks for the purposes of exam censoring. Emphasis is therefore placed on the team being representative of the disciplines that constitute African Studies, as well as of the professional areas in which the candidates have acquired relevant expertise.

To strengthen the relevance and quality of the study programme, it is organised in dialogue with representatives of relevant groups of prospective employers who are members of the Employers Panel at the Centre of African Studies. Similarly, experience gained by graduates in various working situations is also to be taken into account in the continued development of the quality and relevance of the study programme. The Study Board carries out regular evaluations of teaching instruction across the courses, and these evaluations are made available to the public.

The 2005-Curriculum for the African Studies entered into force 1 September 2005.

This revised Curriculum has been approved by the Dean, 26 April 2017.

2. Admission requirements, enrolment and title

2.1. Admission requirements and enrolment

Danish bachelor degrees

The following bachelor degrees from a Danish university qualify for admission into the MA programme in African Studies: A bachelor degree in political science, anthropology, geography, history, religion, international studies, cultural encounters and public health.

Foreign bachelor degrees

Students with a foreign bachelor degree in the above mentioned areas from a recognized university may be considered qualified for admission. Admission will only be granted if applicants, after a thorough assessment, are deemed to possess educational qualifications equivalent to those required to qualify for admission.

Other bachelor degrees

Students with a Danish or foreign bachelor degree in other fields related to African Studies or in the Social Sciences and Humanities may be considered qualified for admission. Admission will only be granted if applicants, after a thorough assessment by the Assessment Committee, are deemed to possess educational qualifications equivalent to those required to qualify for admission.

Professional bachelor degrees

Following a specific individual assessment, applicants holding a professional bachelor's degree can be admitted if the Assessment Committee deems that they have the appropriate educational background and the basic academic qualifications equivalent to the background and qualifications acquired through a bachelor degree from a university. The Assessment Committee may decide to have one of the programme's instructors conduct an interview with such applicants. The purpose of the interview is to clarify the academic qualifications of the applicant.

Prioritization criteria

If the programme gets more applicants than available slots, selection will be made on the basis of a comprehensive evaluation, with emphasis on the following criteria:

- General proficiency/grades in the qualifying degree programme.
- Grades achieved in subjects especially relevant to the applied programme.
- Relevant academic experience with Africa.
- Academic qualifications which relate to the disciplines that are central to the applied programme.
- Statement of how applicant's academic profile fits the programme, outline of academic knowledge of Africa, a description of the intended Master's thesis work, and the applicants motivation for applying.

2.2. Language

The MA programme in African Studies is offered as an all-English study programme. All exams are taken in English. Therefore, enrolment presupposes good English skills.

To gain admission non-Danish applicants must document qualifications on par with the Danish secondary school 'English level B'. The Faculty of Theology accepts the following three ways of documenting this:

- English is the applicant's native language.
- Prior studies completed in the English language/in an English speaking country.
- Applicants with English as their second language (except Scandinavians) must pass an IELTS, TOEFL or Cambridge Advanced English test before being admitted.

For full description of required language skills, see www.studies.ku.dk

2.3. Title

Graduates of the African Studies programme have the right to use the title MA (African Studies) (Danish title: *cand.mag.*).

2.4. General regulations

For the MA in African Studies, in addition to the rules set out in this curriculum, a number of general regulations apply.

The general regulations relate to entrance requirements and admission, withdrawal, re-enrollment and transfer, teaching and exam, requirements for academic integrity, prior approval and credit transfer, leave, dispensation and complaints.

Students should familiarize themselves with and follow the general regulations.

The general regulations are available on the study pages of KUnet.

3. Academic profile of African Studies

3.1. Structure and curriculum

The official length of the MA programme in African Studies is two years full-time study (120 ECTS points) distributed over four semesters with 30 ECTS credits required per semester. The total length of the programme of 120 ECTS cannot be exceeded.

As a rule, a semester comprises fourteen weeks of instruction. The programme comprises a number of compulsory core courses (60 ECTS points), elective components (30 ECTS points) and an MA thesis (30 ECTS points), and has been composed with due regard to academic coherence and progression in the course of study.

In addition to learning through the above-mentioned taught courses and research-based thesis, it is possible to develop additional specialised professional experience and qualifications through three options:

1. choosing an optional course (7.5/15 ECTS points) or
2. choosing a project-based module (internship or fieldwork) (15/22.5/30 ECTS points) or
3. choosing the language component, Kiswahili (7.5 ECTS points for each of Kiswahili 1 and Kiswahili 2).

It is mandatory that the compulsory courses, elective components and MA thesis that make up the programme are to be taken in the order set out below and with the associated points weighting. It should be noted that there are specific rules regarding the MA thesis. See section 4.3 MA thesis.

The Study programme without Kiswahili as elective components:

1 st semester	2 nd semester	3 rd semester	4 th semester
Nature, Population and Society in Africa 4 lessons per week 15 ECTS	Politics, Development and Change in Africa 4 lessons per week 15 ECTS	Elective components: A combination of one, two or four optional courses <i>or/and</i> Project-based module	MA thesis (with thesis course)
Economic Development in Africa 4 lessons per week 15 ECTS	Religion, Culture and Society in Africa 4 lessons per week 15 ECTS	30 ECTS	30 ECTS

The grey boxes are compulsory courses.

The Study programme with Kiswahili 1 and 2, making up half of the elective components:

1 st semester	2 nd semester	3 rd semester	4 th semester
Nature, Population and Society in Africa 4 lessons per week 15 ECTS	Politics, Development and Change in Africa 4 lessons per week 15 ECTS	Elective components: Optional course (15 ECTS) <i>or</i> optional courses (2 x 7.5 ECTS) <i>or</i> Project-based module (15 ECTS)	MA thesis (with thesis course) 30 ECTS
Economic Development in Africa 4 lessons per week 15 ECTS	Religion, Culture and Society in Africa 4 lessons per week 15 ECTS		
Elective component: Kiswahili 1 4 lessons per week 7.5 ECTS	Elective component: Kiswahili 2 4 lessons per week 7.5 ECTS		

The grey boxes are compulsory courses.

For Kiswahili:

To participate in Kiswahili 2, the student must have completed Kiswahili 1.

Students who want to participate in Kiswahili have to be aware that the Kiswahili courses are taken in addition to the compulsory courses of 60 ECTS in 1st and 2nd semester. The courses will account for 15 ECTS Optional Courses (3rd semester).

3.2. Competence profile

Graduates of African Studies acquire the knowledge, skills and competences listed below. Moreover, graduates gain individual and more specialized knowledge, skills, and competences that reflect their individual choice of elective courses (both topical and language courses) alongside the specific focus of their chosen fieldwork studies and/or internship. The knowledge, skills and competences outlined below qualify graduates to work within a number of fields including: international and local development sectors (both public and private); international relations (such as the fields of diplomacy, security or cross-cultural arenas); the media and wider communications sectors (print media, radio, TV, public relations); private business (a range of investment sectors in Africa); as well as within the broad interdisciplinary academic field of African Studies and related individual disciplines (research, teaching, communication).

A graduate in African Studies has the following competences:

KNOWLEDGE:

- Comprehensive and interdisciplinary knowledge of key themes and questions significant for African Studies including environmental issues, political economy and development economics, religion, culture, politics, and international development
- Specialized, research-based and in-depth knowledge within a selected number of topics related to African realities, such as urban governance, critical policy and planning, NGOs and civil society, migration and displacement, conflict, natural resource management, and globalization
- Knowledge and critical understanding of relevant theories from both the social sciences and the humanities that generate reflective approaches to key themes within African Studies
- Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of interdisciplinarity and the ability to identify and critically discuss research topics, questions and debates within African Studies

SKILLS:

- Command of interdisciplinary research methodologies that include both quantitative and qualitative approaches
- Ability to collect, process and analyze data, including the ability to choose adequate research methodologies
- Ability to independently assess and evaluate models for analysis and policy making, as well as to suggest new models based on scientific research
- Ability to communicate knowledge and to discuss both scientific and professional challenges addressed within the field of African Studies to both specialized and non-specialized audiences including researchers, media, international organizations and private companies.

COMPETENCES:

- Capacity to work independently and with flexibility in cross-cultural contexts with complex topics that demand interdisciplinary and creative approaches
- Ability to work independently and in teams within fields relevant to African realities (teaching, communication, health, development, humanitarianism, religion, administration)
- Ability to combine clear theoretical perspectives with a profound and in-depth empirical understanding and knowledge of African contexts, that facilitates critical problem identification and the suggestion of realistic solutions
- Capacity to reflect independently and responsibly on own learning processes as well as the ability to identify areas in which further learning is required

3.3. The interdisciplinary approach of the programme

The African Studies programme is an Area Study programme and by definition interdisciplinary. Students must acquire the analytical and methodological competence to take an interdisciplinary approach to African societies, and will be trained in the particular problems associated with combining concepts, theories and approaches from different disciplines.

4. Course descriptions and exam regulations

In the following section, the courses of the study programme are presented in chronological order.

The exam deadlines can be found on KUnet, and the students must become familiar with these regulations.

4.1. Compulsory courses

4.1.1. Nature, Population and Society in Africa

Description

This course reviews the disciplines, key issues and interdisciplinary working methods of African Studies, as well as focusing particularly on the three core themes of nature, population and society. It aims to provide a common frame of reference that extends beyond, as well as unites, the various academic qualifications acquired by the student in his or her Bachelor's studies.

Academic goals

The aim is for the student to acquire the following qualifications:

- Knowledge of key themes and theories related to African Studies.
- Knowledge of both relevant topics and the disciplines that are central to the course's focus on nature, population and society in Africa, especially geography, history, anthropology, sociology and political science.
- Overview and understanding of significant aspects of nature, population and society within contemporary Africa.
- Command of interdisciplinary working methods and research methodologies within African Studies.

Assessment criteria

The grade of 12 is given at the exam when the student demonstrates:

- Confident knowledge of the disciplines, history and academic terminology of African Studies.
- Confident ability to identify, define and consider an issue from an interdisciplinary and critical-analytical perspective.
- Confident ability to choose, analyse and present the material relevant to the issue in question in an independent and critical manner.
- Confident command of methodologies and concepts within the key disciplines of African Studies as well as contemporary research discussions.
- Confident ability to communicate academic material in a clear, concise and well-argued manner.

Instruction: Four lessons per week for one semester.

Syllabus: Set literature syllabus of 1,500-1,600 pages.

Exam: A seven-day take-home assignment of 36,000-48,000 characters. On the basis of the set syllabus the exam paper must contain an answer to one of three questions posed by the instructor. The student is free to choose which of the three questions he or she wishes to answer.

Examiner(s): External.

Assessment: 7-point grading scale.

Weighting: 15 ECTS points.

4.1.2. Economic Development in Africa

Description

The course will examine major current issues in development economics with special emphasis on how they relate to economic growth and poverty reduction in Sub-Saharan Africa. The course will cover macroeconomic issues (key sectors, growth determinants and international capital flows) and microeconomic issues (such as health, human capital and poverty dynamics). In addition to presenting stylized facts about the economic development in Sub-Saharan Africa, the course will pay particular attention to the different economic theories about economic growth and development and the policy implications that follow.

Academic goals

The aim is for the student to acquire the following qualifications:

- Knowledge of key concepts and a clear understanding of economic theory and methodology of relevance to economic development problems and economic policy in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Knowledge of central theories of economic development and the effects of the most important economic policy measures.
- Knowledge of the economic development and structures of African countries.

Assessment criteria

The grade 12 is given at the exam when the student demonstrates:

- In-depth knowledge of the prerequisites and implications for economic development issues as well as key socio-economic trends in Africa.
- Strong knowledge of the different theories used to explain and forward economic growth and development
- Solid understanding of both the macroeconomic and microeconomic issues (e.g. health, human capital, poverty dynamics).
- Ability to understand and use economic theories and tools to analyse relevant policies and outcomes of relevance to the region.

Instruction: Four lessons per week for one semester.

Syllabus: Set literature syllabus of max. 1,200 pages.

Exam: The exam is in two parts:

- A group essay to which each person in the group should contribute 4,800-12,000 characters. A group will consist of two-to-five students who are required to collaborate on an essay about a pre-determined topic. Individual contributions by each student must be identifiable

and will usually be in the form of an answer to a sub-question. The instructor will assist in the identification of both topics and sub-questions. The individual contribution to the group essay is included in the final assessment and the total weight of the contribution to the final grade is 30 %.

- An individual oral exam where the individual contribution to the essay will form the starting point for the oral exam. Focus for the first half of the oral exam will be the subject covered by the essay, whilst the last half of the oral exam will be comprehensive and cover the entire syllabus. The duration of the oral exam will be 30 minutes including grading. No preparation time is allowed. The individual oral exam is included in the final assessment and the total weight of the oral exam to the final grade is 70%.

Re-exam: (The re-exam is different from the ordinary exam)

If a student does not write a group paper he or she may not participate in the ordinary exam, which immediately follows the teaching. It also means that an exam attempt has been used if the student did not de-register in time. For the re-exam he or she will have to write an individual paper of 36,000-43,200 characters, following an oral exam of 30 minutes.

Examiner(s): External.

Assessment: The 7-point grading scale.

Weighting: 15 ECTS points.

4.1.3. Politics, Development and Change in Africa

Description

Grounded especially in disciplines within social science but also taking historical analysis into account, this course covers the study of complex social, political and political-economic phenomena in diverse and changing African contexts, and takes a critical approach to analysing the frameworks through which developmental challenges in Africa are constructed and addressed.

Academic goals

The aim is for the student to acquire the following qualifications:

- Ability to use the knowledge and theoretical and methodological frameworks acquired during the two core courses of the first semester, to take an interdisciplinary approach to topics relating to politics, development and change.
- Interdisciplinary overview and understanding of significant themes and topics related to politics, development and change within contemporary Africa.
- Ability to analyse complex social, political and political-economic phenomena in diverse and changing African contexts.
- Ability to identify and critically analyse approaches to and realities of the developmental challenges that Africa faces.
- Ability to incorporate political and administrative-institutional dimensions into the analysis of Africa's varied contemporary empirical realities.
- Knowledge of Africa's place in international political, social and economic systems.
- Mastery of the different stages of the writing process and the methodological and conceptual structuring of a major written assignment. The student must be able to demonstrate the ability to define, specify and analyse the issue that makes up the topic of a major written

assignment. The assignment must be interdisciplinary in nature, and the student must, in his or her assignment, demonstrate the ability to present the given topic and the results of the assignment in a systematic form, which is accessible to a wider audience.

Assessment criteria

The grade of 12 is given at the exam when the student demonstrates:

- Comprehensive expertise in interdisciplinary analysis of topics relating to politics, development and change in Africa.
- Confident ability to independently identify, define and analyse an issue.
- Confident ability to independently discuss the issue in question from an interdisciplinary perspective.
- Confident ability to independently and critically select, analyse and produce relevant material.
- Confident ability to communicate academic material in a clear, concise and well-argued manner.

Instruction:

The course consists of three modules. The first is an instruction module focusing on the theoretical and methodological aspects of the course, which is to teach the student a critical awareness of how information is gathered, processed and communicated. In addition, the module's aim is to shed light on relevant issues in respect of the development of African society. The second module consists of the preparation of an individual written paper. It will be possible to obtain individual supervision in connection with the preparation of the paper. The third module consists of an opponent phase in which the individual papers of the students are presented, and the students receive feedback from the lecturer and the students participating. The course concludes with a written assignment, which also marks the conclusion of the first year of the African Studies programme.

Instruction is divided into three stages:

- An eight-week module with four lessons per week based on a set literature syllabus comprising 750-800 pages.
- A four-week module with supervision for writing a paper based on a question and syllabus developed by the student. The paper must be geared towards meeting the same requirements as the final exam paper (see below). The supervision will cover the focus of the paper, problem outline and a working question, choice of literature and approach. Each student is entitled to 2 x 15 minutes of individual supervision.
- A two-week module (opponent phase) in which it is compulsory for each student to present a paper in a close-to full form. The papers are presented in groups, and the group members provide feedback. Participation in feedback groups is compulsory. Each student is allotted 30 minutes of feedback. The final exam paper will be able to be revised on the basis of the feedback received during this opponent phase.

Syllabus: Each student must submit a combined syllabus for approval by the instructor prior to finalisation of the exam. This should consist of 1,500-1,600 pages comprising literature both from the set teaching syllabus and the student's individual syllabus related to the topic of the exam paper. The set syllabus must constitute at least 50% of the combined syllabus. The student's combined syllabus must be approved by the instructor before submission of the final paper.

Exam: The exam paper must be 36,000 – 48,000 characters in length. If a student has not participated in the compulsory opponent phase, he or she will have to submit a longer exam paper of 54.000-60.000 characters in length.

Examiner(s): External.

Assessment: 7-point grading scale.

Weighting: 15 ECTS points.

4.1.4. Religion, Culture and Society in Africa

Description

With a background in the traditions of the humanities and social sciences, this course studies African culture and religion in a societal context.

Academic goals

The aim is for the student to acquire the following qualifications:

- Overview and understanding of significant aspects of the cultural, religious and social dimensions of contemporary Africa.
- Knowledge of and insight into the significance of African cultural heritage for understanding contemporary social and political conditions with special focus on the changes that African societies are undergoing in connection with such large-scale trends as urbanisation and migration.
- Insights into the interaction between local African and global religious and cultural developments.

Assessment criteria

The grade of 12 is given at the exam when the student demonstrates:

- Good overview of the diversity of Africa's religious and cultural traditions.
- Well-developed ability to analyse African religious and cultural phenomena in their societal contexts.
- Clear understanding of the contemporary significance, utilisation and reshaping of African religious and cultural traditions.
- Clear understanding of the interaction between local African and global religious and cultural developments.
- Confident ability to conduct a methodological and theoretical analysis of literature and other material on Africa's religions and cultures.

Instruction: Four lessons per week for one semester.

Syllabus: Set literature syllabus of 1,500-1,800 pages.

Exam: A seven-day take-home assignment of a maximum of 36,000 – 48,000 characters. The exam paper must contain an answer to one of three questions posed by the instructor at the end of the semester. The student is free to choose which of the three questions he or she wishes to answer.

Examiner(s): External.

Assessment: 7-point grading scale.

Weighting: 15 ECTS points.

4.2. Elective components

Elective components take place in the third semester of one's studies, with exception of Kiswahili, following the completion of the compulsory courses. One has a variety of opportunities in which one can use the 30 ECTS study points allocated for elective components: Optional courses at CAS, other faculties at the University of Copenhagen or other universities in Denmark; project-based modules in the form of an Internship or Field Study; or studying abroad as an exchange student for a semester.

4.2.1. Optional courses

Description

Optional courses give the student the opportunity to expand and deepen his or her knowledge in special focus areas of his or her own choosing, which are either topical within Africa-related research, or are of significance for the understanding of specific aspects of the development of contemporary Africa. Possible course themes include: critical development planning and policy, environmental and resource problems, conflict and conflict resolution, displacement and migration, HIV/AIDS, human rights, religion, literature, democratisation, urbanisation, youth, agricultural development etc. Through the optional courses, the student has the opportunity to work with selected topics of his or her own choosing, which can contribute to building a competency profile geared towards specific job functions.

Academic goals

The aim is for the student to acquire the following qualifications:

- Ability to select, in consultation with the instructor, a relevant sub-topic within the overall focus area of the thematic course. The sub-topic will often be empirical in nature and geared towards specific conditions in Africa, but it can also be more theoretical.
- Ability to independently and critically select relevant literature on the sub-topic to be studied.
- Ability to independently and critically analyse the sub-topic in question and to place it within the overall context of the optional course in question.

Assessment criteria

The grade of 12 is given at the exam when the student demonstrates:

- Confident ability to identify and define a sub-topic and an issue of relevance to the overall theme of the optional course.
- Confident ability to independently and critically select relevant literature on the sub-topic to be studied.
- Confident ability to independently and critically analyse the sub-topic in question and the chosen literature.
- Confident ability to conduct an interdisciplinary analysis of the sub-topic in question and to place it within the overall theme of the optional course in question.
- Confident ability to communicate academic material in a clear, concise and well-argued manner.

Instruction: Each optional course comprises two lessons (7.5 ECTS points) or four lessons (15 ECTS points) per week for one semester. Several optional courses are offered each semester. Optional courses may also be offered in condensed form, for instance as a summer course.

Syllabus: The instructor provides a course literature syllabus of 900-1,200 pages (7.5 ECTS points) or 1,500-1,800 pages (15 ECTS points). On conclusion of the course, each student must submit a combined syllabus for approval prior to finalisation of the exam. The combined syllabus should consist of 900-1,200 pages (7.5 ECTS points) or 1,500-1,800 pages (15 ECTS points) with literature both from the set course syllabus and the student's individual syllabus related to the topic of the exam paper. The combined syllabus must constitute at least 50% of the course syllabus. If an optional course is offered as a condensed/compact seminar, the entire syllabus submitted for the exam is the set syllabus.

Exam: The exam is a written exam

Written exam (7.5 ECTS): A written paper on a topic of the student's own choosing of 24,000 – 28,800 characters (incl. spaces) excluding front page, notes, syllabus and any appendices.

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Written exam (15 ECTS): A written paper on a topic of the student's own choosing of 36,000 – 43,200 characters (incl. spaces) excluding front page, notes, syllabus and any appendices.

In connection with optional courses offered in condensed form, the exam is taken only as a written assignment.

Students can participate in and register for group examination in optional courses without having a dispensation and approval from the Study Board. The students have to register the group at the Exam Office. A group can consist of a maximum of 3 students.

For written group exams the requirements for the syllabus and length of paper is the same as in the current Study Curriculum, i.e. you multiply the requirements by the number of students in the group. The authors of the individual sections must be clearly identified in the optional course. The length and bibliography requirements are the same as stated above for each author.

For oral group exams the Study Board decided that the time for the oral exam will be multiplied with the number of students in the group.

For all group exams students will be given individual grades.

All three attempts for a given optional course have to be conducted within a year following the conclusion of the course.

Examiner(s): External or internal.

Assessment: 7-point grading scale.

Weighting: 7.5/15 ECTS points.

4.2.2. Kiswahili

4.2.2.1. Kiswahili 1

Description

This course is comprised of basic instruction in Kiswahili. The main objective of the course is to give the students skills in Kiswahili, as well as broaden their knowledge concerning the language to

enable students to express themselves understandably in Kiswahili. Working with the relevant texts and dialogues will give the student competencies in analyzing texts, generally, and at the same time enable the student to get a deeper understanding of the cultural dimensions of life associated with Kiswahili speaking peoples, details of which are clearly described in the texts and dialogues. The students will get a wider understanding of relevant culture and history, which is a key element to their learning to use the language. Students will acquire the ability to translate Kiswahili into English at a beginner level and vice versa, as well as be able to identify the most important differences in the two languages.

Course Content

- Text analysis and dissemination
- Listening comprehension
- Grammar
- Written and oral dissemination
- Grammar and translation from Kiswahili to English (short texts and dialogues)
- Translation from English to Kiswahili (short texts and dialogues)
- Grammar and perspectives in language description and language awareness
- Kiswahili language, the history and culture of Tanzania.

Academic goals

The aim is for the student to acquire the following qualifications:

- Mastery of the language at a basic level – to read and translate texts.
- Knowledge and understanding of how language and texts may be described and analyzed
- Develop critical skills in the close reading and analysis of short texts and dialogues
- Analyze texts and define their constituent parts.

Assessment criteria

The grade passed is given when the student demonstrates:

- Ability to write a summary of an oral text
- Ability to translate text (s) from Kiswahili to English and vice versa
- Ability to write a short text
- Ability to describe a picture (s) by placing it /them in its/their wider context
- Ability to make a grammatical analysis of a text (s)
- Ability to use correct grammatical terminology when analyzing a text (s)

Instruction: Four lessons per week for one semester.

Syllabus: Set syllabus of approx. 125 pages of textbook material including grammar, and approximately 25 pages of general texts and some listening exercises.

Exam: The exam takes the form of an oral exam at the end of the period of instruction. The exam has a duration of 15 minutes including assessment, with 15 minutes of preparation time and access to specified reference works.

Examiner: Internal

Assessment: Pass or Fail

Weighting: 7.5 ECTS

4.2.2.2. Kiswahili 2

Description

This course comprises instruction in Kiswahili, including grammar and text reading. To participate, the student must have completed Kiswahili 1.

In relation to work, education and everyday life, the main objective of the course is to develop the student's communication skills, that is, to use coherent, nuanced, complex and a high degree of correct language in situations, in which the context and content are both known and unknown. The student will be able to understand commonly occurring communication where the language used is nuanced, as well as analyse complex texts, write clear, concise, grammatically correct and accurately spelled prose.

Academic goals

The aim is for the student to acquire the following qualifications:

- Mastery of the language at a level enabling him or her to conduct a conversation and read relatively simple texts in Kiswahili. The level should correspond to level 2-3 on the UN scale for language proficiency.
- A broad understanding of the Kiswahili language, including its history and contemporary use.
- Develop skills in the interpretation of both literary and non-literary texts, including spoken, written and multi-modal texts.
- Ability to formulate complex sentences in Kiswahili and analyse their morphology and syntax.

Assessment criteria

The grade of 12 is given at the exam when the student demonstrates:

- Confident ability to read and summarize orally – with a good flow – both prepared and unprepared prose and non-fiction texts in Kiswahili (at a level corresponding to a newspaper article).
- Confident ability to conduct orally a grammatical analysis of prepared prose and non-fiction texts.
- Confident ability to translate orally unprepared prose and non-fiction texts into English.
- Confident ability to conduct a brief grammatical analysis of these texts orally.

Instruction: Four lessons per week for one semester.

Syllabus: Set syllabus of approx. 250 pages of textbook material, including grammar, and approx. 50 pages of general texts and some listening exercises with five minute long radio and TV recordings.

Exam: The exam takes the form of an oral exam. The exam has duration of 30 minutes including assessment, with 30 minutes of preparation time and access to specified reference works.

Examiner(s): External.

Assessment: 7-point grading scale.

Weighting: 7.5 ECTS points.

4.2.3 Project-based module (Internship and Field Study)

Overall Description

Internship and Field Study constitute non-taught project-based modules, through which one can attain either 15 ECTS, 22.5 ECTS or 30 ECTS points, depending on the length of time of the activity. It is possible to undertake either just one of these modules (of either 15 ECTS, 22.5 ECTS or 30 ECTS points), or two modules (either one of each or two of the same) totalling 30 ECTS for a maximum of 15 ECTS points each.

These need to be undertaken in the third semester of the MA degree, and care should be taken to register online for these during the course registration period.

Both the Internship and Field Study projects require a supervisor, which should be drawn from the staff based at CAS. Furthermore, both require documented proposals to be approved by the supervisor prior to the commencement of the activity.

The Internship and Field Study must have direct relevance to African Studies and must therefore normally take place in Africa. However, an Internship and Field Study taking place outside Africa will be permitted if the Internship assignments or the location of the Field Study relate specifically to Africa.

Field Study

The proposal should be at least 12,000 characters in length (approximately 5 pages) and must be approved by the supervisor before the Field Study can be accepted. The proposal must include a work plan stating the location of the fieldwork to be undertaken during the Field Study, the overall focus and theme and a preliminary working question for the planned investigation, as well as a presentation of the main methods and ethical aspects of the fieldwork. The proposal must also include a preliminary list of literature relevant for the Field Study.

Internship

The proposal must be at least 12,000 characters in length (approximately 5 pages) and must be approved by the supervisor before the Internship can be accepted. The proposal must include an outline of the relevance of the Internship to the MA studies, an outline of the organisation and its scope of activities, the anticipated focus of the work activities that the student will undertake, an indication of the academic theme associated with the internship and a preliminary list of literature relevant to this. Finally, the proposal must include a brief discussion of the anticipated challenges the Internship may present and possible ways to deal with these.

Academic Goals

- The objective of the Internship is to gain practical knowledge and experience in carrying out professional assignments and participating in activities that are relevant to one or more of the subject areas that make up African Studies. Insights, knowledge and data gathered during an Internship may be part of the preparation for the MA thesis.
- The objective of a Field Study is to gather material on a specific topic and to give the student experience in a concrete research environment that is characteristic of an academic

fieldwork situation. The student must be able to apply common qualitative and/or quantitative fieldwork methods relevant to the research topic. Insights, knowledge and data gathered during the Field Study may be part of the preparation for the MA thesis.

- For both the Internship and Field Study, the knowledge that is collected during the project period must relate to a topic that the student has agreed with his or her supervisor prior to embarking on the project activity.

Assessment Criteria

The grade of 'Pass' is given when the student demonstrates:

- Ability to collect and systematise data through an Internship or Field Study.
- Ability to independently and critically analyse the material collected and the practical experience acquired in the light of the subject area that is the focus of the work.
- Ability to reflect theoretically and methodologically on the topic in question, including the ability to place it in relation to one or more of the fields that comprise African Studies.

Instruction: In order to be credit-earning, an Internship or Field Study must have a duration of either 9-15 weeks for 15 ECTS points, or 16-19 weeks for 22.5 ECTS, or 20-26 weeks for 30 ECTS points, followed by a written paper. Students however, who have registered for more than the mandatory 30 ECTS in courses in first and second semester, may conduct an Internship or Field Study of 15 ECTS points regardless of whether the duration is more than 15 weeks in the third semester.

Syllabus: The paper must be based on relevant academic literature with a scope of 1,250-1,500 pages (15 ECTS points), or 1,500-1,750 pages (22.5 ECTS), or 1,750-2,000 pages (30 ECTS points). The syllabus must be approved by the supervisor. In addition, the student must include an appendix that lists the material collected during the stay and used in the report.

Exam: A written exam paper with a scope of 24,000 – 31,200 characters (15 ECTS points), or 36,000 – 43,200 characters (22.5 ECTS), or 48,000 – 62,400 characters (30 ECTS points).

The written paper must include three parts.

The first and shortest part is a reflection on the original proposal prepared by the student and approved prior to his/her commencement of the Internship and/or Field Study. (The original proposal must be attached as an Appendix.)

The second part describes the practical dimensions of the Internship or Field Study.

The third part of the essay is an analysis of the theme which the student has worked on during the Internship or Field Study. It must be based on the data which the student has collected during the stay, as well as on the academic literature offered by the student as part of the examination requirements.

Examiner(s): Internal.

Assessment: Pass/fail.

Weighting: 15, 22.5 or 30 ECTS points.

4.3. MA thesis

Description

The MA thesis is the final part of the African Studies programme. The thesis gives the student the opportunity to work independently, critically and in-depth with a topic of his or her own choice from the field of African Studies.

A part of thesis writing is participation in a thesis seminar. This provides the opportunity to discuss general issues related to undertaking independent research and writing a thesis.

The student must choose his or her own topic within the academic framework of African Studies. The MA thesis is written under the guidance of a supervisor and with a time limit of six months.

Academic goals

The aim is for the student to acquire the following qualifications:

- Advanced knowledge of a specific area within the field of African Studies.
- Ability to independently and competently identify and define an issue and to investigate it utilising academic methods and scientific argumentation.
- Ability to independently search for, select and utilise relevant literature and other material.
- Ability to independently and confidently analyse the issue in question from a theoretical and methodological point of view.
- Ability to confidently demonstrate the interdisciplinary methodologies that have been practised throughout the course of study.
- Ability to communicate academic content clearly and concisely in writing at a high academic level.
- Ability to complete a comprehensive project within a set time-frame.

Assessment criteria

The grade of 12 is given when the student in his or her MA thesis demonstrates:

- Comprehensive and relevant knowledge of the topic in question and in-depth understanding of the topic's perspectives.
- Academic confidence in the problem outline and planning of the relevant material.
- Confident ability to discuss academic content, taking a critical and methodological approach.
- Excellent skills in written communication of academic content, spelling and communication skills will also be assessed.
- Excellent skills in written communication of academic content and of thesis summary for non-specialists.

Agreement on supervision, thesis seminar and deadline

Each semester the Centre of African Studies offers a thesis seminar. This aims to provide students with crucial guidance for framing and writing their thesis. MA students must sign up for the thesis seminar the same way they sign up for courses.

It is a prerequisite that the student has passed 90 ECTS before writing the MA thesis. The submission of the MA thesis presupposes that the student has registered with an approved thesis agreement (dissertation contract) in the Self Service system at KUnet.

When the deadline for submission of the thesis has been set, withdrawal cannot take place, and one examination attempt is used, if the student fails to submit the thesis within the deadline

The MA thesis is written in the final semester of the course of study. The Study Board can give an exemption when it is justified by exceptional circumstances.

If the MA thesis is submitted after the set deadline, it will be regarded as a used exam attempt. Illness is the only legitimate reason for withdrawal from the MA thesis exam. If the MA thesis is not submitted on time, or if it earns a grade of 00 or -3, the student must conclude an agreement with the supervisor concerning changes to the project outline within the same subject area, and the student has a time-frame of three months (incl. holidays etc.) to rewrite the MA thesis. If necessary, a third exam attempt may take place in accordance with the same rules. In special cases, the Study Board may give permission for a change of supervisor in connection with a second or third exam attempt.

Scope, syllabus etc.

The MA thesis must have a scope of 120,000 – 180,000 characters (incl. summary) and must be written on the basis of 2,000-3,000 pages of literature. Up to 30% of the syllabus for the MA thesis may consist of previously listed material.

The MA thesis must be written in English. The MA thesis must contain a summary for non-specialists of a maximum of 1 page which can be written in Danish or English.”

The title of the MA thesis and the bibliography must be approved by the supervisor.

Students can participate in and register for group examination in the MA thesis without having a dispensation and approval from the Study Board. The students have to register the group at the Exam Office. A group can consist of a maximum of 3 students.

For written group exams the requirements for the syllabus and length of paper is the same as in the current Study Curriculum, i.e. you multiply the requirements by the number of students in the group. The authors of the individual sections must be clearly identified in the MA thesis. The length and bibliography requirements are the same as stated above for each author.

For oral group exams the Study Board decided that the time for the oral exam will be multiplied with the number of students in the group.

For all group exams students will be given individual grades.

Exam: An oral exam then takes place where the student presents his or her thesis and is then questioned on it. The exam has a duration of 45 minutes including assessment. If the MA thesis is written as a group paper, there is an oral exam for each student.

Examiner(s): External.

Assessment: 7-point grading scale. The grade is based on a combined assessment of the written thesis and the oral presentation.

Weighting: 30 ECTS points.

Credit transfer for prize papers

Credit for a prize paper that has earned a gold medal at a Danish university is transferable. In such cases, the prize paper takes the place of the MA thesis, and it is automatically awarded the grade of 12.

If a student wishes to submit a prize paper for assessment as an MA thesis, then it must be stated when the MA thesis is submitted that the paper is also submitted as a prize paper. This automatically results in an exemption from the length and bibliography rules that otherwise apply to MA theses. A Danish and English summary must be written according to the rules for prize papers. If the assessment of the paper as an MA thesis takes place concurrently with its assessment as a prize paper, the evaluation committee is appointed according to the rules for prize papers. The assessment of the paper as an MA thesis follows the rest of the rules for assessment of MA theses, and it is not necessary to await the assessment of the paper as a prize paper. The regulations for the transfer of credit for prize papers apply to prize papers written in 2006 and later.

4.4. Registration for courses, exams and re-exams

Students will be registered administratively for compulsory courses on first and second semester in the first study year. It is thereafter the responsibility of each student to register for compulsory courses and elective components within the registration deadline. In a subsequent post-registration period, students may deregister and register for courses, if there are places available. See, however, the requirement for continuous study activity and maximum programme completion times. It is not possible to withdraw from a course after the end of the post-registration period other than in cases of exceptional circumstances.

Students will be registered administratively for the first exam attempt in connection with course registration. Students have the option to withdraw from the first, second and third exam attempts within the set deadlines. See, however, the requirements for continuous study activity and maximum programme completion times.

Students are responsible for registering for second and third exam attempts and re-registering for the first exam attempt within the set registration deadlines. Students decide for themselves when to sit their exam attempts. See, however, the requirements for continuous study activity and maximum programme completion times.

If a student does not sit an exam he/she has registered for, it shall be considered as an exam attempt unless exceptional circumstances apply. If a student does not pass the exam he/she can register for the exam again, as one may register for the same exam three times.

4.5. Requirements for continuous study activity

Students must, as a minimum, pass exams for a total of 45 ECTS credits each study year. The requirement is administered as an accumulated study activity requirement.

Students must be given the opportunity to sit three exam attempts in courses from the study year in question before they can be disenrolled from the programme. As a result, students who, after the end of a study year, have not passed the accumulated number of ECTS credits in accordance with

the study activity requirement, will be notified of the time by which they must fulfil the study activity requirement in order to remain on the programme. Students in this situation will be offered student counselling.

4.6. Maximum programme completion times

Students enrolled as per 1 September 2016 or later must have completed their Master's degree programme within the prescribed time + one year. Students who have not completed their programme within the maximum completion times will be disenrolled from the university.

Transitional arrangements for students enrolled on the Master's degree programme before 1 September 2016:

Students enrolled in the Master's degree programme as per 1 February 2016 must have completed the programme no later than 31 January 2020.

Students enrolled in the Master's degree programme as per 1 September 2015 must have completed the programme no later than 31 August 2019.

Students enrolled in the Master's degree programme as per 1 February 2015 must have completed the programme no later than 31 January 2019.

Students enrolled in the Master's degree programme as per 1 September 2014 or earlier must have completed the programme no later than 31 August 2018.

5. Exemption, preapproval and credit transfer

5.1. Exemption

If there are exceptional circumstances, the Study Board may approve derogations from the curriculum.

The Study Board may provide special examination conditions for students with physical or mental disabilities, when the Study Board assesses that this is necessary for equality of the students in the exam situation. It should be emphasized that there is no change in the requirements for the exam.

The Study Board may grant an exemption from the study activity requirement if a student is an elite athlete, an entrepreneur, chairman of a voluntary organisation under the Danish Youth Council or in cases of exceptional circumstances, for example in cases of disability.

The Study Board may grant an exemption from the maximum completion times for completing the Master's degree programmes, in cases of exceptional circumstances, for example in cases of disability.

5.2. Preapproval

Preapprovals for studies at other faculties or universities should be applied for to the Study Board prior to the beginning of the studies.

5.3. Credit transfer

Students admitted to the study programme must apply for credit-transfer for passed courses from all previous uncompleted study programmes. Failure by the student to do so may result in sanctions by the university's disciplinary rules. Students may apply for credit-transfer for passed courses from previous completed educations. Students must apply for credit-transfer for pre-approved courses.

Credit transfer is approved on an individual basis by the Study Board.

6. Expiration of previous curricula

The previous 2005-curriculum, revised 1 August 2016, expires 31 August 2017.