

## **Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Papers available for the Honour School of Religion and Asian and Middle Eastern Studies**

### **For students commencing in MT25 for examination in 2027.**

*Examination Regulations* require candidates “to offer eight papers. Three papers must be in Religion and three in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies; the other two may be in either Religion or Asian and Middle Eastern Studies. All candidates will be required to submit as one of their eight papers either a thesis (in Religion) or a dissertation (in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies).”

For Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, candidates specialising in Buddhism (with Tibetan) must offer papers from the approved lists below.

### **Buddhism with Tibetan**

The official syllabus descriptions for individual papers (unless otherwise stated) are provided in the Subsidiary Languages Handbook, accessible through [the Faculty’s Handbooks page](#).

All candidates must offer the following TWO papers:

*Tibetan prose composition and unprepared translation*

*Prepared texts (classical), with questions*

Additionally, candidates MUST offer ONE paper and may offer a further ONE or TWO papers selected from the list below, providing that the total number of AMES papers offered does not exceed five, including the AMES dissertation (if offered).

*Further Buddhist texts: Tibetan* (this paper follows the same teaching pattern as the paper *Prepared texts (classical), with questions*)

*Questions on Tibetan culture and history*

*Anthropology of Buddhism* (classes in HT26 only, for description, see the BA Sanskrit Handbook accessible through [the Faculty’s Handbooks page](#)).

*Any other paper which is deemed suitable and approved by the Joint Committee of the Faculties of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, and Theology and Religion in Trinity Term 2026, when this statement may be reissued.*

### **The Asian and Middle Eastern Studies dissertation**

Candidates may (and if **not** offering the Theology and Religion Thesis, candidates **must**) offer an AMES dissertation as a fourth or fifth AMES paper.

Candidates choosing an AMES dissertation (rather than a Theology and Religion thesis) will be subject to the same structure and deadlines as other BA students within the Faculty. More information on the dissertation is available from [the Faculty’s Handbooks page](#).

**Prerequisites and restrictions**

The offering of individual papers is subject to the restrictions and prerequisites pertaining to those papers in the in the Subsidiary Languages Handbook, accessible through [the Faculty's Handbooks page](#).

The offering of individual papers from the Faculty of Theology and Religion is subject to the restrictions and prerequisites pertaining to those papers.

Any students or college tutors concerned about the suitability of a particular paper or paper combination are welcome to approach the Tibetan course coordinator for advice.

**Weighting in Assessment**

All papers, including the AMES dissertation, are equally weighted as one of eight Honour School papers. The delivery and assessment of each option is outlined in the individual paper descriptions.