

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London				
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College				
3	Programme Title(s)	Cert HE Culture and Language				
3a	Programme Pathway Title	French / German / Italian / Japanese / Spanish				
4	Programme Code(s)	UEHCULLG				
5	UCAS code	N/A				
6	Home Department	Languages, Cultures and Applied Linguistics				
7	Exit Award(s)	N/A				
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	2 years				
9	Mode of Study	FT		PT	x	DL
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	4				
11	Other teaching depts or institution	Dept of Film, Media and Cultural Studies Dept of History of Art				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A				
13	QAA Benchmark Group	Languages, Cultures and Societies				

14	Programme Rationale & Aims
	<p>This programme, offering part-time, evening, face-to-face study, allows students to take two language modules reaching a minimum exit level of Stage 2 in the target language (Common European Framework of Reference for Language (CEFR), Level B1, and Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) N5-N4) and a maximum exit level of Stage 4 (CEFR, Level C1, JLPT N3) in their target language at the end of a two-year period of study, depending on entry level. Students will also study cultural modules relevant to their language choice, either through the medium of that language, or in English. The programme is a modular enrolment Cert HE.</p> <p>More specifically we aim to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offer a balanced Cert HE programme in the evening that enables students to develop their language skills and engage analytically with various dimensions of their chosen culture. 2. Provide access to learning and curricula appropriate for students with a range of traditional and non-traditional educational backgrounds, including European and international students. 3. Enable our students to develop independent critical thinking and judgement. 4. Develop a range of subject-specific and transferable skills, particularly conceptual, analytical, and communication skills, including the ability to write lucid, logical, and well-structured prose in English. To these should be added appropriate IT skills and confidence to engage with evolving media.

	<p>Further distinctive features:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We are particularly well-known for the strength of our language teaching-provision. 2. The flexibility of our language pathways means that students can enter the programme at three different language levels, from beginners to upper intermediate, for their chosen language. 3. The relatively high proportion of native or near-native competency level students who study in the Department not only enriches all students’ learning experience through shared experience and discussion, but also strengthens the target language atmosphere we endeavour to create in our classes and social activities. Our active French, German, Iberian and Latin American societies, run by the students, also play an active role in these endeavours. 4. We offer a varied range of modules introducing students to the cultures of the French-, German-, Italian-, Japanese-speaking and Iberian & Latin American worlds.
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15	<p>Entry Criteria</p> <p>No prior knowledge of the target language or culture is required. Students who have recently taken qualifications with a UCAS tariff equivalence require a minimum of two A-Levels or equivalent. All other students may be admitted as mature students on the basis of other indicators such as employment criteria, skills required or relevant experience. Students may enter the programme with skills in their target language from beginners to upper intermediate. With the exception of complete beginners, all students are asked to complete a language placement exercise.</p> <p>Students may not take the final competency level language module (level 6) in their target language on this programme (ie French 5, German 5 etc are not available).</p> <p>(Note – this is a modular enrolment Cert HE.)</p>
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16	<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Subject Specific (French, German, Italian and Spanish pathways):</p> <p>A. Use of the target language</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Our European language courses have been mapped to the Common European Framework of Reference for Language (CEFR) as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stage 1 A1-A2 Stage 2 B1 Stage 3 B2 Stage 4 C <p>The aims and objectives for each of these stages are defined for each corresponding module.</p>
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2. Communicate in a manner appropriate to the level of competence reached, maintaining a degree of grammatical accuracy, in the target language, with competent or native speakers.
3. Be able to exploit for a variety of purposes and, as appropriate, to contextualise a broad range of materials in written or spoken form appropriate to the level of language attained.

B. Explicit knowledge of language

4. Demonstrate some knowledge and effective understanding of the structures, registers and, as appropriate, varieties of form of the target language.

C. Knowledge of related studies

5. Demonstrate an ability critically to evaluate through appropriate methodologies one or more aspects of the arts, cultures, histories, institutions or linguistic situation of the societies of countries using the target language.
6. Demonstrate some knowledge and, using appropriate methodologies, a critical understanding of the relevant cultures and societies gained through one or more of the creative media of the target language

D. Intercultural awareness and understanding

7. Demonstrate a reasoned awareness and critical understanding of one or more cultures and societies, other than the student's own.
8. Demonstrate an ability to describe, analyse and evaluate the similarities and dissimilarities of one or more target cultures or societies in comparison with the student's own.

Intellectual:

9. Identify and describe problems and to devise effective strategies for their resolution.
10. Demonstrate a reasoned awareness and critical understanding.

Practical:

See Subject-specific skills, plus the following:

11. Gather, process and evaluate critically information from a variety of paper, audio-visual and electronic sources.
12. Use IT effectively, both as a means of communication and as an aid to learning.

Personal and Social\;

13. Communicate information, ideas and arguments cogently and coherently both orally and in writing with due regard to the target audience.
14. Be responsive to the discipline of working with others and to work effectively as part of a team.
15. Be an effective and self-aware independent learner.

Subject Specific (Japanese pathway):

A. Use of the target language

	<p>1. Our Japanese language courses have been mapped on to the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) as follows:</p> <p>Stage 1 N5 Stage 2 N5-N4 Stage 3 N4 Stage 4 N3</p> <p>1. Japanese language skills necessary to communicate in a variety of everyday social and work situations with a reasonable level of accuracy, and to read and write Japanese at a basic level of competency.</p> <p>2. A critical understanding of the key moments and basic concepts in the cultural/social history of modern Japan.</p> <p>Intellectual:</p> <p>3. Analytical and critical skills as well as an ability to work with theoretical arguments.</p> <p>Practical:</p> <p>4. Development of basic Japanese language skills to communicate in a wide range of personal and social domains.</p> <p>5. Development of language learning skills.</p> <p>Personal and Social:</p> <p>6. Ability to study independently and with a variety of media.</p> <p>7. Engagement in constructive critical debate with peers, teamwork ability through group tasks in class.</p>
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17	<p>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</p> <p>French, German, Italian and Spanish pathways:</p> <p>Learning and teaching methods vary between Language modules and 'Content' modules, but in all cases the programme builds on tried and tested methods, and the collective experience and expertise deployed in existing modules within the Department of Cultures and Languages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classes (90 minutes) adopt a mixed-mode delivery, part lecture, part student activity either singly or in small groups, part open discussion. The range of methods deployed is effective in retaining students' attention after a day's work. Varied use is made of the full range of available support materials and technologies, including Moodle. Supervised group and pair-work and short student presentations serve to vary the pace of classroom activity. Presentations also offer the opportunity for formative feedback, and may be used to prepare a written assignment. • Language classes are 3 hours long. Activities are varied and are designed to promote student participation. Assessment takes place at regular intervals throughout the academic year and takes a variety of forms as appropriate to the language-level of the module, including in-class tests, oral presentations, essays and other written tasks.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment for ‘content’ modules is via a combination of assessed essays and in class tests. <p>Japanese pathways:</p> <p>Learning and Teaching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the language modules employ a task-driven syllabus, which serves to promote the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing). Students will be exposed to a variety of authentic materials (including written and audio/visual texts), and competency developed through a range of activities including individual, pair, and group work. • In order to acquire a sound, critical understanding of key aspects of modern Japanese society and culture, students will be introduced to a range of analytical approaches which draw on methodologies from cultural, literary, media, and film studies. They will explore a variety of cultural products within their historical and social contexts. Learning activities include the detailed study of historical and cultural texts in various media; seminar presentations and essay writing; and group work. <p>Assessment:</p> <p>Language course assessment</p> <p>Japanese language modules are assessed by a combination of coursework assignments (55%) throughout the year, a final examination (40%) at the end of the academic year, and attendance (5%). The assessment of both coursework and final examination follows the criteria set out by undergraduate regulations and the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT): They cover all four skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) as practised in class and are designed to reflect the learning outcomes set above.</p> <p>The combination of coursework assessment and final examination is designed to monitor students’ progression in their language acquisition over the year, and enables students to accumulate marks for their study efforts.</p> <p>Content course assessment : as for the other languages</p>
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18	<p>Programme Description</p> <p>This programme offers students the opportunity to pursue their study of their chosen language (select one of: French, German, Italian, Japanese and Spanish) and culture as a fully accredited Certificate of higher Education. It aims to provide students with a good grounding in their target language and a critical understanding of key aspects and concepts in the associated societies and cultures.</p> <p>If you work in an international or multicultural setting, you'll feel much more confident about your linguistic ability and your understanding of the cultures associated with the language of your choice.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete this course are eligible to apply for any degree programme which has their target language as a component.</p> <p>Each of the target languages has three possible pathways through the programme, depending on language-entry level.</p> <p>Pathway A: Entry level French/German/Italian/Japanese/Spanish 1</p> <p>Students take one further language module, the relevant compulsory level 4 content module and 30 credits at Level 5 chosen from the content modules offered on the BA</p>
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programmes (see list below). In total students take 90 credits at Level 4 and 30 credits at Level 5.

Pathway B: Entry level French/German/Italian/ Japanese/Spanish 2

Students of **French, German, Italian or Spanish** take one further language module, the relevant compulsory level 4 content module and 30 credits at Level 4 chosen from the content modules offered on the BA programmes (see list below). In total students take 90 credits at Level 4 and 30 credits at Level 5.

Students of **Japanese** take one further language module, Rethinking Japan (Level 4), and 30 credits at Level 5 selected from the options listed below. In total students take 60 credits at Level 4 and 60 credits at Level 5.

Pathway C: Entry level French/German/Italian/ Japanese/Spanish 3

Students of **French, German, Italian or Spanish** take one further language module, the relevant compulsory level 4 content module and another 30 credits at Level 4 chosen from the optional content modules offered on the BA programmes (see list below). In total students take 60 credits at Level 4 and 60 credits at Level 5.

Students of **Japanese** take one further language module, Rethinking Japan (Level 4), and 30 credits at Level 5 selected from the options listed below. In total students take 30 credits at Level 4 and 90 credits at Level 5.

Content modules can be taken as follows. All Level 4 modules are offered every year, alongside a balanced range of the following Level 5 options:

French:

Imagining France: An Introduction to French Studies (Level 4; 30 credits)

French Cinema: History, Practice, Analysis (Level 5; 30 credits)

French Thought: from the Renaissance to Postmodernity (Level 5; 30 credits)

Masterpieces of French Literature and Culture from the Eighteenth Century to Postmodernity (Level 5) (Level 5; 30 credits)

Contemporary French Literature (Level 5; 15 credits)

Dreaming the Self: Enlightenment to Romanticism (Level 5; 15 credits)

Reading the Signs: Text and Image in French Culture (Level 5; 30 credits)

German:

Cultural Perspectives on German History (Level 4; 30 credits)

Transformation, Transgression and Tradition: German Literature from the 18th to the 21st Century (Level 5; 30 credits)

The Emergence of the German Nation State in the 'Long' Nineteenth Century (1770-1914) (Level 5; 15 credits)

The Weimar Republic (Level 5; 15 credits)

The Twentieth Century German Novel (Level 5; 15 credits)

Literature and Society since 1945 (Level 5; 15 credits)

The German Novelle (Level 5; 15 credits)

German History 1945 to 1990: From Occupation to Reunification (Level 5; 15 credits)

German Film: Nation and Identity (Level 5; 15 credits)

Culture in the Weimar Republic (Level 5; 15 credits)

The Age of Goethe (Level 5; 15 credits)

Die deutschsprachige Presse (Level 5; 15 credits)

The Nazi Regime (Level 5; 15 credits)

<p>Italian: Introduction to Italian Culture (Levels 4 & 5, 30 credits) Sex, survival and la dolce vita: Neorealist to Contemporary Italian Film (Level 5, 30 credits) Other relevant modules are offered from the BA History of Art syllabus</p> <p>Japanese (all 30 credits) Rethinking Japan: Introduction to Modern Japanese Society and Culture (Levels 4 & 5) Popular Culture in Japan and East Asia (Level 5) Theorising Japanese Cinema (Level 5)</p> <p>Spanish Studying the Hispanic, Luso-Brazilian and Native American Worlds (Level 4; 30 credits) Introduction to Hispanic Studies (Level 4; 30 credits) Approaches to Spanish Culture and Society (Level 5; 30 credits) The Latin American Novel (Level 5; 30 credits) Latin American Film (Level 5; 30 credits) Survey of 20th Century Spanish Film (Level 5; 30 credits) Power and Control in Spanish Golden Age Art (Level 5; 30 credits)</p> <p>Comparative ‘culture’ optional modules (all 30 credits) Understanding Culture: Language and Texts (Level 4) Reading Transnational Cultures (Level 5) Representations of Love, Desire and Sexuality (Level 5; 30 credits) Film and Politics (Level 5; 30 credits) Post-War: Key Themes in Comparative European History since 1945 (Level 5; 30 credits)</p>
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¹⁹	Programme Structure			
Part-Time programme:				
FRENCH Pathway A: Entry Level Language 1				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	AREL062S4	French 1	30	Core
4	LNLN022S4	Imagining France	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	AREL067S4	French 2	30	Core
5		One 30 credit or two 15 credit Level 5 content modules from those offered on the corresponding option programme (above)	30	Option
FRENCH Pathway B: Entry Level Language 2				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	AREL067S4	French 2	30	Core
4	LNLN022S4	Imagining France	30	Compulsory

Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	AREL070S5	French 3	30	Core
4	LNLN021S4 LNLN026S4	Understanding Culture OR Approaches to Language	30	Option
FRENCH Pathway C: Entry Level Language 3				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	AREL070S5	French 3	30	Core
4	LNLN022S4	Imagining France	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	AREL071S5	French 4	30	Core
4	LNLN021S4 LNLN026S4	Understanding Culture OR Approaches to Language	30	Option
GERMAN Pathway A: Entry Level Language 1				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	AREL065S4	German 1	30	Core
4	AREL042S4	Cultural Perspectives on German History	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	AREL074S4	German 2	30	Core
5		One 30 credit or two 15 credit Level 5 content modules from those offered on the corresponding option programme (above)	30	Option
GERMAN Pathway B: Entry Level Language 2				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	AREL074S4	German 2	30	Core
4	AREL042S4	Cultural Perspectives on German History	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	AREL077S5	German 3	30	Core
4	LNLN021S4 LNLN026S4	Understanding Culture OR Approaches to Language	30	Option

GERMAN Pathway C: Entry Level Language 3				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	AREL077S5	German 3	30	Core
4	AREL042S4	Cultural Perspectives on German History	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	AREL078S5	German 4	30	Core
4	LNLN021S4 LNLN026S4	Understanding Culture OR Approaches to Language	30	Option
ITALIAN Pathway A: Entry Level Language 1				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	ARCL039S4	Italian 1	30	Core
4	ARCL044S4	Introduction to Italian Culture	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
4	ARCL040S4	Italian 2	30	Core
5		One 30 credit or two 15 credit Level 5 content modules from those offered on the corresponding option programme (above)	30	Option
ITALIAN Pathway B: Entry Level Language 2				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
4	ARCL040S4	Italian 2	30	Core
4	ARCL044S4	Introduction to Italian Culture	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
5	ARCL041S5	Italian 3	30	Core
4	LNLN021S4 LNLN026S4	Understanding Culture OR Approaches to Language	30	Option
ITALIAN Pathway C: Entry Level Language 3				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
5	ARCL041S5	Italian 3	30	Core
4	ARCL044S4	Introduction to Italian Culture	30	Compulsory

Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	ARCL042S5	Italian 4	30	Core
4	LNLN021S4 LNLN026S4	Understanding Culture OR Approaches to Language	30	Option
JAPANESE Pathway A: Entry Level Language 1				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	ARMC161S4	Japanese 1	30	Core
4	LNLN023S4	Rethinking Japan: Introduction to Modern Japanese Society and Culture	30	Core
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	ARMC164S4	Japanese 2	30	Core
5		One 30 credit or two 15 credit Level 5 content modules from those offered on the corresponding option programme (above)	30	Option
JAPANESE Pathway B: Entry Level Language 2				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	ARMC164S4	Japanese 2	30	Core
4	LNLN023S4	Rethinking Japan: Introduction to Modern Japanese Society and Culture	30	Core
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	ARMC165S5	Japanese 3	30	Core
5		One 30 credit or two 15 credit Level 5 content modules from those offered on the corresponding option programme (above)	30	Option
JAPANESE Pathway C: Entry Level Language 3				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	ARMC165S5	Japanese 3	30	Core
4	LNLN023S4	Rethinking Japan: Introduction to Modern Japanese Society and Culture	30	Core
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
5	ARMC166S5	Japanese 4	30	Core
5		One 30 credit or two 15 credit Level 5 content modules from those offered on the corresponding option programme (above)	30	Option

Year of entry: 2021/22

SPANISH Pathway A: Entry Level Language 1				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	ARIB106S4	Spanish 1	30	Core
4	LNLN016S4	Studying the Hispanic, Luso-Brazilian and Native American Worlds	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	ARIB115S4	Spanish 2	30	Core
5		One 30 credit or two 15 credit Level 5 content modules from those offered on the corresponding option programme (above)	30	Option
SPANISH Pathway B: Entry Level Language 2				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
4	ARIB115S4	Spanish 2	30	Core
4	LNLN016S4	Studying the Hispanic, Luso-Brazilian and Native American Worlds	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	ARIB118S5	Spanish 3	30	Core
4	LNLN021S4 LNLN026S4	Understanding Culture OR Approaches to Language	30	Option
SPANISH Pathway C: Entry Level Language 3				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	ARIB118S5	Spanish 3	30	Core
4	LNLN016S4	Studying the Hispanic, Luso-Brazilian and Native American Worlds	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
5	ARIB119S5	Spanish 4	30	Core
4	ARIB136S4 LNLN021S4 LNLN026S4	Introducción al Mundo Hispánico OR Understanding Culture OR Approaches to Language	30	Option

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; *COMPULSORY* – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; *OPTIONAL* – Student can choose to take this module

Year of entry: 2021/22



20	Programme Director	As for corresponding 'single honours' BA programmes, currently: Dr Nathalie Wourm (French), Dr Maria Elena Placencia (Spanish), Dr Nicolette David (Italian), Dr Alexander Weber (German), (Japanese,TBC)
21	Start Date <i>(term/year)</i>	Autumn 2018
22	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2018
23	Date approved by Academic Board	Summer 2018
24	Date(s) updated/amended	March 2018