

## International Master Program "Languages and Cultures of Southeast Asia" M.A.

### Application information

**Application period:** 15 February - 31 March (winter semester)

**Semester start:** 1 October (winter semester) und 1 April (summer semester)

**Language(s) of instruction:** English

### The Program

The International Master in Southeast Asian Studies offers a 2-year program exploring the languages and cultures of three regions: Indonesian and Malay Studies, Thai Studies (also including Lao Studies), and Vietnamese Studies. Furthermore, Thai Studies can also be studied as regional specialization in the M.A. Program in Buddhist Studies. The first year of the program comprises eight compulsory modules and a range of electives, while the second year contains a semester abroad and a semester to write the concluding thesis. The taught modules of the first year explore Southeast Asian Literatures and Media in the first semester and Southeast Asian History and Society in the second. The module Theories and Methods that spans both semesters is aimed to forge a connection between teaching and research of the Department and to provide the student with insights into a number of disciplines and research methodologies.

Students choose one of the three regional specializations (Indonesian/Malay, Thai, or Vietnamese Studies), all of which are related to the research profiles of the Asia Africa Institute and the Department of the Languages and Cultures of Southeast Asia. Our research spectrum includes such diverse fields as manuscript cultures, modern literature, history, religion and society.

### Objectives

Our program targets German and international students, particularly B.A. graduates of Southeast Asian Studies programs. Graduates from Southeast Asian universities are also invited to apply. The program is taught in English and applicants must submit a certificate of English language proficiency equivalent to B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

Besides imparting intercultural skills, the program focuses on the languages, cultures, histories and societies of an important, culturally diverse and dynamic Asian region. In accordance with the high academic standards of the University of Hamburg, students receive rigorous training in one of the program's three areas of concentration: Indonesian and Malay Studies, Thai Studies and Vietnamese Studies. The M.A. prepares students for both academic and practical

careers as well as for doctoral programs in Southeast Asian Studies. The M.A. graduate of our program will have a profound knowledge of at least one of the taught languages and cultures, and will have been trained in carrying out independent research and applying other critical academic skills.

## **Admission requirements**

**(List of all admission requirements as per the current admission bylaws)**

### **University degree**

Indonesian and Malay Studies:

•A Bachelors's degree „Sprachen und Kulturen Südostasiens“ (focus on: Indonesian and Malay Studies) or a comparable Bachelor of a German or officially recognized international academic institution

or

a first qualifying degree of a German or officially recognized international academic institution with a minimum of 15 credit points (ECTS) in the field of linguistics, literature, history, society or religion in Southeast Asia.

Thai Studies:

A Bachelors's degree „Sprachen und Kulturen Südostasiens“ (focus on: Thai Studies) or a comparable Bachelor of a German or officially recognized international academic institution

or

a first qualifying degree of a German or officially recognized international academic institution with a minimum of 15 credit points (ECTS) in the field of linguistics, literature, history, society or religion in Southeast Asia.

Vietnamese Studies:

A Bachelors's degree „Sprachen und Kulturen Südostasiens“ (focus on: Vietnamese Studies) or a comparable Bachelor of a German or officially recognized international academic institution

or

a first qualifying degree of a German or officially recognized international academic institution with a minimum of 15 credit points (ECTS) in the field of linguistics, literature, history, society or religion in Southeast Asia.

If you have not received your degree certificate yet, you can submit this by the end of the first semester of your master's program. Please see the "Documents to submit" section below for details.

### **Additional special admission requirements**

All applicants must provide evidence for proficiency in English (equivalent to B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)). English native speakers don't need evidence B2.

Indonesian and Malay Studies:

Proof of competence in Bahasa Indonesia or Bahasa Malaysia with a minimum of 25 credit points (ECTS). Native speakers do not need a proof of competence.

Thai Studies:

Proof of competence in Thai with a minimum of 25 credit points (ECTS). Native speakers do not need a proof of competence.

Vietnamese Studies:

Proof of competence in Vietnamese with a minimum of 25 credit points (ECTS). Native speakers do not need a proof of competence.

For details of the legal basis for this regulation, please see the admission bylaws for your chosen degree program: [www.uni-hamburg.de/zugang-master](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/zugang-master)

### **Recognition of transcripts for degree programs completed at foreign higher education institutions**

If you obtained your first degree abroad, your certificate will be reviewed during the application procedure in the Faculty of Humanities (Fakultät für Geisteswissenschaften).

If your degree certificate is not in German or English, please include a certified German or English translation of this together with your application documents.

### **Application**

#### **Online application**

You will need to complete the online application available on Universität Hamburg's application portal during the application period: [www.uni-hamburg.de/online-bewerbung](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/online-bewerbung)  
Please create a user account, enter your information online, and submit your application electronically.

You will then need to print out your online application and submit it together with the following documents to the application address indicated below.

### Documents to submit

Please submit uncertified copies of all documents. For documents not issued in German or English, a certified German or English translation is required.

- **Signed printout of your online application**
- **Degree certificate or provisional Transcript of Records**  
If you are still studying when you apply and cannot yet provide a final certificate containing your grades, please submit your current Transcript of Records confirming your provisional grade point average. You will then need to submit your degree certificate by the end of the first semester of your master's program.
- For applicants who are at the concluding phase of their first University education: If the relevance for Southeast Asian Studies of the profile in which you are completing your first university degree is not evident from the certificate, please enclose further certification.  
In the case of Magister students: Applications will be considered even if the Magister thesis has not yet been submitted or a grade has not yet been given, provided the applicant has been admitted to the final examinations.
- **Curriculum Vitae**
- A brief **statement of motivation** indicating the profile Indonesian and Malay Studies, Thai Studies or Vietnamese Studies.
- **A Transcript of Records:** a minimum of 15 Credit points are required in the fields of Linguistics, Literature, History, Society or Religion of Southeast Asia.
- **Language skills:** a minimum of 25 Credit points (ECTS) in Bahasa Indonesia or Bahasa Malaysia (Indonesian and Malay Studies), in Thai (Thai Studies) or Vietnamese (Vietnamese Studies). (paper copy)
- All applicants must provide evidence for **proficiency in English** (equivalent to B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). (paper copy)  
English native speakers don't need evidence B2. (paper copy)

## Application address

Indonesian and Malay Studies:

Universität Hamburg  
Asien-Afrika-Institut  
Abteilung für Sprachen und Kulturen Südostasiens  
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Jan van der Putten  
Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, ESA Ost  
20146 Hamburg, Germany

Thai Studies:

Universität Hamburg  
Asien-Afrika-Institut  
Abteilung für Sprachen und Kulturen Südostasiens  
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Volker Grabowsky  
Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, ESA Ost

Vietnamese Studies:

Universität Hamburg  
Asien-Afrika-Institut  
Abteilung für Sprachen und Kulturen Südostasiens  
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Jörg Thomas Engelbert  
Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, ESA Ost  
20146 Hamburg, Germany

Please note that your application can only be considered if your complete application documents reach the **application address** by the application deadline. The date on which your application is received and not the postmark is decisive! This deadline is final; no extensions can be granted.

Please bind (staple) all supporting documents required for your application or ensure that loose pages are otherwise bound. The printout of your online application should be the top page. Do not use paper clips, folders, or transparent sleeves.

If you want to submit an **additional special application** (e.g., hardship application), you will need to send this directly to the Application and Admissions Team (Team Bewerbung und Zulassung) together with the required proof separately from the application documents indicated above by the application deadline. For more information on special applications, please see [www.uni-hamburg.de/sonderantrag](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/sonderantrag) and [www.uni-hamburg.de/info-master](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/info-master).

## Selection criteria

If the number of applicants exceeds the number of places available, a selection procedure will be necessary:

For details of the legal basis for this regulation, please see the selection bylaws for your chosen master's program: [www.uni-hamburg.de/auswahl-master](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/auswahl-master)

## Admission and enrollment

Once your application has been reviewed, an acceptance or rejection letter will be made available in your STiNE account under the *Dokumente* (Documents) tab. Please see the information on applying online for a master's program for details of when this will become available: [www.uni-hamburg.de/info-master](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/info-master). An enrollment deadline will be indicated in your acceptance letter—please submit the documents required for enrollment to the Application and Admissions Team (Team Bewerbung und Zulassung) by this date. Please submit certified copies of all documents—see [www.uni-hamburg.de/beglaubigung](http://www.uni-hamburg.de/beglaubigung) for details.

## Contact

If you have questions or require further information, please contact

Indonesian and Malay Studies:

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Vietnamese Studies:

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