

Master Intercultural Anglophone Studies (MAIAS)

Introduction to the Program (SoSe 2026)

Date: April 13, 2026

Time: 12:00-13:00 | Room: K5 / GW 1

Prof. Dr. Sylvia Mayer

Academic Coordinator



Structure of Meeting

■ Part one:

- general issues concerning the program – based on information provided on MAIAS first semester info page “First Semester in MAIAS” and on “Checklist”

■ Part two:

- Focus on major areas “literature” or “linguistics”:



First Semester in MAIAS

Dear new MAIAS students,

welcome to your first semester at UBT! This website provides you with information on the following issues:

1. It informs you about the date, time, and place of the introductory meeting for MAIAS first semester students.
2. It provides you with basic information on classes and modules.
3. It tries to help you find, choose, and register for your classes in the summer semester 2026.
4. It tells you whom to contact with specific questions you may have.

With best wishes,
Prof. Dr. Sylvia Mayer (MAIAS Academic Coordinator)

[1. MAIAS Introductory Meeting](#)

[2. Basic Information on Classes](#)

<https://www.maias.uni-bayreuth.de/en/First-Semester-in-MAIAS/index.html>





Foto: Tamás Mészáros

Department of English and American Studies - English Linguistics

In their research and teaching, the disciplines of English and American Studies in Bayreuth focus on the language varieties, literatures and cultures of the Anglophone world from the 16th century up to the present, to our globalized world of the 21st century.

Our study programmes offer classes in the fields of Linguistics, Literary and Cultural Studies, and Language Practice as well as "Didactics" for students studying for a teacher's degree. The scope of courses covers various realms of Anglophone cultures, from the British Isles, North America and the Caribbean to Anglophone Africa, Asia and the Pacific.

Courses address both the dynamics of their (closely entangled) histories and the cultures that mark the present cultural moment, as it becomes manifest in various media. Course topics also reflect the impact of central research fields pursued at the department: Inter- and Transcultural Studies, Intermedia Studies as well as Postcolonial Studies, Diaspora Studies, Language Contact Research, Gender Studies and Ecocriticism. In addition, we offer a broad range of study programmes providing the possibility for international exchanges such as the BA and MA Double Degree programmes as well as a Master programme exclusively taught in English.



News

02.03.2026

Workshop „Resilience in Times of Multiple Crises“, June 2026[...more](#)

25.02.2026

MAIAS Introductory Meeting Summer Semester 2026[...more](#)

15.01.2026

Courses with comments Summer Semester 2026[...more](#)[All News](#)

<https://www.anglistik.uni-bayreuth.de/en/index.html>



FACULTY OF LANGUAGES & LITERATURES

Master of Arts: Intercultural Anglophone Studies (MAIAS)

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Master of Arts: Intercultural Anglophone Studies (MAIAS)

MAIAS is an innovative postgraduate MA program for research in English, American, and Anglophone Studies, offered at the precise geographical center of Europe.

You are interested in the language, literatures, and cultures of the English-speaking world? Join our M.A. program Intercultural Anglophone Studies and become part of our international community at the University of Bayreuth.

Our degree program aims for advanced scholarly competence in one of two research areas: **Anglophone literatures and cultures** (including American Studies, British Studies, and Postcolonial and Diaspora Studies) or **English linguistics**. The program provides skills and competencies to analyze complex issues in language, literature, and culture, including a wide range of forms of



News

25.02.2026

MAIAS Introductory Meeting Summer Semester 2026

[...more](#)

07.08.2025

Study Support for International Students: "Faculty4international"

[...more](#)

<https://www.maias.uni-bayreuth.de/en/index.html>



Curriculum
MA Intercultural Anglophone Studies
[2023]

Module areas		ECTS	SWS	Credit Work	Notes on grading rubrics
Modules					
A	Intercultural Anglophone Studies in Literature and Language – Foundations	28 ECTS	10		
A 1	Seminar (HS) Cultural and Literary Theory/ Theoretical Approaches	6	2	Academic essay (ca. 4.000 words)	Pass / Fail

MAIAS Curriculum I

- structure of module areas
- fill according to course plans (recommendations!)
- areas A and C: prerequisite for areas D and E

MAIAS Curriculum II

- modules: either graded or pass/fail

- calculation of final grade:

 - A 2 (grade x 2)

 - C 4 (grade x 3) [written exam]

 - D 3 (grade x 3) [oral exam]

 - E 2 (grade x 6) [MA thesis]

> see: “Examination and Study Regulations“ (“Prüfungsordnung“); currently only in German
<https://www.amtliche-bekanntmachungen.uni-bayreuth.de/de/studienordnungen/master/index.html>

Language Center

- Separate institution, not part of the English Department
- look at their website! (<https://www.sz.uni-bayreuth.de/en/>)
- Contact / Advice on language courses: Ms. Mary Redmond (mary.redmond@uni-bayreuth.de)
- Course “Style & Register“ (obligatory in the first semester),
course number for registration: **SE057**



NEW: MAIAS Eco-Track Option

FACULTY OF LANGUAGES & LITERATURES

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The MAIAS eco-track offers students the opportunity to specialize in the environmentally oriented study of Anglophone literatures and cultures. By gaining 30 of the program's 120 credit points in five **eco-focused modules/classes**, students engage with ecological questions through an innovative interdisciplinary framework that combines inter- and transcultural studies, **ecocriticism**, and the **Environmental Humanities**.

The track explores how our understanding of environmental issues has been shaped not only by scientific knowledge but also by cultural narratives and diverse forms of representation – both factual and fictional. Drawing on the interdisciplinary perspectives of environmental literary and cultural studies, eco-track classes:

- investigate the important role that literature, film, comics, and other forms of visual culture have played in articulating, critically debating, and transforming ideas about environments and human-nonhuman relationships, thereby contributing significantly to the formation of environmental histories;
- analyze factual and fictional texts that have participated in developing key concepts such as "nature," "culture," and "the human," thereby examining how their meanings vary across different knowledge systems;
- explore the multicultural and multispecies character of many societies, shaped by the influence of (conflicting) Western scientific and philosophical traditions as well as a range of non-Western and Indigenous epistemologies;
- identify the diverse ways of understanding human relationships with the more-than-human world and the ethical questions that arise from them.

By integrating ecological perspectives into the study of Anglophone cultures, the eco-track strengthens MAIAS's focus on intercultural understanding while highlighting socio-ecological relations as a crucial dimension of cultural history and production.

Selection of Eco-Track Classes

The modules

MAIAS students who choose the eco-track are required to select classes with an ecocritical or environmental humanities focus in the following five modules:

Module area A:	A 2 eco, A 4 eco
Module area C:	C 1 eco, C 3 eco
Module area D:	D 1 eco

Students in the eco-track may also pursue thesis projects on topics within the field of ecocriticism.

Completion of the eco-track will be indicated on the degree certificate as "Area of Specialization: Literature, Culture, and the Environment."

Professional and academic relevance

Students who choose the eco-track gain analytical, intercultural, and communication skills that are increasingly valuable in fields addressing environmental challenges. Their training in environmental humanities and literary and cultural analysis prepares them for careers in areas such as environmental communication, publishing and journalism, in cultural institutions, NGOs, and public policy. Graduates may work in organizations focused on sustainability, environmental education, or cultural mediation, where the ability to interpret complex environmental issues across scientific, cultural, and social contexts is essential. The eco-track also provides a strong foundation for further academic research in environmental humanities, ecocriticism, and related interdisciplinary fields.

Check webpage for details:

<https://www.maias.uni-bayreuth.de/en/Eco-Track-in-MAIAS/index.html>



Study Support for International Students

Faculty4International



- Dr. Antje Friedrich-Gemkow
- Coordinator, Study Support for International Students of Faculty IV ("faculty4international")
- Instructor, English Literature
- Email: faculty4international@uni-bayreuth.de

- Assists you with questions concerning your studies.
- Provides a step-by-step guide to help you get started with your studies.