

The M.A. program of Iranian and Persianate Studies

deals in depth with various aspects of Iran and the Persianate world. It provides concepts, methods and theoretical foundations for independent, specialist and interdisciplinary work in the public or private sector later on. Students can choose from a wide range of courses covering different areas of Iranian and Persianate Studies from the time of the Islamic conquest up to the present. A specific focus of the program in Göttingen is the study of Indo-Persian history and culture. Kurdish Studies are also offered.



Program structure

Studies start in both the summer and winter semesters. The standard period of study is four semesters. The course of studies comprises altogether 120 credits, which are distributed as follows:

- 78 C for the specialized studies
- 12 C for key competencies
- 30 C for the master's thesis



Specialized Iranian and Persianate Studies

The M.A. in Iranian and Persianate Studies can be done as a major subject or as a module package:

- **78 C major subject (single honours M.A.)** – no other subject
- **42 C major subject (joint honours M.A.)** – in combination with one other subject worth 36 C or two other subjects worth 18 C each
- **36 C module package (minor subject)** – in combination with a major subject worth 42 C
- **18 C module package (2nd minor subject)** – in combination with a major subject worth 42 C and another external module package worth 18 C

Iranian and Persianate Studies as major subject

The 78 C major subject is a single honours M.A. consisting of three different areas of compulsory elective modules:

- Area I (36 C) comprises courses with a strong focus on source studies in the original language (contemporary or pre-modern Persian).
- Area II (min. 18 C) comprises other courses offered by the Institute of Iranian Studies.
- Area III (up to 24 C) comprises modules taken from related disciplines and taught in English.

The 42 C major subject is a joint honours M.A. consisting of the following two areas of compulsory elective modules:

- Area I (24 C) comprises courses with a strong focus on source studies in the original language (contemporary or pre-modern Persian).
- Area II (18 C) comprises other courses offered by the Institute of Iranian Studies.



Iranian and Persianate Studies as module package

The **36 C module package** consists of

- courses in Advanced Modern Persian.
- other courses offered by the Institute of Iranian Studies.

The **18 C module package** consists of

- the module “Introduction to the Cultural History of Iran” (12 C).
- other courses offered by the Institute of Iranian Studies.

Program requirements

A B.A. degree with a grade of at least 3.0 is a prerequisite, plus proof of applicable achievements totaling 50 C, including basic knowledge of modern Persian language and of Iranian history and culture. Skills that are lacking can be acquired subsequently by means of a learning agreement.

As the M.A. in Iranian and Persianate Studies (78 C / 42 C) is an international program, the language of instruction is English. Course papers and theses may be submitted in English or German. A certificate of language proficiency is required: C1 level in English or B2 level in English together with DSH 2 level in German.

Career options

The M.A. in Iranian and Persianate Studies qualifies graduates for an academic career and enables them to do a subsequent PhD. A wide range of opportunities is open to them outside university, in areas such as journalism, diplomatic service, business, as a tour guide or translator. You can obtain information about various career prospects and timely planning for them on the annual Career Information Day.



Contact address of the Institute of Iranian Studies

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Iranian and Persianate Studies (M.A.)

Information leaflet for prospective students

