

Programme Specification (Undergraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2022/23

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Version no. 4

1. Programme Title(s) and UCAS code(s):

BA French and English (RQ13)
BA Italian and English (RQ33)
BA Spanish and English (RQ43)

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study: Full-Time

b) Type of study: Campus based

4. Registration periods:

The normal period of registration is four years, including a full academic session abroad in the third year (three years, in exceptional circumstances, without year abroad). The maximum period of registration is six years.

5. Typical entry requirements:

A Level:

128 points from 3 A levels. ABB at A2 level. English literature, English language or English language and literature is required at a grade B or above. General Studies accepted as one of the three A2 levels. French/Italian/Spanish, either a grade B in A2, or for beginners, evidence of capacity in another foreign language, usually at A2 level.

For students taking just one language as Beginners, we will accept A*-C grades at GCSE as sufficient evidence of language learning abilities for entry onto the *ab initio* pathway of those programmes.

International Baccalaureate:

Pass diploma with 30 points, including 6 in Higher Level English and evidence of capacity in a foreign language, usually at A2 grade B or IB grade 6 higher level.

European Baccalaureate:

Pass with 77% overall, including English and a language at grade 7 (or equivalent) to be included in that figure.

Access to HE Courses:

Pass relevant Access to Higher Education Diploma with, 45 level 3 credits with 30 at distinction including a minimum of 12 English credits at distinction, and a recent review of written work. Also evidence of A2 level capacity in a foreign language.

Other national and international qualifications welcomed.

Mature students welcomed. Alternative qualifications considered for mature students.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:

APL will not be accepted for exemptions from individual modules, however may be considered for direct entry to year 2, on a case by case and subject to the general provisions of the University APL policy.

7. Programme aims:

The programme aims:

- to enable students to explore their interest in English and French/Italian/Spanish literature and language, including the study of literary history and genre, as well as the culture and societies of French/Italian/Spanish and French/Italian/Spanish-speaking countries;
- to enable students to develop and demonstrate a range of skills necessary for the study of English and French/Italian/Spanish at undergraduate and postgraduate level;
- to provide an intellectually challenging and stimulating curriculum drawing on the research expertise and teaching strengths in English and Modern Languages;
- to develop students' ability to access and transform information, to communicate clearly and effectively in both English and French/Italian/Spanish, and to present their findings in a professional manner;
- to develop students' skills in close reading and literary analysis;
- to foster students' initiative, independent thinking and judgement, including research skills;
- to deliver learning opportunities through lectures, seminars, workshops and individual supervision;
- to enable students to demonstrate an ability in the skills of examinations, essays, portfolios, oral presentations, and group projects;
- to equip students with subject-specific and transferable skills in preparation for employment in a wide area including teaching, academic research, marketing, journalism, law, trainee management, publishing, translating, administration, media and the arts, travel and tourism, leisure industry, hotel and catering, social work;
- to equip all students with a high degree of proficiency in the use of French/Italian/Spanish Language as a medium for expression and communication, both written and spoken, through a programme of progressive tuition based on authentic documentation (press, film, literature and broadcast media), academic texts and exposure to native speakers;
- to provide students with a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the cultures, communities and societies where French/Italian/Spanish is used, through approaches which draw upon key ideas, concepts and methodologies shared with other disciplines, including literary, cultural and film studies, historical, social and political;
- to promote intercultural awareness and understanding through the lived experience of time spent abroad and through the development of analytical skills of comparing, contrasting and mediating between cultures and societies

8. **Reference points used to inform the programme specification:**

- QAA Benchmark Statement for Languages and Related Studies
<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/SBS-Languages-Cultures-and-Societies-15.pdf>
- QAA Benchmark Statement for Linguistics <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/SBS-Linguistics-15.pdf>
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- [University Learning Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#)
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals

- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes:

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<i>(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies</i>		
(i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge		
Demonstrate mastery of an appropriate body of literary, critical and linguistic knowledge and practice pertaining to English literature and French/Italian/Spanish language and culture.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research. Spoken and written language classes, including language- laboratory classes. On-line grammar practice. Summer programmes and year abroad.	Essays, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, group projects, seminar discussions, blogs, annotated reviews of literature.
Knowledge of the structures, registers and varieties of French/Italian/Spanish.	Cultural studies programmes, requirement to watch TV news from target countries, lectures and seminars throughout the course	Weekly assignments, including exercises marked online, examinations, role plays and presentations.
Knowledge and critical understanding of the cultures and societies of France/Italy/Spain and French/Italian/Spanish-speaking countries		Essays, portfolios, presentations, examinations.
(ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques		
Demonstrate skills of a close reader of literary texts	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research.	Essays, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, group projects, seminar discussion.
Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the English Language in its historical and literary dimensions.	Language classes including translation and interpreting seminars.	Tests and examinations.
Demonstrate knowledge of and application of a variety of methodological approaches to the study of English	Textual analysis classes, film or news, including sequence analysis, language classes.	Contextualised translation and interpreting tasks.
Demonstrate an understanding of literary history and literary genre.		Essays, seminar presentations, textual and sequence analysis examinations
Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of phonology, syntax and discourse required to analyse French/Italian/Spanish.		
Techniques for translating and interpreting between target and source languages.		
Techniques for the analysis of texts (literary, filmic, journalistic).		
(iii) Critical analysis of key issues		
Analyse literary texts for their formal, thematic and rhetorical significance.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research.	Essays, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, group projects, seminar discussions, literature reviews.
Demonstrate self-consciousness about critical methods	Lectures, seminars, independent reading and research.	Essays, seminar presentations, examinations, contributions to discussion.
Demonstrate understanding of the history of literature and the historical differences between texts.		

The ability to analyse through appropriate methodologies aspects of the literatures, cultures, linguistic contexts, history, political and social structures of target countries.		
(iv) Clear and concise presentation of material		
Present arguments in a variety of written and oral formats	Seminars, tutorials and lectures.	Essays, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, group projects, seminar discussions, literature reviews.
Ability to give a presentation in French/Italian/Spanish on the topic of cultural or social political interest.	Seminars, Class presentations.	Assessed presentations, oral examinations.
Ability to present a coherent arguments based on research and personal synthesis of material.		Assessed essays and examinations.
(v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight		
Marshall appropriate evidence in close reading, interpretation and contextualization.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research.	Essays, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, group projects, seminar discussions and literature reviews.
Use evidence effectively in the construction of arguments.	Research tasks, portfolios.	Assessed research projects, portfolios.
Ability to synthesise and evaluate relevant literature and Internet material on the subjects studied.	Lectures, seminars, independent reading, requirement watch TV news in target language.	Essays, examinations, reporting back news in spoken language classes.
Awareness of cultural and political reference Systems in target countries.		
(vi) Other discipline specific competencies		
Demonstrate imagination, sensibility and linguistic fluency.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research.	Essays, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, group projects, seminar discussion.
Intercultural awareness and understanding.	Seminar discussion, study of literature, socio-political issues, cinema, current use, role play and drama, the periods of residence abroad.	Seminar presentations, essays, role play.
(b) Transferable skills		
(i) Oral communication		
Participate effectively in group discussion.	Seminars, workshops, presentation of teamwork projects.	Oral presentations.
Present arguments in a range of registers and to audiences with different needs.	Spoken language classes, language laboratory sessions, residence abroad.	Role-play exercises and simulations, oral examinations.
Fluent, accurate and appropriate communication in target language.	Seminar presentations, oral examination practice followed by feedback.	Assessed seminar presentations, oral examinations.
		Assessed translating and interpreting tasks.

Ability to give well-structured and effective oral presentations demonstrating awareness of audience.	Translating and interpreting tasks.	
Ability to mediate and interpret between target and source cultures.		
(ii) Written communication		
Present written arguments of varying lengths and levels of formality.	Lectures, seminars, workshops, supervisions, tutorials.	Essays, essay-based examinations, contribution to seminar discussion.
Demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in written expression.	Weekly language assignments including register exercises, study of and practice in reproducing discourse features of a variety of text types.	Assessed language tasks, examination.
Production of texts of various types demonstrating accuracy and appropriate discourse conventions.	Translation classes.	Assessed translation tasks, examination.
Ability to produce accurate translations between target and source languages.		
(iii) Information technology		
Ability to use IT effectively both as a means of communication and as an aid to learning.	On-line grammar practice, other CALL or TILe activities, bulletin boards in target languages, use of internet for research, use of IT to present material.	On-line and CALL or TILe exercises as requirement, critical appraisal of internet material in presentations, including blogs and wiki tools.
Use IT for bibliographic and archive searches, data analysis.	Seminars, lectures, workshops, independent research, supervisions, directed reading, written assignments, induction programme, computer practical classes, data analysis.	Essays, seminar presentations, essay group-projects, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises.
(iv) Numeracy		
Ability to interpret graphs and extract relevant information.	Seminars, Group projects	Group projects and reports
Ability to interpret statistics and numerical trends and express them coherently on oral and written formats.	Analysis of current affairs documents in oral and written language classes, and content modules, including socio-political contexts. Work placement preparation guidance.	Assessed oral presentations, summaries and essays. Work placement report.
(v) Team working		
Team-management and group-working skills, collaborative planning and problem solving	Pair and group tasks in seminars and oral classes, group projects	Assessed group tasks, self-assessment of group-working skills. Blogs and wiki tools.
(vi) Problem solving		
Solve literary critical, historical and linguistic theoretical problems.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written	Essays, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, seminar

Design a research methodology.	assignments, independent research, teamwork.	discussions, group projects computer-based exercises.
Ability to identify, describe and analyse problems and to devise appropriate strategies for their resolution.	Assignment tasks involving increasing levels of critical engagement as course proceeds, error analysis through use of marking system.	Coursework assignments, examinations, research projects, interpreting skills, ability to self-correct language work.
(vii) Information handling		
Identify, retrieve and manipulates textual, literary and critical sources and information.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, worked up, directed reading, written assignment, independent research, computer practical classes, teamwork.	Essay, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, group projects, seminar discussion, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises.
Transform the significance of this information in the construction of arguments.		
Understanding of information and referential structure of texts.	Language classes, interpreting tasks, comprehension exercises.	Assessed comprehension tasks.
Ability to produce translations, résumés in the target language and between target and source languages.	Work on résumé and translation in language classes.	Assessed résumés and translations.
Ability to make a personal synthesis of information gathered from paper, audio-visual and electronic sources in target and native languages.	Research tasks, seminar presentations, oral examinations based on dossier of material.	Essays, presentations.
		Interpreting tasks.
(viii) Skills for lifelong learning		
Strategies for self-monitoring and continued maintenance and development of skills in target languages.	Development of metalinguistic awareness through language classes, grammar lecture, tasks designed to expand target language repertoire.	Language assignments, ability to self-correct.
Effectiveness and self-awareness as an independent learner.	Research tasks, independent, critical and analytical reading and viewing.	PDP record.
Reflect on your own and others' learning.		Essays, research projects.
Manage time and resources available to you.		

10. Progression points:

This degree programme follows the University's standard progression rules set out in [Senate Regulation 5](#). However, all core language modules must be passed in order to progress to the following year of the programme and must be passed at Honours level (40%+). Final Year core language programmes must be passed at Honours level in order to graduate.

11. Scheme of Assessment

This programme follows the standard scheme of award and classification set out in [Senate Regulation 5](#)

12. Special features

Consolidation of linguistic skills and opportunity for cultural enrichment at an early stage of the course through three-week summer programme at end of Year 1, involving tuition from native speakers at a University and linguistic immersion through local accommodation.

Opportunity for total immersion in the target language and culture by the provision of one full academic session spent in France/Italy/Spain or a French/Italian/Spanish-speaking country during the third year (depending on programme of study).

Opportunity for the development of study skills in target country universities following a guided programme of learning for the period spent abroad.

13. Indications of programme quality

Modern Languages

External examiners' reports consistently emphasize the quality of the student learning experience and the high standard of teaching and of assessment. They also favourably comment on the careful design of our modules' intended learning outcomes and their meeting the requirements of the QAA benchmark statements in all its key elements.

Modern Languages at Leicester achieves regularly very high scores in the National Student Survey. In the 2017 NSS Modern Languages achieved an overall satisfaction score of 97.4% (JACS subject area of 'European Languages and Area Studies'). Students' comments praise in particular the vibrant and supportive student-staff community within Modern Languages.

Modern Languages at Leicester was ranked 8th nationally in the Guardian university league table 2017.

95% of the School's research is recognised internationally.

English

We are currently 28th in The Complete University Guide. We have consistently excellent results in the National Student Survey with ratings of 90% or over since the survey began in 2005, and 91% in 2016. Positive reports of the quality and efficiency of examinations and assessment procedures from External Examiners note, for example, that the School 'has an impressive range of forms of assessment across all three years', 'has good students who are being taught well across the board', and is 'delivering impressive feedback' and marking. In the 2012 Periodic Developmental Review (previously last conducted in 2004), the panel's report on the School was extremely positive: 'Throughout discussions with both staff and students the Panel noted a very collegial and student-centred approach to all the School's activities. The Panel particularly noted a culture of embedding the assurance of quality and standards into all areas of the School. The enhancement of the student experience was also actively encouraged and fostered. The Panel was impressed with the knowledge of the Chairs of the School's committees and their engagement with managing and enhancing the learning opportunities of students across the provision. The Panel also praised the leadership of the [then] Head of School who actively and knowledgeably oversaw the School's activity. The Panel had confidence in the management of quality assurance and quality enhancement processes in place within the School to assure the quality of the learning opportunities available to students and to comply with both the QAA Codes of Practice and the University Codes of Practice.

14. External Examiners

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at [exam-papers](#).

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

Updates to the programme

Academic year affected	Module Code(s)	Update
2022/23	EN1070	Core module added
2022/23	EN1020 The Novel	Core module removed
2022/23	EN1037 Describing Language	Optional module removed
2022/23	EN1040 The History of the English Language	Optional module removed
2022/23	EN1050	Change from optional to core module
2022/23	EN1060	Added optional module
2022/23	EN1002	Added optional module
2023/24	EN2320 Renaissance Literature	Core module removed
2023/24	EN2350	New optional semester 1 module
2023/24	EN2147	New optional semester 1 module
2023/24	EN2050 – Love Wars	Core module removed
2023/24	EN2060 – Concepts in Criticism	Core module removed
2023/24	EN2330	New optional semester 2 module
2023/24	EN2340	New optional semester 2 module

There are two main routes through the core language modules on this programme: One for students with well-developed abilities in a language other than English and their native language, and one for students without such abilities. The former group of students take the programme with advanced language skills; the latter group of students take the programme *ab initio*. For example, an advanced French student will take FR1010 Advanced French Language in year 1, followed by FR2010 Post-Advanced French Language in year 2. A beginners level student will take FR1020 French Beginners and FR1021 French Beginners in year 1 followed by FR2018 French Post-Beginners in year 2. These students will be taught together in final year language groups. The same pattern applies to other languages. Please see the diagrams below.

Notes:

1. *Optional modules are listed at the end of each year; they may be subject to change from year to year **and will not run if under-recruiting**.*
2. Students whose native language is either French, Italian or Spanish, and who wish to study this language as part of their degree programme at Leicester will normally be required to substitute for the core language modules (FR1010 or IT1010 or SP1010) 30

credits of ELTU modules from the following optional modules (as available): EL1005 Academic Writing; EL1007 Academic Speaking; EL2011 Pronunciation; EL2012 Vocabulary; EL2013 Grammar; EL2025 Language and Media. Students with native speaker fluency in both English, and the language they wish to study as part of their degree programme at Leicester, will be required to substitute 30 credits of cultural modules taken from the range on offer in the relevant language or ML modules for the relevant core language modules.

FIRST YEAR

Students are required to attend a compulsory three-week summer school (**ML2007: Modern Language Summer School**, 0 credits), organised by the School of Modern Languages and in one of the languages they are studying, during the long vacation at the end of the first year. Students studying at beginner's level must go to the summer school in that language.

SEMESTER 1 (60 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (60 credits)
CORE	CORE
15 credits of language: <i>either:</i> FR1010/IT1010/SP1010 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Advanced) (30 credits, year-long) <i>or:</i> FR1020/IT1020/SP1020 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Beginners) 1	15 credits of language: <i>either:</i> FR1021/IT1021/SP1021 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Beginners) 2
	OPTIONS
FR1050/IT1028/SP1022 Introduction to French/Italian/Spanish Studies (15 credits) (as aligned with the language being studied)	1 x 15 credit module from the Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules list (as aligned with the language being studied)
English modules:	English module:
EN1070 Writing Matters (15 credits)	EN1050 Renaissance Drama (30 credits)
Plus either:	
EN1002 Classic American Writing (15 credits)	
OR:	
EN1060 Feminist Fiction (15 credits)	

Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules

Option modules may be subject to change from year to year.

	credits
FR1014 Twentieth-Century French Literature	15
FR1027 Introduction to Francophonie	15
IT1027 Authors and Genres	15
IT1029 Italy since 1945	15
SP1031 Introduction to Latin American Literature & Film	15

SECOND YEAR

SEMESTER 1 (60 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (60 credits)
CORE	CORE
FR2010/IT2024/SP2010 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Post-Advanced) (30 credits, year long) <i>or (if language in Year 1 was taken as Beginners):</i> FR2018/IT2005/SP2005 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Post-Beginners) (30 credits, year long)	
ENGLISH OPTIONS	ENGLISH OPTIONS
EN2350 Eighteenth Century Literature from Restoration to Revolution (30 credits) OR: EN2147 Romantic Literature from Blake to Shelley (30 credits)	EN2330 Modern Literature from Heart of Darkness to Nineteen Eighty-Four (30 credits) OR: EN2340 Rewriting Britain from Windrush to Now (30 credits)
OPTIONS	OPTIONS
1 x 15 credit module from the Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules list (as aligned with the language being studied)	1 x 15 credit module from the Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules list (as aligned with the language being studied)

Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules

Option modules may be subject to change from year to year.

	credits
FR2032 Introduction to French Linguistics	15
FR2042 Challenging Perspectives: Conflict and Relations in French Culture	15
FR2045 Media and Cultural Practices in France	15
FR2046 French Urban Space	15
IT2011 Italian Linguistics	15
IT2012 History of Italian Cinema	15
IT2016 Italian Society and Culture under Fascism	15
SP2022 The Mexican-US Border: History, Culture, Identity	15
SP2035 Contemporary Mexican Cinema	15
SP2036 Drugs and Displacement in Contemporary Colombian Culture	15
SP2070 Latinx Literature & Culture in the United States	15

THIRD YEAR

Students are required to spend a full academic session abroad between the second and final years, following approved courses at a university in France, Belgium, Canada, Switzerland, Italy, Spain or Latin America (Mexico, Colombia), or alternatively as an assistant in a school in one of those

countries. Students also have the option of doing a work placement, subject to departmental approval.

SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
CORE	
ML3032 Year Abroad Placement Evaluation: Study or Work (Year Long) (30 credits)	
ML3035 Language Skills (Year Long) (90 credits)	

FOURTH YEAR

SEMESTER 1 (60 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (60 credits)
CORE	CORE
FR3111/IT3010/SP3010 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Proficiency) (30 credits, year long)	
OPTIONS	OPTIONS
1 x 15 credit module from the Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules list (as aligned with the language being studied)	1 x 15 credit module from the Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules list (as aligned with the language being studied for SP/IT/FR coded modules)
AND EITHER	AND EITHER
EN3320 Renaissance Literature from <i>Utopia</i> to <i>Paradise Lost</i> (30 credits)	EN3010: Dissertation (30 credits)
OR	
EN3328 Victorians: from <i>Oliver Twist</i> to <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> (30 credits)	OR
	2 x 15 credit modules from the English Special Subject Modules list from the list below (30 credits)

Modern Languages Optional Cultural Studies Modules

Option modules may be subject to change from year to year

		Credits
FR3208	Gender and Power in Contemporary France	15
SP3161	Gender in the Spanish American Development Novel: Selfhood & Society	15
ML3043	Film and Social Change	15
ML3042	Multilingual Professional Interpreting	15
ML3040	Global Eco-Cultures	15

ML3041	Migration, Borders, Belonging. Approaches and Representations	15
IT3139	Post-war Italian Directors	15
ML3020	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (1)	
ML3021	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (2)	
ML3176	Extended Project *	

***Students wishing to undertake a Modern Languages extended project in final year should note that this is available by successful application to the Section Coordinator only. Selection will be based on the student's prior academic performance and the strength of the research plans that they are able to present.**

English Special Subject Modules

Precise options available will need to be confirmed, and will include many of research-focused modules (options will vary according to staff availability)

Semester 2		
Precise options available will need to be confirmed, and usually include research-focused modules such as those from the list below.		15
EN3021	Literatures of Protest: Reading and Political Action	15
EN3128	Late Victorian Gothic: Texts and Context	15
EN3144	The Thatcher Factor: The 1980s in Literature	15
EN3158	Jane Austen: The Novels, their Contexts and their Adaptations	15
EN3159	Modern European Fiction	15
EN3194	Tragedy	15
EN3199	Bodies and Minds from the Victorians to the Present Day	15
EN3204	Writing for Laughs	15
EN3208	Sex and Sensibility: Women Writing, Revolution	15
EN3220	Medieval Worlds	15

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See module specification database: [Course documentation](#)

15. Guided Independent Study

CONTENT MODULES

Guided Independent Study: Indicative Activities

Each student uses their independent study time differently, but as a broad guide, you might find it useful to spend roughly the suggested amount of time on each of these activities:

Lecture, seminar and tutorial preparation (20%)
 Lecture, seminar and tutorial revision (20%)
 Assessment preparation (35%)
 Reflecting on assessment feedback (5%)
 Wider reading/research (20%)

LANGUAGE MODULES

Guided Independent Study: Indicative Activities

Each student uses their independent study time differently, but as a broad guide, you might find it useful to spend roughly the suggested amount of time on each of these activities:

Class preparation (20%)
 Class revision (15%)
 Assessment preparation (30%)

Reflecting on assessment feedback (15%)
Immersion in the Target Language (20%)