

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
Postgraduate Programme Specification
MA and Diploma in Social Anthropology

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Award	Programme Title	Duration	Mode of study
MA	Social Anthropology	1 year	Full time
		2 years	Part time
Diploma	Social Anthropology	9 months	Full-time

NB the only significant difference between the MA in Social Anthropology and the Diploma in Social Anthropology is that the candidates for the latter are not required to prepare and submit a dissertation over the summer vacation. Otherwise the aims and outcomes of the two programmes are identical. In some instances, students may be admitted as Diploma candidates and subject to satisfactory performance in coursework may be upgraded to MA status students. A Certificate in Social Anthropology is not currently being offered. Except where noted, specifications for the MA Social Anthropology with Visual Pathway are identical.

School	Social Sciences
Faculty	Humanities
Awarding Institution	University of Manchester
Programme Accreditation	N/A
Relevant QAA benchmark(s)	N/A

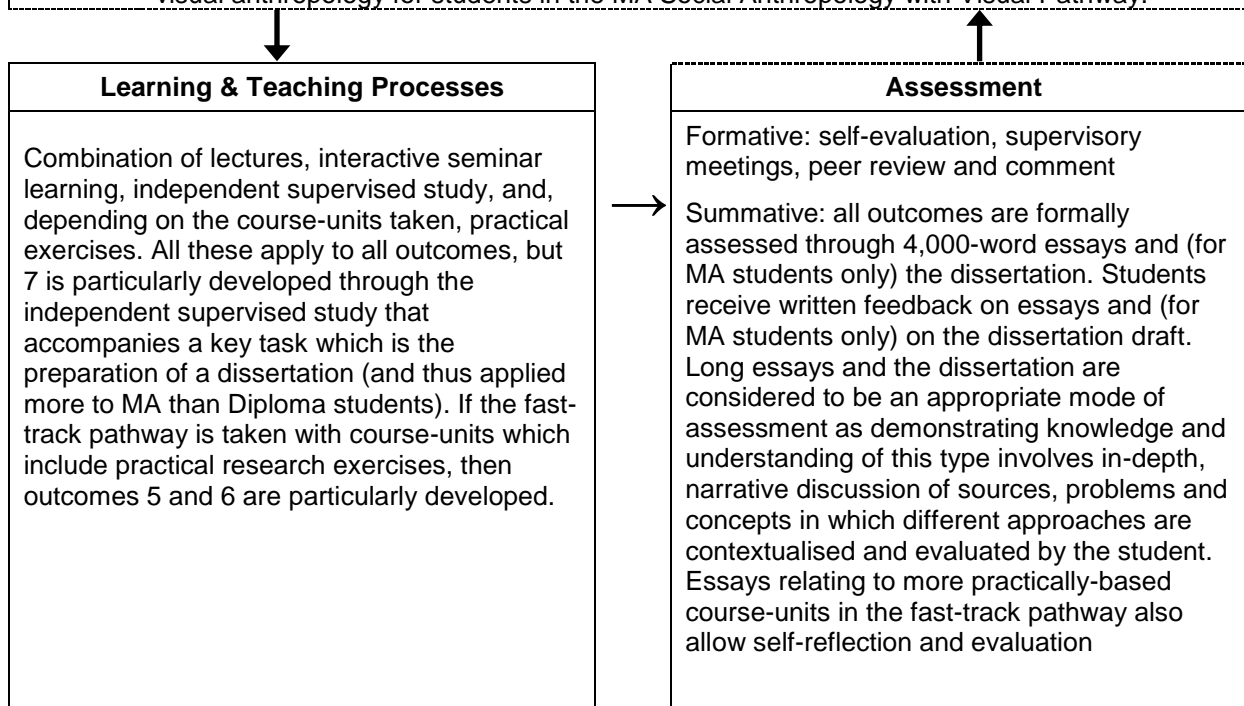
2. AIMS OF THE PROGRAMMES

01.	To provide advanced, systematic and critical knowledge of Social Anthropology, bringing students towards the forefront of debates about substantive issues and methods in the discipline, in the context of an active research environment
02.	(For MA students completing a dissertation): To give students in-depth knowledge of a specialist topic or sub-field with Social Anthropology
03.	(For MA students completing a dissertation): To train students in carrying out a substantial piece of autonomous research
04.	To provide students with transferable employment-related skills
05.	To train students to become autonomous and self-aware life-long learners, able to apply their existing knowledge and skills innovatively a variety of contexts
06.	(For MA students on the MA Social Anthropology with Visual Pathway): To provide students with critical knowledge of and, normally, basic practical skills in visual, aural and object-based production methods as forms of anthropological research and as subjects for critical analysis.

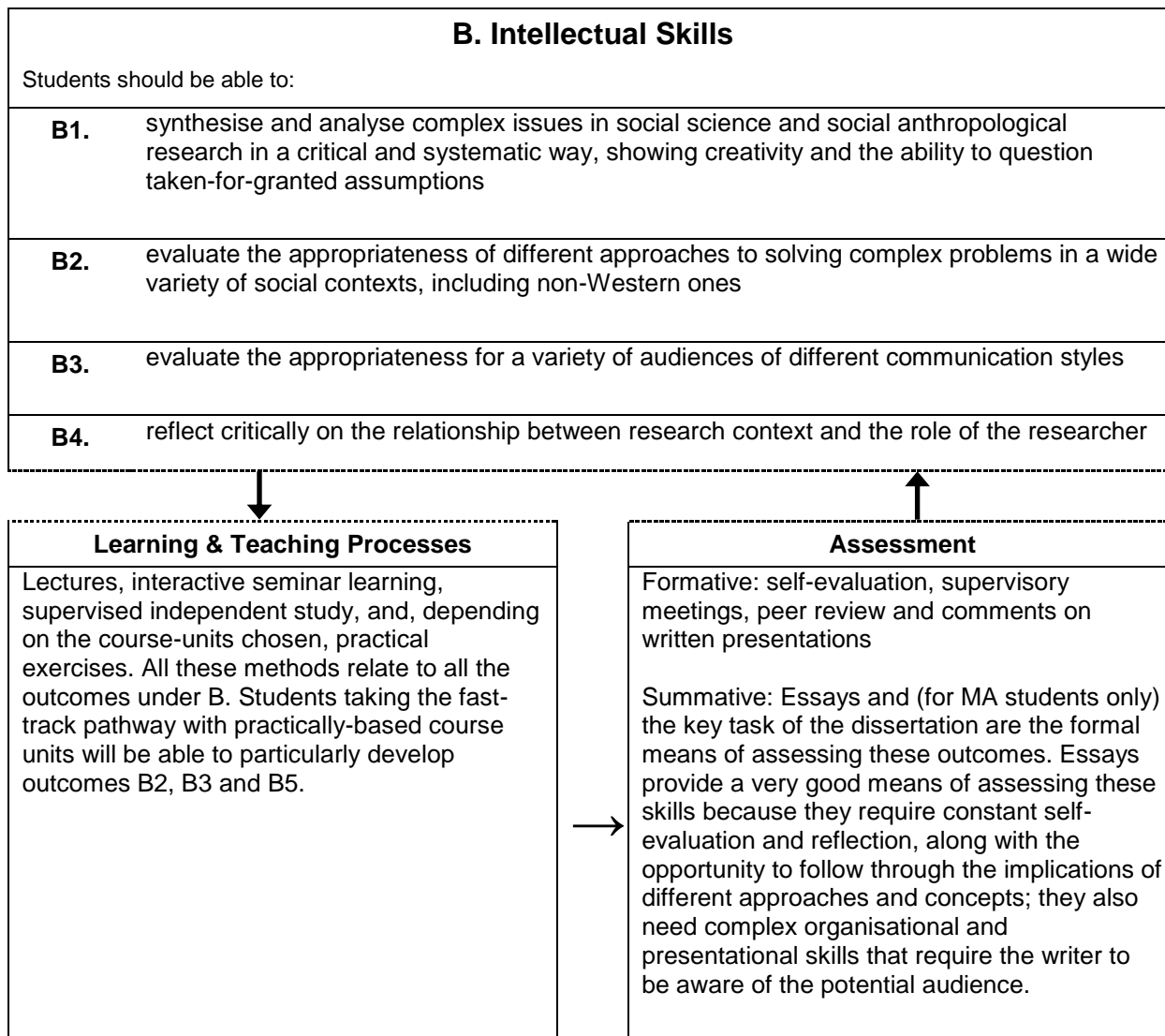
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3. INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMMES

A. Knowledge & Understanding	
Major areas of advanced debate and innovation in research in Social Anthropology, including a critical knowledge and understanding of:	
A1.	how to apprehend and convey to others the lives of people in non-Western and Western societies
A2.	how to recognise and take a critical perspective on taken-for-granted modes of thought
A3.	changing theoretical frameworks in the discipline
A4.	the position of Social Anthropology within the social sciences more broadly and its particular characteristics
A5.	methodological problems involved in ethnographic enquiry
A6.	the political and ethical issues involved in doing anthropological research
A7.	the regional and theoretical literature focusing on a small number of specialist topics within the discipline, understood in a comparative context
Outcome 7 is more developed at MA than Diploma level, as students complete a dissertation. Outcomes 5 and 6 are developed more fully if students take the fast-track pathway involving practical research exercises. Outcomes A1-A6 include specific issues of visual anthropology for students in the MA Social Anthropology with Visual Pathway.	



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C. Practical Skills	
Students should be able to:	
C1.	manage library and bibliographic resources, including on-line, and build up an on-going bibliography for use as a professional research tool; manage basic computer skills; review work produced by peers
C2.	(for students on the fast-track pathway with practically-based course-units): design and carry out small-scale research projects involving using, and critically reflecting on the use of, a variety of social science research methods, especially ones of particular importance in Social Anthropology, such as intensive ethnographic methods, long-term participant observation, oral and life histories, and the making of field notes, including the collection and use of audio-visual data. For students in the MA Social Anthropology with Visual Pathway this normally also includes basic competence in technical procedures for photography, material culture display or audio production.
C3.	teach small groups at undergraduate level, including assessment of written work and provision of feedback on it. <i>(This skill is not a required outcome of the programme, but training provision exists for it.)</i>



Learning & Teaching Processes
Seminars, independent supervised learning, essay-writing, dissertation preparation and writing (for MA students only), practical research exercises (for students on the fast-track pathway with relevant course-units), computer-based practical exercises (optional), personal academic development plans. All these teaching and learning methods relate to skills 1 and 2. The computer-based practical exercises are part of an optional short course provided Faculty level for those who do not have the basic skills needed to word-process and use the Internet, and these exercises relate particularly to the development of basic computer skills. Outcome 3 is achieved via a special short course on teaching methods.



Assessment
Formative: feedback from supervisor to student, peer feedback in class, feedback on essays and personal academic development plans (and feedback from undergraduates on tutorial teaching skills for those who take the teacher training course) are all ways in which all these practical skills are evaluated. Summative: the preparation of extended essays for all course units, and for the MA students, the preparation of a dissertation allow assessment of skills 1 and 2. Essays that give the results of practical exercises in the fast-track pathway also allow the assessment of skills under item 2.

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D. Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities	
Students will/should <i>(please delete as appropriate)</i> be able to:	
D1.	clearly communicate, in writing and orally, complex material in a systematic, comprehensive and context-sensitive way
D2.	build varied networks for research, including using computer-mediated and mass forms of communication
D3.	effectively manage and schedule complex research processes which, for students on the fast-track pathway with practically-based course-units, involve team-based research and dealing with people with varied agendas
D4.	manage one's own career in a reflexive, future-oriented and autonomous way, with an awareness of the location of one's career path in the wider society



Learning & Teaching Processes
Seminars, independent supervised learning, essay-writing, seminar presentations, dissertation preparation and writing (for MA students only), practical research exercises, computer-based practical exercises, personal academic development plans and (optional) a practically-based short course delivered at Faculty level. All these teaching and learning methods relate to



Assessment
<p>Formative: Feedback from supervisor to student, peer feedback, feedback on essays and personal academic development plans are ways in which all four transferable skills can be evaluated. Skills 2 and 4 are evaluated primarily through these means. Oral presentations made as part of some courses (e.g. Advanced Anthropology, Ethnography Reading Seminar) are the subject of written formative assessment by peers and course tutor</p> <p>Summative: Essays and (for MA students only) the dissertation allow assessment of 1 and 3, especially when taken as a set since the submission of coursework on time demands careful planning and scheduling of work. These assessments also permit some evaluation of 2, as the evidence of effective research networking can be seen in essay work and, more particularly, in the dissertation</p>

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4. THE STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME(S)

Programme structure and credits

These programmes have been designed with two different constituencies of student in mind. The *normal track* is intended to bring students to an advanced level of knowledge in the discipline sufficient to proceed to a research-based degree course. This track provides a basic grounding in social anthropology and allows students to tackle certain specialist fields within the discipline. It is therefore particularly suited to those who have a first degree in another field.

The *fast track* is for those who, having some previous academic experience of social anthropology or a closely related field, specifically intend to pursue doctoral research in social anthropology. These students are required to take a particular set of research methods courses which lead directly in to the more advanced research training offered in the first year of the doctoral programme.

All students are required to take four compulsory courses and four optional courses, totalling 120 credits. In addition, MA students are required to present a dissertation valued at 60 credits.

Course units	Credits
Compulsory	
for all students:	
Advanced Anthropology 1	15
Advanced Anthropology 2	15
for normal track students only:	
Ethnography Reading Seminar 1	15
Images, Text, Fieldwork	15
for fast track students only:	
Issues in Ethnographic Research 1	15
Issues in Ethnographic Research 2	15
Four specialist course-units chosen from the range available at postgraduate level, on advice from tutor (list updated every year)	
An Anthropology of Science, Magic and Expertise	15
Another Europe - War/Nation/Transformation	15
Anthropology, Globalisation and Development	15
Objects of Analysis	15
Technologies of Reproduction	15
Working out Culture: Anthropology of Organisations	15
Screening Culture: Issues in Anthropology & Film	15
Anthropology of Education and Learning	15
Medical Anthropology	15
Visual Culture and Media 1	15
Visual Culture and Media 2 (priority access for MA SA Visual Pathway students)	30
Dissertation (for MA students only)	60
Additional non-assessed optional courses	
IT Skills	
Tutor training	

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5. STUDENT INDUCTION, SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT

Induction

Induction takes place during the first week of term to welcome new students to the programme and to introduce them to key members of both academic and administrative staff. There is an introduction to library facilities (both within the School of Social Sciences and the John Rylands Library) and to IT facilities.

Programme Handbooks

All students are given a copy of the Programme Handbook shortly after arrival. This includes comprehensive information on all aspects of the programme, and has specific advice on the dissertation process and the support available.

IT Skills

All students are encouraged to take IT training courses appropriate to their extant level of competence and expected level of need in the course of the year.

Tutorial support & pedagogy

Each student is assigned to a personal tutor whom s/he will normally meet every two weeks during each semester. Tutorial groups usually involve 2 or 3 students. Students are expected to write a number of practice essays during the course of each semester and these are discussed during supervisions. In the course of the academic year, all students can expect at least 12 hours of tutorial supervision. In addition, MA students can receive a further 4 hours supervision dedicated to the preparation of their dissertations. If a student has a matter of private personal interest, s/he is encouraged to raise this in the first instance with the tutor.

Student Representation

There is a staff-student meeting once per semester, to which all students are invited, and which for practical scheduling reasons is generally immediately followed by a Board of Study meeting. Students are also invited to nominate a representative for the programmes to the 'departmental' Board, though how long this board will continue to meet within the new School structure remains to be seen.

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6. CURRICULUM MAP OF COURSE UNITS AGAINST INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME

Course Unit Title and Code			Knowledge & Understanding								Intellectual Skills					Practical Skills			Transferable Skills & Personal Qualities			
Code	Course Unit title	C/O	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	C1	C2	C3	D1	D2	D3	D4	
SOAN70811	Advanced Anthropology 1	C	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A			D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN70822	Advanced Anthropology 2	C	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A			D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN70691	MA Ethnography Reading Seminar	C	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A			D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN70452	Images, Text, Fieldwork	C	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A			D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN70641	Issues in Ethnographic Research 1 (fast track students only)	C	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A		D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN70652	Issues in Ethnographic Research 2 (fast track students only)	C	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A		D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN60031	An Anthropology of Science, Magic and Expertise	O	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A			D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN70212	Another Europe - War/Nation/Transformation	O	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A			D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN60042	Objects of Analysis	O	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A			D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN70591	Visual Culture & Media 1	O	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A			D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN70771	Screening Culture: Issues in Anthropology & Film	O	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A			D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN70762	Anthropology, Globalisation and Development	O	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A			D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN60992	Visual Culture & Media 2	O	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A		D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN60022	Medical anthropology	O	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A			D A	D A	D A	D	
SOAN6051	Anthropology of education and learning	O	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A			D A	D A	D A	D	
SOANXXXX	Dissertation (MA students only)	C	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A	D A		D A	D A	D A	D	
	Tutor Training Course (non-assessed)	O															D	D				

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Legend for cells

D = intended learning outcomes of the programme are taught or developed by students within this course unit
A = intended learning outcomes of the programme are assessed within this course unit

C = compulsory course unit
O = optional course unit

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7. CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admissions criteria of the University of Manchester and the Department of Social Anthropology in one of the following ways:

Upper Second Class honours (or equivalent) in Social Anthropology or a related subject. If English is a second language, then a minimum level is required (IELTS at 7.0, or equivalent)

Further details are available on the Departmental and Graduate School web sites at <http://les1.man.ac.uk/sa> and <http://les1.man.ac.uk/>

8. PROGRESSION AND ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

General single University assessment regulations to be inserted here.

Assessment Rules and Classifications

- Minimum pass mark for each course unit is 50%

Full details of assessment and compensation arrangements are in the Programme Handbook.

Classification Criteria

Full details of pass and distinction levels are contained in the Programme Handbook

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