COURSE SPECIFICATION

BA (Hons) Communication and English Studies

Please Note: This course closes at the end of the 2019-20 session.

Academic Standards, Quality and Partnerships
Department of Student and Academic Administration

March 2018

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Please refer to the Course Specification Guidance Notes for guidance on completing this document.

Course Title	*Title of ALL named awards, including staged awards if applicable*
Final Award	*BA (Hons)*
Exit Awards	*CertHE, DipHE, BA (ordinary)*
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	*C1569F*
Mode of study	*Full time*
Mode of delivery	*Campus*
Normal length of course	*3 years*
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	*from September 2019 intake onwards*
Awarding Body	*University of Portsmouth*
Teaching Institution	*University of Portsmouth*
Faculty	*Humanities and Social Sciences*
School/Department/Subject Group	*School of Languages and Applied Linguistics*
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	*http://www.port.ac.uk/school-of-languages-and-area-studies/*
Course webpage including entry criteria	*http://www.port.ac.uk/courses/modern-languages-and-area-studies/ba-hons-communication-and-english-studies/*
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	*None*
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	*Levels 4, 5, 6*

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the Module Web Search for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

·   To enable students to acquire a sound knowledge and understanding of theories and the nature of communication and particularly linguistic communication.

·   To provide a multidisciplinary, critical understanding of language and communication by examining a range of theoretical perspectives and engaging in relevant practical investigations and analysis.

·   To enable students to acquire an informed sense of the similarities and differences between modes and systems of communication, including media and business communication, thus fostering cross-cultural and international perspectives.

·   To provide learners with a sound understanding and competence in English with opportunities for specialisation in subject areas relating to communication and language usage.

·   To provide all students with the opportunities to develop their linguistic skills in accordance with their needs and with their overall programme objectives.

For English as the target language (TL), the programme seeks to engage students in:

·   learning all four basic language skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking);

·   understanding language structures (grammar);

·   acquiring vocabulary and idiom;

·   developing English language skills to enable them to fully benefit from their subject study

·   an appreciation of Anglophone (or other foreign) culture and linguistic conventions.

·   To provide students with the opportunity to develop key skills

·   To provide students with the opportunity to develop business communication skills

·   To provide students with the skills and knowledge required to maximise careers and postgraduate study opportunities in the context of changing labour markets.

·   To provide a framework allowing students to follow a flexible and coherent programme of study.

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their Framework for Higher Education Qualifications document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below. The assessment methods detailed below include formative and summative assessment. Opportunities for formative assessment are provided in all modules and at all levels.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	The principles of communication theory and how they can be used to analyse and enhance spoken, written and digital communication in relevant global social, business, and cultural applications (according to the student's chosen specialism).	lectures, seminars, group work, workshops, guided independent	summaries, essays, reports, oral presentations, digital postings.

		study	
A2	The linguistic principles required to analyse the target language, e.g. vocabulary, grammar, and discourse.	lectures, seminars, group work, workshops, guided independent study	summaries, essays, reports, oral presentations, digital postings.
A3	The relationship between social, educational and cultural issues in the analysis of spoken & written text; syntax; vocabulary; standard & non-standard language; spoken interaction.	lectures and seminars involving group work and practical tasks, guided independent study	research report and oral PowerPoint presentation
A4	Specialist knowledge of appropriate structures, registers, forms, terminology and usage associated with English language in a professional or business communicative context.	lectures and seminars involving group work and practical tasks, guided independent study	Oral assessment and presentation; Research report
A5	Display specialist knowledge in the area researched for the Independent Project.	seminars involving group work and practical tasks, guided independent study	Research project

Add additional rows as required.

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Demonstrate critical understanding of contributory disciplines, theories and cultural perspectives, and the capacity to assess & compare the merits of different approaches.	Lectures, seminars and workshops, guided independent study	Oral assessment and presentation; Research project
B2	Describe, differentiate and compare concepts from different disciplines, different cultures, and/or interdisciplinary approaches as a means of understanding the area or subject under study.	seminars and independent research	notes, essays, research project
B3	Communicate information, ideas and arguments cogently and coherently, both orally and in writing, with due regard to the target audience.	seminars and independent research	notes, essays, research project
B4	Identify and analyse problems using relevant approaches, and reflect on the scope and limitations of what has been ascertained and understood.	Lectures, seminars and workshops, guided	Oral assessment and presentation; written

		independent study	coursework
B5	Demonstrate awareness of a diverse range of relevant information and research resources, including written, spoken and digital sources.	Lectures, seminars and workshops, guided independent study	Oral assessment and presentation; Research project

Add additional rows as required.

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Communicate fluently and appropriately, maintaining a high degree of grammatical accuracy, in the target language with competent or native speakers of the target language	Lectures and small group seminars and interactive classes.	Oral presentation, essay, exam
C2	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the structures, registers and, as appropriate, varieties of the target language in a variety of professional global contexts.	seminars, interactive classes	essay, analytical reports
C3	Use and critically interrogate a range of primary and secondary written, oral and visual resources.	seminars involving group work and practical tasks, guided independent study	research project
C4	Appreciate the similarities and differences between areas of the world, thus fostering cross cultural and international perspectives.	Lectures and small group seminars and interactive classes.	Oral presentation, essay, exam
C5	To be able to make specialised vocational use of their language skills though applied studies of translating.	Interactive classes and seminars.	Oral presentation, essay, exam

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Communicate information, ideas and arguments with clarity, coherence & persuasiveness.	Seminars, interactive classes, tutorials and independent study	Written submissions and oral presentations
D2	Gather, process and critically evaluate information from a variety of paper, audio-visual and electronic sources.	Analytical and research activities, both in groups and	group and individual presentations and research

				project
D3	Utilise proficiently a range of IT resources, including word processing, email, databases, text files, and internet sites	Workshops; guided and independent research and analytical tasks.		Oral assessment and presentations; project & research project, essays
D4	Manage tasks and times effectively; work independently & to deadlines within a guided framework, with a capacity to define problems and formulate questions and know how to set about finding answers.	Lectures, seminars and workshops, guided independent study		Oral assessment and presentations; project & research project
D5	Monitor own learning, progress and performance.	Seminars and tutorials		Research project
				Opportunities for formative assessment are offered at all levels

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth Academic Regulations will apply to this course.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the MyPort student portal.

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification
- University of Portsmouth Education Strategy 2016 - 2020
- University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning
- Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements
- Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for Languages & Related Studies, Area Studies, Linguistics
- Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff

Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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Document details

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