



LUDWIG-  
MAXIMILIANS-  
UNIVERSITÄT  
MÜNCHEN

FAKULTÄT FÜR KULTURWISSENSCHAFTEN  
DEPARTMENT FÜR ASIENSTUDIEN  
INSTITUT FÜR INDOLOGIE UND TIBETOLOGIE



## Buddhist and South Asian Studies (Bachelor/Major)

### Description of the Subject

The subject of the Bachelor's degree in Buddhist and South Asian Studies at LMU is the cultural and intellectual history of South Asia, especially of India and Tibet, from its beginnings to modern times, with a special focus on religions and literatures. Knowledge of the teachings, spread and history of Buddhism and/or knowledge of other Indian religions, such as Jainism, as well as of the literatures of India and Tibet will be imparted. Great emphasis is placed on thorough language training in the relevant source languages of Sanskrit, Classical Tibetan, or Hindi. The source languages for Buddhist Studies are Sanskrit and/or Classical Tibetan, and for South Asian Studies Sanskrit and/or Hindi (in the case of students studying North Indian literature). Students who choose Hindi as their first language and wish to enter the advanced master's program in Religion and Philosophy in Asia after completing their BA are expected to learn Sanskrit as a second language from their 3rd semester of study on, either as part of the major or as part of the minors in *Sprache, Literatur und Kultur* or *Antike und Orient*. These two minors are suitable for supplementing the bachelor's major as they offer additional courses in Buddhist and South Asian Studies. The bachelor's program follows in the tradition of the subjects of Indology and Tibetology with a philological approach to the study of the cultures of India and Tibet. The philological method, which gives German Indology and Tibetology a high reputation in international comparison, can be extended by the inclusion of ethnological approaches, which enable students to carry out an independent field research project in Germany or abroad.

In addition to subject-specific training, the study program aims to ensure that students acquire the ability to quickly and effectively familiarize themselves with new areas of knowledge, to analyze and critically reflect on them, and to present independently developed projects orally and in writing. The degree enables graduates, if suitable, to enter an advanced master's program in Indology, Tibetology or Religion and Philosophy in Asia, South Asian Studies, and other subjects as appropriate. In addition, due to the provision of key qualifications, knowledge of scholarly working methods and the promotion of intercultural competence, the degree should offer graduates the opportunity to integrate into the non-university labor market, for example in the cultural or intercultural sector.

### Areas of Employment

Retention studies of graduates of the previous master's degree programs in Indology and Tibetology have shown that they mostly pursue a university career in the fields of Indology and Tibetology, and follow this career to the doctoral level (for example, within the framework of the LMU's structured doctoral program "Buddhism Studies" or habilitation, holding positions in university and non-university teaching and research institutions (e.g., at the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities). Since the planned degree program is broader in content and methodology and more practice-oriented than previous programs, it should also provide more direct access to other professional fields in which intercultural competence in particular is required. The degree program does not train students for professional readiness in a specific position, but rather strives for professional readiness in many different fields of application and professional fields that demand university graduates trained in cultural studies due to their ability to abstract, transfer, and knowledge of scientific methods.

## Degree Structure/Modules

1 <sup>st</sup> semester	<b>Source language (1):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 SWS* Language course (Sanskrit or Tibetan or Hindi)</li> </ul>	<b>Basic knowledge:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 SWS Lecture (Religions 1)</li> <li>• 2 SWS <i>Proseminar</i> (Literatures)</li> </ul>
2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	<b>Source language (2):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 SWS Language course (Sanskrit or Tibetan or Hindi)</li> </ul>	<b>Basic competence:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 SWS <i>Proseminar</i> (Methods of scholarly work)</li> <li>• 2 SWS Tutorial</li> <li>• 2 SWS Lecture (Religions 2)</li> </ul>
3 <sup>rd</sup> semester	<b>Source language (3):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 SWS Reading course (Sanskrit or Tibetan or Hindi)</li> </ul>	<b>Buddhist Studies/Indian Studies 1:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 SWS Lecture (Indology)</li> <li>• 2 SWS Lecture (Ethnological field research)</li> <li>• 2 SWS <i>Proseminar</i> (Tibetology)</li> <li>• 2 SWS <i>Proseminar</i> (Cultures and history of India 1)</li> </ul> <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 SWS Introductory course in your second language (Sanskrit or Tibetan or Hindi)</li> <li>• <b>and</b> one of the four courses listed above</li> </ul>
4 <sup>th</sup> semester	<b>Source language (4):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 SWS Reading course (Sanskrit or Tibetan or Hindi)</li> </ul>	<b>Buddhist Studies/Indian Studies 2:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 SWS <i>Proseminar</i> (Buddhism)</li> <li>• 2 SWS <i>Proseminar</i> (Cultures and history of India 2)</li> <li>• 2 SWS <i>Proseminar</i> (Research topics)</li> <li>• 2 SWS <i>Übung</i> (Field work)</li> </ul> <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 SWS Introductory course in your second language (Sanskrit or Tibetan or Hindi)</li> <li>• <b>and</b> one of the four courses listed above</li> </ul>
5 <sup>th</sup> semester	<b>Source language (5):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 SWS Reading course (Sanskrit or Tibetan or Hindi)</li> <li>• 2 SWS <i>Hauptseminar</i> (History of literature)</li> </ul>	<b>Field work: Field work project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 SWS <i>Proseminar</i> (Field work results)</li> </ul> <p>OR</p> <b>Second language:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 SWS Reading course in your second language (Sanskrit or Tibetan or Hindi)</li> </ul>
6 <sup>th</sup> semester	<b>Research:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 SWS <i>Hauptseminar</i> Research literature</li> <li>• 2 SWS Research colloquium</li> </ul> <b>Work experience:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 SWS <i>Hauptseminar</i></li> </ul>	<b>Concluding module:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor's thesis</li> <li>• Viva</li> </ul> <p>*SWS = Semesterwochenstunden (weekly class hours)</p>

## Desired student profile

Applicants should have a talent for languages, a high motivation to learn a South or Central Asian language, good analytical skills and a good, at least passive knowledge of English, as well as an interest in Asian cultures and religions. Knowledge of Latin is an advantage, but not a requirement for admission to the program. Before entering the program, applicants must decide which source language they wish to study: Sanskrit, Classical Tibetan, or Hindi.

## Language of instruction

As a rule, courses are taught in German; some courses may be taught in English.

## Minor subjects

A minor subject (60 ETCS points) must be chosen in addition to the bachelor's major (120 ETCS points). The following minors are available:

- Antike und Orient (No admissions restrictions)
- Deutsch als Fremdsprache (pre-registration required)
- Evangelische Theologie (No admissions restrictions)
- Geographie (No admissions restrictions)
- Geschichte (No admissions restrictions)
- Informatik Bachelor Nebenfach (No admissions restrictions)
- Katholische Theologie (No admissions restrictions)
- Kommunikationswissenschaft (local admissions restrictions)
- Kunst, Musik, Theater (No admissions restrictions)
- Orthodoxe Theologie (No admissions restrictions)
- Pädagogik/Bildungswissenschaft (No admissions restrictions)
- Philosophie (pre-registration required)
- Rechtswissenschaften (local admissions restrictions)
- Sinologie (No admissions restrictions)
- Sprache, Literatur, Kultur (No admissions restrictions)
- Vergleichende Kultur- und Religionswissenschaft (No admissions restrictions)
- Volkswirtschaftslehre (No admissions restrictions)

\* Please note we cannot guarantee that these minors will not overlap with the main subject! Please consult the departmental student advisor (Fachstudienberatung) before choosing these minor subjects.

## Ansprechpartner

### Adresse des Fachs

Sprechstunden, Aushänge, Änderungen des Lehrangebots

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München  
Institut für Indologie und Tibetologie  
Ludwigstr. 31  
80539 München  
Internet: [www.indologie.uni-muenchen.de](http://www.indologie.uni-muenchen.de)

### Fachstudienberatung Buddhistische und Südasiatische Studien

Inhaltliche und spezifische Fragen des Studiums, Studienaufbau,  
Stundenplan, fachliche Schwerpunkte

Dr. Constanze Pabst von Ohain  
Ludwigstr. 31/ Raum 322  
Tel.: +49 89 2180-2578  
E-Mail: [c.pabstvonohain@lrz.uni-muenchen.de](mailto:c.pabstvonohain@lrz.uni-muenchen.de)  
Sprechzeiten: nach Vereinbarung

### Zentrale Studienberatung/Central Student Advisory Office

Deciding on a course of study, choosing a course of study, subjects offered at LMU, university admission and admission to studies, subject combinations, study organization, formal questions about studying, changing subjects, career orientation, or crediting achievements

Ludwigstraße 27/I, Room G 109 (Mail: Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1)  
80539 Munich  
Tel.: +49 89 2180-9000  
Internet: [www.lmu.de/studienanfrage](http://www.lmu.de/studienanfrage)

Opening hours:

Information counter: Mon, Tue, Thu: 9am – 12noon & Di: 1 – 4pm

Chat available: Mon, Wed & Thu: 1 – 4 pm and Fri 9am – 12noon

### Prüfungsamt für Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften (PAGS)

Examination matters, examination registration, semester credit notifications

Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1, Rooms C 026, D 020, D 201, D 203, D 205  
80539 Munich  
Internet: [www.lmu.de/pa/pags](http://www.lmu.de/pa/pags)

Opening hours:

Rooms C 026, D 020, D 201, D 203 und D 205: Mon – Wed 9am -12noon; Thu 2 – 4pm;  
closed on Fridays

### Overview

Degree program:	Bachelor of Arts
Degree:	B.A.
Type:	Major
Type of study:	Undergraduate degree with first professional qualification
Start date:	This degree can only be commenced in the winter semester
Standard duration:	6 semesters
Faculty:	Faculty for the Study of Culture
ECTS	120

### Admissions

Admissions for the 1 <sup>st</sup> semester:	No admissions restrictions
Admissions for higher semesters:	No admissions restrictions
	There may be changes at short notice with regard to the range of courses offered, the degree, the admission requirements and the course start date! Please double-check this information close to the application deadline at <a href="http://www.lmu.de/studienangebot">www.lmu.de/studienangebot</a> .