

**OFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF**  
**Fachspezifische Bestimmungen für den Studiengang African**  
**Languages and Cultures (M.A.)**

**Vom 12. April 2023**

**(Amtliche Bekanntmachung Nr. 74 vom 8. August 2023)**

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ONLY THE GERMAN VERSION SHALL BE LEGALLY  
VALID AND ENFORCEABLE!**

**Subject-Specific Provisions for the Master of Arts (MA)**  
**in African Languages and Cultures**

**dated 12 April 2023**

On 15 May 2023 in accordance with Section 108 subsection 1 of the Hamburg higher education act (Hamburgisches Hochschulgesetz, HmbHG) dated 18 July 2001 (HmbGVBl. p. 171) as amended on 17 June 2017 (HmbGVBl. p. 468), the Executive University Board of Universität Hamburg ratified the Subject-Specific Provisions for the Master of Arts in Manuscript Cultures adopted by the Faculty of Humanities on 12 April 2023 pursuant to Section 91 subsection 2 number 1 HmbHG.

## Preamble

These Subject-Specific Provisions supplement the revisions to the Examination Regulations by the Faculty of Humanities at Universität Hamburg for Master of Arts Degree Programs dated 6 May 2015, as amended, and furnish a description of the modules for the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures.

### I. Supplemental provisions

#### Section 1:

#### **Program and examination objectives, academic degree, and implementation of the degree program**

##### **Section 1 subsection 1:**

(1) In principle, the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures is research oriented. The course of study teaches advanced knowledge in the subjects of African studies and/or Ethiopian studies in particularly relevant research and application fields with a particular focus on practical and professional application. Moreover, in joint cross-cutting modules, students of all specializations learn the general methodological skills they will need later on—in nonuniversity professional practice, consulting, or international organizations. The specific content of the specialization modules provides a high level of academic qualification in the chosen subject.

(2) The degree program allows students to specialize in one of four specializations:

Applied African Linguistics: Language Education and Language Planning

Linguistic Analysis and Language Documentation

Ethiopian and Eritrean Studies

Language in Culture

(3) Specialization 1—Applied African Linguistics: Language Education and Language Planning provides students with skills in the field of language policy and language planning with a particular focus on the aspects of multilingualism in education systems in African states and the educational background of individuals with African heritage in Germany. Graduates are qualified to work in practical or academic consulting careers.

Students are able to develop strategies for implementing language policy and language education initiatives and develop systematic teaching material, status, and corpus planning, as well as developing the fields of software localization and terminology development. They obtain knowledge of fundamental problems in implementing literacy and education programs and are also familiar with the

sociopolitical implications of language policy on social justice, enabling them to competently estimate the potential conflicts resulting from language policy decisions in multiethnic African settings. In addition, students obtain fundamental ethnographic and sociolinguistic knowledge, particularly in relation to the diverse aspects of multilingual socialization in Africa, incorporating literacy acquisition and informal learning.

Applied African Linguistics: Language Education and Language Planning qualifies students for professions working in migration and multilingualism in relation to the African continent. It also opens up opportunities for work as a consultant in the nonprofit sector and further qualification in teaching African cultures and intercultural communication, as well as in the public service or in educational institutions, and particularly in international organizations.

(4) The Linguistic Analysis and Language Documentation specialization teaches the diversity of lexical and grammatical structures in African languages, their modern use, and the conditions for their creation and change. Students develop their active knowledge of at least two African languages. They obtain deeper insights into the purposes, methods, and results of language description and classification in Africa. The application and reflection of the methods of linguistic field research establishes a strong relationship to practical research and enables students to independently conduct and evaluate linguistic research in Africa and present the results in an academically appropriate form. This qualification opens a broad field of occupations in basic research (documenting and maintaining human cultural history, documenting linguistic change as part of the cultural-identity creation process between assimilation and social differentiation) as well as in applied fields such as language support (orthography, school textbook publication).

The Linguistic Analysis and Language Documentation specialization aims to equip students with the ability to critically analyze theories and methods as well as to independently formulate and consider particular academic topics at the master's degree level. The program goals for the Linguistic Analysis and Language Documentation profile are:

1. expansion of the ability to independently generate and analyze primary linguistic data on African languages and language variants and to reflect on the methods used
2. ability to critically reflect on academic methods and results and on grammatical and lexical aspects of African languages
3. ability to independently develop research questions and paths to solutions in the above fields

#### 4. expansion and deepening of active language skills

(5) The Ethiopian and Eritrean Studies specialization provides in-depth knowledge and skills in the scholarly description and analysis of cultures, history, languages, literature, and religions of Ethiopia and Eritrea in their historical development and current manifestations. This deals with a clearly delineated subject area within African studies that is closely related to Semitic studies and Christian-Oriental studies. The specialization focuses on transferring expanded and in-depth knowledge of Ethiopian and Eritrean languages (based on the traditional Geez language and the most common languages Amharic and Tigrinya). It applies philological methods and specifically uses handwritten manuscripts. By selecting this specialization, students gain the ability to analyze texts in Ethiopian and Eritrean languages as well as linguistic and literature studies materials. Students thus acquire the ability to independently conduct academic explorations of relevant historical (focusing on ancient and premodern history), linguistic historical, religious, literary, cultural, and manuscript phenomena.

The specialization qualifies students for professions working with cultural establishments related to Ethiopia and Eritrea in the area of documenting and safeguarding cultural heritage.

(6) In the Language in Culture specialization, students take a scholarly approach to spoken culture(s) and forms of communication in African communities. In this context, students acquire the fundamental knowledge required to understand processes of social interaction and the transmission of collective knowledge in sub-Saharan Africa. In addressing the frameworks of local social conditions, the specialization focuses on examining communication in multilingual contexts. Students are made familiar with the collective construction process for local significance in the context of social diversity. Through the development of existing proficiency in Swahili, Hausa, or Amharic (or the learning of the basics of another African language), students acquire deeper insights into the local ideas of linguistic agency and traditional knowledge.

As part of the specialization, students are encouraged to independently develop relevant research questions and methodological solutions in relation to the described topics and to reflect on the results of research literature as derived from the analysis of primary data. The specialization focuses its methodology on corpus-based discourse and text analyses as well as on quantitative empirical approaches in sociolinguistics and social-network research. The specialization qualifies students for professions

working in media institutions, in the field of international collaboration, and in the field documenting and safeguarding cultural heritage.

**Section 1 subsection 4:**

The Faculty of Humanities is responsible for administering the African Languages and Cultures degree program.

**Section 4:  
Program and examination structure  
Modules and ECTS credits**

**Section 4 subsection 2:**

(1) The Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures comprises modules totaling 120 ECTS credits.

(2) The following cross-specialization required modules (cross-sectional modules) must be taken:

1. Approaches to Language Data Analysis and Management
2. Historical Linguistics and Populations Histories

(3) The cross-specialization required module African Languages (10 ECTS credits) must be taken.

(4) In addition, the following modules must be taken:

(a) For specialization 1, Applied African Linguistics: Language Education and Language Planning, the following modules amounting to 20 ECTS credits must be taken:

1. Linguistic Socialization and Education in Africa (10 ECTS credits)
2. Language Policies, Corpus and Status Planning (10 ECTS credits)

(a) For specialization 2, Linguistic Analysis and Language Documentation, the following modules amounting to 20 ECTS credits must be taken:

1. Linguistic Fieldwork and Descriptive Analysis of African Languages I (10 ECTS credits)
2. Linguistic Fieldwork and Descriptive Analysis of African Languages II (10 ECTS credits)

(a) For specialization 3, Ethiopian and Eritrean Studies, the following modules amounting to 20 ECTS credits must be taken:

1. Theory and Methods of Ethiopian and Eritrean Philology (10 ECTS credits)
2. Linguistic History of Ethiopia and Eritrea (10 ECTS credits)

(d) For specialization 4, Language in Culture, the following modules amounting to 20 ECTS credits must be taken:

1. Cognition, Knowledge and Culture (10 ECTS credits)
2. Society, Media and Public Discourse (10 ECTS credits)

(5) In the subject-specific elective area, students broaden, expand, and supplement their subject-specific knowledge according to their interests. They must complete modules or courses amounting to 30 ECTS credits from the entire range of courses offered in the African studies learning unit and other related units, as listed in the course catalog. Courses may not have been completed within the framework of the specialization, and the corresponding coursework and examinations still remain outstanding. Students may choose from the following options:

1. Semester abroad (30 ECTS credits, ideally in the third semester) at a European or African university in coordination and consultation with a member of the degree program teaching staff (learning agreement).
2. Advanced language courses: participation in additional courses from the African Languages and Cultures degree program available for the subject-specific elective area that have not yet been completed in the bachelor's degree program or whose coursework and examinations still remain outstanding participation requirements are listed in the course descriptions the number of ECTS credits is listed in the module descriptions or for the respective course advanced language courses must be completed in the order listed in the curriculum
3. Courses for subject-specific advanced or in-depth knowledge: participation in seminars, practical courses, or lectures from the range of subjects offered in other specializations. Participation requirements are listed in the course descriptions. The number of ECTS credits is listed in the module descriptions or for the respective course.
4. Participation in an online or blended-learning course in Africa studies degree programs at other universities. The workload is calculated in ECTS credit points pursuant to Section 4 subsection 4. A certificate of attendance from the relevant organizer must be submitted, stating the number of ECTS credits earned.
5. For the specialization Applied African Linguistics: Internships and professional experience: practical testing of the subject-specific and interdisciplinary skills acquired to date as part of a subject-related internship (at least 12 weeks full-time) vocational course (28 ECTS credits) and completed coursework in the form of an internship report (2 ECTS credits) will be accredited pursuant to the ECTS credits earned.

(6) In the elective area, students broaden and expand their studies individually and according to their needs, including outside the subject area. For this purpose, 20 ECTS credits must be completed in designated modules and courses offered by the Department of Asia-Africa Studies, other departments in the Faculty of Humanities, and other faculties and institutions at Universität Hamburg. In principle, all options from the subject-specific elective area may also be selected for the elective area, provided corresponding modules and courses have not yet been completed in the subject-specific elective area and the corresponding coursework and examinations still remain outstanding.

1. The following additional options are available:
2. Regular participation as an audience member in institutional colloquia, multiday academic conferences, and lecture series in coordination and consultation with a university teacher from the degree program. The workload is calculated in ECTS credits pursuant to Section 4 subsection 4. A certificate of attendance from the relevant organizer must be submitted, stating the number of ECTS credits earned.

Participation in a discipline-related summer school or summer university in Germany or abroad in coordination and consultation with a university teacher from the degree program (learning agreement). The workload is calculated in ECTS credits pursuant to Section 4 subsection 4. A certificate of attendance from the relevant organizer must be submitted, stating the number of ECTS credits earned.

(7) The final module contains a total of 30 ECTS credits, comprising the completion of a master's thesis (25 ECTS credits), a colloquium (1 ECTS credits), and an oral examination (4 ECTS credits).

| Structure for the Master of Arts (MA) in African Languages and Cultures |   |   |   |   |  |  |                                 |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Recommended Semester  | Subject module  |   |   |   | Language module  | Subject-specific Elective area (MA-ALC-WB) | Free Elective area (MA-ALC-FWB) |
| First through third   | Specialization 1—   | Specialization 2—   | Specialization 3—   | Specialization 4—   | Module (MA-ALC-ADD)<br>African Language(s)<br>Seminar A/SLV<br>2 credit hours per week / 5 ECTS credits<br>Seminar B/SLV<br>2 credit hours per week / 5 ECTS credits | 30 ECTS credits                            | 20 ECTS credits                 |
|   | Module I: (MA-ALC-1)<br>Linguistic Socialization and Education in Africa<br>2 credit hours per week / 10 ECTS credits | Module I: (MA-ALC-3)<br>Linguistic Fieldwork and Descriptive Analysis of African Languages I<br>2 credit hours per week / 10 ECTS credits | Module I: (MA-ALC-5)<br>Theory and Methods of Ethiopian and Eritrean Philology<br>2 credit hours per week / 10 ECTS credits | Module I: (MA-ALC-7)<br>Cognition, Knowledge and Culture<br>2 credit hours per week / 10 ECTS credits |  |  |                                 |



|    |  |   |  |   |  |  |  |
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|    | <p>Module II (MA-ALC-2)<br/>Language Policies, Status and Corpus Planning<br/>2 credit hours per week / 10 ECTS credits</p>  | <p>Module II (MA-ALC-4)<br/>Linguistic Fieldwork and Descriptive Analysis of African Languages II<br/>2 credit hours per week / 10 ECTS credits</p> | <p>Module II (MA-ALC-6)<br/>Linguistic History of Ethiopia and Eritrea<br/>2 credit hours per week / 10 ECTS credits</p> | <p>Module II (MA-ALC-8)<br/>Society, Media and Public Discourse<br/>2 credit hours per week / 10 ECTS credits</p> |  |  |  |
|    | <p>Intersectional modules<br/>(MA-ALC-METH I) Approaches to Language Data Analysis and Management; 2 credit hours per week / 5 ECTS credits<br/>(MA-ALC-METH II) Historical Linguistics and Population Histories; 2 credit hours per week / 5 ECTS credits</p> |   |  |   |  |  |  |
| 4. | <p>Final module in selected specialization (MA-ALC-AB)<br/>30 ECTS credits</p>   |   |  |   |  |  |  |

**Section 5:  
Course types**

**Section 5 subsection 2:**

Courses are usually conducted in German or in English.

**Section 5 subsection 3:**

(1) Attendance is compulsory for language courses; otherwise, the progression of language acquisition necessary for study cannot be achieved.

(2) Attendance is compulsory for seminars, because research-based work requires active participation, discussion, and presentations by the participants.

**Section 13:  
Completed coursework and module examinations**

**Section 13 subsection 5:**

(1) Presentations should last between 15 and 45 minutes.

(2) Written term papers are intended to take between three and seven weeks to complete.

The specific scope, the actual duration, and the precise date for the submission of requisite work will be announced at the beginning of the course.

**Section 14:  
Master's thesis**

**Section 14 subsection 2:**

An application for permission to begin work on the final module may only be made once the required elective modules have been successfully completed:

modules I and II of the relevant specialization

cross-specialization modules I and II

African Languages module

**Section 14 subsection 7:**

The master's thesis must be completed within five months.

**Section 15:  
Evaluation of examinations**

**Section 15 subsection 3 sentence 1:**

(1) If overall examination performance of a module consists of several component examinations, then the overall grade for the module is calculated from the arithmetic mean of the grades from the individual component examinations.

(2) The calculation of the overall final grade for the master's degree includes all completed module examinations, excluding those from the subject-specific elective

area and the free elective area. All module exam grades except the final module are weighted equally. The modules and courses from the subject-specific and free elective areas are graded as a pass or fail. The master's thesis and the oral examination grades are used to calculate the grade for the final module using a ratio of 5:1. The grades for the module examinations are weighted 50 percent, and the grade for the final module is weighted 50 percent for the calculation of the overall final grade for the master's degree.

## II. Module descriptions

(1) The Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures is comprised of the following modules:

### a) Specialization 1—Applied African Linguistics: Language Education and Language Planning

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-1<br><b>Title:</b> Linguistic Socialization and Education in Africa<br><b>Module type:</b> Required module |  |
| <b>Module content</b>   | The module covers the background of language acquisition in multilingual societies with particular focus on language socialization and language acquisition in informal contexts. In addition, language transmission in African education systems, the scholarly examination of literacy, and the subject of adult education are also examined. In this, particular consideration is given to literacy programs. |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>  | Acquisition and expansion of the ability to independently design or evaluate education programs, ability to critically reflect on the methods used, and in-depth insight into the principle of multilingual socialization in African societies.  |
| <b>Teaching format(s)</b>   | Seminar: Linguistic Socialization and Education in Africa Discourse (2 credit hours per week)  |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>  | English  |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>  | None   |
| <b>Module applicability</b>   | The module is a compulsory part of the Applied African Linguistics: Languages Education and Language Planning specialization in the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures and can be opened to both the subject-specific and the elective areas.  |
| <b>Type, requirements, and language of module examination</b>   | <p>Presentation and term paper (approx. 5–20 pages, depending on related primary data and analytical requirements [e.g., films]).</p> <p>The exact scope of the presentation and term paper will be announced at the beginning of the course.</p> <p>Examination language:<br/>English</p>   |
| <b>Prerequisites for admission to the</b>   | In addition to the preparation and postpreparation of the courses, students are also expected to regularly and actively participate in classes   |

|                              |   |
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| <b>module examination</b>    | (e.g., by contributing to discussions, presentations). The type and scope of requisite coursework will be announced at the beginning of the course. Admission to the module examination requires the successful completion of coursework. |
| <b>Workload (components)</b> | Seminar: 5 ECTS credits<br>Term paper: 5 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Total coursework</b>      | 10 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Module frequency</b>      | Each winter semester  |
| <b>Module duration</b>       | One semester  |
| <b>Recommended semester</b>  | First or second semester  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-2<br><b>Title:</b> Language Policies, Status and Corpus Planning<br><b>Module type:</b> Required module |  |
| <b>Module content</b>  | The module deals with the subject of language policy in African states with particular consideration of their historical development and colonial conditions. In addition, it also examines the challenges of a contemporary language policy that is socially just, as well as the fundamental requirements of status and corpus planning.   |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>   | Acquisition and expansion of the ability to independently design or evaluate literacy campaigns and language teaching materials. Provision of advising skills in the field of language planning with a focus on education, ability to critically reflect on the methods used, and in-depth insight into the political aspects of language planning.                                      |
| <b>Teaching format(s)</b>  | Seminar: Language Policies, Status and Corpus Planning (2 credit hours per week)   |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>   | English  |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>   | None   |
| <b>Module applicability</b>  | The module is a compulsory part of the Applied African Linguistics: Languages Education and Language Planning specialization in the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures and can be opened to both the subject-specific and the elective areas.  |
| <b>Type, requirements, and language of module examination</b>  | <p>Presentation and term paper (approx. 5–20 pages, depending on related primary data and analytical requirements [e.g., corpus data]).</p> <p>The exact scope of the presentation and term paper will be announced at the beginning of the course.</p> <p>Examination language:<br/>English</p>   |
| <b>Prerequisites for admission to the module examination</b>   | In addition to the preparation and postpreparation of the courses, students are also expected to regularly and actively participate in classes (e.g., by contributing to discussions, presentations). The type and scope of requisite coursework will be announced at the beginning of the course. Admission to the module examination requires the successful completion of coursework. |
| <b>Workload (components)</b>   | <p>Seminar: 5 ECTS credits</p> <p>Term paper: 5 ECTS credits</p>   |

|                             |                          |
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| <b>Total coursework</b>     | 10 ECTS credits          |
| <b>Module frequency</b>     | Every summer semester    |
| <b>Module duration</b>      | One semester             |
| <b>Recommended semester</b> | First or second semester |

## b) Specialization 2—Linguistic Analysis and Language Documentation

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-3<br><b>Title:</b> Linguistic Fieldwork and Descriptive Analysis of African Languages (I)<br><b>Module type:</b> Required module |   |
| <b>Module content</b>   | Introduction to the practice of field research in African studies. The practical application of qualitative methods in linguistic field research for the first description of an African language in terms of its own structures based on self-obtained primary data through elicitation. Creation of elicitation guidelines, practice of elicitation techniques, phonetic transcription, phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic analysis using an African language in collaboration with a language informant, strategies for identifying grammatical, and lexical categories for an unknown language. |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>  | Acquiring the ability to independently collect, document, and analyze primary data on African languages and language varieties; insights into the structures of African languages.  |
| <b>Teaching format(s)</b>   | Seminar: Linguistic Fieldwork and Descriptive Analysis of African Languages (I) (2 credit hours per week)   |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>  | English   |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>  | None  |
| <b>Module applicability</b>   | The module is a required component of the Linguistic Analysis and Language Documentation specialization in the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures and can be opened to both the subject-specific and the elective areas.  |
| <b>Type, requirements, and language of module examination</b>   | <p>Presentation and term paper (approx. 5–20 pages, depending on related primary data and analytical requirements [e.g., audio transcription]).</p> <p>The exact scope of the presentation and term paper will be announced at the beginning of the course.</p> <p>Examination language:<br/>English</p>  |
| <b>Prerequisites for admission to the module examination</b>  | In addition to the preparation and postpreparation of the courses, students are also expected to regularly and actively participate in classes (e.g., by the independent development of elicitation plans and contributions to oral analysis). The type and scope of requisite coursework will be announced at the beginning of the course.   |



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|                              | Admission to the module examination requires the successful completion of coursework. |
| <b>Workload (components)</b> | Seminar: 5 ECTS credits<br>Term paper: 5 ECTS credits                                 |
| <b>Total coursework</b>      | 10 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Module frequency</b>      | Each winter semester  |
| <b>Module duration</b>       | One semester  |
| <b>Recommended semester</b>  | First or second semester  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-4<br><b>Title:</b> Linguistic Fieldwork and Descriptive Analysis of African Languages (II)<br><b>Module type:</b> Required module |   |
| <b>Module content</b>  | Advanced analysis in African studies field research. The practical application of qualitative methods in linguistic field research for the first description of an African language in terms of its own structures based on self-developed texts in the target language; phonetic transcription, phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic analysis using an African language in collaboration with a language informant. Strategies for identifying grammatical, lexical, and discourse-related linguistic categories of an unknown language. |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>   | Advanced ability to independently collect, document, and analyze texts in African languages and language varieties; critical reflection of the methods used, advanced insights into the structures of African languages.  |
| <b>Teaching format(s)</b>  | Seminar: Linguistic Fieldwork and Descriptive Analysis of African Languages II (2 credit hours per week)  |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>   | English   |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>   | Successful completion of the Linguistic Fieldwork and Descriptive Analysis of African Languages (I) seminar.  |
| <b>Module applicability</b>  | The module is a required component of the Linguistic Analysis and Language Documentation specialization in the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures and can be opened to both the subject-specific and the elective areas.  |
| <b>Type, requirements, and language of module examination</b>  | <p>Presentation and term paper (approx. 5–20 pages, depending on related primary data and analytical requirements [e.g., morphological analyses]).</p> <p>The exact scope of the presentation and term paper will be announced at the beginning of the course.</p> <p>Examination language:<br/>English</p>   |
| <b>Prerequisites for admission to the module examination</b>   | In addition to the preparation and postpreparation of the courses, students are also expected to regularly and actively participate in classes (e.g., by the independent development of plans for additional elicitation, contributions to oral analysis, and discussions of written drafts of partial grammatical outlines). The type and scope of requisite coursework will   |

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
|                              | be announced at the beginning of the course. Admission to the module examination requires the successful completion of coursework. |
| <b>Workload (components)</b> | Seminar: 5 ECTS credits<br>Term paper: 5 ECTS credits  |
| <b>Total coursework</b>      | 10 ECTS credits  |
| <b>Module frequency</b>      | Every summer semester  |
| <b>Module duration</b>       | One semester   |
| <b>Recommended semester</b>  | First or second semester   |

### c) Specialization 3—Ethiopian and Eritrean Studies

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-5<br><b>Title:</b> Theory and Methods of Ethiopian and Eritrean Philology<br><b>Module type:</b> Required module |   |
| <b>Module content</b>   | Ethiopia and Eritrea have one of the oldest writing cultures still in practical use and a number of written documents in the Geez language, as well as other languages of Ethiopia and Eritrea that have not been fully integrated into academic research. Academic activities within the subject are based on systematic text comparisons, translations, and writing text-critical works. The module addresses theories and methods of Ethiopian philology and provides analysis techniques on categorizing and critically processing of historical language documents from Ethiopia and Eritrea. In addition, the application of text-critical methods and the historiographic evaluation of literary and documentary texts are taught using selected typical examples. |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>  | Acquisition of the ability to independently analyze written (published and unpublished) texts in philological, manuscriptological, literary, and historical terms and to write critical submissions with explanations of historical text documents from Ethiopia and Eritrea.   |
| <b>Teaching format(s)</b>   | Seminar: Theory and Methods of Ethiopian and Eritrean Philology (2 credit hours per week)   |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>  | English   |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>  | Basic knowledge of the Geez language  |
| <b>Module applicability</b>   | The module is a required component of the Ethiopian and Eritrean Studies specialization in the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures and can be opened to both the subject-specific and the elective areas.  |
| <b>Type, requirements, and language of module examination</b>   | <p>Presentation and term paper (approx. 5–20 pages, depending on related primary data and analytical requirements [e.g., manuscriptological analyses]).</p> <p>The exact scope of the presentation and term paper will be announced at the beginning of the course.</p> <p>Examination language:<br/>English</p>  |
| <b>Prerequisites for admission to the</b>   | In addition to the prepreparation and postpreparation of the courses, students are also expected to regularly and actively participate in classes   |

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| <b>module examination</b>    | (e.g., by contributing to discussions, presentations). The type and scope of requisite coursework will be announced at the beginning of the course. Admission to the module examination requires the successful completion of coursework. |
| <b>Workload (components)</b> | Seminar: 5 ECTS credits<br>Term paper: 5 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Total coursework</b>      | 10 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Module frequency</b>      | Each winter semester  |
| <b>Module duration</b>       | One semester  |
| <b>Recommended semester</b>  | First or second semester  |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-6<br><b>Title:</b> Linguistic History of Ethiopia and Eritrea<br><b>Module type:</b> Required module |  |
| <b>Module content</b>   | Knowledge of the language and historical demography of Ethiopia and Eritrea as well as the relationship to Semitic studies are a fundamental condition for the interpretation of historical text evidence and the current language situation. The course addresses the methods of historical linguistic studies (investigation of the Ethiopian and Eritrean Semitic languages), the classification of Ethiopian and Eritrean languages, and the historical analysis of the relevant linguistic-historical documentation. It also focuses on early culture and language contact and references to interdisciplinary historical research. |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>  | Ability to conduct comparative historical analyses of the languages of Ethiopia and Eritrea (especially Semitic languages) and to identify historical language contact in light of historical documentation.   |
| <b>Teaching format(s)</b>   | Seminar: Linguistic History of Ethiopia and Eritrea (2 credit hours per week)  |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>  | English  |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>  | Basic knowledge of the Geez language   |
| <b>Module applicability</b>   | The module is a required component of the Ethiopian and Eritrean Studies specialization in the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures and can be opened to both the subject-specific and the elective areas.   |
| <b>Type, requirements, and language of module examination</b>   | <p>Presentation and term paper (approx. 5–20 pages, depending on related primary data and analytical requirements [e.g., philological analyses]).</p> <p>The exact scope of the presentation and term paper will be announced at the beginning of the course.</p> <p>Examination language:<br/>English</p>   |
| <b>Prerequisites for admission to the module examination</b>  | In addition to the preparation and postpreparation of the courses, students are also expected to regularly and actively participate in classes (e.g., by contributing to discussions, presentations). The type and scope of requisite coursework will be announced at the beginning of the course. Admission to the module examination requires the successful completion of coursework.   |

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| <b>Workload (components)</b> | Seminar: 5 ECTS credits<br>Term paper: 5 ECTS credits |
| <b>Total coursework</b>      | 10 ECTS credits                                       |
| <b>Module frequency</b>      | Every summer semester                                 |
| <b>Module duration</b>       | One semester  |
| <b>Recommended semester</b>  | First or second semester                              |

#### d) Specialization 4—Language in Culture

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| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-7<br><b>Title:</b> Cognition, Knowledge and Culture<br><b>Module type:</b> Required module |  |
| <b>Module content</b>   | Relevant cultural linguistic theories and methods of cognitive linguistics with a focus on ethnolinguistic application (e.g., frame theory, cultural scripts) based on sociological examination of the premises of collective knowledge and memory in oral African societies.  |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>  | Ability to apply cultural and sociolinguistic analytical methods and models.   |
| <b>Teaching format(s)</b>   | Seminar: Cognition, Knowledge and Culture in Africa (2 credit hours per week)  |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>  | English  |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>  | None   |
| <b>Module applicability</b>   | The module is a required component of the Language in Culture specialization in the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures and can be opened to both the subject-specific and the elective areas.  |
| <b>Type, requirements, and language of module examination</b>   | <p>Presentation and term paper (approx. 5–20 pages, depending on related primary data and analytical requirements [e.g., experimental data]).</p> <p>The exact scope of the presentation and term paper will be announced at the beginning of the course.</p> <p>Examination language:<br/>English</p>   |
| <b>Prerequisites for admission to the module examination</b>  | In addition to the preparation and postpreparation of the courses, students are also expected to regularly and actively participate in classes (e.g., by contributing to discussions, presentations). The type and scope of requisite coursework will be announced at the beginning of the course. Admission to the module examination requires the successful completion of coursework. |
| <b>Workload (components)</b>  | Seminar: 5 ECTS credits<br>Term paper: 5 ECTS credits  |
| <b>Total coursework</b>   | 10 ECTS credits  |
| <b>Module frequency</b>   | Each winter semester   |
| <b>Module duration</b>  | One semester   |



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| <b>Recommended semester</b> | First or second semester |
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| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-8<br><b>Title:</b> Society, Media and Public Discourse<br><b>Module type:</b> Required module |  |
| <b>Module content</b>  | The module addresses theories and models dealing with the social function of language or the influence of social stratification on linguistic variation and multilingualism. This also includes the position of African and colonial languages in the media and online.  |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>   | Ability to apply sociolinguistic, variation, and medially linguistic analytical methods and models.  |
| <b>Teaching format(s)</b>  | Seminar: Society, Media and Public Discourse (2 credit hours per week)   |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>   | English  |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>   | None   |
| <b>Module applicability</b>  | The module is a required component of the Language in Culture specialization in the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures and can be opened to both the subject-specific and the elective areas.  |
| <b>Type, requirements, and language of module examination</b>  | <p>Presentation and term paper (approx. 5–20 pages, depending on related primary data and analytical requirements [e.g., films]).</p> <p>The exact scope of the presentation and term paper will be announced at the beginning of the course.</p> <p>Examination language:<br/>English</p>   |
| <b>Prerequisites for admission to the module examination</b>   | In addition to the preparation and postpreparation of the courses, students are also expected to regularly and actively participate in classes (e.g., by contributing to discussions, presentations). The type and scope of requisite coursework will be announced at the beginning of the course. Admission to the module examination requires the successful completion of coursework. |
| <b>Workload (components)</b>   | Seminar: 5 ECTS credits<br>Term paper: 5 ECTS credits  |
| <b>Total coursework</b>  | 10 ECTS credits  |
| <b>Module frequency</b>  | Every summer semester  |
| <b>Module duration</b>   | One semester   |

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| <b>Recommended semester</b> | First or second semester |
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**e) Cross-specialization and language module**

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| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-METH I<br><b>Title:</b> Approaches to Language Data Analysis and Management<br><b>Module type:</b> Required module |  |
| <b>Module content</b>   | Methods of qualitative data annotation and quantitative analyses. Basics of linguistic statistics, stylometrics, and applied text technologies.  |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>  | Practical experience and knowledge in the field of language data science. Ability to apply statistical and corpus-linguistic analysis methods.   |
| <b>Teaching format(s)</b>   | Practical course: Approaches to Language Data Analysis and Management<br>(2 credit hours per week)   |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>  | English  |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>  | None   |
| <b>Module applicability</b>   | The module is a compulsory component of the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures.  |
| <b>Type, requirements, and language of module examination</b>   | Term paper (approx. 3–10 pages, depending on related primary data and analytical requirements [e.g., corpus data]).<br><br>The exact scope of the term paper will be announced at the beginning of the course.<br><br>Examination language:<br>English   |
| <b>Prerequisites for admission to the module examination</b>  | In addition to the preparation and postpreparation of the courses, students are also expected to actively participate in classes (e.g., by working on practical exercises). The type and scope of requisite coursework will be announced at the beginning of the course. Admission to the module examination requires the successful completion of coursework. |
| <b>Workload (components)</b>  | Practical course: 2 ECTS credits<br>Term paper: 3 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Total coursework</b>   | 5 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Module frequency</b>   | Each winter semester   |
| <b>Module duration</b>  | One semester   |

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| <b>Recommended semester</b> | First or second semester |
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| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-METH II<br><b>Title:</b> Historical Linguistics and Populations Histories<br><b>Module type:</b> Required module |  |
| <b>Module content</b>   | Methods of language classification and diachronic African linguistics, exemplification of the historical and comparative methods for selected African language families, grammaticalization.   |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>  | Advanced insight into the methods of genetic classification of African languages and the principles of linguistic change.  |
| <b>Teaching format(s)</b>   | Seminar: Historical Linguistics and Populations Histories (2 credit hours per week)  |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>  | English  |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>  | None   |
| <b>Module applicability</b>   | The module is a compulsory component of the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures.  |
| <b>Type, requirements, and language of module examination</b>   | <p>Term paper (approx. 3–10 pages, depending on related primary data and analytical requirements [e.g., historical linguistic data]).</p> <p>The exact scope of the term paper will be announced at the beginning of the course.</p> <p>Examination language:<br/>English</p>  |
| <b>Prerequisites for admission to the module examination</b>  | In addition to the preparation and postpreparation of the courses, students are also expected to actively participate in classes (e.g., by participating in discussions, working on practical exercises, and taking on oral presentations). The type and scope of requisite coursework will be announced at the beginning of the course. Admission to the module examination requires the successful completion of coursework. |
| <b>Workload (components)</b>  | <p>Seminar: 2 ECTS credits</p> <p>Term paper: 3 ECTS credits</p>   |
| <b>Total coursework</b>   | 5 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Module frequency</b>   | Every summer semester  |
| <b>Module duration</b>  | One semester   |
| <b>Recommended semester</b>   | First or second semester   |

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|---|---|
| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-ADD<br><b>Title:</b> African Languages<br><b>Module type:</b> Required elective module |   |
| <b>Module content</b>   | Pronunciation, basic vocabulary, simple word and sentence construction, translation of simple texts, and use of acquired linguistic knowledge for communication; descriptive phonology, morphology, and syntax.   |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>  | Acquisition of basic knowledge of an African language (e.g., Mandinka, Wolof, Oromo, Somali, Tigrinya) that was not previously part of the studies. This language also serves as a basis for developing advanced knowledge of African language structures.<br>Alternatively, the students may elect to gain advanced knowledge of an African language (Amharic, Hausa, Swahili).  |
| <b>Teaching format(s)</b>   | Seminar A (2 credit hours per week): Structural course for an African language or advanced language course / language exercise (2 credit hours per week)<br>Seminar B (2 credit hours per week): Practical knowledge of an African language or language course / language exercise (2 credit hours per week).   |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>  | English   |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>  | None  |
| <b>Module applicability</b>   | The module is a compulsory component of the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures.   |
| <b>Type, requirements, and language of module examination</b>   | Seminar A or language course / language exercise: written final examination (90 minutes) or oral final examination (oral language examination).<br>Exact type of examination announced at the beginning of the course.<br><br>Seminar B or language course / language exercise: written final examination (90 minutes) or oral final examination (oral language examination).<br>Exact type of examination announced at the beginning of the course.<br><br>Examination language:<br>Usually in English; where applicable, the target language. |

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|  | Exact language of examination announced at the beginning of the course.  |
| <b>Prerequisites for admission to the module examination</b> | In addition to the preparation and postpreparation of the courses, students are also expected to regularly and actively participate in classes (e.g., by contributing to discussions, presentations, preparation of written papers to accompany seminars). Details on the type of coursework will be announced at the beginning of the course. Admission to the module examination requires the successful completion of coursework. |
| <b>Workload (components)</b>                                 | Seminar A: 5 ECTS credits<br>Seminar B: 5 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Total coursework</b>                                      | 10 ECTS credits  |
| <b>Module frequency</b>                                      | Each winter semester   |
| <b>Module duration</b>                                       | One or two semesters   |
| <b>Recommended semester</b>                                  | First or second semester   |



**f) Subject-specific elective area**

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|---|---|
| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-WB<br><b>Title:</b> Subject-specific elective area |   |
| <b>Module content</b>   | Students are able to intensify, expand, and supplement their specialized knowledge in an interest-driven and needs-oriented manner. The options set forth in Section 4 subsection 2 as stated in subsection 5 are available.                                  |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>  | Various   |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>  | Usually in English; where applicable, the target language.  |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>  | None  |
| <b>Module applicability</b>   | The area is a component of the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures.  |
| <b>Module completion</b>  | Portfolio of completed coursework and/or examinations. The type and scope are determined by the individual selection. Information on the type, duration, and scope of the requisite coursework/examinations will be announced at the beginning of the course. |
| <b>Workload (components)</b>  | 1–30 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Total coursework</b>   | 30 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Module frequency</b>   | Every semester  |
| <b>Module duration</b>  | One to three semesters  |
| <b>Recommended semester</b>   | First to third semester   |

**g) Free elective area**

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|--|---|
| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-FWB<br><b>Title:</b> Free elective area |   |
| <b>Module content</b>  | In the elective area, students broaden and expand their studies individually and according to their professional needs, including outside the subject area. The options listed under Section 4 subsection 2 subsection 6 are available.                       |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>   | Various   |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>                                       | Usually in English; where applicable, the target language.  |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>   | None  |
| <b>Module applicability</b>  | The module is a component of the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures.  |
| <b>Module completion</b>   | Portfolio of completed coursework and/or examinations. The type and scope are determined by the individual selection. Information on the type, duration, and scope of the requisite coursework/examinations will be announced at the beginning of the course. |
| <b>Workload (components)</b>   | 1–20 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Total coursework</b>  | 20 ECTS credits   |
| <b>Module frequency</b>  | Every semester  |
| <b>Module duration</b>   | One to three semesters  |
| <b>Recommended semester</b>  | First to third semester   |

#### h) Final module

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| <b>Module number:</b> MA-ALC-AB<br><b>Title:</b> Final module<br><b>Module type:</b> Required module |  |
| <b>Module content</b>  | Preparation and completion of the master's thesis, regular participation in colloquia and presentation of own work, and preparation and completion of the oral final examination.  |
| <b>Learning outcomes</b>   | Advanced insight into the methods of genetic classification of African languages and the principles of linguistic change.<br>Ability to independently develop academic and scholarly work within the discipline and to focus on problematic issues and present them systematically in lengthy academic essays (master's thesis), in oral discourse (oral examination), and in the relevant specialization. |
| <b>Teaching format(s)</b>  | Colloquium (2 credit hours per week)   |
| <b>Language of instruction</b>   | English  |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>   | The following modules must be successfully completed:<br>modules I and II of the relevant specialization<br>cross-specialization modules I and II<br>African language  |
| <b>Module applicability</b>  | The module is a component of the Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures.   |
| <b>Type, requirements, and language of module examination</b>  | Master's thesis (approx. 80 pages, 5 months completion time) and oral examination (45 minutes) The master's thesis also contains an additional requirement for a written summary of the master's thesis totaling 7,000 characters usually in German, English, or French.<br><br>Examination language:<br>The master's thesis must be written in English.   |
| <b>Workload (components)</b>   | Colloquium 1 ECTS credits<br>Master's thesis: 25 ECTS credits<br>Oral examination (including preparation time): 4 ECTS credits (language: English)   |
| <b>Total coursework</b>  | 30 ECTS credits  |
| <b>Module frequency</b>  | Every semester   |
| <b>Module duration</b>   | One semester   |

|                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Recommended semester</b> | Fourth semester |
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**Section 23**  
**Effective date**

These subject-specific provisions become effective on the day following official publication by Universität Hamburg. They shall apply to students commencing their studies in or after Winter Semester 2023/24.

Hamburg, 8 August 2023  
**Universität Hamburg**