Linguistics and English Language
Are you interested in how language works and how people use it to communicate? Or how English evolved and how it differs from other languages? If so, we have something for you.

As one of the largest departments of Linguistics and English Language in the UK, we offer a vast range of distinguished specialists, scholars who have made the Department one of the best in the world (15th in the 2018 QS World University ranking). In 2015, we won the Queen’s Anniversary Prize for our research.

Our comprehensive yet flexible programmes can be tailored to your interests. You will be taught by staff renowned for excellent teaching; seven have won national or university teaching awards. Not surprisingly, we are ranked joint 10th for student satisfaction in the Complete University Guide 2019.

Your degree will open up careers involving linguistic expertise (e.g. speech therapy, teaching English) or prepare you for jobs in education, management or media. We equip you for the world of work (we are joint third for Linguistics graduate prospects in the UK, Complete University Guide 2019).

We have outstanding laboratory facilities, and are home to the British National Corpus, the famous multi-million word language resource.

Thank you for taking the time to read this brochure.

Professor Uta Papen
Head of Department of Linguistics and English Language
WHY STUDY LINGUISTICS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE AT LANCASTER?

#3 Ranked joint 3rd for Linguistics graduate prospects
Complete University Guide 2019

#3 Ranked joint 3rd in the UK for Linguistics
Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2018

#15 Ranked 15th in the world for Linguistics
QS World Rankings 2018

SCHOOLS VOLUNTEERING MODULE
In the final year you can take the opportunity to work as a classroom volunteer in a primary or secondary school over the course of one term

STUDENT SOCIETIES
Highly active student society which organises talks and careers events

MODULE OPTIONS
Our wide range of module options includes cutting-edge approaches to the field such as forensic linguistics, language evolution, and cognitive linguistics

HOME OF THE BRITISH NATIONAL CORPUS
An internationally renowned multi-million word resource for studying language

INTERNSHIPS
Paid research internship opportunities

STUDY ABROAD
Study abroad at partner institutions in Canada, the USA, Australia, and Europe

“Studying a BA in English Language & Linguistics was one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. The range of modules, quality of teaching and level of personal and academic support in the Department is excellent. The academic staff at Lancaster are both world-renowned and extremely approachable, meaning you are engaging with world-leading research throughout your undergraduate degree. From studying Linguistics at Lancaster I have developed as both an academic and a person, made great friends, furthered my passion for language and gained the skills I need for my continued study at Lancaster and my future career.”

Emily Peach
BA Hons English Language and Linguistics

lancaster.ac.uk/linguistics
We offer a range of single and combined BA degrees involving the study of English Language and Linguistics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>UCAS code</th>
<th>Typical offer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Single honours degrees</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>English Language</td>
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<td>Q100</td>
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<td><strong>Joint honours degrees</strong></td>
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<td>QR32</td>
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<td><strong>Degrees with a minor</strong></td>
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<td>Q3T1</td>
<td>AAB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linguistics with Chinese</td>
<td>BA Hons</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Q1T1</td>
<td>AAB</td>
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Many of our degrees can be studied with a Placement Year. See the Careers section on page 22 for more details.

We are passionate about our subject, and infuse our teaching with our research. Our department benefits from three National Teaching Fellows. These fellowships are awarded by the Higher Education Academy and recognise individuals who have made an outstanding impact on student outcomes and the teaching profession in higher education. Most members of staff have written widely-used textbooks. We are a caring, friendly department, providing students with dedicated undergraduate administrators and regular meetings with an academic advisor.

Lancaster University has been awarded the highest possible score in the UK government’s 2017 Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) ratings. Our TEF Gold rating is based on high quality teaching, excellent teaching facilities and the good careers our graduates go into.

You will learn through a combination of interactive lectures, seminars, lab-based workshops, group-work, independent study and research. Every module has weekly lectures, small-group teaching (a maximum of 15 students per group), a Virtual Learning Environment with materials, and further contact possibilities with tutors and other students. Each student will have an individual supervisor for their final-year project.

The Department has some outstanding resources. We have fully equipped laboratories for eye-tracking, phonetics, EEG (Electroencephalography) and child language analysis. These facilities are used by undergraduate students, postgraduate students and staff for a variety of research projects including:

- Eye movements and linguistic processing during second language learning
- Ultrasound images of tongue movements in bilingual speakers
- Brain activity while encoding messages about time in a variety of languages
- Children’s cognitive development

Assessment types are varied, including essays, projects, oral presentations, group reports/exercises, multiple-choice tests and examinations. Our modules typically have a 40% coursework assignment and 60% exam assessment split. Coursework is marked within four weeks, and returned with copious constructive feedback.
STUDY ABROAD

We offer a wide range of study abroad options for students wanting to expand their degree experience. You can choose to go abroad for the whole of your second year, or for a term during your third year. We also have shorter visit options.

Study abroad gives you the opportunity to study alongside students from all over the world and experience a new culture and way of learning. All of our partner institutions are carefully selected to offer a similar curriculum to Lancaster so that you will receive similar training in Linguistics and English Language. All courses are taught in English. If you study abroad for a full year, your fees at Lancaster are reduced to 15% of your normal annual tuition fees.

Partner institutions include:
- USA: University of Colorado, University of Missouri, University of North Carolina
- Canada: University of Toronto, Carleton University
- Australia: Australian National University
- Europe: Universities in Sweden, Germany, Belgium, Spain, and the Netherlands
- Asia: South China University of Technology

SHORT OPTIONS TO STUDY ABROAD

If you would like to go abroad whilst at Lancaster but not spend a portion of your degree at another university, we have several options available as part of a continually developing programme. You could take part in a trip organised by Lancaster University Students’ Union during the Easter break or over the summer. Our current Easter trip is for ten days to New York and Boston and includes some academic activities and some cultural and sight-seeing opportunities.

If you would like to spend some time away over the summer, we currently offer three-week visits to India, China or Malaysia. These trips include meeting local business owners, volunteer work and cultural discovery. All trips are subsidised by Lancaster University Students’ Union.

In my second-year I studied abroad at the Australian National University (Canberra); it was the best decision I have ever made!

I thought it might be challenging to fit in as an exchange student but I gained invaluable friendships with people from all over the world. I studied Australian Indigenous languages, which was fascinating; and I felt well supported by both my universities.

I went on to backpack across the country: from Sydney Surf Camp; to driving the Great Ocean Road in Melbourne; to diving the Great Barrier Reef; and camping on the secluded beaches of Tasmania. It was as incredible as it sounds.

The year abroad taught me to throw myself into life. It was challenging academically and personally at times, however the friends I made, and the support I had, helped me to believe in my abilities. I gained confidence, independence, a respect for different cultures, a unique perspective on my degree subject, and an invaluable knowledge about life skills and travel.

Above all, I gained the knowledge that I could do anything I set my mind to.

Vicky Bedwell
BA Hons Linguistics (Study Abroad)

www.lancaster.ac.uk/global
INTERNSHIPS AND VOLUNTEERING

Research Internships (Summer Vacation and Term Time) – SPRINT and TRINITY

Every year, our department provides up to ten funded internships where second and third year students are given the opportunity to work with members of staff on research projects. SPRINT students work intensively on the same project for one month during the summer vacation. Term-time research internship (TRINITY) students work one day per week throughout terms 1 and 2, moving between a variety of tasks and projects. Each student is paid a little over £1,500 for a month’s work. During the internships, students learn specific research skills and gain experience working alongside dedicated members of staff. This prepares students well for postgraduate study in language-related areas and work in research-intensive fields.

Volunteering and the Lancaster Award

During your degree we provide numerous opportunities for volunteering, CV-building and personal development. For example, you can complete the Lancaster Award which is a programme of structured volunteering, professional skills workshops and careers events. As part of the Lancaster Award you can gain experience in areas connected to your chosen career, such as teaching, speech therapy or media.

If you are interested in teaching, you can opt to take the credit-bearing Schools Volunteering Module where you combine volunteering in a local school with studying the theory of teaching practice. This valuable work experience will stand you in good stead if you go on to apply for a postgraduate teaching degree.

I thoroughly enjoyed participating in the SPRINT programme last summer. Working with another intern, we developed teaching materials for the new-generation corpus software #LancsBox. We also had the opportunity to begin constructing a one-million-word corpus of British English (I can now appreciate the time it takes to construct a corpus!). Other new experiences included coding sociolinguistic data and developing a promotional video for #LancsBox.

It was an honour to work within the Centre for Corpus Approaches to Social Science (CASS) at Lancaster and to witness the commitment of everyone involved. I feel extremely lucky to have gained this experience, and would unreservedly encourage anyone to get involved.

Sam Armstrong
BA Hons English Language, worked as a SPRINT student in his second year

Working with Dr Julia Gillen on the Edwardian Postcard Project was a fantastic experience. My main responsibility was maintaining the project’s social media presence. I also spent time transcribing and cataloguing postcards, as well as liaising with people external and internal to the Project, including the architect of the project database itself. It was really great to work alongside Julia as she was such an open and friendly person – I always felt welcomed and appreciated.

Kristina Kleismane
BA Hons Linguistics and German Studies, worked as a TRINITY student in her final year

The Edwardian Postcard project is one of the long-running research studies located in the Literacy Research Centre at Lancaster University. The project involves members of the public in collecting and researching postcards of the early twentieth century, a precursor of today’s social media.
At Lancaster University, most students study three subjects in Year 1 (Part I). These include the core subject or subjects corresponding to the degree course you applied for, plus one or two further subjects chosen during Welcome Week, to make up the total of three. Although the marks do not count towards your final degree classification, studying a breadth of subjects in the first year offers new perspectives and wider awareness that contributes to your future employability.

Find out more about flexible subject options: www.lancaster.ac.uk/fass-flexible-learning

**DEGREE STRUCTURES**

**BA HONS LINGUISTICS**

**YEAR 1**
- **CORE MODULE**
  - Part I Linguistics
- **FLEXIBLE SUBJECT OPTION**
  - e.g. Part I English Language

**YEAR 2**
- **CORE MODULES (30 Credits)**
  - Structures of the World’s Languages
  - Sounds of the World’s Languages

**YEAR 3**
- **CORE MODULES (60 Credits)**
  - Cognitive Linguistics
  - Topics in Phonetic and Phonological Theory
  - Dissertation

**OPTIONAL MODULES (90 Credits)**
Examples include:
- Child Language Acquisition
- English Phonetics
- Independent Study
- Language and Pedagogic Practice
- Language Origins and Evolution
- Literacy and Education

**BA HONS ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**YEAR 1**
- **CORE MODULE**
  - Part I English Language
- **FLEXIBLE SUBJECT OPTION**
  - e.g. Part I Linguistics

**YEAR 2**
- **CORE MODULES (10 Credits)**
  - English Grammar
  - English Phonetics

**YEAR 3**
- **CORE MODULES (60 Credits)**
  - Corpus-based English Language Studies
  - Advanced English Phonetics
  - Dissertation

**OPTIONAL MODULES (60 Credits)**
Examples include:
- Language and Identities
- Language, Culture and Thought
- Language in the Workplace

You can choose from more than 20 third- and second-year modules in the Department.
BA HONS ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

YEAR 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORE MODULE</th>
<th>Part 1 English Language</th>
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<tr>
<th>FLEXIBLE SUBJECT OPTION</th>
<th>e.g. Part 1 Linguistics</th>
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Other popular flexible subject options are: Criminology, Film Studies and World Literature.

YEAR 2

LANGUAGE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CORE MODULE (15 Credits)</th>
<th>Stylistics</th>
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<th>OPTIONAL MODULES (45 Credits)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Grammar</td>
<td>Discourse Analysis</td>
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You can choose from more than 10 second-year Linguistics and English Language modules.

LITERATURE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CORE MODULE (30 Credits)</th>
<th>The Theory and Practice of Criticism</th>
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<tr>
<th>OPTIONAL MODULE (30 Credits)</th>
<th>Examples include:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>British Romanticism</td>
<td>American Literature to 1900</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

You can choose from 5 second-year English Literature modules.

YEAR 3

LANGUAGE

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<th>OPTIONAL MODULES (60 Credits)</th>
<th>Examples include:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Language and Identities</td>
<td>Language Change in English and Beyond</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Language of Advertising</td>
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You can choose from more than 20 third- as well as second-year Linguistics and English Language modules.

LITERATURE

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<th>OPTIONAL MODULES (60 Credits)</th>
<th>Examples include:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>Literature and the Visual Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premodern Gothic</td>
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</table>

You can choose from more than 20 third-year English Literature modules.
PART I MODULES
(first year of study)

**English Language**
This module will introduce you to the English language – how to describe it, how it varies and how it functions in a variety of contexts. You will not only study the traditional linguistic areas of English (e.g. lexis, grammar, phonetics), but also areas that are often overlooked (e.g. letters, spellings) and areas that have more recently come to the fore, such as pragmatics or conversation analysis. You will learn about and apply linguistic frameworks in the analysis and explanation of variation in English, both present-day and historical. In order to study this variation, you will become conversant with crucial descriptive concepts, such as accents, dialects, registers, genres, and styles.

**Linguistics**
This module will introduce you to areas and topics across the full breadth of the linguistics discipline. The core areas of phonetics, phonology, morphology and syntax will be covered in some depth. In relation to these areas, you will get an appreciation of the nature of some of the major theoretical debates, whilst also acquiring some actual analytical skills, using data not only from English, but crucially also from other languages. In addition to these core areas, a number of important sub-fields of linguistics will be dealt with, including sociolinguistics, the study of language acquisition and learning, historical linguistics, and linguistic typology. Finally, a number of applications will be discussed, such as forensic linguistics, educational linguistics, and language testing.

PART II MODULES
(second and final years of study)

Our department has more than 25 second- and third-year modules for you to choose from. They cover a wide range of different subjects.

**If you are interested in the sounds of language and in speech therapy, these modules will appeal to you:**
- English Phonetics
- Sounds of the World’s Languages
- Advanced English Phonetics
- Topics in Phonetic and Phonological Theory

**The structure of English and of language at large is the topic of:**
- English Grammar
- Structures of the World’s Languages
- Corpus-based English Language Studies
- Cognitive Linguistics

Does the variety of uses that language is put to in the world intrigue you? Are you keen on a career in publishing and writing, the media and marketing, management or forensics? If so, these are the modules to consider:
- Discourse Analysis: Looking at Language in Use*
- Stylistics
- Understanding Media*
- The Language of Advertising
- Corporate Communication
- Language in the Workplace: Topics in Professional Communications
- Forensic Linguistics

To learn more about the relationship between language and cognition, you could pick:
- Child Language Acquisition
- Psycholinguistics
- Language, Culture and Thought

Do you wish to become a language teacher? Are you fascinated by education in general? If so, the following courses will be of interest to you:
- Literacy and Education
- Language and Pedagogic Practice
- Language Origins and Evolution
- Language and Identities: Gender, Ethnicity and Class*
- Schools Volunteering Module

If you want to further your understanding of language variation and change, you could go for:
- Language Change in English and Beyond
- Language Origins and Evolution
- Language and Identities: Gender, Ethnicity and Class*
- Acoustic analysis of sound change in Lancashire vowels
- Acquisition of an artificial language: The contributions of working memory and instruction
- Optimising language learning: a comparison of the effectiveness of explicit instruction and semi-explicit feedback

There is also ample opportunity for you to carry out some research on your own in these two modules:
- Independent Study
- Dissertation*

Some examples of dissertation topics undertaken in previous years include:
- An investigation into the use of metaphors by MPs in political speeches regarding the economy
- An acoustic analysis of sound change in Lancashire vowels
- Acquisition of an artificial language: The contributions of working memory and instruction
- Optimising language learning: a comparison of the effectiveness of explicit instruction and semi-explicit feedback

The modules marked by * are 30 credits and are taught over 20 weeks (i.e. in Terms 1 and 2). All other modules are 15 credits and are taught over 10 weeks (i.e. in Term 1 only or Term 2 only). Independent Studies can be 15 or 30 credits. For further information about course content, pre-requisites and other restrictions, please refer to the individual course descriptions on our website.

Note that we keep our degree programmes under constant review, and also regularly introduce new modules. In any academic year, the list of modules offered may therefore differ slightly from that presented here.
Lancaster University invites curiosity; providing the rare opportunity to study three subjects in the first year allowing you to truly work out what degree you want, and what you want out of that degree. Studying a BA in English Language and Linguistics grants you entry into a department of teaching excellence hosting keen students and helpful pastoral staff with a faculty who genuinely care about the success of their students.

Lancaster also invites you to go beyond your degree scheme and partake in a variety of extra-curricular activities to strengthen your résumé; taking part in various staff and post-graduates’ experiments; an excellent opportunity for experience.

The surroundings of Lancaster University itself provide the best of both worlds in terms of urban and rural development; hosting both a lively nightlife and a bucolic setting; allowing people of any background to thrive in equal comfort creating the optimal opportunity for success.

Sam Hollands
BA Hons English Language and Linguistics, Year 1
MEET SOME OF OUR STAFF

The Department of Linguistics and English Language has over 30 research active staff. Here we introduce you to three of them.

**Dr Veronika Koller**
My main research interest is in how language is used for business and at work. I have looked at metaphors in business magazines, and at the role of language in building a corporate brand. At the moment, I am investigating how language and visuals work together in the communications of healthcare charities. With a colleague, I have just finished writing a textbook on corporate communication, with chapters, tasks and case studies on branding, leadership, workplace interviews and other topics. The book is based on the module that I teach on corporate communication.

**Professor Jonathan Culpeper**
My research focuses on the history of English. I have just started a huge project examining the language of Shakespeare. Library shelves groan with the weight of volumes written by Shakespearean literary critics, but in fact very little is written about his language (even less by linguists). I will be plugging that gap, and in the process dispelling a lot of myths. For example, sources on the internet claim that Shakespeare coined thousands of new words. My work suggests that it is at most a few hundred. The interesting thing will be to see exactly which ones he coined.

**Dr Silke Brandt**
My research focus is on child language acquisition. In particular, I’m interested in how children’s cognitive skills (their memory and understanding of other people’s perspectives and beliefs, for instance) develop together with their ability to produce and comprehend complex sentences, such as he thinks that it’s still raining. Understanding other people’s perspectives and beliefs is an important milestone in children’s cognitive development. It helps them to be good communicators and it can also predict how well they will perform at school. In a set of studies that are funded by the International Centre for Language and Communicative Development, I will be looking at what kind of linguistic input promotes children’s understanding of others’ perspectives and beliefs.

**Lancaster University provided me with memories that I will never forget. What I remember most is the sense of belonging that I immediately felt. Taught by renowned researchers, I now find myself using their research in my A Level lessons. This makes me feel proud to have been taught by specialists and slightly nostalgic as I reminisce about the fantastic time I had at Lancaster.**

Michelle Baggaley
BA Hons English Language, 2010
Teacher of English, Bradford Grammar School

**I went to Lancaster a bit shy, but it was the right environment for me to grow. What really struck me was the nature of the relationships that existed between students and teachers, which made it OK to discuss, challenge and debate with a person who was in authority. In a big company like Twitter that is vital.**

Sam Hodges
BA Hons English Language, 1999
Head of Communications, Twitter

lancaster.ac.uk/linguistics
During my degree at Lancaster I was introduced to a wide range of fascinating topics including phonetics, language acquisition, and language disorders. I was also encouraged to critically consider how theories could be applied to real situations. Consequently I became interested in how the theories of language and speech production related to individuals with communication difficulties.

This is now the foundation for my career. Since completing my undergraduate degree I completed a Masters degree and trained as a Speech and Language Therapist.

I now work in hospitals with patients with a range of communication difficulties. This includes patients with aphasia, dementia, traumatic brain injuries, progressive neuro-degenerative conditions, spinal injuries, voice disorders, motor speech difficulties, and head and neck cancer.

Alec Carr
BA Hons English Language and Linguistics, 2014
NHS Speech and Language Therapist