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UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



Module Handbook
African Literary and Cultural Studies (BA Minor
/ Nebenfach)

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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

In collaboration between the Departments of English and Romance Studies
(Administered by the Department of English Studies)

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1. Objectives of the Programme

1.1 Introduction

The BA Minor (Nebenfach) in African Literary and Cultural Studies with a weighting of 60 credit points equips students with essential academic and professional skills in this area of study. Contemporary geopolitical developments have placed Africa in the centre of current policy considerations of the European Union. These policy developments have led to a concomitant increase in interest within the higher education systems of many EU member states with the revamping of educational agendas relating to contemporary Africa, socio-cultural and political realities. Taking cognisance of these current developments, the programme covers the field of Literary and Cultural Studies on the African continent, offering a selection of foci, in particular a choice between the Anglophone and Francophone domains (elements from the Lusophone domain may be offered in addition if available). The students gain a solid grounding in the basic concepts of African Literary and Cultural Studies and in salient issues from the recent social and political history of the continent. They acquire relevant research methodologies and are thus able to engage with contemporary questions in the area of language, literature and culture from selected regions of the continent. The programme offers basic knowledge of at least one African language (KiSwahili or Wolof), as well as introductory training in interdisciplinary and diasporic aspects of African Literary and Cultural Studies.

1.2 Objectives of the programme

Learning outcomes:

- Graduates of the BA Minor (Nebenfach) in African Literary and Cultural Studies are familiar with the essential concepts, theories and methodologies in the area of study.
- In at least one focus area (the Anglophone or the Francophone domains) they possess more detailed knowledge of cultural artefacts and are able to relate these artefacts to the concomitant socio-political realities of the given region.
- They are familiar with the key methods of literary analysis and cultural interpretation.
- They possess advanced analytical skills, enabling them to reflect critically upon different theoretical approaches to the respective artefacts in relation to the concomitant contexts.
- They possess a grounding in the basic techniques of academic writing, enabling them to communicate their knowledge to others.
- They have gained a rudimentary understanding of the basic structures of at least one African language (KiSwahili or Wolof).
- Graduates can apply the methodological tools of African Literary and Cultural Studies in independent research projects; they can formulate relevant research questions and use a palette of different theories and methods to respond to those questions; they can present their results in a clear, structured and well-argued manner.

The Bachelor Minor (Nebenfach) in African Literary and Cultural Studies qualifies students for MA programmes at the University of Tübingen in a number of related areas: MA Cultures of the Global South; MA International Literatures; MA English Literatures and Cultures; MA Romance Literatures.

1.3 Structure and Curriculum

1. Students complete a Basic Module (M01) that introduces them to concepts, methods and theories of African Literary and Cultural Studies. They complete an Advanced Module (M03) and a Focus Module (M05) in African Literatures and Cultures, as a rule with a focus either in Anglophone or Francophone areas of cultural production.
2. They complete a second Basic Module (M02) that gives them an introduction to at least one African Language AND/OR academic writing.
3. Finally, students must take an Advanced Module (M04) in interdisciplinary electives (History, Media Studies, German Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, Intercultural Theory, Linguistics) and a Focus Module (M06) in African Diasporas.

1.4. Going abroad

Students are strongly encouraged to avail themselves of the opportunities for overseas study afforded by numerous ERAMUS+ exchanges with our partner universities in Africa. Additional opportunities are provided by the CIVIS consortium. The University also has its own exchange schemes with selected partner universities on the African continent. In addition, students can apply for funding from the DAAD to travel to universities of their own choice.

See the following websites:

<https://uni-tuebingen.de/international/studieren-im-ausland/wege-ins-ausland/>

All students who go abroad should speak to the relevant advisor in the English or French Departments (or in their home department should it be elsewhere) to ensure that their chosen course of study includes sufficient elements that are relevant to the programme of the Minor and that can be recognized upon return to Tübingen.

1.4 Career opportunities

Contemporary geopolitical developments have placed Africa in the centre of current policy shifts and have created a demand for graduates who are qualified for professional trajectories that relate to areas of concern for Africa. In combination with a range of other skills, expertise in African Literary and Cultural Studies contributes to a portfolio of professional qualifications that prepare graduates for careers in management, diplomacy, NGO and international cooperation work, in particular in the areas of migration, integration, human rights and advocacy, and in media and the cultural industries, especially in archival or curatorial work, and in the teaching professions.

2. Curriculum

2.1 Overview by Modules

(according to the module overview in the *Studien- und Prüfungsordnung*)

Module number	Obligatory / Elective	Module title	Recommended semester	CP
01	O	<u>Basic Module</u> Introduction to African Literatures and Cultures	1	12
02	O	<u>Basic Module Academic Writing/African Languages</u> Academic Writing + Intro to KiSwahili OR Academic Writing + Intro to Wolof OR Intro to KiSwahili + Intro to Wolof	1-4	12
03A	O (03A or 03B)	<u>Advanced Module</u> African Literatures and Cultures	2-4	9
03B	O (03A or 03B)	<u>Advanced Module</u> Littératures et cultures d'Afrique	2-4	9
04	O	<u>Advanced Module</u> Interdisciplinary Electives:	2-4	9
05A	O (05A or 05B)	<u>Focus Module</u> African Literatures and Cultures	4-6	9
05B	O (05A or 05B)	<u>Focus Module</u> Littératures et cultures d'Afrique	4-6	9
06	O	<u>Focus Module</u> African Diasporas	4-6	9

2.2 Overview by Study Progress

Semester	CP	Area of Study: African Literatures and Cultures	Area of Study: Academic Writing/ African Languages	Area of Study: Interdisciplinary Electives	Area of Study: African Diasporas
1.	12	Modul 01 (12 LP)			
2.	12		Modul 02 (6 LP)	Modul 02 (6 LP)	
3.	9	Modul 03 (9 LP)			
4.	9			Modul 04 (9 LP)	
5.	9	Modul 05 (9 LP)			
6.	9				Modul 06 (9 LP)

Key	
Grading:	g = graded; ug = ungraded (pass/fail) ne = no module examination
Type of Exam:	W = written exam; O = oral exam; T = term paper; CT = composite term paper (see regulations of French Department); P = classroom presentation ...
Duration:	duration of the examination in minutes
Weight:	courses: weighting of the examination grade towards the module grade modules: weighting of the module grade towards the final grade
Contact Hours:	CH; hours spent in the classroom per week during the semester
Status:	o = obligatory; e = elective
Type of Course	L = lecture; S = seminar; E = exercise; T = tutorial, ...
CP:	Credit Points (ECTS Credits)

3. Module Descriptions

3.1. Modules of Study Area: African Literary and Cultural Studies

Module Code: 01	Module Title: <i>Basic Module Introduction to African Literatures and Cultures.</i>				Type of Module: obligatory				
CP (ECTS Credits)	12								
Workload - Time in Class - Self-Study	Total Workload: 360 h			Time in Class: 60 h / 4 CH		Self-Study: 300 h			
Duration	1 semester.								
Frequency	Every year (winter semester only).								
Language of Instruction	EN.								
Forms of Teaching and Learning	Seminars, small group learning and discussions.								
Content	Students will be introduced to the principal theories, methods and models of African Literary and Cultural Studies. They will be familiarized with the basic elements of recent historical, social and political developments in selected African contexts. They will interpret a range of literary and cultural texts from different genres, text types, belonging to both elite and popular culture, and arising from different historical periods. They are introduced to primary texts and learn how to use secondary literature and theoretical texts.								
Objectives	Students are familiar with key concepts and theories of African Literary and Cultural Studies. Students have a basic understanding of the terminology and theoretical models necessary to analyze literary and cultural texts from various African environments and to place them in their historical contexts. Students are capable of discussing critically primary texts and of proactively implementing secondary literature to better appreciate and evaluate primary texts.								
Requirements for Obtaining Credit, Grading, Weight if appl.		<i>Type of Course</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>CH</i>	<i>CP</i>	<i>Type of Exam</i>	<i>Length of Exam</i>	<i>Type of Evaluation</i>	<i>Calculation of Module Grade</i>
	<i>Module Component 1</i>	L	O	2	3	--	--	--	--
	<i>Module Component 2</i>	S	O	2	9	O	30	G	100
Transfer	Available to other degree schemes in the Faculty of Humanities. Prerequisite for modules 03, 04, 05, 06 and 07.								
Prerequisites	None.								

Module Code: 03A	Module Title: <i>Advanced Module African Literatures and Cultures.</i>				Type of Module: obligatory (either 03A or 03B)				
CP (ECTS Credits)	9								
Workload - Time in Class - Self-Study	Total Workload: 270 h		Time in Class: 60 h / 4 CH			Self-Study: 210 h			
Duration	1 semester								
Frequency	Once a year (in general summer semester).								
Language of Instruction	EN.								
Forms of Teaching and Learning	Seminars, small group learning and discussions.								
Content	In this module students deepen their knowledge of specific aspects of Anglophone literatures and cultures in the African context. The module addresses theories and methods of literary and cultural analysis in specific historical and social contexts. The module introduces students to interdisciplinary approaches to literary and cultural analysis with particular reference to theories (for example) of colonialism, post-colonialism and decoloniality, globalization, race, gender, class, indigeneity, etc.								
Objectives	Students are able to carry out historically-informed and contextually-sensitive analysis of literary and cultural artefacts from selected African epochs and environments. They recognize their importance within broader semiotic and social systems. They can implement a palette of relevant theories to analyze and evaluate the texts and artefacts studied.								
Requirements for Obtaining Credit, Grading, Weight if appl.		Type of Course	Status	CH	CP	Type of Exam	Length of Exam	Type of Evaluation	Calculation of Module Grade
	Module Component 1	S	O	2	6	T or O	--	G	100
	Module Component	S or L	O	2	3	--		NG	
Transfer	Available to other degree schemes in the Faculty of Humanities.								
Prerequisites	Module 01								

Module Code: 03B	Module Title: <i>Advanced Module Littératures et cultures d’Afrique.</i>				Type of Module: obligatory (either 03A or 03B)				
CP (ECTS Credits)	9								
Workload - Time in Class - Self-Study	Total Workload: 270 h			Time in Class: 60 h / 4 CH			Self-Study: 210 h		
Duration	1 semester								
Frequency	Once every year (in general summer semester).								
Language of Instruction	EN/FR/GER								
Forms of Teaching and Learning	Seminars, small group learning and discussions.								
Content	In this module students deepen their knowledge of specific aspects of Francophone literatures and cultures in the African context. The module addresses theories and methods of literary and cultural analysis in specific historical and social contexts. The module introduces students to interdisciplinary approaches to literary and cultural analysis with particular reference to theories (for example) of colonialism, post-colonialism and decoloniality, globalization, race, gender, class, indigeneity, etc.								
Objectives	Students are able to carry out historically-informed and contextually-sensitive analysis of literary and cultural artefacts from selected African epochs and environments. They recognize their importance within broader semiotic and social systems. They can implement a palette of relevant theories to analyze and evaluate the texts and artefacts studied.								
Requirements for Obtaining Credit, Grading, Weight if appl.		<i>Type of Course</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>CH</i>	<i>CP</i>	<i>Type of Exam</i>	<i>Length of Exam</i>	<i>Type of Evaluation</i>	<i>Calculation of Module Grade</i>
	<i>Module Component 1</i>	S	O	2	6	CT or O	--	G	100
	<i>Module Component</i>	S or L or E	O	2	3	--	--	NG	--
Transfer	Available to other degree schemes in the Faculty of Humanities.								
Prerequisites	Module 01								

Module Code: 05A	Module Title: <i>Focus Module African Literatures and Cultures.</i>				Type of Module: obligatory (either 05A or 05B)				
CP (ECTS Credits)	9								
Workload - Time in Class - Self-Study	Total Workload: 270 h			Time in Class: 60 h / 4 CH		Self-Study: 210 h			
Duration	1 semester								
Frequency	Once a year								
Language of Instruction	EN.								
Forms of Teaching and Learning	<i>Seminars, small group learning and discussions.</i>								
Content	In this module students explore at a more sophisticated level specific aspects of Anglophone literatures and cultures in the African context. The module addresses theories and methods of literary and cultural analysis in specific historical and social contexts. The module introduces students to advanced interdisciplinary approaches to literary and cultural analysis with particular reference to contemporary theories of cultural production at the nexus between historiographical conceptualization, contemporary models of postcolonial societies and of the Global South, and analyses of the ongoing global effects of <i>longue durée</i> global inequality.								
Objectives	Students display enhanced abilities to carry out historically-informed and contextually-sensitive analysis of literary and cultural artefacts from selected African epochs and environments. They recognize their importance within broader semiotic and social systems within historical processes. They can implement a palette of relevant theories to analyze and evaluate the texts and artefacts studied with reference to historical and contemporary contexts.								
Requirements for Obtaining Credit, Grading, Weight if appl.		<i>Type of Course</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>CH</i>	<i>CP</i>	<i>Type of Exam</i>	<i>Length of Exam</i>	<i>Type of Evaluation</i>	<i>Calculation of Module Grade</i>
	<i>Module Component 1</i>	S	O	2	6	T or O		G	100
	<i>Module Component</i>	S or L	O	2	3	--	--	NG	
Transfer	<i>Available to other degree schemes in the Faculty of Humanities.</i>								
Prerequisites	<i>Module 01</i>								

Module Code: 05B	Module Title: <i>Focus Module Littératures et cultures d’Afrique.</i>		Type of Module: Obligatory (either 05A or 05B)						
CP (ECTS Credits)	9								
Workload - Time in Class - Self-Study	Total Workload: 270 h	Time in Class: 60 h / 4 CH	Self-Study: 210 h						
Duration	1 semester								
Frequency	Once every year								
Language of Instruction	EN/FRE/GER								
Forms of Teaching and Learning	Seminars, small group learning and discussions.								
Content	In this module students explore at a more sophisticated level specific aspects of Francophone literatures and cultures in the African context. In this module students explore at a more sophisticated level specific aspects of Anglophone literatures and cultures in the African context. The module addresses theories and methods of literary and cultural analysis in specific historical and social contexts. The module introduces students to advanced interdisciplinary approaches to literary and cultural analysis with particular reference to contemporary theories of cultural production at the nexus between historiographical conceptualization, contemporary models of postcolonial societies and of the Global South, and analyses of the ongoing global effects of <i>longue durée</i> global inequality.								
Objectives	Students display enhanced abilities to carry out historically-informed and contextually-sensitive analysis of literary and cultural artefacts from selected African epochs and environments. They recognize their importance within broader semiotic and social systems within historical processes. They can implement a palette of relevant theories to analyze and evaluate the texts and artefacts studied with reference to historical and contemporary contexts.								
Requirements for Obtaining Credit, Grading, Weight if appl.		<i>Type of Course</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>CH</i>	<i>CP</i>	<i>Type of Exam</i>	<i>Length of Exam</i>	<i>Type of Evaluation</i>	<i>Calculation of Module Grade</i>
	<i>Module Component 1</i>	S	O	2	6	T or O	--	G	100
	<i>Module Component 2</i>	S or L or E	O	2	3	--		NG	
Transfer	Available to other degree schemes in the Faculty of Humanities.								
Prerequisites	Module 01								

3.2. Modules of Study Area: Academic Writing/African Languages

Module Code: 02	Module Title: <i>Basic Module Academic Writing/African Languages</i>		Type of module: obligatory
CP (ECTS Credits)	12		
Workload - Time in Class - Self-Study	Total Workload: 360 h	Time in Class: 60 h / 4 CH	Self-Study: 300 h
Duration	1-2 semesters		
Frequency	Every semester		
Language of Instruction	Academic Writing: EN Introduction to KiSwahili: EN Introduction to Wolof: EN		
Forms of Teaching and Learning	Academic Writing: Seminar, e.g. presentations, debates, class discussion, writing assignments Introduction to KiSwahili: online language course, small group learning Introduction to Wolof: online language course, small group learning		
Content	<p>STUDENTS MUST CHOOSE 2 OF THE FOLLOWING 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Writing (<i>EAS_BA-09 Academic English in the English Department</i>) <i>Academic Writing is mandatory for those who have not completed it in their major</i> • Introduction to KiSwahili • Introduction to Wolof • Introduction to an other African language (if available) <p>(Students who already speak one or more African language can replace the respective module component by interdisciplinary courses in addition to those required by module 04 in the required CP-volume and with a grade where necessary, i.e. when replacing module component 1.)</p> <p>Academic Writing: Students will identify and improve upon weaknesses in their written language abilities. They will continue to improve their advanced writing skills for extended pieces of work such as research assignments, term papers, journalistic texts or reviews.</p> <p>Introduction to KiSwahili: Students will gain basic familiarity with the essential grammatical, syntactic and lexical structures of KiSwahili, and focus on developing basic communication skills, and will gain insights into cultural and social aspects of the language use.</p> <p>Introduction to Wolof: Students will gain basic familiarity with the essential grammatical, syntactic and lexical structures of Wolof, and focus on developing basic communication skills, and will gain insights into cultural and social aspects of the language use.</p>		

<p>Objectives</p>	<p>Academic Writing: Students will be able to identify strengths and weaknesses in their language usage will improve their language proficiency in the following areas: grammar, sentence structure, vocabulary, spelling and punctuation. They will improve their writing skills for essays, assignments, research papers and exams.</p> <p>Introduction to KiSwahili: Students will have basic familiarity with the essential characteristics of KiSwahili, will have basic communication skills discussing immediate personal needs and respect rules of politeness and formality, and will understand aspects of the cultural and social context of the language.</p> <p>Introduction to Wolof: Students will have basic familiarity with the essential characteristics of Wolof, will have basic communication skills discussing immediate personal needs and respect rules of politeness and formality, and will understand aspects of the cultural and social context of the language.</p>								
<p>Requirements for Obtaining Credit, Grading, Weight if appl.</p>		<p>Type of Course</p>	<p>Status</p>	<p>CH</p>	<p>CP</p>	<p>Type of Exam</p>	<p>Length of Exam</p>	<p>Type of Evaluation</p>	<p>Calculation of Module Grade</p>
	<p>Module Component 1: Academic Writing</p>	<p>E</p>	<p>E</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>W</p>	<p>90</p>	<p>G</p>	<p>00</p>
	<p>Module Component 2: Intro to KiSwahili</p>	<p>E</p>	<p>E</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>W and O</p>	<p>90</p>	<p>NG</p>	<p>00</p>
	<p>Module Component 3: Intro to Wolof</p>	<p>E</p>	<p>E</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>W and O</p>	<p>90</p>	<p>NG</p>	<p>00</p>
<p>Transfer</p>	<p>Module component 1 is offered by the English Department. Module Components 2 and 3 are offered by the Foreign Language Center, Section 3 of the International Office.</p>								
<p>Prerequisites</p>	<p>None</p>								

3.3. Modules of Study Area: Interdisciplinary electives

Module Code: 04	Module Title: <i>Advanced Module Interdisciplinary electives.</i>			Type of Module: obligatory					
CP (ECTS Credits)	9								
Workload - Time in Class - Self-Study	Total Workload: 270 h	Time in Class: 60 h / 4 CH	Self-Study: 210 h						
Duration	1 semester.								
Frequency	<i>Depends on specific agreement with the exporting department</i>								
Language of Instruction	<i>EN/FR/GER (depending on the exporting department).</i>								
Forms of Teaching and Learning	<i>Seminars, small group learning and discussions.</i>								
Content	In this module students expand their area of study of African cultures beyond literary and cultural studies to include (for example, and depending upon availability), selected topics and themes from the areas of History, Media Studies, German Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, Intercultural Theory, or Linguistics. They gain interdisciplinary perspectives from these areas and elaborate models for relating other disciplines to the knowledge on African literary and cultural studies already acquired.								
Objectives	Students are able to combine insights literary and cultural study with supplementary knowledge acquired in the areas of, for example, History, Media Studies, German Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, Intercultural Theory, Linguistics. They are able to articulate the relevance of these supplementary disciplinary perspectives upon the core literary and cultural analytical skills with respect to selected African contexts.								
Requirements for Obtaining Credit, Grading, Weight if appl.		<i>Type of Course</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>CH</i>	<i>CP</i>	<i>Type of Exam</i>	<i>Length of Exam</i>	<i>Type of Evaluation</i>	<i>Calculation of Module Grade</i>
	<i>Module Component 1</i>	S	O	2	6	T*		G	100
	<i>Module Component 2</i>	S or L	O	2	3	--	--	NG	
Transfer	<i>Modules are offered by the relevant departments.</i>								
Prerequisites	01								

*The department providing the respective course may stipulate a different assessment form.

3.4. Modules of Study Area: African Diasporas

Module Code: 06	Module Title: <i>Focus Module African Diasporas.</i>				Type of Module: obligatory / elective				
CP (ECTS Credits)	9								
Workload - Time in Class - Self-Study	Total Workload: 270 h			Time in Class: 60 h / 4 CH		Self-Study: 210 h			
Duration	1 semester								
Frequency	Once every year								
Language of In-struction	EN.								
Forms of Teaching and Learning	Seminars, small group learning and discussions.								
Content	In this module students acquire a palette of theoretical and historical understandings of African diasporas across various epochs and in selected regions of the world. They become familiar with various models for describing African diasporic trajectories and existences. They are able to insert these models and the phenomenon described in broader historical processes and contexts (e.g. Indian Ocean World, the Atlantic Slave trade, the legacy of indentured labour, contemporary African-Asian dynamics; Afro-American, Afro-Latinoamerican, Afro-Caribbean, 'Afropean' contexts). They are introduced to a variety of texts and cultural artefacts in various genres that express and exemplify contexts, histories and theories of African diasporic movements.								
Objectives	Students are capable of theorizing and describing historically African diasporas across various epochs and in selected regions of the world. They can mobilize a palette of theoretical and conceptual instruments for describing African diasporic trajectories and existences. They are capable of analyzing selected texts and cultural artefacts in a range of genres in the context of histories of African diaspora with the help of a diverse palette of theoretical models and conceptual frameworks.								
Requirements for Obtaining Credit, Grading, Weight if appl.		<i>Type of Course</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>CH</i>	<i>CP</i>	<i>Type of Exam</i>	<i>Length of Exam</i>	<i>Type of Evaluation</i>	<i>Calculation of Module Grade</i>
	<i>Module Component 1</i>	S	O	2	6	T or O	--	G	100
	<i>Module Component 2</i>	S or I	O	2	3	--		NG	
Transfer	This module will be available to students from other degree schemes in the Faculty of Humanities								
Prerequisites	01								