

Checklist for MAIAS Students [August 2026]

1. MAIAS Curriculum / Module Area Structure

You can find the MAIAS Curriculum online, on the MAIAS homepage:

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

Module areas A – E / structure:

- A Intercultural Anglophone Studies in Literature and Language – Foundations
- B Second Foreign Language
- C Intercultural Anglophone Studies in Literature and Language – Intermediate Level
- D Intercultural Anglophone Studies in Literature and Language – Advanced Level
- E Intercultural Anglophone Studies in Literature and Language – MA Thesis Module

2. Course Selection

Starting on **October 1, 2026**, you can find information about the courses offered in the winter semester 2026/27 via [cm|life](#). For most modules, there are several courses to choose from. For each module, cm|life shows you a list of courses from which to pick one for the module. In choosing your seminars, follow the recommendations provided on the information sheet “Course plans 2026 (full time).” Please note that these are only recommendations. It is always possible to develop a more individual course plan.

There are two **obligatory** modules for MAIAS students who start in the winter semester: **A 1** and **A 3**.

- **A 1** / major area **literature**: HS “Cultural and Literary Theory”, Thu 2-5 pm (bi-weekly)
or (depending on major area):
- **A 1** / major area **linguistics**: HS “Theoretical Approaches to Language, Variation and Culture”, Tue 4-6 pm
- **A 3**: “Style & Register” (Ü), Tue 12-2 pm; the course number, which you need for registering on cm|life, is SE057.

Recommended for your first semester, in addition to modules A 1 and A 3, are the following modules:

- A 2** (HS – credit work: essay, 3.500 words + oral defense)
- A 4** (PS or HS – credit work: essay, 3.500 words)
- B 1** (Second Foreign Language; Grundkurs/Basic course)

While registration is only possible from October 1 onwards, you can find an overview of the courses offered for all module areas in the winter semester 2026/27 here (no password needed; once the page is open, click on “module” and then on “W 2026/27”:

<https://my.uni-bayreuth.de/cmlife/s/programs/Ly91YnRAY21jby9hcGkvcHJvZ3JhbXMvNjlx>

3. Language Courses | Language Center

Language courses are offered by the **Language Center** (<https://www.sz.uni-bayreuth.de/en/index.html>), which is located on the ground floor of the Faculty building (GW I).

Electronic registration for language courses (module area B) and for the course "Style and Register" (module A 3) is compulsory, it starts **on October 15, 2026**.

Here, you will find more detailed information for international students:

<https://www.sz.uni-bayreuth.de/de/sprachen-und-kurse/International-Students/index.html>

Please note: For module area B you need 10 ECTS/credit points. This means that you can take different types of language courses to reach this number of points in the course of your studies, 2-hour courses give you 2 ECTS, 4-hour courses give you 4 ECTS. Should you opt for a (German) language class for absolute beginners, you will have to take a “Grundkurs” (4-hour course; 4 ECTS).

4. Course Registration

You have to register for your courses via UBT’s **cm|life**: <https://my.uni-bayreuth.de/cmlife/welcome>
Registration requires a student ID.

Registration **for language courses** starts on **October 15, 2026**

Registration **for all other courses** starts on October 1, 2026

5. Written exam, Oral Exam, MA Thesis

In the course of your MAIAS studies, you will have to pass a written and an oral exam, and you will have to write your MA thesis. Here comes some information to plan ahead:

1. **Written exam** (module C 4, Independent Studies I): 3 hours; topic to be agreed on with chosen examiner. Students should begin collecting ideas for topics from the first semester onwards and discuss these with their chosen examiner (for example: you can develop a topic from a seminar you take).
2. **Oral exam** (module D 3, Independent Studies II): 60 minutes; 3 topics to be agreed on with chosen examiner. Students should begin collecting ideas for topics from the first semester onwards and discuss these with their chosen examiner (again, you can develop topics from seminars you take).

3. **Master thesis:** 25.000-33.000 words (65-85 pages); topic to be agreed on with chosen supervisor. After registration of the thesis, you have six months for writing. Following the grading of the thesis, there will be a Thesis defense (15 min. presentation, 30 min. discussion).

The topics for the two exams and for the MA thesis must not overlap. You can choose your examiners and thesis supervisor from among the full professors, plus, in linguistics, PD Dr. Eric Anchimbe. Just approach them during their office hours with topic ideas and ask whether they would be willing to do the exams or supervise your thesis. It is possible to have the same examiner/supervisor for the exams and the thesis, but it is also possible to choose different ones.

Please note: There are no weekly courses for modules C 4 (Independent Studies I) and D 3 (Independent Studies II). You have to prepare for the respective exam on your own (“independently”), of course always in consultation with the examiner.

6. Obtaining your Degree Certificate

It may seem a bit early to provide you with this piece of information, but experience has told us that it may make sense to do so right away. When you are approaching the end of your MAIAS studies, i.e. once you have successfully done all course work, passed the written and the oral exam, submitted your MA thesis and received your final grade, there is still one more step to go: **You have to send a request for your MA degree certificate to the examination office via cm | life!** The document (including your transcript of records) will then be sent to you.

7. Glossary of Important Terms

- Hauptseminar (HS) = **Advanced Seminar**, type 1. This type of seminar requires a considerable reading and research load; it does not offer introductory information, but focuses on discussions at an advanced level.
Oberseminar (OS) = **Advanced Seminar**, type 2 (offered only in module areas D and E).
- Proseminar (PS) = **Undergraduate Seminar**. This type of seminar may be chosen as elective (A 4, C 3) to extend the range of thematic choices. Discussions are conducted on a more basic level.
- Übung = This is the type of class offered by the Language Center (for MAIAS, module A 3 “Style & Register” and the language classes in module area B). “Übung” literally means “exercise.”
- Vorlesung (V) = A course consisting of a **series of lectures** by a professor, which can only be chosen for module C 1. It is, however, possible to audit the course (> no credit points).
- “Semesterapparat” = Reserve shelf, in the central library (ZB); collection of research sources (books), used in a particular seminar.
- E-learning Server = For most courses, some research materials are offered online. Students have to register for access (1) to e-learning (only once, when you start your studies), and (2) to the respective courses with their student ID (“bt”-number): <https://elearning.uni-bayreuth.de/>