European Languages & Cultures
Welcome

The Department of European Languages and Cultures (DELC) has pioneered a distinctive approach to European languages in the context of their related global cultures. The Complete University Guide 2016 placed most DELC subjects in national top ten listings with Spanish in 6th place, Italian in 7th place, French in 10th place and German in 11th place.

Here at Lancaster we offer very flexible programmes; both individually and in collaboration with departments across the University. With this Department you can study a wide range of degree schemes in and with French, German and Spanish, from both beginners and advanced levels and Chinese and Italian from beginners level. This variety provides a dynamic environment for study.

Our approach to our teaching and internationally recognised research is an exciting and intellectually challenging synthesis of both high-level language skills and wide-ranging cultural studies which are both comparative and trans-national. Our courses are also popular with visiting students from across the world, enhancing the international flavour of life in the Department.

Our relative size means we are small enough to offer close, productive contact between students and staff. This environment encourages working relationships which continue beyond our students’ undergraduate degrees into their professional lives. Our graduates are consistently ranked in the top 10 in the UK for graduate employability.
Why study languages with Lancaster?

• We are the top ranked language department in the North West.

• The department was 4th in the UK for language graduate employability in the Guardian University Guide 2015 and is ranked 5th in 2016.

• Whatever you study with us, your course will be international in scope. We believe that in today’s world the language, culture and history of the countries of Europe are best understood in a global and comparative perspective.

• We have over 50 language degree combinations for you to choose from.

• Students on our major languages degrees (French, German and Spanish) graduate with near-native competency in their relevant language or languages thanks to the support they receive throughout their course.

• We have a proven record in supporting students who are learning a language for the first time, meaning many of our students can add a new language to their degree beyond those already studied at A level.

• French, German and Spanish may all be studied from advanced and beginner level; you could also choose to take beginners/post-GCSE Italian and Chinese.

• If you choose the beginners/post-GCSE option, our intensive language courses will bring you quickly up to full degree standard in our major languages.

• Italian and Chinese, as minor languages, take students to a very advanced level (B2 on the Common European Framework of Reference).

Our courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course Length</th>
<th>UCAS Code</th>
<th>Typical offer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA Single Honours Degree</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Studies</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Studies</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R140</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Joint Honours Degree</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies and German Studies</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies and Spanish Studies</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Studies and Spanish Studies</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Combined Honours Degrees</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R100</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Languages</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R100</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three languages chosen from French, German, Italian, Spanish and Chinese</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R100</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Major/Minor Combined Language Degrees</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies with Chinese</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies with Italian</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Studies with Chinese</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Studies with Italian</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Studies with Chinese</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Studies with Italian</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Studies with German</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Studies with History</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Joint Honours Language with a Non-Language Degree</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies and Computing (BSc Honours)</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Studies and English Literature</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies and Film</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies and Geography</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Studies and History</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies and Language</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies and Linguistics</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies and Mathematics</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies and Philosophy</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies and Politics</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Studies and Psychology</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Studies and History</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Studies and German Studies</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Studies and Italian</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Studies and French Studies</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Studies and Chinese</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>R120</td>
<td>AAB-ABB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Why study languages with Lancaster?

• We are the top ranked language department in the North West.

• The department was 4th in the UK for language graduate employability in the Guardian University Guide 2015 and is ranked 5th in 2016.

• Whatever you study with us, your course will be international in scope. We believe that in today’s world the language, culture and history of the countries of Europe are best understood in a global and comparative perspective.

• We have over 50 language degree combinations for you to choose from.

• Students on our major languages degrees (French, German and Spanish) graduate with near-native competency in their relevant language or languages thanks to the support they receive throughout their course.

• We have a proven record in supporting students who are learning a language for the first time, meaning many of our students can add a new language to their degree beyond those already studied at A level.

• French, German and Spanish may all be studied from advanced and beginner level; you could also choose to take beginners/post-GCSE Italian and Chinese.

• If you choose the beginners/post-GCSE option, our intensive language courses will bring you quickly up to full degree standard in our major languages.

• Italian and Chinese, as minor languages, take students to a very advanced level (B2 on the Common European Framework of Reference).
Your studies
In your first year you will focus very intensively on your language learning and skills. Over the following three years whilst maintaining a strong focus on intensive language learning you will also study the languages and cultures of particular European countries and their relationship with the wider world, either exclusively or in combination with another subject.

Learning in the Department
You will learn through a combination of interactive lectures, workshops, laboratory sessions, seminars and independent study conducted either individually or in groups. Because language is taught exclusively in small classes, staff and students get to know each other well.

Assessment
All our courses have a 40% coursework, 60% exam assessment pattern. In DELC, tutors return written work promptly, with constructive comments, and with individual attention normally within three weeks of submission for non-language work and normally within two weeks for language coursework.

The Year Abroad
Your Year Abroad which takes place in your 3rd year of study at Lancaster is a unique opportunity and is an integral and assessed part of all Lancaster major Language degree schemes.

Enrichment opportunities
You will be able to apply your linguistic and cultural understanding in specific professional contexts by:

- Becoming student ambassadors for the Department
- Taking part in voluntary local school teaching placements
- Working in a school or language-related company as part of the optional placement second year module
- Teaching or working in a company during your year abroad.
- Participating in our thriving Lancaster languages society LULANGS

Facilities
Our Languages Resource Centre provides our students with learning materials and amenities. We also provide students with the use of language labs, self-access materials, virtual learning environments and online resources.

Course structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language study (all years)</td>
<td>Language-specific core courses (second year)</td>
<td>The Year Abroad</td>
<td>Specialist culture courses (final year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative culture courses (second year)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dissertation (final year – compulsory for single major students)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part II degrees in languages consist of five or six specific elements:

- MLang Degree
  The MLang degree is a selective and accelerated four year BA with integrated MA. It allows students to go abroad in their second year and finish their BA in their third year; ready for Masters study level work in their final year. Please see separate leaflet.
1. Language study

These courses aim to enhance students’ linguistic proficiency in a variety of registers. Written, grammar, and oral work continue throughout your degree with increasing focus on translation into English and the foreign language.

2. Core culture courses

These core modules are designed to help you deepen your understanding of the cultures of the individual languages you have chosen to study:

- Shaping Contemporary France: Culture, Politics, and the Legacy of History
- Becoming German: Post-War German-language Culture and Identities
- Power and Resistance in Spain and Spanish America: From the Spanish Empire to the 21st Century

3. Comparative culture courses

All students in DELC, whatever their degree scheme, also participate in second year courses which are international in scope and promote a comparative understanding of Europe and beyond:

- Understanding Culture
- Society on Screen: The Language of Film
- Cross-cultural encounters in World Literatures
- Economic and social change in France, Germany and Spain since 1945
- Language and Identity in France, Germany and Spain
- Professional Contexts for Modern Languages

4. Specialist culture courses

In their final year, students work in-depth with specialist researchers in the languages and cultures of Austria, Germany, France and the French speaking world, Spain, and South America, as well as in aspects of Europe as a whole.

- Autocrats, Caudillos and Big Men: Understanding Dictatorship and its Cultural Representation in the 20th Century
- Contemporary Cities in Literature and Film
- Francophone Voices: Literature and Film from Sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and Canada
- Game of (Spanish) Thrones: Treachery, War and Exile in Spanish Poetry (13th-20th c.)
- Images of Austria: National Identity and Cultural Representation
- Imagining Modern Europe: Post-Revolutionary Utopias and ideologies in the First Half of the Nineteenth Century
- Latin America and Spain on Film: Violence and Masculinities
- Literature and Fame in Contemporary Germany
- Love, religion and society in the 18th century French novel
- Modernity of Forms and Forms of Modernity in French Literature 1850-2000
- Social movements and committed writing in Mexico since 1968
- Translation as a Cultural Practice
- Witchcraft, Heresy, and Inquisition: The Prosecution of ‘Otherness’ in Europe (14th-17th c.)
- Writing in the margins: narrating cross-cultural experience

5. The dissertation

The dissertation enables final year students to specialise in a subject of their choosing and develop their skills in research and extended analysis.

6. The year abroad

You can spend the year abroad:

- as an English-language assistant in a school
- on a work placement
- studying at one of our partner universities
- studying or working in a non-EU country (e.g. in Quebec or Latin America)
- ... or any combination of the above

For students studying two languages, we do not have set rules about your choice of country/ies. Students taking three languages are required to spend their year abroad in at least two language-specific environments. Intensive students will normally spend some or all of their year in the country of their intensive language.

Our Erasmus Partner Institutions are the following:

- Bordeaux
- Lyon 3 (Université Jean Moulin)
- Rennes 2 - Haute-Bretagne
- Poitiers
- ETI Geneva
- Ruprecht-Karls-Universitat Heidelberg
- Universitat de Internacional de Catalunya (Barcelona)
- Universitat Trier
- Hochschule Zittau/Görlitz
- Karl-Franzens Universität Graz
- Universidad de Deusto (Bilbao)
- Universidad de Granada

Other International partner institutions include:

- Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla - Mexico
- HEC Montreal – for French Management students
- Dauphine Université, Paris – for French Management students
- Universidad de Deusto – Comercial — for Spanish Management students
Here are some of the academics who would support your language studies at Lancaster.

Dr Rebecca Braun

Rebecca researches issues of authorship and celebrity, the relationship between the media and the culture industry, and questions surrounding the transmission and reception of culture in the contemporary world. These feed into the second year comparative module Cross-cultural encounters in World Literatures and her specialist module Literature and Fame in Contemporary Germany. Her active interest in translation informs her final year module Translation as Cultural Practice. Rebecca is also Director of Lancaster University’s Research hub Authors and the World.

Dr Charlotte Baker

Charlotte’s interests include literary representations of marginalised and stigmatised groups in sub-Saharan Africa and both Anglophone and Francophone literature from sub-Saharan Africa, with a particular focus on the West African dictator novel. Her research informs the comparative modules Understanding Culture, and Autocrats, Caudillos and Big Men: Understanding Dictatorship and its Cultural Representation in the 20th Century and her specialist module Francophone Voices: Literature and Film from Sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and Canada. Charlotte is co-Director of Lancaster’s Centre for Transcultural Writing.

Dr Oscar Perea-Rodriguez

Oscar’s researches Medieval and Renaissance Iberian literatures and cultures, showing how medieval literature, especially poetry, must be studied within the context of the political and social culture from which it emerges. He has researched the role of gender and racial issues in the construction of authorship, in particular the role of both women and Jewish and converso writers, in the midst of the turmoil of the 15th-16th centuries. He also is involved in global digital humanities projects and all his teaching includes Twitter-based participation. This feeds into the comparative course: Witchcraft, Heresy, and Inquisition: The Prosecution of ‘Otherness’ in Europe (14th-17th c) and his specialist course Game of (Spanish) Thrones: Treachery, War and Exile in Spanish Poetry (13th-20th c). He also writes a blog (http://opr71.blogspot.com.es/) where he disseminates both his research and teaching to the general public.

Life on the course

LULANGS Society

The LULANGS society meets on a weekly basis in an informal environment so that DELC and international students can practise their languages, discuss their plans, or simply relax with friends. The society also runs a number of social events.

Placements

We encourage students to take up a variety of work placements in industry and education, both while in Lancaster and internationally during the Year Abroad. Students can opt to take our work-based learning module in second year where they develop, reflect on and articulate both the range of competences, and the linguistic and cross cultural skills that enhance employability by working in language-related professional placement.

Volunteering and Lancaster Award

Many of our students work for the Department and the University as student ambassadors. We also work with local schools so that our undergraduates can do volunteer teaching practice in local schools. We actively encourage students to participate in the Lancaster Award giving them recognition for extra-curricular activities that help boost their CVs.

I joined the Communication team of Amadeus as part of my year abroad. I am based at the company’s corporate headquarters in Madrid. I mostly work for the executive communication team but I am often asked to complete tasks within Group Communication as a whole. I help coordinate all the industry events Amadeus sponsors throughout the world. I also maintain the special ‘Industry Events’ section of the intranet website for all employees. Ever since starting at Amadeus I have had nothing but great encounters with my co-workers as well as very interesting experiences in meetings, conference calls and induction courses. Everyone has welcomed me and treated me as an adult and I have integrated into the team well.”

Jess Grange (Management Studies & European Languages 2012-2016)
Life on the course

I spent my Year Abroad working as an English Language Assistant at a lycée in Royan, France and I can honestly say that choosing to work as an assistant was one of the best decisions I have ever made. I was working with students aged 15 to 25 and my experience was incredibly rewarding, entertaining and challenging in equal measure. Working with teenagers, there was never a dull moment and being able to share my own language and culture with them, whilst improving my knowledge of theirs was always so fulfilling. From trips to the beach to attending a Ligue 1 match in Bordeaux and being taken on a tour in a light aircraft, I will take away some unforgettable memories and friends for life from all over the world. My French has also improved immeasurably; I have gained lots of confidence and built upon skills such as communication, problem solving and teamwork."

Demi Rabette (French and History, 2011-2015)
Life after the course

Workplace skills

Quite apart from language and subject related skills, a degree in Languages develops rich interpersonal, intercultural, cognitive and transferable skills that can be utilised across a variety of careers. For the last 10 years, Languages graduates from Lancaster have been in the top 10 universities in the country in terms of their employment prospects.

In both our work-based learning module in the second year and on the year abroad students reflect academically on key issues in relation to their placement organisation.

Careers

We have a Departmental Careers Officer who advises students on their strengths and possible future careers. We also have Employability resources and job ads uploaded and constantly updated on our Web platform. In the department we arrange Careers with Languages events, where former graduates share their success stories and tips with current undergraduates. The following are some of the courses and jobs our 2013 graduates were undertaking six months after graduating:

- Campaign Assistant
  The National Deaf Children’s Society
- Social Media Specialist
  Bosch
- Conference and Event Coordinator
  Manchester Airport Group
- Project Management
  Wigan Council
- Audit Assistant
  KPMG
- PGCE Secondary Education
  Canterbury Christ Church University
- PGCE Primary with French Specialism
  University of Cumbria
- MA Screen Translation
  University of Sheffield
- Outreach Assistant
  Lancaster University
- Project Support Assistant
  Department for Education
- Marketing Assistant
  Gamersys
- Travel Consultant
  Diverse School Travel
- Allocation Analyst
  TK Maxx
- Learning Mentor
  The Blackpool Sixth Form College
- English teaching assistant
  ESCP Europe Business School
- German Speaking Customer Services Advisor
  Flextronics
- Research Executive
  Blueprint Partnership
- University Diploma in Chinese Studies
  University of Paris-Diderot
- Campaign Assistant
  Marketing Assistant
  Gamersys
  Travel Consultant
  Diverse School Travel
  Allocation Analyst
  TK Maxx
  Learning Mentor
  The Blackpool Sixth Form College
  English teaching assistant
  ESCP Europe Business School
  German Speaking Customer Services Advisor
  Flextronics
  Research Executive
  Blueprint Partnership
  University Diploma in Chinese Studies
  University of Paris-Diderot

“My time as a language student studying Spanish Studies with a minor in Linguistics at Lancaster University was incredibly rewarding and enjoyable. I particularly enjoyed the range of modules available within a language degree course; studying film, literature and history made the language really come alive! My year abroad as an English Language Assistant in Spain was incredible and led me to decide on a career in teaching back in the UK. I am now Head of Modern Languages and we run a Spanish Exchange every year with the school I worked at during my year abroad. Nothing but fond memories of my time in DELC.”

Vicky Hilton (Spanish Studies 2000-2004)

“My language degree gave me my first insight into deadline management. I work in a very fast paced environment where deadlines are fundamental to my role. It also taught me basic project management. Various tasks and coursework assignments that required different stages set me up well for my current role. I also developed my presentation skills through doing a language degree. I was so used to focusing on presenting in a foreign language that it actually alleviated a lot of the presentation nerves pressure. This has really helped in my current job.

Although I don’t often get the chance to showcase my language skills as a commercial marketing executive for Dyson, I definitely think that a degree in foreign languages has really helped to further my career and will for years to come.”

Kate Neil (French and Spanish 2009-2013)