

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

BA Modern Language Studies (T901)

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:

ABB at A2 level including French/Italian/Spanish (depending on programme of study). 128 points from 3 A levels with a minimum of 40 points in French/Italian/Spanish. General Studies accepted as one of the three A2 levels.

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 French/Italian/Spanish at grade 7 (or equivalent).

Access to HE Courses:

Pass relevant Access to Higher Education course with 45 level 3 credits including 30 at distinction. 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:

- To equip all students with a high degree of proficiency in the use of the languages as media for expression and communication, both written and spoken, through a programme of progressive tuition based on authentic documentation (press and broadcast media), French/Italian/Spanish literature and film, academic texts and exposure to native speakers;
- To promote explicit knowledge of the languages studied through an awareness of language systems;

- To provide students with a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the cultures, communities and societies where the languages are used, through approaches which draw on 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;
- 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

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		
Knowledge of the structures, registers and varieties of the target languages.	Spoken and written language classes including language laboratory classes. On-line grammar practice. Summer programmes and year abroad in target countries.	Weekly assignments, including exercises marked online, examinations, role plays and presentations.
Knowledge and critical understanding of the cultures and societies of target countries	First year cultural studies programmes, requirement to watch TV news from target countries, lectures and seminars throughout course.	Essays, portfolios, presentations, examinations.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques		
<p>Understanding of the principles of phonology, syntax and discourse required to analyse the target languages.</p> <p>Techniques for translating and interpreting between target and source languages.</p> <p>Techniques for the analysis of texts (literary, filmic, journalistic).</p> <p>Ability to analyse through appropriate methodologies aspects of the literatures, cultures, linguistic contexts, history, political and social structures of target countries.</p>	<p>Language classes including specialist options in translating and interpreting.</p> <p>Textual analysis classes, film courses including sequence analysis, language classes.</p> <p>Lectures, seminars, independent reading and research.</p>	<p>Tests and examinations.</p> <p>Contextualised translating and interpreting tasks.</p> <p>Essays, seminar presentations.</p> <p>Essays, seminar presentations, examinations, contributions to discussion.</p>
(iii) Critical analysis of key issues		
<p>Ability to analyse through appropriate methodologies aspects of the literatures, cultures, linguistic contexts, history, political and social structures of target countries.</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, independent reading and research.</p>	<p>Essays, seminar presentations, examinations, contributions to discussion.</p>
(iv) Clear and concise presentation of material		
<p>Ability to give a presentation in the target languages on a topic of cultural or socio political interest.</p> <p>Ability to present coherent arguments based on research and personal synthesis of material.</p>	<p>Seminar presentations, oral examinations preceded by mock examinations with feedback on performance.</p> <p>Essays, summaries, short written pieces.</p>	<p>Assessed presentations, oral examinations.</p> <p>Assessed essays and extended essay, examinations.</p>
(v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight		
<p>Ability to synthesise and evaluate relevant literature and internet material on the subjects studied.</p> <p>Awareness of cultural and political reference systems in target countries.</p>	<p>Research tasks, portfolios.</p> <p>Lectures, seminars, independent reading, requirement to watch TV news in target language.</p>	<p>Assessed research projects, portfolios.</p> <p>Essays, examinations, reporting back on news in spoken language classes.</p>
(vi) Other discipline specific competencies		
<p>Intercultural awareness and understanding.</p>	<p>Seminar discussion, study of literature, cinema, current news, role-play and drama, periods of residence in target country.</p>	<p>Seminar presentations, essays, role-play.</p>

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(b) Transferable skills		
(i) Oral communication		
Fluent, accurate and appropriate communication in target languages.	Spoken language classes, language laboratory sessions, residence abroad.	Role-play exercises and simulations, oral examinations.
Ability to give well-structured and effective oral presentations demonstrating awareness of audience.	Seminar presentations, oral examination practice followed by feedback.	Assessed seminar presentations, oral examinations.
Ability to mediate and interpret between target and source cultures.	Translating and interpreting tasks.	Assessed translating and interpreting tasks.
(ii) Written communication		
Production of texts of various types demonstrating accuracy and appropriate discourse conventions.	Weekly language assignments including register exercises, study of and practice in reproducing discourse features of a variety of text types.	Assessed language tasks, examination.
Ability to produce accurate translations between target and source languages.	Translation classes.	Assessed translation tasks, examination.
(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 submission of word processed coursework assignments.
(iv) Numeracy		
Ability to interpret graphs and extract relevant information. 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. Work placement preparation guidance.	Assessed oral presentations, summaries and essays. Work placement report.
(v) Team working		
Team-management and group-working skills, collaborative planning.	Pair and group tasks in oral classes, group project.	Assessed group tasks, self-assessment of group-working skills.
(vi) Problem solving		
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, ability to self-correct language work.
(vii) Information handling		
Understanding of information and referential structure of texts.	Language classes, comprehension exercises.	Assessed comprehension tasks.
Ability to produce 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, extended essay, presentations.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(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, 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.	Essays, research projects, extended essay.

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.

10. Scheme of Assessment

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

11. Special features

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

Opportunity for total immersion in the target language and culture by the provision of one semester spent in two of the target countries during third year.

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

12. Indications of programme quality

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.

13. External Examiners

External examiners' reports have emphasized the quality of the student learning experience and the high standard of teaching.

The details of the External Examiners for these programmes and the most recent External Examiners' reports for these programmes can be found [here](#).

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

1. Students begin the programme with three languages (French, Italian and Spanish). Only one of these languages can be started at ab initio level. All three can be studied over the duration of the programme or the student can drop one language at the end of Year 2 to focus on two languages in the final year.
2. There are two main routes through the 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 30 credits of ELTU modules from the range EL2001-EL2024 for the core language modules (FR1010 or IT1010 or SP1010). 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
Language 1: FR1010/IT1010/SP1010 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Advanced) (30 credits, year long)	
Language 2: FR1010/IT1010/SP1010 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Advanced) (30 credits, year long)	
Language 3, 30 credits:	
<i>either:</i> FR1020/IT1020/SP1020 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Beginners) 1 (15 credits)	<i>either:</i> FR1021/IT1021/SP1021 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Beginners) 2 (15 credits)
<i>or*:</i> FR1010/IT1010/SP1010 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Advanced) (30 credits, year long)	<i>or*:</i> FR1010/IT1010/SP1010 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Advanced) (30 credits, year long)

FR1050/IT1028/SP1022 Introduction to French/Italian/Spanish Studies (15 credits) (as aligned with one of the languages being studied)**	OPTIONS 1 x 15 credit module from the Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules list (as aligned with one of the languages being studied)**
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* It is possible for Language 3 to be at Advanced level if the student has A-levels in all three languages

** Students' choices here must comprise one from each of two of the three languages. A cultural studies module for the remaining language must then be chosen in Year 2.

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
FR1050	Introduction to French Studies	15
IT1027	Authors and Genres	15
IT1029	Italy since 1945	15
SP1031	Introduction to Latin American Literature & Film	15
SP1041	Introduction to Spanish Literature & Film	15

SECOND YEAR

SEMESTER 1 (60 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (60 credits)
CORE	
Language 1: FR2010/IT2024/SP2010 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Post-Advanced) (30 credits, year long)	
Language 2: FR2010/IT2024/SP2010 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Post-Advanced) (30 credits, year long)	
Language 3: <i>either:</i> FR2018/IT2005/SP2005 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Post-Beginners) (30 credits, year long) <i>or (if Language 2 in Year 1 was taken as Advanced):</i> FR2010/IT2024/SP2010 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Post-Advanced) (30 credits, year long)	
OPTIONS	OPTIONS
1 x 15 credit module from Modern Languages Cultural Studies list (as aligned with one of the languages being studied)**	1 x 15 credit module from Modern Languages Cultural Studies list (as aligned with one of the languages being studied)**

** One of these two Cultural Studies modules must be aligned with the language not represented in the equivalent choices in year 1 (eg if an FR-coded module and an SP-coded module were selected in Year 1, an IT-coded module must be selected from Modern Languages Cultural Studies list in Year 2). This is to ensure that a Cultural Studies module for each of the three languages is chosen across the first two years of study.

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
FR2044	Bande dessinée	15
FR2045	Media and Cultural Practices in France	15
FR2046	French Urban Space	15
FR2047	History and Memory in French Literature	15
IT2011	Italian Linguistics	15
IT2012	History of Italian Cinema	15
IT2016	Italian Society and Culture under Fascism	15
SP2022	The Mexican-US Border	15
SP2023	The Spanish Civil War in Literature and Film	15

SP2025	Argentina: From Perón to Kirchner	15
SP2030	Federico Garcia Lorca	15
SP2035	Contemporary Mexican Cinema	15
SP2036	Drugs and Displacement in Contemporary Colombian Culture	15
SP2037	Hispanic Documentary Film	15
SP2042	The Spanish Silver Age (1900 to 1950): A Revolution in Language	15
SP2070	Latino/a Literature & Culture in the United States	15
SP2071	South American Narratives of Dictatorship and Exile	15
ML2060	Languages in the Classroom (for Advanced Students of French or Spanish)*	15

* available only for Advanced Students of French or Spanish

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.

Students must normally spend a minimum of one semester in each of two countries, as aligned with two of their three languages. If a language is being studied ab initio, then it is expected that one of these semesters will be in a country aligned with that language. Students also are encouraged to spend an additional shorter period, either side of these semesters abroad, in a country aligned with the remaining of the three languages being studied.

SEMESTER 1 (60 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (60 credits)
CORE	CORE
ML3030 Year Abroad Placement Evaluation: Study or Work (Semester 1) (15 credits)	ML3031 Year Abroad Placement Evaluation: Study or Work (Semester 2) (15 credits)
ML3033 Language Skills (Semester 1) (45 credits)	ML3034 Language Skills (Semester 2) (45 credits)

FOURTH YEAR

Three Languages Route

SEMESTER 1 (60 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (60 credits)
CORE	
Language 1:	
FR3111/IT3010/SP3010 Final Year French/Italian/Spanish Language (Proficiency) (30 credits, year long)	
Language 2:	
FR3111/IT3010/SP3010 Final Year French/Italian/Spanish Language (Proficiency) (30 credits, year long)	
Language 3:	
FR3111/IT3010/SP3010 Final Year French/Italian/Spanish Language (Proficiency) (30 credits, year long)	
OPTIONS	OPTIONS
1 x 15 credit module from Modern Languages Cultural Studies list (as aligned with one of the languages being studied)*	1 x 15 credit module from Modern Languages Cultural Studies list (as aligned with one of the languages being studied)*

* Students must take one Modern Language Cultural Studies module from each of two of their three languages.

Two Languages Route

SEMESTER 1 (60 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (60 credits)
CORE	
Language 1: FR3111/IT3010/SP3010 Final Year French/Italian/Spanish Language (Proficiency)(30 credits, year long)	
Language 2: FR3111/IT3010/SP3010 Final Year French/Italian/Spanish Language (Proficiency) (30 credits, year long)	
OPTIONS	OPTIONS
1 x 15 credit module from Modern Languages Cultural Studies list (as aligned with language 1)	1 x 15 credit module from Modern Languages Cultural Studies list (as aligned with language 1)
1 x 15 credit module from Modern Languages Cultural Studies list (as aligned with language 2)	1 x 15 credit module from Modern Languages Cultural Studies list (as aligned with language 2)

Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules

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

	credits
FR3051 Bilingual Writing and Self-Translation: Literature in a Cross-Cultural Perspective	15
FR3125 Immigration and Ethnicity in Colonial and Post-Colonial France	15
FR3140 Norms and Margins in French Cinema	15
FR3202 Interpreting French	15
FR3208 Gender and Power in Contemporary France	15
IT3136 Contemporary Italian Fiction	15
IT3139 Post-war Italian Directors	15
IT3144 Visions of Modernity	15
SP3134 Boom Literature: Language and Creation	15
SP3140 Cinematic Representations of Latin America: Local versus Global	15
SP3145 The Cinema of Luis Buñuel	15
SP3155 Putumayo: the history and culture of a Latin American conflict zone	15
SP3162 Contemporary Women's Writing in Spain	15
SP3165 Spain and its Others	15
SP3182 Spanish Horror Cinema	15
ML3176 Extended Essay*	15

***Students wishing to undertake a Modern Languages extended essay 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.**

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See module specification database: <http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/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%)