

BA (Hons) Mauritian Studies (F/T) - SHG 1412

1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES

The BA (Hons) Mauritian Studies offers interdisciplinary ways of exploring the Mauritian society, its environment, history, culture, and their intersections. The rapid changes brought by globalisation has led to new insight on exploring the Mauritian society, thence the need to address these changes in this programme arises.

The objective of this programme is to empower students with the required norms and values to act as responsible citizens when dealing with issues pertaining to the environment, history, culture, and their intersections.

Competencies and career opportunities

This programme allows students to discover possibilities to contribute to the Mauritian society. They will develop soft skills like research and communication skills for their future employment pursuits in the public and private sectors. Level 1 and 2 modules introduce the theoretical underpinnings in areas of History, Sociology, Geography, and Literature while in Level 3 students will study advanced modules in the four areas.

The B.A (Hons.) Mauritian Studies is suitable for students with career interests in tourism, the media or media related industries, and heritage. In the course of this programme, students will encounter the world of work through fieldwork and placement with NGOs to equip them with employability skills.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the programme, learners should be able to:

- Identify the main theories of social sciences such as sociology, anthropology, history, geography, and Mauritian Literature
- Recognise the Mauritian society for its complexity
- Apply soft skills to engage in the world of work
- Evaluate their role both as an informed member of society and as a social scientist

3. TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

Blended Mode: Face-to-face Lectures, Group Discussion/Work, Assignments, Tutorials, Problem-solving, Presentations/Seminars, E-learning (G-Suite/ Zoom/Moodle and others) and Training.

4. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **General**

As per General Entry Requirements for admission to the University for Undergraduate Degrees.

- **Programme (Specific) Requirements**

Priority will be given to applicants having subjects in the fields of Social Sciences and Humanities including Asian Languages, Hinduism and Islamic Studies. Students with 'A' Level in Travel & Tourism can also apply.

- **Special Cases**

Mature students will be selected based upon University Regulations

5. PROGRAMME DURATION

	Minimum (Years)	Maximum (Years)
Degree	3	5

6. MINIMUM CREDITS REQUIRED (LCCS)

For each Academic Year

Year 1 = 72 LCCS Credits

Year 2 = 72 LCCS Credits

Year 3 = 66 LCCS Credits

For Degree Award

210 LCCS credits

	Core Modules	Dissertation	Electives	Total LCCS Credits
Degree	192	18	-	210
Diploma	120	-	-	120
Certificate	60	-	-	60

- Exit point (Optional)

The student can exit the programme with a Diploma or Certificate as follows:

- Students may exit with a Diploma in BA (Hons) Mauritian Studies after having earned 120 LCCS credits.
- Students may exit with a Certificate in BA (Hons) Mauritian Studies after having earned 60 LCCS credits.

7. ASSESSMENT AND DEADLINES

7.1 Examinations: 50% - 60%

Examinations will count for 50% to 60% of the total marks.

Each module will have a written examination of a duration of 2/3 hours at the end of the semester.

7.2 Continuous Assessment: 40% - 50%

Continuous assessment will count for a range of 40% to 50% of total marks. Continuous assessment will be based on two (2) assignments and should include at least one class test per module.

For a student to pass a module, an overall total of 40% for combined continuous assessment and written examinations is required.

7.3 Submission Deadline for Dissertation/Research Project

The number of words in the final year project/dissertation shall be between 8,000 - 12,000 for an Undergraduate Degree programme. Viva-Voce will be mandatory for assessment of dissertations.

Three copies of the dissertation (two spiral-bound copies, printed on both sides in black and white and one soft copy in a single PDF text file on electronic storage media) should be submitted to the Faculty/Centre Registry. In addition, a soft copy of the dissertation (main body i.e., introduction up to the last Chapter) should be uploaded on the Turnitin Platform, as a single PDF file in the appropriate class/assignment provided by the Project Supervisor.

All of the above should be submitted not later than the last working day (i.e. excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays) of March of the academic year by **4.00 p.m.** at latest, unless specified otherwise in the Programme of Studies.

Dissertation is compulsory and it will carry 18 credits.

8. LIST OF MODULES

Module Code	Module Name	L/T/P ¹ (Contact Hours)	Self-Study Hours	Other Learning Activities Hrs	LCCS Credits
CORE MODULES (YEARLY AND SEMESTER)					
MST1001Y (1)	Mauritius under Colonial Rule: A Society in the Making (1638-1968)	60	120	180	12
MST 1002Y (1)	Mauritian Literature and Diaspora	60	120	180	12
MST 1003Y (1)	Mauritius: The Physical Environment and Natural Resources	60	120	180	12
MST 1004(1)	An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	30	60	90	6
CREO 1001Y (1)	Les langues créoles: définition(s), généalogies, théories et concepts	60	120	180	12
HIST 1004Y (1)	International History since the end of the 19 th Century	60	120	180	12
MST 1203 (1) *	Introduction to Social Work	30	60	90	6
MST 2017Y (3)	Population and Sustainable Urbanisation	60	120	180	12

MST 2002Y (3)	Anthropology of Health and Religion	60	120	180	12
MST 2000 (3)	Archives, Museums and Heritage	30	60	90	6
MST 2001Y (3)	Research Methodology	60	120	180	12
MST 2012Y (3)	Media, Communication and Language Skills	60	120	180	12
BHS 2100 (3)	Bhojpuri: History, Folklore and Heritage	30	60	90	6
MST 2025 (3)	Intercultural Studies	30	60	90	6
MST 2530 (3)	Gender and Society	30	60	90	6
HIST 3215Y (5)	Contemporary Mauritius – Social, Economic and Political Issues	60	120	180	12
MST 3236 (5)	Understanding Mauritian Law and its Legal System	30	60	90	6
MST 3050Y (5)	Social Change and Development	60	120	180	12
MST 3003Y (5)	Cultural Studies	60	120	180	12
MST 3403(5)	Migration and Diaspora	30	60	90	6
MST 3000 (5)	Dissertation				18

Note:

1. Contact hours: L-Lectures, T-Tutorials, P-Practicals
2. Offering of electives would be subject to availability of resources and critical mass.
The department offers the right to offer additional electives

9. PROGRAMME PLAN

YEAR 1

Module Code	Module Name	L/T/P/ Hrs	Total Self- Study/ Hrs	Other Learning Activities/ Hrs	LCCS Credits
MST 100Y (1)	Mauritius under Colonial Rule: A Society in the Making (1638-1968) ^{1 & 2}	60	120	180	12
MST 1002Y (1)	Mauritian Literature and Diaspora ^{1 & 2}	60	120	180	12
MST 1003Y (1)	Mauritius: The Physical Environment and Natural Resources ^{1 & 2}	60	120	180	12
MST 1004 (1)	An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology ¹	30	60	90	6
CREO 1001Y (1)	Les langues créoles: définition(s), généalogies, théories et concepts ^{1 & 2}	60	120	180	12
HIST 1004Y (1)	International History since the end of the 19 th century ^{1 & 2}	60	120	180	12
MST 1203 (1)*	Introduction to Social Work ²	30	60	90	6
Sub Total		360	720	1080	72

YEAR 2

Module Code	Module Name	L/T/P/ Hrs	Total Self- Study/ Hrs	Other Learning Activities	LCCS Credits
-------------	-------------	---------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------

MST 2017Y (3)	Population and Sustainable Urbanisation ^{1 & 2}	60	120	180	12
MST 2002Y (3)	Anthropology of Health and Religion ^{1 & 2}	60	120	180	12
MST 2000 (3) *	Archives, Museums and Heritage ¹	30	60	90	6
MST 2001Y (3) *	Research Methodology ^{1 & 2}	60	120	180	12
MST 2012Y (3)	Media, Communication and Language Skills ^{1 & 2}	60	120	180	12
BHS 2100 (3)	Bhojpuri:History,Folklore and Heritage ¹	30	60	90	6
MST 2025 (3)	Intercultural Studies ¹	30	60	90	6
MST 2530 (3)	Gender and Society ²	30	60	90	6
Sub Total		360	720	1080	72

YEAR 3

Code	Module Name	L/T/P/ Hrs	Self- Study Hrs	Other Learning Activities Hrs	Credits LCCS
HIST 3125Y (5)	Contemporary Mauritius – Social, Economic and Political Issues ^{1 & 2}	60	120	180	12
MST 3236 (5)	Understanding Mauritian Law and its Legal System ¹	30	60	90	6
MST 3050Y (5)	Social Change and Development ^{1 & 2}	60	120	180	12
MST 3003Y (5)	Cultural Studies ^{1 & 2}	60	120	180	12
MST 3403 (5)	Migration and Diaspora ¹	30	60	90	6
MST 3000 (5)	Dissertation	-			18
Sub Total		240	480	720	66
TOTAL 210					

***Mode of Assessment: 100% Course work.**

Note:

¹ Module offered in semester 1

² Module offered in semester 2

10. MODULE OUTLINE

YEAR 1

MST 1001Y (1) – MAURITIUS UNDER COLONIAL RULE: A SOCIETY IN THE MAKING (1638-1968)

Study of our society during colonial times - Focus on central themes essential for an understanding of the socio-economic, political and cultural factors contributing to the making of present-day Mauritius - Immigration and settlement, slavery and its abolition, political and constitutional evolution, the creolisation process. Students are assessed through a combination of course work (40%) and a written examination (60%).

MST 1002Y (1) – MAURITIAN LITERATURE AND DIASPORA

This module explores the historical along with the socio-cultural aspect of the multilingual Mauritian Literature. This module will specifically aim Mauritian Literature that relates to the Mauritian Diaspora. Students will analyse extracts from literary texts to study issues that are text-specific. They will study how each text under study shed light upon a distant yet remarkably painful past. Students will be assessed through a combination of course work (40%) and a written examination (60%).

MST 1003Y (1) – MAURITIUS: THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

This module will study the geology, hydrology, climate, flora and fauna, coastal geomorphology, and natural resources of the Republic of Mauritius. It will also identify the physical processes shaping the various landforms in Mauritius. Methods and skills pertaining to physical geography will be taught. Students will be assessed through a combination of course work (40%) and a written examination (60%).

MST 1004 (1) - AN INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

This course is designed to introduce students to the methods, theories and concepts of cultural anthropology. It brings about an understanding of the similarities and differences in society and of how the world's system is interconnected despite the different cultural traditions. The module focuses on basic anthropological concepts to comprehend how people lead their everyday life through language, economy, family life and kinship, religion and other institutions. Students will be assessed through a combination of course work (40%) and a written examination (60%).

CREO 1001Y (1) – LES LANGUES CRÉOLES: DÉFINITION(S), GÉNÉALOGIES, THÉORIES ET CONCEPTS

Différentes manières de définir les langues créoles. Questions théoriques sur leurs genèses. Typologies des langues créoles: Créoles français, Créoles anglais, Créoles portugais etc. Description linguistique des Créoles; aspects phonologiques, morphosyntaxiques et lexicales. De l'oralité à la lecture – écriture: problèmes de graphies, construction méta-langagière. L'évaluation des élèves sera faite à travers des contrôles continus (40%) et un examen écrit (60%).

HIST 1004 Y (1) – INTERNATIONAL HISTORY SINCE THE END OF THE 19th CENTURY

This module aims at imparting to students a comprehensive knowledge of the major events in the international history since the end of the 19th century, to offer a firm basis for more advanced work in area studies and to provide the factual grounding and conceptual apparatus necessary to understand the contemporary world. Major topics include: the rise of global politics, 'New imperialism', the outbreak of the First World War, interwar international politics, the world economy. The Second World War in Europe, Asia and the Pacific, the Cold War, Decolonisation, regional conflicts, globalisation, international and regional cooperation.

MST 1203 (1) – INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WORK

This module aims to develop knowledge about social institutions and structures of social service and basic skills in the practice of social work. Topics and challenges in social work practice in Mauritius including preventive and developmental approaches to social intervention will be introduced. Students will gain hands-on experience in practicum for a period of two weeks under the supervision of qualified social workers. This module will be assessed by continuous assessment only [report, portfolio, seminar/exposé].

YEAR 2

MST 2017Y (3) - POPULATION AND SUSTAINABLE URBANISATION

This module aims to provide students with a broad perspective on concepts and theories of population through the basic elements of demographic changes, namely, fertility, mortality and migration. Historical development of urbanisation in Mauritius will also be tackled. Students will be assessed through a combination of course work (40%) and a written examination (60%).

MST 2002Y (3) - ANTHROPOLOGY OF HEALTH AND RELIGION

This module builds on MST1004 Y (1). It will look at the anthropology of, health and religion with reference to the ethnographies of the rituals, symbolism and religious knowledge of non-western societies including Mauritius, its neighbours and other societies of the Indian Ocean and will refer to some aspects of medical anthropology.

MST 2000(3) - ARCHIVES, MUSEUMS AND HERITAGE

Students will learn how history is communicated to the public using various medium, both through conventional and electronic channels: Archives, museums, memorial and heritage sites, theme parks etc. This module will be assessed by continuous assessment only [report, portfolio, seminar/exposé].

MST 2001Y (3) – RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This module explores a variety of research methods used to investigate different research topics. The stages involved in the research process from specifying a research problem to the collection of data through qualitative and quantitative methods to the dissemination of findings will be discussed. Ethical issues in research will also be raised. This module will be evaluated by Continuous Assessment only, which include course works on archival research (20%), quantitative and qualitative methods (30%) and a project consisting of original research based on fieldwork (50%).

MST 2012Y (3) - MEDIA, COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE SKILLS

This module will enable students to acquire different communication skills which shall help them establish a proper manner of eloquence in any given situation; both personal and professional, verbal and written.

They will be taught writing techniques for different purposes such as presenting an effective curriculum vita, writing emails, business letters, reports etc. One semester will be devoted to communication in English and the other in French. Students will be assessed through a combination of course work (40%) and a written examination (60%).

BHS 2100(3) - BHOJPURI: HISTORY, FOLKLORE AND HERITAGE

Bhojpuri emerged as one of the lingua-franca of Mauritius with the interactions of the various components of the Indian indentured population and previously settled groups. This module introduces students to the Mauritian Bhojpuri culture, its origin, evolution, folklore and oral traditions. It also focuses on the cultural and linguistic borrowings from non-Indian communities. Finally, the module examines the importance and role of Bhojpuri amongst the other Indian diasporas and as world heritage. Students will be assessed through a combination of course work (40%) and a written examination (60%).

MST 2025 (3) - INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

This module will discuss definitions of culture by major thinkers and introduce students to the origin and history of cultures before examining key concepts such as monoculturalism, multiculturalism and interculturality. This module will also focus on the importance of intercultural studies in education, communication, tourism and mediation in social conflicts. For the practical component, students will be sent on fieldwork for a period of one month with NGOs to experience the realities of interculturalism. This module will be assessed by continuous assessment only [report, portfolio, seminar/exposé].

MST 2530 (3) – GENDER AND SOCIETY

This module aims at evaluating the nature, extent and importance of gender differences in the contemporary Mauritian society. It explores a range of areas which include theoretical approaches on gender such as feminist theory. Traditional gender role expectations in society, marriage and the family, the dual burden the conceptualisation of gender, interaction of gender with race and class, gendered division of labour in the private and public sphere and social movements will also be discussed. Assessment is done by a combination of course work marks (40%) and a written examination (60%).

YEAR 3

HIST 3215Y (5) - CONTEMPORARY MAURITIUS – SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ISSUES

This yearly module addresses selected political, social, economic and cultural issues of contemporary Mauritius since independence on a thematic basis. This will also include the study of the evolution of the party-political systems, social-political processes, examine issues linked to gender, ethnicity, heritage management and media. The module will teach students to understand the historical, political, economic, and social development and the background to contemporary Mauritian society; analyse the specific characteristics of the Mauritian democracy compared to the region and assess the impact of globalization

on contemporary Mauritius and explore the development of Mauritian dependencies, especially Rodrigues and Chagos since independence. Students will be assessed through a combination of course work (40%) and a written examination (60%).

MST 3236 (5) – UNDERSTANDING MAURITIAN LAW AND ITS LEGAL SYSTEM

This module will provide a background framework of the Mauritian legal system. It will highlight the sources of law, court structures and statutory interpretations to enable students to gain a knowledgeable understanding of the rule of law and how it is structured in Mauritius.

MST 3050Y (5) - SOCIAL CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

This module introduces students to the key sociological theories of change so as to examine societies at various stages of development in this era of globalization. Seminars and discussions will be centred on models of development and the prevailing trends in Mauritius.

MST 3003Y (5) - CULTURAL STUDIES

This module will look at aspects of culture through the medium of the written, visual, oral and media-based sources and see how people give meanings to their lives in the contemporary world. Forms of culture (film, books, magazines, television, photographs, newspapers, digital and cyber-culture, theatre, art and dance, popular leisure activities, political and cultural movement and subcultures) will be studied in different settings – historical, contemporary, global, national and local. Students will be assessed through a combination of course work (40%) and a written examination (60%).

MST 3403 (5) - MIGRATION AND DIASPORA

This module will introduce major theoretical and empirical issues in migration and diaspora studies today. It will explain the significance of migration, settlement and diaspora debates for the Mauritian society, with reference to policy and legal perspectives, diaspora and identity, and issues related to rights, citizenship status and welfare. Students will be assessed through a combination of course work (40%) and a written examination (60%).

MST 3000 (5) – DISSERTATION

At the end of the programme, students will be required to submit a research-based dissertation of 8000-12000 words on an original topic relevant to the field of study.

Evaluation: Written: 70%
 Viva-Voce: 30%

Submission deadline for dissertation: last working day of March of the academic year by 4.00 p.m, unless specified otherwise in the Programme of Studies.

**This Programme has been amended as follows: 2011, 2015, 2020.*

