

**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). 320 points from 3 A levels with a minimum of 100 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 in French, Italian or Spanish.

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>
- QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
- University of Leicester Learning Strategy  
<http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/quality/learnteach>
- University of Leicester Employability strategy
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review (2014)
- National Student Survey
- First Destinations Data
- Graduate survey
- External examiners' reports
- Annual Development Review

#### 9. Programme Outcomes:

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<i>(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies</i>		
<b>(i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge</b>		
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.

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
<b>(ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques</b>		
<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>
<b>(iii) Critical analysis of key issues</b>		
<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>
<b>(iv) Clear and concise presentation of material</b>		
<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>
<b>(v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight</b>		
<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>
<b>(vi) Other discipline specific competencies</b>		
<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>

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
<b>(b) Transferable skills</b>		
<b>(i) Oral communication</b>		
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.
<b>(ii) Written communication</b>		
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.
<b>(iii) Information technology</b>		
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.
<b>(iv) Numeracy</b>		
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.
<b>(v) Team working</b>		
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.
<b>(vi) Problem solving</b>		
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.
<b>(vii) Information handling</b>		
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?
<b>(viii) Skills for lifelong learning</b>		
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) The course for the degree in Modern Language Studies extends over four academic years during which a student is required to take two subjects each for four years and either one other approved subject for two years or two other approved subjects for one year.
  - a. The four-year subjects will be chosen from the following group:  
French, Italian, Spanish
  - b. The two-year subject or two one-year subjects, which will normally be taken in the first and second years of the course, will be chosen from the following subjects:  
American Studies, Ancient History, Archaeology, Computing, English, Geography, Historical Studies, History of Art, Psychology, Pure Mathematics, Sociology.
- 2) Students may be allowed to study a third language in place of the non-language options. This will be considered on a case by case basis and will be subject to confirmation by the Director of Studies for Modern Languages.

**Note:** *Modern Languages optional modules are listed below each year. Optional modules may be subject to change from year to year.*

### FIRST YEAR (three languages)

A student may be permitted to study three languages in years 1 and 2, only one of which can be at Beginners level.

SEMESTER 1		SEMESTER 2	
Each Language	20 credits	Each Language	20 credits
<i>Beginners</i>	20 credits of core language modules	<i>Beginners</i>	20 credits of core language modules
<i>Advanced</i>	10 credits of core language modules 10 credits of content modules	<i>Advanced</i>	10 credits of core language modules 10 credits of content modules

#### Notes:

- 1) 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 20 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 20 credits of content modules taken from the range on offer in the relevant language for the relevant foreign language modules.
- 2) Students studying a modern language for more than one year are required to attend a three-week language Summer School (**ML2007: Modern Language Summer School**, 0 credits), organized by the School of Modern Languages, during the long vacation at the end of the first year. Students taking a language at beginners' level must attend the Summer School in the country in which that language is spoken.
- 3) One Core Skills for Language Learners (FR1000/IT1000/SP1000) module must be taken in the first year.

### French

#### Year 1

Code	Title	Credits (semester)	Credits (year)
<i>Language Modules</i>			
FR1020	French Language (Beginners) 1	20	
FR1021	French Language (Beginners) 2	20	
FR1010	Modern French Language (Advanced) 1		20
<i>Core Skills Modules</i>			
FR1000	Core Skills for Modern Language Students	10	

*Content Modules*

FR1017	Understanding Contemporary France 1	10
FR1018	Understanding Contemporary France	10
FR1014	20th-Century French Literature	10
FR1012	Textual Analysis	10
FR1027	Introduction to Francophonie	10

**Italian**

**Year 1**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits (semester)</b>	<b>Credits (year)</b>
<i>Language modules</i>			
IT1020	Italian Language (Beginners) 1	20	
IT1021	Italian Language (Beginners) 2	20	
IT1010	Italian Language Advanced Year 1	20	
<i>Core Skills modules</i>			
IT1000	Core Skills for Modern Language Students	10	
<i>Content Modules</i>			
IT1028	Introduction to Post-Unification Italy	10	
IT1038	Introduction to Post-Unification Italy (20 credits)	20	
IT1027	Authors and Genres 2	10	
IT1029	Italy since 1945	10	
IT1039	Italy since 1945 (20 credits)	20	

**Spanish**

**Year 1**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits (semester)</b>	<b>Credits (year)</b>
<i>Language Modules</i>			
SP1020	Spanish Language (Beginners) 1	20	
SP1010	Spanish Language (Advanced) 1/2 (Year long)		20
SP1021	Spanish Language (Beginners) 2	20	
SP1010	Spanish Language (Advanced) 1/2 (Year long)		20
<i>Core Skills Modules</i>			
SP1000	Core Skills for Modern Language Students	10	
<i>Content Modules</i>			
SP1026	Contemporary Spain	10	
SP1027	Latin American Society and Culture: Mexico and Mesoamerica	10	
SP1029	Latin American Society and Culture: South America	10	
SP1031	Latin American Literature and Film	10	
SP1041	Spanish Literature and Film	10	
SP1051	A History of Spain	10	

**SECOND YEAR**

<b>SEMESTER 1 (60 credits)</b>	<b>SEMESTER 2 (60 credits)</b>
<b>CORE</b>	
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:

*either:*

FR2018/IT2005/SP2005 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Post-Beginners) (30 credits, year long)

*or (if Language 2 in Year 1 was taken as Advanced):*

FR2010/IT2024/SP2010 French/Italian/Spanish Language (Post-Advanced) (30 credits, year long)

**OPTIONS**

1 x 15 credit module from Modern Languages Cultural Studies list (as aligned with one of the languages being studied)\*\*

**OPTIONS**

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
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
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 MODULES**

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)
<b>CORE</b>	<b>CORE</b>



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 MODULES

### Three Languages Route

SEMESTER 1 (60 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (60 credits)
<b>CORE</b>	
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)	
<b>OPTIONS</b>	<b>OPTIONS</b>
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)
<b>CORE</b>	
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)	
<b>OPTIONS</b>	<b>OPTIONS</b>
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%)