



Studying Modern Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

UNDERSTANDING ASIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD

In an increasingly globalized world, it is essential to understand Asian and Middle Eastern transformations and their relationships to the West. This is exactly what the interdisciplinary study program in Modern Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (MAMES) is offering.

Asia and the Middle East, from Morocco in the West to Japan in the East, account for two thirds of the global population. This is a dynamic part of the world, and the driving force of a new world order that challenges Western dominated modernity. It includes high-growth economies and rising world powers, but also slower growth economies struggling with social dislocation and cultural conflicts.

VIEWING THE WORLD FROM ASIAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN PERSPECTIVES

MAMES takes you on an explorative journey across the regions and offers you the opportunity to analyze and understand social, political and cultural change and its institutionalization in modern times. It enables you to critically reflect on contradictions and struggles of the modern world's colonial and postcolonial development from new, Asian and Middle Eastern perspectives.

COMBINING CULTURAL AND SOCIAL STUDIES APPROACHES

The interdisciplinary study program MAMES is a specialized MA program that **accepts** students with a BA degree. It offers a major (ECTS 90) and a minor (ECTS 30). Classes are in English.

The MAMES focusses on the social, cultural, and political dynamics of modernization and globalization processes across Asia and the Middle East from comparative and historical perspectives. It combines methods from the cultural and social sciences and introduces various theoretical approaches. It provides students with foundational knowledge about colonial and postcolonial transformations and about the differences and commonalities between the regions.

ENHANCING YOUR ANALYTICAL SKILLS

Students acquire in-depth knowledge as well as the analytical skills necessary to understand the interconnection between social, political, economic, cultural and intellectual issues. They are trained to explore their complexity and relate them to larger theoretical discourses as well as to relevant research questions. In order to be able to read original language sources on a variety of topics and include them in the development of research questions, students obtain the necessary languages skills in one of Asian and Middle Eastern languages offered in the major program.

MAIN STRENGTHS OF MAMES

- Offers a wide range of courses on Modern Asia and the Middle East
- Promotes analytical skills and critical thinking about a globalized world
- Combines approaches from cultural and social studies
- Enables moving beyond clichés like Chinese Dragons, Indian Elephants, Japanese Samurai or South East Asian Tigers
- Provides necessary language skills for studying original sources

EXPERT KNOWLEDGE FOR A GLOBALIZED WORLD

The MAMES offers not only new understanding of the world and, hence, makes you fit for a career in any field that has to do with Asia and the Middle East and beyond in this globalized world. The acquired core competencies and skills to critically analyze and understand the modern world and its contradictory development from non-Western perspectives can be applied in a large field of jobs from diplomacy to international organizations, from journalism to international business, and from cultural exchange to scientific research.

MAJOR
90

MINOR
30

Further Information

All Master's degree programs of UZH

www.degrees.uzh.ch/en/master/

Application and Admission

www.uzh.ch/en/studies/application

Studying

www.uzh.ch/en/studies

Advisory services

www.uzh.ch/en/studies/infoadvice/advice

Contact UZH

www.students.uzh.ch/en/contact

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