



Introduction to

BA (Hons) Languages and European Studies

Combined Honours Programme Specification Supplement

Primary Purpose

Course management, monitoring and quality assurance.

Secondary Purpose

Detailed information for students, staff and employers. Current students should refer to the related Course Handbook for further detail.

Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information given in this Programme Specification Supplement. We will endeavour to deliver the course in keeping with this Programme Specification Supplement; however, changes may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, review and update of units and courses. Where this activity leads to significant changes to units and courses, there will be prior consultation of students and others, wherever possible, and the University will take all reasonable steps to minimize disruption to students. It is also possible that the University may not be able to offer a unit or course for reasons outside of its control, for example; the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible. Where appropriate, the University will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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1. Named Award

BA (Hons) Languages and European Studies

2. Course Code (and UCAS Code if applicable)

C1613F (R900)

3. Awarding Body

University of Portsmouth

4. Teaching Institution

University of Portsmouth

5. Document Control Information

August 2016

6. Effective Session

2017-2018

7. Home Course Leader

Janet Bryant

8. Home Faculty

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

9. Home Department

School of Language and Area Studies

10. About this Programme Specification Supplement

This Combined Honours Course Programme Specification Supplement is designed for prospective students, registered students, University staff and potential employers. It provides an introduction to combined honours courses at the University of Portsmouth, and an overview of the course rationale, aims and learning outcomes.

A full Programme Specification is prepared for each half of the course. This supplement links the full Programme Specifications for each half of the Combined Honours Course. In the full Programme Specification documents (see A1. and A2. below), you will find more detailed information on the teaching, learning and assessment methods, learning outcomes, unit information, reference points, support for student learning and regulatory arrangements for each half of the Combined Honours.

A1. Combined Honours Combined Modern Languages Half - PSD

A2. Combined Honours European Studies Half - PSD

11. The Combined Honours Degree Course at the University of Portsmouth

At the University of Portsmouth, our Combined Honours Degrees are predetermined combinations of subjects (subject A and subject B). Most students will be registered on a joint award where the number of credits studied in both subjects is roughly the same (approximately 50/50). A small

number of Combined Honours courses are designated major/minor courses where subject A is the major subject and subject B is the minor subject (approximately 66/33). For a joint Combined Honours, a student may choose to undertake a dissertation in subject A or subject B; in the case of major/minor awards, the dissertation will always be in the major subject.

12. Course Management

For each course, one of the academic departments owning one of the two subject halves will be designated the 'home' department. The home department is often, **but not always**, the first named of the subject combination, see section 9 above for this course's home. The home department will be the students' base and is responsible for providing the academic course leader, personal tutor and student support. A deputy course leader is appointed from the 'away' department.

The University operates a two-tier course management structure at department level, which monitors students' progression and achievement at unit level and award level. At University level, there is a dedicated Combined Honours Management Board, which reviews annually overall student experience, monitors student achievement and advises on the introduction and withdrawal of new course combinations.

13. Course Rationale

In our lifetime, the borders, economy, political identity and demography of Europe have all dramatically changed. The expanding European Union plays an increasingly important role in our lives, whether we live within or beyond Europe's frontiers. European Studies at Portsmouth provides students with the tools to understand these transformations and their impacts. It is a rich and diverse course, linking together disciplines including history, politics, economics, law and cultural and social studies.

Lecturers will be experts in the field with a wide range of specialist knowledge. All lecturers are members of the University's internationally-recognised Centre for European and International Studies Research (CEISR), which is the **largest centre of its kind in the UK**. The cutting-edge research conducted by CEISR members ensures that students will only be taught the most up-to-date material.

The course is flexible allowing students to adjust the balance of study between languages and other subjects to suit their needs and interests. Students study European History, focusing on the post-war period, and also learn about how the European institutions (the Commission, the Parliament, the Council of Ministers and the European Court of Justice) work and how European policies are developed and how they impact on all aspects of daily life.

And the great advantage of studying in Portsmouth is that it is situated on the South coast, excellent for students who want to cross the Channel to gain experience of the cultures they are studying.

Languages and European Studies also allows students to spend the third year either studying in one of the countries of the European Union or working in Brussels at the European Commission.

14. Educational Aims of the Course

- To provide students with knowledge and understanding of the country/ies where their target language(s) is/are spoken using a range of appropriate disciplinary or interdisciplinary approaches.
- To provide students with a sound understanding of contemporary affairs in one (single) or two (combined) language areas, with opportunities for specialisation in historical studies (including social and cultural), politics and social science, or business and economics.
- To enable students to acquire an informed sense of the similarities and differences between areas, thus fostering cross-cultural and international perspectives.
- To equip graduates with the necessary transferable skills for lifelong learning and flexibility in the context of changing labour markets

- To provide students with the skills and knowledge required to maximise careers and postgraduate study opportunities
- To provide all students with the opportunities to develop their linguistic skills in accordance with their needs and with their overall programme objectives. For each target language (TL), the programme seeks to engage students in: Using the target language for the purposes of understanding, expression and communication in written, oral and aural forms.
- Attaining explicit knowledge of the language (grammar, idiom, registers, and vocabulary).
- Acquiring knowledge of aspects of the cultures, communities and societies where the language is used.
- Developing intercultural awareness and understanding.
- To enable students to acquire a sound knowledge and understanding of Europe and its member states past and present.
- To provide a multidisciplinary, critical understanding of Europe and its member states in the context of the European integration process by examining its historical, political, economic, legal and cultural dimensions.
- To enable students to acquire an informed sense of the similarities and differences between areas, thus fostering cross-cultural and international perspectives.
- To provide students with the opportunity to develop key skills
- To equip graduates with the necessary transferable skills for lifelong learning and flexibility in the context of changing labour markets
- To provide students with the skills and knowledge required to maximise careers and postgraduate study opportunities

15. Employability Statement

Employability skills will be delivered (and assessed where applicable) throughout the curriculum, with structured support between **Level 4** and **Level 6**. Core units at each level will include opportunities to acquire and develop most of the academic and employability skills that are listed in Annex 5 of the 2012 Curriculum Framework.