

Prof. Dr. Sylvia Mayer

Chair American Studies / Anglophone
Literatures and Cultures
Academic Coordinator, MA Intercultural
Anglophone Studies

**Double Degree Program:
UBT – SISU, MA Intercultural Anglophone Studies (MAIAS)
Application and Admission Information for the Academic Year 2026/27 | March 2026**

Application Process

The documents that the department selection committee at Bayreuth needs in order to start the application process are:

- a text describing two research topics you would like to pursue
- a letter of endorsement from your major supervisor testifying to your adequate preparation in terms of academic achievement and English proficiency, and
- documentation of language requirements (TOEFL: 95; IELTS "Academic": 7.0)
- a curriculum vitae.

The text describing two research topics must indicate which "major area" you intend to focus on – "literature" or "linguistics" – and how you intend to pursue your chosen research area in terms of method and current research contexts (for more detailed information see the information sheet "Text Describing Two Research Topics").

Please, send all the documents to the program coordinator at SISU who will then send all of them to the MAIAS academic coordinator at the University of Bayreuth (UBT).

The application deadline for the academic year 2025/26 is April 13, 2026.

After Admission: Formal Application via CampusOnline

Students successfully admitted to the program have to do the **UBT online application, via the "CampusOnline" portal**: <https://campusonline.uni-bayreuth.de/ubto/>

You start the application process by clicking on: "Create basic account". Fill in all the information asked for; as to the documents that need to be uploaded, you only have to upload the following ones:

- APS certificate
- curriculum vitae
- the text describing your two research topics
- BA certificate (i.e. section: "(provisional) Degree certificate. . .")

Your Campusonline application will be further processed by UBT once the results of the APS interviews are in. You will be sent a formal "letter of admission" via e-mail. Please note: **The general deadline for application (May 1) is not relevant for you.** Try to submit the documents as soon as possible, however, so that the visa application process can start as early as possible.

Preparing your Studies: Curriculum, Module Handbooks, Early Choice of Classes

The following documents will help you to understand the MAIAS program as a whole:

1. Curriculum:

https://www.maias.uni-bayreuth.de/pool/dokumente/Curriculum_English2023.pdf

2. Module Handbook major area "Literature":

https://www.maias.uni-bayreuth.de/pool/dokumente/MAIAS_MHB-Literature_2023.pdf

3. Module Handbook major area "Linguistics":

https://www.maias.uni-bayreuth.de/pool/dokumente/MAIAS_MHB-Linguistics_2023.pdf

The modules you will have to cover for the double degree program are the following:

Module A 1 "Cultural and Literary Theory" (major area literature) or "Theoretical Approaches to Language, Variation and Culture" (major area linguistics)

Module A 4 "Elective Seminar"

Module C 1 "Intensive Seminar"

Module E 1 "Master Seminar"

Module C 4 "Written Exam"

Module E 2 "Master Thesis"

Modules A 1, A 4, and C 1 should be completed in your first semester at UBT. Module E 1 is a seminar you should take in the second semester, parallel to developing and writing your MA thesis. The written exam (module C 4) should be taken at the end of the first semester (in mid-February 2026). The Master thesis (module E 2) should be started (and if possible: finished) in the second semester.

Modules A 1, A 4, C 1 and E 1 have to be "filled" with seminars of specific types.

1. For modules A 1 and E 1, you have to take a specific seminar (identified in the course commentaries, see below).
2. For modules A 4 and C 1 you can choose seminars that you are particularly interested in:
 - For module A 4 you can either choose a Proseminar (PS; seminar), a Hauptseminar (HS; advanced seminar), or a Übung (Ü; exercise).
 - For module C 1 you have to choose a Hauptseminar (HS, advanced seminar).

Before transferring to Bayreuth, you can already plan your schedule for the first semester. **Classes for the winter semester 2026/27 are announced towards the end of July 2026 on the homepage of the English Department.** The pdf-file name is "Courses with comments" and can be found under "news" at: <http://www.anglistik.uni-bayreuth.de/de/index.html>

Recommendation: If you would like to improve your theoretical knowledge and capabilities, you may consider making use of information you find in the texts on the short list of Preparatory Reading (either for major area "literature" or for major area "linguistics") before you transfer to Bayreuth: <https://www.maias.uni-bayreuth.de/en/program-information/index.html>

Transcript of Records: First Year at SISU

You will need to provide official evidence of successful completion of your first MA year at SISU for the UBT examination office, i.e. a transcript of records of your first academic year. **You should hand in the transcript of records to the MAIAS academic coordinator in December 2025 the latest.** If you are not sure how to obtain the transcript, please consult the program coordinator at SISU.

MA Thesis

Starting in the winter semester 2026/27, the Study Regulations define the Master's thesis module E2 as comprising two components: the Master's thesis and a defense.

You should start developing a MA thesis project as early as possible, and you should be writing your MA thesis in your second semester at UBT, while taking the advanced seminar II for module E 1. You can start thinking about a suitable topic even before you transfer to Bayreuth, but make sure to talk about your ideas to any of the possible supervisors at UBT right from the start. It may be helpful to

take a look at the professors' websites to find out about their fields of specialization. More generally, these are the fields covered by us:

Intercultural Anglophone Studies + ...

... American literature and culture

- Prof. Dr. Jeanne Cortiel (jeanne.cortiel@uni-bayreuth.de)
- Prof. Dr. Sylvia Mayer (sylvia.mayer@uni-bayreuth.de)

... British literature, Postcolonial literatures and cultures

- Prof. Dr. Susan Arndt (susan.arndt@uni-bayreuth.de)
- Prof. Dr. Florian Klaeger (florian.klaeger@uni-bayreuth.de)

... English linguistics

- PD Dr. Eric Anchimbe (eric.anchimbe@uni-bayreuth.de)
- Prof. Markus Bieswanger (bieswanger@uni-bayreuth.de)
- Prof. Susanne Mühleisen (susanne.muehleisen@uni-bayreuth.de)

Please note: Thesis advising by UBT professors does only take place "in person" during the two semesters you will be on campus. Do not hesitate to approach professors, for instance, when you bring a thesis topic idea with you to Bayreuth. Each one of us has weekly, one-hour office hours which you are welcome to attend to ask questions and discuss your ideas. Advising via e-mail, once you have returned to SISU after the academic year, is not possible.

German Language Classes

While you cannot take German language classes for the MAIAS modules, you can still take such classes if you wish to learn or improve your German. Please note that for any language class you will need to register at the beginning of each lecture period (i.e. in mid-October or mid-April) in our Language Center (in German: "Sprachenzentrum"). Its website includes a page for international students that provides further information: <https://www.sz.uni-bayreuth.de/en/sprachen-und-kurse/International-Students/index.html>

You can find more general information on MAIAS on the MAIAS website(s)

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