

# French BA (Hons)

## COURSE DETAILS

- A level requirements: [BBB](#)
- UCAS code: R120
- Study mode: Full-time
- Length: 4 years

## KEY DATES

- Apply by: [29 January 2025](#)
- Starts: 22 September 2025

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## Course overview

As one of the world's most important languages both in terms of speaker numbers and its role in science, industry and international diplomacy, studying French opens up a world of opportunities and prospects.

## INTRODUCTION

Fluency in French opens up dynamic and fast-changing parts of the world outside Europe, including North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as parts of the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean and the Pacific. A mastery of this language brings with it access to cultural products including world literature and cinema, but also important social, cultural, historical and linguistic debates.

At Liverpool, French can be taken from A level or as a beginner's language, with no previous qualifications necessary. Our vibrant programmes are designed to both refresh and extend your knowledge of French, with the perfection of language skills at the heart of our degrees. We also actively foster in our students the development of professional skills in French.

All our degrees demand a full intellectual engagement with a wide selection of areas in French studies. You will study French both in and beyond France, as well as aspects of French studies from various social, historical, visual, literary, filmic and linguistic aspects.

All students will spend one year in a French-speaking country as a language assistant in a school, student at a partner university, or on a work placement. If you combine French with a minor in another language, you will split the year between a French-speaking country and another country.

## WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Fluency in French

- Knowledge of important social, cultural, historical and linguistic debates
  - Access to dynamic and fast-changing parts of the world outside Europe
  - A broad historical context of the French language
  - Awareness of wider issues in language and linguistics
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# Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

## YEAR ONE

In year one, you will study language modules as well as foundation modules, which will introduce you to a range of topics in French history, culture and linguistics. You will also take a 'language awareness' module which is designed to support your language learning by sensitising you to issues in language and linguistics.

Students take 30 credits of required modules and 15 credits of optional modules in each semester. Language modules must be taken in pairs.

Student must take EITHER **FREN112** and **FREN134** OR **FREN105** and **FREN106**.

Students with A Level French or equivalent should normally take **FREN105** and **FREN106**.

Students with no previous experience of learning French, or with qualifications below A Level should normally take **FREN112** and **FREN134**.

Students may take another language as part of their optional modules if they wish.

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## COMPULSORY MODULES

### INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH STUDIES I (FREN114)

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module aims to provide students with skills appropriate to a range of areas in French Studies, introducing them to the historical periods and cultural contexts with which they will engage in future years, and to assist them in developing generic study skills, including research skills, referencing and bibliographic skills, numeracy and data handling, and close reading and commentary writing.

### LANGUAGE AWARENESS (MODL105)

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The module is an introduction to linguistics, focusing on issues in theoretical and applied linguistics which are relevant for language learners. It aims to equip students with a better awareness of and explicit knowledge about language and language learning. The meta-awareness thus gained will assist in hypothesis testing and rule formation essential to the learning of language.

## **INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH STUDIES II (FREN116)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This is the second semester foundational module in French Studies, which introduces students to key content and skills. The module focuses specifically on language issues, texts of various types, and film. The first part of the module covers language awareness, linguistics, the languages spoken in France and the French language as spoken outside France. The second part of the module covers issues of literary, visual, media, and film theory and draws on relevant movements and theoretical paradigms. The module introduces students to key skills in: reading and analysing primary and secondary sources critically; essay writing; and presenting to different audiences.

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE FRANCOSPHERE: LANGUAGE, CULTURE, EMPIRE, FRANCOPHONIE (FREN125)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

The module opens with an introduction to French colonial history, allowing students to explore the ways in which French has become a global language and France a global power. After an overview of this context, the module uses a combination of lectures and guided reading in seminars to provide a comprehensive understanding of the presence of France and French across five continents. A dossier of texts and other material will be read both individually and from a comparative and transhistorical perspective. The module will conclude with a consideration of the organs of French neo-colonialism and soft power, such as La Francophonie, and allow students to explore Global France in the twenty first century.

## **BEGINNERS FRENCH 1+2 (FREN112)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This French language module is designed for first year undergraduate students . It is for absolute beginners or students with very limited knowledge of the language. No previous knowledge of French is required. Through a variety of methods students will develop a basic competence in reading, writing, listening and speaking French and an understanding of basic French grammar.

At the end of this 12 week- module students will be able to carry out simple everyday tasks in French. Students will be able to understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. They will be able to introduce themselves and others and ask and answer questions about personal details. They will be able to interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly. They will have a basic understanding of significant aspects of life and culture of the country and intercultural skills necessary for their language proficiency level. This module is mapped against A1 level in French according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

## **ELEMENTARY FRENCH 3+4, YEAR 1 (FREN134)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module is mapped against A2 level in French according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). It is for students who have achieved a GCSE at foundation level or who have reached an A1 proficiency level in the Common European Framework. Through a variety of methods students will continue to develop basic competence in reading, writing, listening and speaking French and an understanding of basic French grammar. At the end of this 12 week- module students will be more confident to carry out all everyday tasks, they will start to be able to express their opinions about current affairs and function in many professional contexts. They will have an increased understanding of life and culture of the country and the intercultural skills necessary for their language proficiency level.

## **INTERMEDIATE FRENCH 5, YEAR 1 (FREN105)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module is the compulsory language module for all students enrolled in degree programmes aiming for a qualification in French. It is the first stage of a four-year learning curve and is preparation for the following year (FREN207 and FREN208).

This module is mapped against B1+ level in French according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

## **INTERMEDIATE FRENCH 6, YEAR 1 (FREN106)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module is a compulsory language module for all students enrolled in degree programmes aiming for a qualification in French. It is the first stage of a four-year learning curve and is thus preparation for the following year (FREN207 and FREN208).

## **OPTIONAL MODULES**

### **INTRODUCTION TO FILM LANGUAGE (FILM101)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The aim of the course is to give you grounding in analytical skills, an appreciation of the significance of film as a medium, and an ability to write about film in an accessible and well informed way for different audiences and different purposes.

Furthermore, the course will introduce you to the basic components of the audiovisual 'language' which film uses to communicate with its audience, and to the methods that you should use when analysing how any one film uses this language. We will look at a wide variety of films selected for their particularly innovative or influential treatment of different aspects of this 'language'.

## **THE GLOBAL HISTORY OF THE PRESENT (HIST114)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module explores contemporary issues and debates through considering global relationships in the past and how they have shaped the world in which we live. In light of the tremendous impact that modern imperialism and colonialism have had in shaping our world, the module focuses, in particular, on questions relating to race, empire and their legacies.

By exploring some of the ways in which historical investigation enriches urgent contemporary debates, the module aims to introduce students to a range of new ways of approaching the past, both in terms of subject matter and of new approaches to history, and to broaden their historical understanding of both western and non-western history (or what scholars refer to as the 'Global North' and 'Global South') and the myriad connections between them. In addition, therefore, to preparing students for the range of subject matter, geographical areas and approaches that they will be able to study in the second and third years of their History degree programme, this module also aims to make students better global citizens.

## **INTRODUCTION TO WORLD LITERATURE 1: PLACES AND LOCATIONS (WLIT101)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module will be compulsory for any student taking the BA in English with World Literature. It will be optional for students on English and English Literature, and for students taking Single Honours French (R120), German (R220), Italian (R300) and Hispanic Studies (RR45).

The module will introduce students to key concepts, theories, critics, and texts in the study of world literature through the lens of national literature(s) and translation, in order to provide a foundation for further study in the new programme.

Students will gain awareness of basic concepts of world literature from different national literary traditions and will learn how to apply them to a range of short literary works from a range of genres both within and beyond the module.

It will be delivered via lectures and seminars and assessed through two summative tasks:

- 80% coursework essay (2000 words)
- 20% discussion of a concept or key word (750 words).

Formative group work will support learning.

## **APPROACHES TO FILM (FILM102)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

The aim of this course is to introduce you to key theoretical and conceptual debates within Film Studies. It will develop your ability to apply these concepts to close readings of film texts and, in doing so, enhance your skills of critical analysis and independent thinking.

## **UNDERSTANDING MODERN EUROPE (HIST117)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module provides students with an introduction to modern continental European history. It broadens their understanding by first considering factors of a general importance in the development of modern Europe, and then looking at particular events and countries. In this way, students will be given a grasp both of broad themes in European history – such as demographics, political units, ideologies and social change – and of the specific way history unfolded in certain times and places.

## **INTRODUCTION TO WORLD LITERATURE 2: THEORY AND PRACTICE (ENGL120)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module will be compulsory for any student taking the BA in English with World Literature. It will be optional for students on English and English Literature, and for students taking Single Honours French, German, Hispanic Studies and Italian.

This module will follow on from Introduction to World Literature 1: From the National to the Global (Semester 1) by deepening students' understanding of concepts and theories of world literature, and applying these to a range of longer literary texts across all major genres including the novel, poetry, drama, short story both originally in English and in English translation.

It will be delivered via a lecture and tutorial each week and assessed via 80% assessed summative coursework essay of 2500–3000 words and 20% creative–critical project (1000–1500 words).

Formative work will support the assessments.

*Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.*

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## **YEAR TWO**

During your second year you will take language modules, plus content modules which cover the spectrum of French studies – from French film and texts discussing the New World, to contemporary French sociolinguistics, French cinema, fashion in France, and collaboration during the Second World War.

Language modules should continue from those taken in Year 1 (i.e. students who took **FREN112** and **FREN134** should take **FREN256** and **FREN278**; students who took **FREN105** and **FREN106** should take **FREN207** and **FREN208**).

In addition, students take 45 credits of optional modules in each semester.

**MODL200** is subject to a suitable placement being sourced.

Up to 15 credits of optional modules may be taken from cognate subjects elsewhere in the School of Histories, Languages and Cultures with prior permission from the Subject Lead.

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## **COMPULSORY MODULES**

### **INTERMEDIATE FRENCH 5+6, YEAR 2 (FREN256)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This compulsory module is designed for students who have successfully completed the beginners' modules FREN112 and FREN134, or have reached an A2+ proficiency level in the Common European Framework, and who plan to go abroad in their third year. It aims to provide students with an advanced competence in reading, writing, listening, speaking and grammar through both lessons and independent work. At the end of this 12 weeks- module students will have reached a B1 proficiency level in the Common European Framework of Reference and will confidently carry out all everyday tasks, they will be able to express their opinions about current affairs and function in many professional contexts. They will have a good understanding of life and culture of the country and the intercultural skills necessary for their language proficiency level.

### **ADVANCED FRENCH 7+8 (FREN278)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This compulsory module is designed for students who have successfully completed the beginners courses FREN112 and FREN134, as well as FREN256 in semester one of their second year, and plan to go abroad in their third year. It aims to further provide students with good competence in reading, writing, listening, speaking and grammar through both lessons and independent work.

At the end of this 12 weeks- module students will have reached a B1 proficiency level in the Common European Framework of Reference and will confidently carry out all everyday tasks, they will be able to express their opinions about current affairs and function in many professional contexts. They will have a good understanding of life and culture of the country and the intercultural skills necessary for their language proficiency level. This module is mapped against B2 level in French according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

### **ADVANCED FRENCH 7, YEAR 2 (FREN207)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module is mapped against B2 level in French according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

This module aims to develop further the skills of reading, listening, writing and speaking in French, as well as translating. This module will concentrate on fluency and accuracy in written and spoken French, through text analysis and language exercises. The module also provides a cultural preparation for the period of study in a French speaking country, focusing on job application, the world of work, the various registers and accents in French and practical information on accommodation, etc.



## **ADVANCED FRENCH 8 (FREN208)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module aims to develop further the skills of reading, listening, writing and speaking in French, as well as translating and interpreting both in and out of French. The module also provides a cultural preparation for the period of study in a French speaking country, focusing on the Education system, aspects of French life, practical information on banks, accommodation, transport, health system.

## **OPTIONAL MODULES**

### **MULTILINGUAL LIVERPOOL: READING THE CITY (MODL234)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

Although often considered a monolingual English city, Liverpool is as diverse and multilingual as most major urban centres. This module invites students to draw on their linguistic skills and their awareness of languages more widely to consider critically the extent to which multilingualism is part of Liverpool. Taking both established theories and new ways of thinking, we will go out and physically explore parts of the city to see what resources (languages and images) are used to make Liverpool. At the same time, we look at the ways in which the city could be usefully more multilingual, and not only identify but also fill the gaps in the public space with students' own translations into Chinese, French, German, Italian, Spanish....

### **ART AND VIOLENCE: VISUAL CULTURES AND THE MEDIA IN MODERN FRANCE (FREN220)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

Learn how to read an image, images from advertising (commercial and public service), company logotypes, Asterix and satirical political cartoons (Charlie Hebdo)

### **THE CINEMATIC CITY (FILM201)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The modern city and the cinema developed together, and as they developed they referred to each other: cities have always been a prime space for film, while many urban theorists have found it useful to think of cities as cinematic spaces. The module introduces you to cinematic ways of representing the city, through the study of a number of representative films that deal with some major metropolis. You will have the opportunity to produce your own short smartphone film of the city of Liverpool as part of a small-scale group project. This will allow you to put your ideas into practice and to reflect on the filmmaking process. No prior knowledge of practical filmmaking is required to enrol in this module but you will need to be willing to familiarise yourself with the process of shooting and editing of a smartphone film.

## **MANGER! FOOD AND FRENCH CULTURE (FREN230)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

An introduction to the practice of the food critic and to the rich history of French food culture. French cuisine is not only a fundamental part of national identity; it is one of the first cuisines to achieve recognition across the world. This module introduces students to the cultural history of food presenting a history of France in menus. As humans have fewer more basic needs, the production and absence of food have also profoundly affected social relations across the ages, thus you will also learn about the feasting and fasting habits of the nobility in the Middle Ages, bread riots in the eighteenth century and twentieth-century wartime food propaganda.

## **INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH CINEMA (FREN236)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module introduces you to the history of French cinema, with the emphasis on the 'Golden Age' (âge d'or) of the 1930s, the 'New Wave' (Nouvelle Vague) of the 1950s/60s, and films from the 1980s to the new millennium. While studying the French cinema, you will also be practising skills related to Film Studies, from the critical analysis of film texts or 'how to read a film', to relevant theoretical approaches. The emphasis throughout is on film language, or how film constructs meaning.

## **AN INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH LINGUISTICS (FREN238)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

Although we spend a lot of time learning how to speak and write French, little space is given to understanding the way in which the French language 'works'. In this module, we work through all the dimensions of the French language to understand better why French idioms aren't the same as English ones, why French spoken in the banlieues differs from that of the chic quartiers of the city, why French word order is the way it is, and how French builds new words to cope with the changes in society. This isn't a language module, but the work we do –including thinking critically about how sounds are made in French – informs our understanding of French and should lead to the writing and speaking of more accurate, more authentic French.

## **FRANCOPHONE CITIES: SPACES, CULTURES, IDENTITIES (FREN240)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module will provide students with an overview of cities in which French is spoken, and allow them to gain an understanding of Francophone culture as a significant global phenomenon. Whilst offering an introduction to key contextual details (for instance Urban Studies and Globalised City Studies) essential to an understanding of the functioning of cities and cityscapes, the module has a core syllabus focussed on a range of Francophone cities from a cultural, topographical, and/or linguistic perspective. Students will understand these spaces both individually and in their comparative and transhistorical context.

## **PROPAGANDA AND CENSORSHIP (FILM202)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

Using some of the most controversial films ever made as case studies, this module examines the relationship between film, political authority and public morality. The module examines films from the Soviet Union, Nazi Germany, the German Democratic Republic, France, Italy, Spain and China. All films are shown with English subtitles and the module is suitable for all students in HSS interested in film, propaganda and censorship.

## **LIVING THE GLOBAL EIGHTEENTH CENTURY (HLAC200)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module introduces you to aspects of life in Britain and Europe between about 1740 and 1815. This period is often seen as the beginning of the modern world, when the ideas about human nature and society that still shape our own lives came into circulation and when the global entanglements generated by trade and colonisation began to have a lasting impact on everyday life in Europe. The module is taught by tutors from French, German and English Studies, and History, as well as staff from the National Museums Liverpool. It gives you an insight into the range of materials and methods that are used in research in eighteenth-century studies. Interactive lectures, seminars and fieldwork encourage a hands-on approach to learning. You start by inventing an 18th-century character and you follow that character through various experiences typical of the period: shopping, reading, travelling, thinking about political issues of the day. Images, artefacts and contemporary texts in English and other languages are made available to support your research. The aim is for you to develop your capacity for asking questions (curiosity) as well as for answering them (research skills).

## **LANGUAGE TEACHING: THEORY AND PRACTICE (MODL200)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This second-year optional module will introduce students to the theory and practice of language teaching. Subject specific lectures will provide an overview of the evolution of teaching methodologies and approaches throughout history and up until the latest developments in the field, such as gamification or the flipped classroom approach. They will also guide students on applying these theories to different teaching contexts, taking into account variables such as language level, students' profile, motivation, or the cognitive implications of second language learning. School placements and/or supervisions will provide the opportunity to apply the theory to an actual teaching context and to develop a teaching project.

## **GLOBAL PUBLIC SPACES: RESISTANCE, JUSTICE AND HERITAGE (MODL230)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This team-taught module invites students to an expansive, yet focused investigation of public spaces – real and digital – across Belgium, Germany, Colombia, China, United States, and Italy: we start with an introduction that familiarises the students with key concepts and questions of public space and its embodiments through, for instance, monuments, statues, and museums, drawing from theories of ‘the everyday’ (i.e. Michel de Certeau, David Harvey Edward Soja, Henri Lefebvre, etc.) and Memory Studies (i.e. Michael Rothberg’s multidirectional memory). The Introduction invites students to understand political change and protest movements in public spaces within a global context. Each week then focuses on a different case study, a statue, a museum, their digital representations, a neighbourhood, etc., such as the Berlin Wall Memorial and Beijing’s Tiananmen Square. To ensure coherence across these vastly different geographical and historical contexts, the sessions will be structured around a set of recurring key themes and questions (heritage, memory, justice, everyday use and creative transformation) to draw students’ attention to global connections and local specificities.

*Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.*

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## **YEAR ABROAD (YEAR THREE)**

You will spend one year in a French-speaking country as a language assistant in a school, as a student at a partner university, or on a work placement. If you combine Major French with a Minor in another language, you will split the year abroad between a French-speaking country and another country.

### **Assessment during your year abroad**

You will complete assessment tasks appropriate to your year abroad placement, either producing one or more pieces of work in French or completing modules at your host university.

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*Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.*

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## **YEAR FOUR**

During your final year you will take language modules, plus content modules which cover the spectrum of French studies – from French film and texts discussing the New World, to contemporary French sociolinguistics, French cinema, fashion in France, and collaboration during the Second World War.

Students take 15 credits of required modules and 45 credits of optional modules in each semester.

Students can only take one of **MODL321**, **MODL322** or **MODL307**.

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## **COMPULSORY MODULES**

### **PROFICIENT FRENCH 11 (FREN311)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The final year language module is a course in communicative French at level C1 or C2, as specified in the Common European Framework of Reference. It introduces students to the principles of debate, reporting and presentation. Students also have the opportunity of developing their interpreting skills. Alongside the consolidation of their oral skills, students will also work on improving their writing skills, practise their grammatical accuracy, translation skills, as well as producing an extended piece of prose, focusing on report writing. Listening and reading skills will be developed during the contact hours and while preparing for assignments.

### **PROFICIENT FRENCH 12 (FREN312)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This is the second module which makes up the final-year programme in communicative French language. Like FREN311, it focuses on improving communication skills in French both orally and in writing. The aim is to increase linguistic confidence and to equip students with skills useful for social and professional life in a French environment.

## **OPTIONAL MODULES**

### **DISSERTATION (MODL307)**

**Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session**

This module gives students the opportunity to carry out independent research in an area of interest to them. The topic should be related to one of the research specialisms of members of staff in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures. Students are expected to take the initiative in planning, researching and writing the dissertation. Supervision and guidance will be provided from a member of staff in the Department.

## **FRENCH DRESSING: SIX CENTURIES OF CLOTHING AND CULTURAL HISTORY IN FRANCE (FREN335)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

From haute couture to prêt-à-porter, from textile production to designer training, France has historically been at the forefront of fashion and of clothing technology. This cultural investment in both dress and the visual arts provides the underpinning to this module. Unique in UK French Studies curricula, it brings together the academic study of dress history with literary and visual studies, and provides an introduction to the growing discipline of material culture studies. Taught in a mixture of lectures and seminars, the module looks at a range of cultural productions – medieval manuscript illustration, theatre designs, fashion-plates, lifestyle journalism, bande dessinée – and allows students to consider how dress functions as a tool for self- and group definition, and as a means of shaping and interpreting social and personal identity. Across the centuries, in France as elsewhere, what we wear sends out important messages about who we are and how we want others to see us. Getting dressed in the morning will never seem quite so innocent again.

## **THE SOCIOLINGUISTICS OF MODERN FRENCH (FREN333)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

Whilst much time is devoted to perfecting standard French in the language modules from year one onwards, the year abroad will have confirmed the fact that – as with English spoken in the UK – there is considerable variation in the way in which real French people living in France speak the language. In this module, we will look more closely at how French came to emerge as the primary language of France, how it was standardized, and how this process has been resisted, especially in contemporary France. We will also explore the ways in which gender, age, ethnicity, and social class all contribute in different ways to the French language that individuals encountered on the year abroad spoke. To this end, we will ascertain whether it is more appropriate to refer to Frenches than the French language when analyzing the ways in which people speak and – increasingly – write.

## **TRANSLATION THEORY AND PRACTICE (MODL311)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module introduces students to the theory and practice of translation at an advanced level. Students will develop an understanding of theoretical issues surrounding translation, applying this knowledge both to their own translations and to existing texts; gain insight into the professional practice of translation; and enhance their advanced language skills in both their target language(s) and English across a range of different text styles.

This module is offered to students of Chinese, French, German and Spanish. Students studying two languages may, subject to the agreement of the relevant tutors, choose to follow seminars in both languages. Please contact the module convenor in advance to make arrangements if you would like to take up this option.

Students wishing to take this module should normally have achieved an average of 60% or above in their second year language modules. MODL311 is a prerequisite for MODL312: students will normally be required to achieve 60% or above in MODL311 in order to progress into MODL312. Students are not required to take both modules in the same language.

## **CINEMA AND NARRATIVES OF FRENCH SOCIETY (FREN337)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

In this module we will look at the ways in which the French narrative cinema has portrayed its own society, and the extent to which it has contributed to the general cultural understanding of that society's history, aspirations and problems.

## **TERROR REMEMBERED: REPRESENTING TRAUMATIC HISTORIES IN LATIN AMERICA, EUROPE AND CHINA (MODL304)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module will introduce students to approaches to memory and to a body of textual, visual, material representation of terror that has become a key focus for critical analysis in recent cultural studies. It will provide a context in which students can engage in systematic comparisons between European, Latin American and East Asian experiences and representations of social and political trauma. It will also encourage students to reflect systematically on the political and ethical implications of literary, material, digital and cinematic representations of traumatic histories. You will have the opportunity to study in depth and compare examples of representation through different media and across different national and linguistic boundaries. Lectures provide background both to the main theoretical approaches, and to specific representations. In weekly seminars, you will work on the case studies covered in class, and on related materials. Assessment is on the basis of a poster and an essay.

## **RESEARCH PROJECT 1 (MODL321)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

MODL321 gives students the option of completing a 15-credit independent Research Project module in either in Semester 1 or Semester 2.

This module gives students the opportunity to carry out independent research in an area of interest to them. The topic should be related to one of the research specialisms of members of staff in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures. Students are expected to take the initiative in planning, researching and completing the dissertation. Supervision and guidance will be provided from a member of staff in the Department.

## **REMEMBERING SLAVERY (MODL332)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The module will typically provide an introduction to the history of slavery in the Francophone and Hispanic Worlds, situating the phenomenon of modern slavery within an understanding of historical slavery. Students will then study a range of representations of slavery that have arisen in response to historical slavery. These will typically range from first-person slave accounts from the early modern period which provide an individual perspective on the history of slavery; literary and filmic representations of slavery and cultural responses to slavery, particularly in the heritage industries through the practice of Dark Tourism. The module will typically include a visit to the International Slavery Museum in the Albert Dock, Liverpool.

## **WORLD CINEMAS IN THE 21ST CENTURY (FILM301)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

World Cinemas in the 21st Century will explore a range of films from countries as diverse as Iraq, Algeria, Britain, Mexico, Palestine and Mali. These films use exciting and innovative filmic techniques to address some of the most pressing political concerns in the world today: conflict, terrorism, migration, immigration, gender, and identity.

The course will pay attention to both the genres of the films presented, including science fiction, satire and comedy, fantasy, and action, as well as their themes. Students will be presented with a range of readings that probe some of the most pressing issues in the post-9/11 world and they will examine concepts like borders, maternity and childhood, mixed identities, inequality, childhood, city space, violence, and masculinities and femininities. Students will examine journalism and media images and photography alongside these films, to consider the role that media representation plays in our understanding of global identities in the 21st century. Linking film analysis to history and politics, students will gain a theoretical grounding in issues around contemporary global film audiences and markets, as well as interrogating their own personal responses to the texts presented.

## **TRANSLATION PROJECT (MODL312)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module gives students the opportunity to produce an extended translation of a previously untranslated text. Students will also formulate a translation brief/pitch, which their translation will seek to fulfil. This is an independent project in which student take the initiative in planning, researching and writing. Expert supervision and guidance is provided by members of staff in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures. As well as translating their text, students also produce a self-reflective commentary explaining and justifying the overall translation strategy. If you enjoy the challenge of translation and the creative possibilities offered by language, and if you are particularly suited to independent research, then this is the module for you.

MODL311 is a pre-requisite for MODL312: students will normally be required to achieve 60% or above in MODL311 in order to progress into MODL312. Students are not required to take both modules in the same language.

## **COMICS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS: MEMORY AND TRANSCULTURAL MOBILITY (MODL326)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

The module engages with comics and graphic novels as increasingly relevant media in contemporary transcultural processes, notably in the emerging of memories and rewriting of History. Students will develop critical skills to read stories in words and images, an understanding of the different genres and forms of graphic narratives in the 21st century, and practical (i.e. writing) skills to engage with the expanding relevance of comics in the cultural industries. Moving across a series of linguistic and cultural contexts in which comics have been developed and translated since the 20th century, the module considers comics and graphic novels as tool of communication and self-narration across languages and cultures.



## **SCREENING TEXTS (MODL328)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

A large proportion of films are based on written texts and this module will introduce you to a range of cinematic adaptations of literary works from across Modern Languages. Using adaptation theory to inform your analysis, you will have the opportunity to study excerpts from texts and consider the issues that arise from their adaptation as films. How does cinema convey a sense of the past or modify literary works from a different time period? How does it represent the gender roles which can be a central preoccupation of literature? How does film transcend language boundaries to bring modern-language texts to new audiences? On this module you will have the opportunity to explore these areas whilst also developing skills in film analysis, journalistic writing and academic writing.

## **RESEARCH PROJECT 2 (MODL322)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

MODL322 gives students the option of completing a 15-credit independent Research Project module in either in Semester 1 or Semester 2.

This module gives students the opportunity to carry out independent research in an area of interest to them. The topic should be related to one of the research specialisms of members of staff in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures. Students are expected to take the initiative in planning, researching and completing the dissertation. Supervision and guidance will be provided from a member of staff in the Department.

*Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.*

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## **CHOOSING THIS SUBJECT AS A COMBINED DEGREE**

If you split your degree between French and another subject area, you will study a French language module, at beginners' or advanced level, and a cultural module per semester, alongside two other modules in your other subject.

If you combine French with a non-language subject, you will spend the year abroad in a French speaking country as an assistant in a school, as a student at a university or on a work placement. If you combine French with another language, you will split the year abroad between the two countries.

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## **HOW YOU'LL LEARN**

You will be taught in a mixture of formal lectures, seminars and small group tutorials where a friendly environment prevails and great attention is paid to giving feedback on assessed work.

In language classes, we make every effort to ensure that we have a small number of students compared to competitor institutions, which means that academic staff are able to support students to achieve their full potential. All language modules involve continuous

assessment such as oral presentations, listening tests and grammar tests as well as exams. Tuition takes place in small groups with first-language speakers playing a prominent part and includes a range of skills such as listening, writing, speaking, interpreting and translation. Students are also expected to make regular use of our fully-refurbished Language Lounge to enhance their own study. We encourage our students to become independent learners, and support them through our dedicated library resources in the Sydney Jones Library which is open 24-hour in term time. We also make extensive use of our virtual learning environment VITAL where students can complete structured tasks outside the classroom.

## **HOW YOU'RE ASSESSED**

Performance throughout the year is carefully monitored and used to supplement examinations. For language, such a programme of continuous assessment involves evaluating performance in a variety of written and oral exercises. Other modules have a mix of essay and exam assessment. Our aim is always to assess by methods of evaluation appropriate to the skills being developed and to allow students to gain credit for good work done during the year.

Exams take place at two points in the academic year: at the end of semester one in January and at the end of the session in May, so that the workload is evenly distributed. As regards the final degree result, for language programmes, the second year's work counts for 20%, the work done during the year abroad (foreign exams or extended essay or portfolio) counts for another 10%, and the final year's work counts for 70%.

## **LIVERPOOL HALLMARKS**

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

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# Careers and employability

French graduates have the opportunity to gain employability skills and work experience, with a curriculum that delivers the skills employers are looking for. The Year Abroad also offers an opportunity to develop international experience as part of their degree studies.

French graduates go on to careers in all sectors worldwide, including:

- The media.
- Industry and commerce.
- Finance.
- Local and central government, administration.
- Translation and interpreting.
- Teaching in schools and universities.

Many of our students also undertake postgraduate study, either in our own department or for example, on a PGCE translation or law conversion course.

**82%** OF LANGUAGES, CULTURES AND FILM STUDENTS ARE IN WORK AND/OR FURTHER STUDY 15 MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION.

*Discover Uni, 2018-19.*

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# Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

## TUITION FEES

<b>UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)</b>	
Full-time place, per year	£9,250
Year in industry fee	£1,850
Year abroad fee	£1,385

<b>International fees</b>	
Full-time place, per year	£22,400

*Fees shown are for the academic year 2024/25. Please note that the Year Abroad fee also applies to the Year in China.*

If you are participating in a Study Abroad programme you will still be entitled to all of your normal student loans – and you may be entitled to extra funding from Student Finance. If you are studying a semester abroad, your normal tuition fee will be payable. If you are studying a full year abroad, your tuition fee for that year is reduced. All students participating in Study Abroad are entitled to University of Liverpool travel insurance.

[Information about funding opportunities available for Study Abroad.](#)

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## ADDITIONAL COSTS

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

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## **SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES**

We offer a range of scholarships and bursaries to provide tuition fee discounts and help with living expenses while at university.

Check out our [Liverpool Bursary](#), worth up to £2,000 per year for eligible UK students. Or for international students, our [Undergraduate Global Advancement Scholarship](#) offers a tuition fee discount of up to £5,000 for eligible international students starting an undergraduate degree from September 2024.

[Discover our full range of undergraduate scholarships and bursaries](#)

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# Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Your qualification	Requirements <a href="#">About our typical entry requirements</a>
A levels	BBB Applicants with the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) are eligible for a reduction in grade requirements. For this course, the offer is <b>BBB</b> with <b>B</b> in the EPQ. You may automatically qualify for reduced entry requirements through our <a href="#">contextual offers scheme</a> .
GCSE	4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics
Subject requirements	Requirements for 100%: A Level in French at grade B for entry to Advanced language; (no subject requirement for entry to Beginners' Language) Requirements for 50% with another subject outside Languages, Cultures and Film: A Level in French at grade B for entry to Advanced language; (no subject requirement for entry to Beginners' Language) Requirements for 50%/50% with two languages: A Level at Grade B in either of the two languages
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma	Applications encouraged. We evaluate each BTEC application on its merits, entry to Advanced language with an A level or equivalent in relevant language (no subject requirement for entry to Beginners' Language).
International Baccalaureate	30 including 6 at higher level in relevant language (no subject requirement for entry to Beginners' Language), with no score less than 4.

<b>Your qualification</b>	<b>Requirements</b> <a href="#">About our typical entry requirements</a>
Irish Leaving Certificate	H2, H2, H2, H3, H3, H3 (including H2 in relevant language for Advanced)
Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher	BBB in Advanced Highers including grade B in relevant language for entry to Advanced language; (no subject requirement for entry to Beginners' language) combinations of Advanced Highers and Scottish Highers are welcome.
Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced	Accepted with A Level grades BB including French (no subject requirement for entry to Beginners' Language).
Access	30 level 3 credits at Distinction and 15 level 3 credits at Merit for entry to Beginners' language
International qualifications	Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our entry requirements. Completing your Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the <a href="#">University of Liverpool International College</a> , means you're guaranteed a place on your chosen course.

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## ALTERNATIVE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
- Aged 20+ and without formal qualifications? The one-year [Go Higher](#)

- [diploma](#) qualifies you to apply for University of Liverpool arts, humanities and social sciences programmes
  - [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.
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**THE ORIGINAL**

**REDBRICK**

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