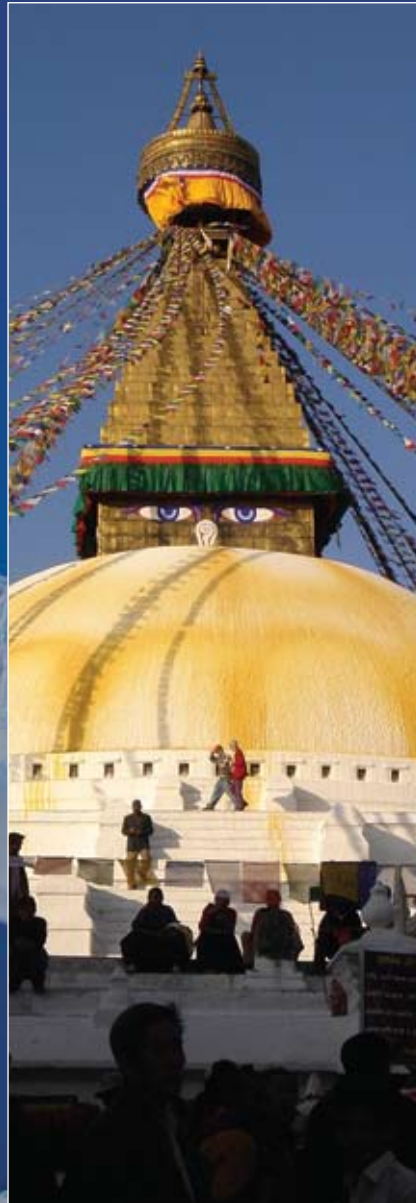


Teachers on the Nepali language and culture programme

Michael Hutt is Professor of Nepali and Himalayan Studies. His publications include *Himalayan Voices: an introduction to modern Nepali literature* (1991), *Nepal in the Nineties: versions of the past, visions of the future* (1994), *Teach Yourself Nepali* (2000), *Unbecoming Citizens: Culture, Nationhood, and the Flight of Refugees from Bhutan* (2003) and *Himalayan People's War: Nepal's Maoist rebellion* (2004).

Krishna Pradhan is Senior Lecturer in Nepali. He teaches undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Nepali language and evening Nepali courses at the SOAS Language Centre, and he can also teach Newari, the indigenous language of the Kathmandu valley. He has published a pocket size Nepali dictionary (*A small world of words* (1990)) and several Nepali phrase books. Since he joined SOAS in 2004 he has developed a range of new audio and video materials for students of Nepali language and completed a new online Nepali dictionary. He has recently completed a Nepali flexipack project with support from the SOAS-UCL 'Languages of the Wider World' Centre of Excellence (see www.lww-cetl.ac.uk).

Postgraduate research students working under Professor Hutt's supervision contribute occasional classes and tutorials to the BA courses. The Britain Nepal Academic Council, of which Professor Hutt is a founding executive member, holds regular Nepal Study days involving academics and researchers from all over the UK and beyond, plus an annual lecture by, alternately, British and Nepali academics. Most of these events are held at SOAS and students on the BA Nepali programme are encouraged to attend them all.



Websites

School of Oriental and African Studies www.soas.ac.uk
Britain Nepal Academic Council www.bnac.ac.uk

BA in Nepali + another subject
(Combined Honours)
SOAS University of London

BA in Nepali + another subject (Combined Honours)

SOAS (the School of Oriental and African Studies) offers a wide range of BA degrees in which the study of a language and its culture is combined with the study of a Social Science or Humanities subject. The language and culture half of the degree covers language training (students may begin totally from scratch, or may build upon their existing knowledge of the language), the study of the cultural history of the society/region/country where the language is spoken, and the study of literature and other cultural production, first in translation and increasingly in its original language. The Social Science or Humanities half of the degree is a structured programme, comprising core and compulsory courses and a number of options.

Nepali language and culture may be studied as one half of the following BA degrees:

- Nepali and Law
- Nepali and History
- Nepali and Music
- Nepali and Politics
- Nepali and Development Studies
- Nepali and History of Art/Archaeology
- Nepali and Study of Religions
- Nepali and Social Anthropology
- Nepali and Geography
- Nepali and Economics
- Nepali and Linguistics
- Nepali and Management

Courses in Nepali language, literature and culture can also be taken as a part of the degree BA South Asian Studies.

The Nepali half of these combined degree programmes consists of the following courses:

YEAR ONE

Nepali Language 1 is a course in written and spoken Nepali, for students with little or no previous knowledge of the language. The course covers all the major tenses and constructions of the language, enabling successful students to acquire basic skills in reading, writing, comprehension and speaking. Literacy in the script is taught early on, and much emphasis is placed on good pronunciation and on the social and linguistic conventions of everyday conversation. Students who join the programme with some prior knowledge of Nepali can take the course 'Nepali Language 2' (see below) in Year 1 instead.

South Asian Culture is a general introduction to the diverse culture of South Asia, from ancient times to the present day. It also incorporates training in essay-writing technique, oral presentation and library skills. It is organised into four separate modules, each taught by a specialist teacher.

YEARTWO

Nepali language 2 aims to develop students' skills in Nepali through grammar work, translation, prose composition, and conversation. Students are introduced to a wide range of language use in diverse materials from contexts such as journalism, literature, play readings, recorded conversations, personal correspondence and so forth.

Society, Culture and Politics in Nepal introduces the culture and history of Nepal, the distinctive features of modern Nepali society, and current socio-cultural and political issues and debates.

YEAR THREE

Nepal year abroad study programme at the Bishwa Bhasa Campus of Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu. Students take intermediate and advanced courses in Nepali language and literature, and may also study a second language such as Newari or Tibetan. In consultation with their SOAS tutor, they gather materials for their final year independent project.

YEAR FOUR

Nepali Language 3 is designed to provide students with an opportunity to read selected standard texts (short stories, poetry, and essays) from modern Nepali literature and to develop the ability to comprehend the language of the Nepali news media.

Independent Study Project

Students write a 10,000-word project, under the supervision of their tutor, on a topic agreed upon at the end of their second year, for which they have conducted some research and gathered some materials during their year in Nepal.



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A levels: ABB

IB: 34 points with 5/5/5 at Higher Level points

UCAS: 300 points (from 3 A-levels excluding General Studies).

Minimum Entry Requirements: A foreign language at A-level or equivalent is preferred but not essential.

Duration: Combined Honours 4 years

OUR GRADUATES

Many of our graduates have gone on to pursue their studies at postgraduate level, often in the field of anthropology or development studies. One is currently completing a Ph.D on Nepal's 1990 constitution, another is a university lecturer in South Asian art and architecture. Other graduates have developed careers in the British Army, the International Committee of the Red Cross; the British school education system, the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the news media, charities administration, and a number of other fields. In one way or another, all of them remain engaged with Nepal.

