



University of
Leicester

School of Modern Languages

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES IN
Modern Languages



THE Awards Winner
2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

www.le.ac.uk/modlang

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Modern Languages at Leicester

A distinctive learning experience

At Leicester you can study French, Italian or Spanish at beginners' or advanced level.

Perfecting your language skills is a priority for us and we employ a high proportion of native speakers at all levels, ensuring that our students get daily exposure to the target languages.

As well as language courses, we offer a wide range of modules about the society and culture of the relevant countries, all taught by enthusiastic tutors engaged in high-level research.

Our staff are specialists in their field, whether women's writing, autobiography, post-colonial culture, South American literature and culture, Modernism, Italian history and culture, or translation. Other staff interests also include Interpreting, Francophonie, the Visual Arts, and TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages).

We have a good staff-student ratio, and teach our students in small groups. Our courses are designed to enable the Leicester student to work both individually and as part of a team, with specific emphasis on the good learning strategies that employers want.

- Modern Languages at Leicester was rated 5th on the 2011 Guardian Subject League Tables.
- Our staff are at the forefront of their research fields, as evidenced by the latest Research Assessment Exercise (RAE 2008), which rated 90% of the School research as internationally significant.
- The University of Leicester has been awarded four consecutive Time Higher Education Awards, including the prestigious University of the Year 2008/09.

Why study Modern Languages at Leicester?

- You will benefit from a three-week Summer School abroad, enabling you to develop both your language skills and your knowledge of your host culture.
- You will have the opportunity to study or work abroad during your third year.
- Much of the teaching is in small groups, so you can more easily share the knowledge and skills of staff and your fellow students.
- The majority of our staff are native language speakers.
- You will have many opportunities to immerse yourself in the language and culture of your chosen subjects outside as well as in the classroom.
- Our facilities include state-of-the-art language labs, a dedicated Modern Languages Study Centre, a film theatre, TV and internet resources.
- You will be able to take specialised options in areas of specific interest to you.

“The year abroad was one of the best things about the course at Leicester. You get to meet so many new people, visit new places, and although it is quite daunting at first, you soon really get involved and the rewards are great. It improved my language skills immensely, and I’m far more confident now.”

Richard Ginns,
final year BA French and Italian student



Study Abroad – Summer School

As Modern Languages students at Leicester you enjoy the unique benefit of attending a distinctive three-week summer school in France (Montpellier), Italy (Massa Marittima, Tuscany), or Spain (Santiago de Compostela). This is held during the summer vacation at the end of your first year and is subsidised by the University.

In many cases accommodation during the summer school is with local families, so you can continue to practise and improve your language outside the classroom. For some, this is also a first real taste of the society and culture of the country of their chosen language, and many students form long-lasting friendships with their host families.

The experience of immersion into a foreign language and culture for three weeks is excellent preparation for the year abroad which takes place between your second and final years.

“The highlight of my university course so far has to be the three-week study course in Spain, which was a fantastic experience!”

Debbie Whiteson,
second year BA Modern Language Studies student



Metro sign near Louvre in Paris



Old colonial buildings in Campeche, Mexico

Study Abroad – Year Abroad

All of our degree programmes include a year abroad at one or more of our partner universities in the EU under the Socrates/ERASMUS scheme. If you choose to study at one of our partner institutions in the EU you will receive an ERASMUS grant. Alternatively you might choose to work as a British Council language assistant in a school in Europe, and would pay no fees to Leicester (unless you choose a shorter Comenius teaching placement). You can also arrange your own work placement.

If you are studying more than one language through to your final year, you will normally split the year abroad between the two countries.

Our partner universities are:

- French – Paris, Besançon, Le Mans, Lyon, Bordeaux, Pau, Avignon (France), Geneva (Switzerland), Liège, Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium).
- Italian – Bologna, Padova, Pavia, Pisa, Torino, Salerno, Chieti (Pescara), Verona.

- Spanish – Barcelona, Granada, Salamanca, Santiago de Compostela, Seville, Valladolid, Zaragoza, and Valencia in Spain, or Puebla in Mexico and Bogotá in Colombia.

If you are studying French and/or Spanish, you may, if you wish, make your own arrangements to study or work in a French- or Spanish-speaking country outside Europe.

As well as perfecting your spoken and written language and providing close contact with other societies and cultures, the year abroad will develop your sense of independence and resourcefulness. Whilst encouraging you to be responsible for yourself during your time abroad, we also have a support system in place to help you derive the greatest benefit during the year. Before you go, you will be given advice and information and put in touch with former students who have travelled to the same destination. The partner university will appoint somebody to be responsible for your welfare; however, we also remain in e-mail and telephone contact with you while you are away.

Our Degrees

Honours degrees with two subjects

Joint Honours Degrees

BA French and Italian (UCAS code: RR13 BA/FI)

BA French and Spanish (UCAS code: RR14 BA/FS)

BA Italian and Spanish (UCAS code: RR34 BA/IS)

BA French and English (UCAS code: RQ13 BA/FrEngl)

BA Italian and English (UCAS code: RQ33 BA/ItalEng)

BA Spanish and English (UCAS code: RQ43 BA/SpanE)

Equal time is spent on each of your two subjects. You can expect to reach a very high level of competence in the studied language(s).

Honours degrees with two or three subjects

BA European Studies (UCAS code: RL99 BA/ES)

BA Modern Language Studies
(UCAS code: T901 BA/MLS4)

BA Modern Languages with Management
(UCAS code: R9NF BA/MLM4)

BA Modern Languages with Management and English as a Foreign Language
(UCAS code: R9NG)

BA Modern Languages with Film Studies
(UCAS code: R8P3 BA/MLWF54)

BA Modern Languages with History of Art
(UCAS code: R8V3 BA/MLWHA)



French Law and Language

You can combine French with law as part of our Law with French Law and Language (UCAS code: M1R1 LLB/Fr4) degree programme within the School of Law. Information is available at www.le.ac.uk/law/ug/french.html or in the Law brochure.

Degree Structure

All our degree programmes are normally four years including a year abroad.

French at Leicester

Why study French at Leicester?

French at Leicester was voted first in the country in the National Student Satisfaction Survey for 2007 (THES 14.09.2007) and joint first in 2008. French is a passport to a successful career in European institutions and international organisations. You will gain a sound knowledge of the contemporary French language and a clear understanding of the social, political and cultural forces that have shaped modern France and the Francophone world.

Study Abroad

You spend three weeks on a subsidised summer school in France during the first summer vacation. The third year is normally spent abroad as a language assistant or as a student at universities including Paris, Lyon, Besançon, Bordeaux, Pau and Le Mans (France), Geneva (Switzerland), Liège, Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium).

Available Routes

- A joint honours degree programme with Italian, Spanish or English.

Other honours programmes where French can be studied include Modern Languages with Management, Modern Languages with Management and English as a Foreign Language, European Studies and Modern Language Studies, Modern Languages with Film Studies, Modern Languages with History of Art. Law with French Law and Language (LLB) can also be studied within the School of Law.

We accept students at beginners' or advanced level in French, as well as those taking French as a supplementary subject.



Words printed on the side of a cinema in Paris

Option Modules

Examples of recent second and final-year options include:

- Interpreting
- Life Writing/Autobiography
- French Cinema
- Introduction to Francophonie
- Gender and Power in Contemporary France
- Immigration and Ethnicity in Colonial and Postcolonial France



A joker with his mask at the Venice carnival

“ I chose to study French and Italian mainly for the year abroad, which turned out to be a fantastic year. The course itself is also extremely diverse and interesting.”

Helena Lyon, final year
BA French and Italian student

Italian at Leicester

Why Study Italian at Leicester?

Italian has been an important language of commerce, culture, fashion and design for centuries. Your course will emphasise contemporary language use and culture, while options in the second and final year enable you to deepen interests in modern and contemporary culture, film studies, linguistics and literature. Italian at Leicester was rated first nationally for student satisfaction in the 2008 survey published by the Independent.

Study Abroad

Following your first year, you can take part in a subsidised three-week intensive course in southern Tuscany. The third year is normally spent abroad, and you may choose to study with partner universities in cities such as Bologna, Padova, Pavia, Pisa, Torino, Salerno, Chieti (Pescara), and Verona.

Available Routes

- A joint honours degree programme with French, Spanish or English.

- Part of Modern Languages with Management, Modern Languages with Management and English as a Foreign Language, Modern Language Studies, European Studies, Modern Languages with Film Studies and Modern Languages with History of Art.
- As a supplementary subject (with single subject degrees such as History of Art or English), Italian is a popular choice for those wishing to begin a new language at beginners' level and is also available at advanced level.

Option Modules

Second and final year options typically include:

- Italian Linguistics
- History and Culture in 20th Century Italy
- History of Italian Cinema
- Women's Writing
- Contemporary Fiction
- Postwar cinema directors
- Italian Modernism
- Italian Society and Culture under Fascism



Antoni Gaudí's Casa Batlló in Barcelona

Spanish at Leicester

Why Study Spanish at Leicester?

Spanish is a fast-growing language in terms of its world-wide cultural and economic importance, and is a popular choice at University level. Through a programme of core and optional modules you will gain an understanding of the culture and society of both Spain and Latin America, and a choice of options at second and final year allows you to develop your particular areas of interest. Spanish at Leicester came top of the National Student survey in 2009.

Study Abroad

At the end of the first year students attend a subsidised summer school in Spain. You may spend all or part of your third year either as a language assistant or as an exchange student at Spanish universities such as Santiago de Compostela, Granada, Salamanca, Valencia, Zaragoza, Barcelona, Valladolid, Seville, Puebla in Mexico or Bogotá, Colombia.

Available Routes

- A joint honours degree programme with French, Italian or English.

“ I have been very grateful for the small class sizes, as in every group there was always an opportunity to discuss any issue individually with the tutor. I know with certainty that this was a key factor in achieving such a degree of proficiency with the language.”

Nicola Taylor, final year
BA French and Spanish student

- One element of Modern Languages with Management, Modern Languages with Management and English as a Foreign Language, European Studies, Modern Language Studies, Modern Languages with Film Studies and Modern Languages with History of Art.

We accept students at beginners' or advanced level in Spanish, as well as those taking Spanish as a supplementary subject.

Option Modules

Some examples of second and final-year options include:

- Mexican – US Border Culture
- The Spanish Civil War
- Catalan Language and Culture
- Contemporary Mexican Cinema
- The Theatre of Garcia Lorca
- The Spanish Picaresque
- Latin American Boom Literature
- Art and Society in Spain
- The Cinema of Luis Buñuel
- Drugs and Displacement in Contemporary Colombian Culture



BA European Studies

Why Study European Studies at Leicester?

European Studies enables you to study one or two languages and gain a thorough understanding of the politics of contemporary Europe. The very flexible degree structure enables you to tailor the course to your interests. You will also undertake a three-week foreign summer school at the end of the first year and a year abroad during your third year.

Structure and Modules

Core teaching is provided jointly by the School of Modern Languages and the Department of Politics. Throughout the degree you take one language from French, Italian or Spanish, as well as courses in contemporary European politics.

The remaining one-third of the degree is by individual choice: it can be another language, additional modules in Politics or in your main language, or modules from a variety of other Arts and Social Science subjects such as History, Law, or History of Art. The core course in Politics consists of an introduction to European politics in the first year. Subsequent modules include Government and the European Union in the second year, followed by a range of options with a European focus in the final year.

BA Modern Language Studies

Why Study Modern Language Studies at Leicester?

The course enables you to study three languages in the first and second years, and two in the final year, or two languages throughout, with a third non-language subject in the first two years. You will also undertake a three-week foreign summer school at the end of the first year and you will benefit from the year abroad in your third year.

Structure and Modules

Your choice of the two languages for final-year study is made late in the second year, giving maximum flexibility. If you choose to study two languages throughout, an A-Level (or equivalent) is required in one. The third subject to be taken in the first and second year is chosen from a number of options offered in Arts or in other subjects. Popular choices include: American Studies, Ancient History, Archaeology, Computer Science, Economics, English, Geography, History of Art, Politics, and Pure Mathematics.

BA Modern Languages with Management

Why Study Modern Languages with Management at Leicester?

The course enables you to combine contemporary European languages with the study of the theory and practice of modern management. The course also offers you the flexibility to specialise in a language, or languages, of your choice. You will undertake a three-week foreign summer school at the end of the first year and the degree includes a year studying or working abroad.

Structure and Modules

Teaching is provided jointly by the School of Modern Languages and the Management Centre. Management courses in the first year cover Foundations of Management and Introduction to Marketing. Subsequent modules include Human Resource Management, Managing Organisations, and International Business.

In year one you study two languages from French, Italian and Spanish (an A level is required in one of these, but the other languages may be taken from beginners' or post-A level).

In the second and final years you may continue with both languages, or you may, in either of those years, choose to concentrate on one language only.

BA Modern Languages with Management and English as a Foreign Language

Why Study Modern Languages with Management and English as a Foreign Language at Leicester?

This new interdisciplinary degree aimed at non-native speakers of English enables you to combine three subjects: French, Italian or Spanish; English as a Foreign Language; and the theory and practice of modern management. You may, if you wish, study English in the first year only. As part of this degree you will undertake a three-week foreign summer school at the end of the first year and spend a year studying or working abroad.

Structure and Modules

Teaching is provided by the School of Modern Languages, the English Language Teaching Unit, and the School of Management. As well as acquiring a high level of both written

and spoken language skills in English and French, Italian or Spanish, you will take modules in contemporary social issues and the history and culture of the country of your chosen languages. Management courses cover a range of compulsory and optional topics including Foundations of Management, Human Resource Management, and Strategy. Whilst you are required to have a good level of English before commencing this degree (IELTS 6.5 or equivalent) you can take up French, Italian or Spanish from beginners' level.

BA Modern Languages and English degree

Why study Modern Languages and English at Leicester?

On this course you will be able to combine one contemporary European language with the thorough study of English literature and critical theory. You will benefit from the linguistic immersion of a three-week summer school at the end of your first year, and from the third year spent abroad during which you will study at a foreign university, following courses in the target language and culture as well as English literature.

Structure and modules

Teaching is provided jointly by the School of Modern Languages and the School of English. In English in your first year you will take three core modules, including work on strategies for reading, the investigation of major literary forms such as the novel, and the history of the English language. Subsequent modules include Renaissance Literature, from Satire to Sensibility, Critical Theory and Postwar to Postmodern: Literature 1945-Present Day. In your chosen language you will take modules focusing on the language itself, as well as modules on society and culture. An A level is required in English. Your chosen language may be taken from beginners' level, but we require an A level or equivalent in another language.

BA Modern Languages with Film Studies

Why study Modern Languages with Film Studies at Leicester?

This course enables you to study one or two languages, as well as Film Studies, throughout your degree. You will also undertake a three-week foreign summer school at the end of the first year and a year abroad during your third year.

Structure and Modules

Teaching is provided jointly by the School of Modern Languages and the Department of History of Art and Film.

Throughout the degree you take one or two languages from French, Italian or Spanish, as well as courses in Film Studies. In your chosen language(s) you will take modules focusing both on the language(s) and on the society and culture of different periods. In year one you will be introduced to the culture of the language(s) studied and to the main approaches to film studies, in the second year you will focus on national cinemas and on different linguistic and cultural options in your foreign language(s) and in the final year you will choose from a range of specialist options from Film Studies and from French, Italian or Spanish literature and cinema.

BA Modern Languages with History of Art

Why study Modern Languages with History of Art at Leicester?

This course enables you to study one or two languages, as well as History of Art, throughout your degree. You will also undertake a three-week foreign summer school at the end of the first year and a year abroad during your third year.

Structure and Modules

Teaching is provided jointly by the School of Modern Languages and the Department of History of Art and Film. Throughout the degree you take one or two languages from French, Italian or Spanish, as well as courses in History of Art. In your chosen language(s) you will take modules focusing both on the language(s) and on the society and culture of different periods. In year one you will be introduced to the culture of the language(s) studied and to history of art, and in the second and final year you will choose from a range of specialist options from History of Art and from French, Italian or Spanish literature and culture.



Your Learning Experience

Support

Modern Languages at Leicester is renowned for its tradition of student care and support. This is reflected in our consistently strong performances in the National Student Survey. We provide a wide range of services, including our induction week, personal tutor system, staff-student committee, our student learning centre, careers services and welfare services.

You will learn to monitor your own progress and transferable skills through our Personal Development Planning programme, and our innovative Core Skills for Language Learners module. Modern Languages at Leicester practises an open door policy: we are always happy to talk to you whenever you need us.

Teaching methods

We employ a wide variety of teaching methods depending on the material being studied. We put great stress on communicative ability, and oral skills are taught by native speakers to help you develop confidence in the spoken language.

We also make use of a wide range of technical facilities, including language laboratories, computer-assisted language learning, satellite television, and film. Our Modern Languages Study Centre has a large selection of print and visual resources, as well as foreign-language TV channels.

Assessment

Assessment methods are selected to enable you to develop and display your skills to the full. Courses often include a variety of assessment components, such as essays, textual analysis, seminar presentations, and examinations. Progress in the spoken and written language is measured by a combination of continuous assessment and examination.



Graduate Destinations

Employers value the communication, presentation, problem-solving, team-working and research skills which are all incorporated into our modern languages courses, making our students highly employable. The experience of spending time abroad through the summer schools and the year abroad also means that our students bring valuable life experience to the job market.

Leicester languages students have gone on to work in marketing, finance, international commerce and education, publishing, media and the creative arts, and to pursue postgraduate courses.

Living in Leicester

About the University

Some universities consider their primary purpose to be high quality research, others concentrate on excellent teaching. Here at Leicester we think that the two are not only complementary, they're inseparable. We believe that teaching is more inspirational when delivered by passionate scholars engaged in world-changing research – and that research is stronger when delivered in an academic community that includes students. We think that a university should be about empowering people to explore what they don't know. We achieve this through passionate, dedicated research and teaching. When we were named University of the Year for 2008-9 by the Times Higher Education, the judges applauded Leicester's very different approach, calling us "elite without being elitist." Of Britain's top 15 universities only one – Leicester – exceeds its government benchmarks for inclusivity.

Our dedication to providing an excellent student experience can be seen in our consistent performance in the National Student Survey. Since the launch of the survey in 2005, Leicester has consistently featured amongst the top-10 universities in England for student satisfaction. With these ideas at heart, Leicester is reframing the values that govern academia and re-defining what a university needs to be in the 21st century; we are constantly finding new ways of being a leading university.

About the City of Leicester

Leicester is a lively and diverse city with all the activities and facilities you would expect from a major city. This is combined with a friendly and safe atmosphere.

Developments in the city have led to the opening of the Curve Theatre with its unique 'inside out' design where the stage is



visible from the street. Further developments in the city's cultural quarter will join the existing museums and galleries within the city, and help to cement Leicester's reputation for culture.

Leicester is a city for individuals and this is shown throughout the city; from the individual shops and boutiques of the Lanes area which rub shoulders with the larger stores and designer shops of the Highcross Leicester shopping development; to the festivals held within the city throughout the year, including the Summer Sundae Music Festival.

This diversity is also celebrated through the city's wide range of restaurants, cafes and music venues which provide something for every taste.

We are passionate about our city with many of our students choosing to locate here after graduation.

Entry Requirements

A/AS Levels: Normally three A levels. Two AS levels considered in place of one A level. General Studies accepted.

GCSE: No specific requirements.

Other Qualifications: International or European Baccalaureate, OU, Institute of Linguists, National Certificate/Diploma, Irish, Scottish, and overseas qualifications welcomed. Mature students welcomed: alternative qualifications, for example kite-marked Access to higher education courses, considered. Direct entry into second year with advanced qualifications

strictly equivalent to our first year is possible. See the Prospectus or website for more details of typical offers.

Native speakers: Students whose native language is either French, Italian, or Spanish, and who wish to study this language at Leicester, will normally be required in the first year of study to take English language modules in lieu of the foreign language modules in their native tongue. Students with native speaker fluency in both English and the foreign language they wish to study will normally be required to substitute content modules for the relevant language modules.

UCAS code:	Entry Requirements:	Entry Requirements:
RR13 RR14 RR34 RL99 R9NF	Degree Programme: French and Italian French and Spanish Italian and Spanish European Studies Modern Languages with Management	ABB A level including any one language from either French, Italian or Spanish (it doesn't matter which one). To enter as an advanced learner of French, Italian or Spanish, the A-level must be in the relevant language, but you can also take any of these languages as a beginner, with no prior knowledge. If you study two languages, only one can be taken at beginner's level. General Studies accepted.
R8P3 R8V3	Modern Languages with Film Studies Modern Languages with History of Art	ABB A level including any one language from either French, Italian or Spanish (it doesn't matter which one). To enter as an advanced learner of French, Italian or Spanish, the A-level must be in the relevant language, but you can also take any of these languages as a beginner, with no prior knowledge. If you study two languages, only one can be taken at beginner's level. General Studies accepted.
RQ13 RQ33 RQ43	French and English Italian and English Spanish and English	ABB A level including an A level in English Language, English Literature or English Literature and Language, and another A level in a language from either French, Italian or Spanish. You can study the foreign language either at advanced level (if you have an A level in that language) or at beginner's level (if you have an A level in another foreign language). General Studies accepted.
T901	Modern Language Studies	ABB A level including any one language from either French, Italian or Spanish for applicants wishing to study two languages, and including any two languages from either French, Italian or Spanish for those wishing to study three languages. Only one language can be taken at beginner's level. General Studies accepted.
M1R1	Law with French Law and Language	The typical offer for students applying for places on the LLB in Law with French Law and Language is AAA from three A levels, including French.
R9NG	Modern Languages with Management and English as a Foreign Language	13 years of education at a good standard in any country (eg. High School plus Foundation Year) and IELTS 6.5 (or equivalent) is required.

For further information please contact

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