

The English version of the curriculum for the „Doctor of Philosophy programme Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies“ is not legally binding and is for informational purposes only. The legal basis is regulated in the curriculum published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin on 10 March 2009, issue 37, No. 174.

Decision of the Curriculum Committee of the Faculty of Humanities 1 on 02.02.2009, approved by Senate Decree on 05.03.2009:

On the basis of § 25 para. 1 no. 10 University Organisation Act 2002, BGBl. I (Federal Law Gazette) No. 120, most recently amended by Federal Law BGBl. I (Federal Law Gazette) No. 134/2008 and § 32 Section "Regulations of Study Law", republished in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 3 February 2006, Issue 16, No. 90, most recently amended by the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 7 May 2008, Issue 42, No. 272, the following is decreed:

**Curriculum for the
Doctor of Philosophy programme Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern
Studies
at the Faculty of Humanities 1 of the University of Innsbruck**

§ 1 Qualification Profile

- (1) The Doctor of Philosophy programme Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies belongs to the group of the humanities and cultural studies.
- (2) The Doctor of Philosophy programme Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies aims at educating and training scientists and highly qualified junior professionals for research and teaching at universities and associated institutions as well as for other higher occupational positions. Students enrolled in the Doctor of Philosophy programme Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies can choose one of the following as their field of focus: ancient history, ancient oriental languages, or Middle-Eastern archaeology.
- (3) Central educational objectives of the Doctor of Philosophy programme Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies include a systematic understanding of the research discipline and grasp of the pertinent methods. Through their submission of an original piece of scientific work, graduates of this program are required to make their own contribution to research which widens boundaries of knowledge and conforms to the evaluation standards of international experts. In so doing, they develop scientific questions and independently subject these to critical analysis. This requires the competence of independently designing and carrying out significant research projects with scientific integrity.
- (4) As qualified junior scientists, the graduates of the Doctor of Philosophy programme Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies are able to organize scientific forums, to discuss findings from their special areas with colleagues, students, and experts and to present and explain these findings to an academic as well as non-academic audience. The quality and international orientation of these studies are to promote the graduates' mobility and to sharpen their perception beyond the boundaries of their special field; the key qualifications acquired

should empower them to adapt their expertise to fast-changing requirements without uncritically subordinating themselves to short-lived trends.

- (5) Doctoral or research projects can develop into programs which are subsidized by an acknowledged national or international research funding institution and whose project leader is the main supervisor.

§ 2 Length and scope

Doctor of Philosophy programme Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies takes three years (six semesters), which equals 180 ECTS credits.

§ 3 Admission

- (1) Valid proof of the necessary academic level for admission to the doctoral programme must be provided. This includes proof of completion of relevant diploma or master programmes, of completion of relevant diploma or Magister programmes at a university of applied science or completion of other equivalent studies at an accredited Austrian or non-Austrian post-secondary educational institution. If equivalency is given in principle, and only a few elements are missing for full equivalency, the rector's office is entitled to combine the determination of equivalency with the obligation to pass certain examinations in the course of the doctoral programme.
- (2) Relevant studies as referred to in (1) are in any case:
 - 1 the Master Programme Ancient History and Ancient Oriental Studies at the University of Innsbruck
 - 2 the Diploma Programme Ancient History and Classical Studies at the University of Innsbruck
 - 3 the Diploma Programme Languages and Cultures of the Ancient Near East at the University of Innsbruck
 - 4 the Master Programme History at the University of Innsbruck
 - 5 the Diploma Programme History at the University of Innsbruck
 - 6 the Master Programme Archaeological Studies at the University of Innsbruck
 - 7 the Master Programme Prehistory and Early History at the University of Innsbruck
 - 8 the Master Programme Medieval and Post-Medieval Archaeology at the University of Innsbruck
 - 9 the Diploma Programme Prehistory and Early History at the University of Innsbruck
 - 10 the Diploma Programme Classical Archeology at the University of Innsbruck

§ 4 Types of courses and maximum number of students per course

- (1) **Lectures (VO)** are courses, where lecturers present certain areas of a discipline (no maximum number of participants).
- (2) **Lectures with integrated practical parts (VU)** are lectures particularly designed to include elements of active student participation (no maximum number of participants).
- (3) Courses with continuous performance assessment:

1. **Seminars (SE)** are courses which aim at consolidating subject-specific knowledge and focus on the professional discussion and presentation of topics and hypotheses. They require independent and methodically reflected work on the respective question. The maximum number of participants is 20.
2. **Conversation classes (KO)** are courses which aim at the discursive consolidation of schools of thought, research approaches, theories, or research topics. The maximum number of participants is 20.

§ 5 Procedures for the allotment of places in courses with a limited number of participants

Students whose study time will be prolonged if they are not admitted are to be given priority.

§ 6 Mandatory and elective modules

(1) The following modules - equal to 52 ECTS credits - are mandatory:

1	Mandatory Module: Reflection on Methods	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	VO Reflection on Methods Presentation and discussion of research methods employed in the humanities, including a comparison with methods of other scientific disciplines, by analyzing positions in the theory of science and case studies.	2	2
	Total	2	2
	Learning objectives of the module: The students are put in the position to reflect on research methods, to compare them with each other and with the methods of other sciences as well as to assess the advantages and disadvantages of different methodologies. Strengthening method awareness and method competences in relation to the dissertation; creating the methodological basis for interdisciplinary research; specialized knowledge of different positions in the theory of science.		
	Admission requirements: none		

2	Mandatory Module: Generic Skills	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	Courses, as defined in the dissertation agreement, equal to 10 ECTS credits have to be completed. One course has to be chosen from the field of "Equality and Gender". Suitable courses are marked as such in the course catalog. Courses are offered which develop didactic skills and competences for subsequent knowledge transfer within the field including the use of new media, insight into research ethics, and which promote inter-disciplinary thinking.	-	10
	Total	-	10
	Learning objectives of the module: After the successful completion of this module, students command advanced theoretical and practical knowledge, skills and competencies in selected disciplines, as well as methods and general skills which empower		

	them to pursue independent scientific work and help them succeed in their future careers.
	Admission requirements: none

3	Mandatory Module: Interdisciplinary Forum for PhD Candidates	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	KO Interdisciplinary Forum for PhD Candidates Students present their dissertations and open them up to discussion in a faculty-wide conversation class.	2	4
	Total	2	4
	Learning objectives of the module: Students are capable of presenting research projects and results and are acquainted with the issues of interdisciplinary questions.		
	Admission requirements: none		

4	Mandatory Module: Reflection on Research	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	In the first year of the doctoral programme, a comprehensive description of the planned dissertation has to be compiled. This includes the central question, methods, objectives, literature, and time schedule of the project.	-	5
	Total	-	5
	Learning objectives of the module: Competence in planning research projects including a written presentation; reflected knowledge and a prospectus of the student's dissertation.		
	Admission requirements: none		

5	Mandatory Module: Active Participation in Scientific Discourse	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	Presentation of the student's own research results in guest lectures and/or at conferences and/or through progress reports and/or at workshops and/or in competitions, and/or through articles in journals.		10
	Total		10
	Learning objectives of the module: Presenting research results in national and international forums, acquiring basic skills in research management and in applying for research funds; analysis and critical assessment of the student's own research results and those of others; creating a culture committed to research ethics and rejecting plagiarism; knowledge of one's own strengths and weaknesses.		
	Admission requirements: none		

6	Mandatory Module: Traineeship in Academic Scholarship and Research	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	In coordination with the main dissertation supervisor, students complete a one-semester science and research trainee programme adapted to the subject focus of their dissertation. This programme includes special assignments in different areas of university careers. The science and research trainee programme includes the student's active participation in ongoing departmental as well as national and international research projects.		10
	Total		10
	Learning objectives of the module: Acquiring the occupational skills relevant for an independent scientific career.		
	Admission requirements: successful completion of Mandatory Module 4 (Research Reflection)		

7	Mandatory Module: Expertise: Ancient History and Ancient Near East Studies	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	SE Dissertation Seminar in Ancient History and Ancient Near East Studies Presentation of the dissertation and the state of research in the field in terms of methods, issues, and research objectives; critical reflection on the student's own work and the work of other doctoral students.	2	6
	Total	2	6
	Learning objectives of the module: Ability to position oneself and the chosen research topic in today's research community by means of communicative and performative skills.		
	Admission requirements: positive completion of Mandatory Module 4 (Research Reflection)		

8	Mandatory Module: Doctoral Thesis Defense	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	Final oral dissertation defense before an examination board.	-	5
	Total	-	5
	Learning objectives of the module: Presentation, reflection on and analysis of the dissertation results in the overall context of the doctoral programme; the focus is on summarizing and explaining results of the research project, on presenting the increase in knowledge for the discipline, on demonstrating evaluation and methodical competences as well as on presenting the results.		
	Admission requirements: positive completion of all other modules and positive evaluation of the dissertation		

(2) Two elective modules must be completed. If the dissertation topic belongs to Ancient History, Elective Modules 1 and 2 have to be completed; if it belongs to Ancient Oriental Languages, Elective Modules 3 and 5 have to be completed; if it belongs to Middle-Eastern Languages, the two Elective Modules 4 and 5 have to be completed. In case of an interdisciplinary dissertation topic, modules have to be chosen in coordination with the main supervisor.

1	Elective Module: PhD Focus: Ancient History	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	SE Basic and Special Methodical Questions in Ancient History Consolidation of knowledge; critical reflection on relevant scientific, theoretical, epistemological and methodological questions in the field of ancient studies, with special consideration of gender-theoretical questions.	2	4
	Total	2	4
	Learning objectives of the module: Competence to assume an independent, critical position with respect to scientific and popular scientific opinions, theories, ideologies, and dogmas in ancient history; sharpening the students' problem awareness in this respect; working independently and with scientific integrity and presenting positions in verbal and written form.		
	Admission requirements: none		

2	Elective Module: Current Debates and Controversies in the Historical Disciplines	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	VU Current Debates and Controversies from Two Core Areas Treatment of current issues and debates relevant for two historical core areas.	2	4
	Total	2	4
	Learning objectives of the module: On completion of the module, students are acquainted with the current state of research in selected core areas of history and are capable of assessing them critically, integrating them into their own research and making independent contributions.		
	Admission requirements: none		

3	Elective Module: PhD Focus: Ancient Near East Philology	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	SE Basic and Special Methodical Questions in Ancient Near East Philology Critical reflection on issues in cultural history in the field of ancient oriental languages with special consideration of gender-theoretical questions.	2	4
	Total	2	4
	Learning objectives of the module: Competence and integrity when working with original sources; analysis, interpretation and integration of the students' own research results into the larger context of the political as well as philosophical and cultural history of the Middle East.		
	Admission requirements: none		

4	Elective Module: PhD Focus: Middle Eastern Archaeology	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	SE Basic and Special Methodical Questions in Middle	2	4

	Eastern Archeology Critical reflection on questions of cultural history in Middle-Eastern Archeology with special consideration of gender-theoretical questions.		
	Total	2	4
	Learning objectives of the module: Competence and integrity when working with original finds; analysis, interpretation and integration of the students' own research results into the larger context of the philosophical and material cultural history of the Middle East.		
	Admission requirements: none		

5	Elective Module: Current Debates and Controversies in Ancient Near East Studies	Sem. hours	ECTS credits
	VU Current Debates and Controversies in Ancient Oriental Studies Interdisciplinary treatment of archeological features and written sources regarding current controversies.	2	4
	Total	2	4
	Learning objectives of the module: After completing the module, students are acquainted with the current state of research in selected fields of philological and archeological core areas and are able to assess them critically, to integrate them in their own research and to make original contributions to them.		
	Admission requirements: none		

§ 7 Dissertation

- (1) In the course of the Doctor of Philosophy programme Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, a dissertation has to be written, which equals 120 ECTS credits. The dissertation is a scientific piece of work which – in contrast to a diploma or master thesis – serves to prove the student's ability to cope with scientific questions in an independent way.
- (2) The dissertation topic has to be chosen from the field of ancient history, ancient oriental languages or Middle-Eastern archeology. In addition, interdisciplinary topics are possible.
- (3) The student has to propose a team of supervisors consisting of at least two people (dissertation committee) and to nominate one of them as the supervisor mainly responsible. It is permissible to propose supervisors (with the exception of the main supervisor) from subject-related fields. In justifiable exceptional cases it is possible for students to propose only one supervisor.
- (4) Prior to beginning the work, the student has to communicate the dissertation topic and names of the supervisors in writing to the Director of Studies. Topic and supervisors are considered as accepted, if the Director of Studies does not veto them by means of a decree within one month after the receipt of the proposal.

§ 8 Examination regulations

- (1) The evaluation of the following mandatory modules is based on course examinations: "Reflection of Methods", "Generic Skills", "Interdisciplinary Forum for Doctoral Students", "Special Competence in Ancient History and Ancient Oriental Studies". The same applies to the elective

doctoral focus courses "Ancient History", "Ancient Near East Philology ", and "Middle-Eastern Archeology".

1. Lectures are evaluated by means of a single exam at the end of the course. The lecturer is required to communicate evaluation methods and criteria (verbal and/or written) before the course starts.
 2. The evaluation of courses with continuous performance assessment is based on the student's regular, written and/or oral and/or practical/experimental contributions. The lecturer is required to communicate evaluation methods and criteria before the course starts.
- (2) The following mandatory modules are evaluated by the main supervisor on the basis of a performance report written by the student: "Reflection of Methods", "Science and Research Training", and "Active Participation in the Scientific Discourse". The positive evaluation has to read "participated with success"; the negative evaluation has to read "participated without success".
- (3) The evaluation of the Mandatory Module "Dissertation Defense (final oral exam)" is based on an oral board exam taken before an examination board consisting of three examiners.

§ 9 Academic degree

Graduates of the Doctor of Philosophy programme Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies are awarded the academic degree of "Doctor of Philosophy" or "PhD", in brief.

§ 10 Implementation

This curriculum comes into force on 1 October 2009.

For the Curriculum Committee:
Dr. Dietrich Feil

For the Senate:
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Ivo Hajnal