



Introduction to

BA (Hons) International Development Studies and Languages

Combined Honours Programme Specification Supplement

Primary Purpose

Course management 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 Awards

BA (Hons) International Development Studies and/or with Languages

2. Course Code (and UCAS Code if applicable)

C2280F/C2418F (LR28)

3. Awarding Body

University of Portsmouth

4. Teaching Institution

University of Portsmouth

5. Document Control Information

September 2017

6. Effective Session

2017/2018

7. Home Course Leader

Dr Ben Garner

8. Home Faculty

Humanities and Social Sciences

9. Home Department

School of Languages 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.

A.1 BA (Hons) International Development Studies – Combined Honours Half

A.2 BA (Hons) Languages – Combined Honours Half

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

The significance of development in the twenty-first century goes far beyond poverty as we become increasingly aware of the inter-connectedness of our world. Growing economic globalisation, the challenges of global governance, trans-national concerns such as climate change and migration, and our ability to relate to other cultures, are all issues that relate to international development. Gender relations, unequal access to resources, political development, and the international balance of power are also central to our understanding of development and the developing world today.

A degree in International Development Studies and Languages provides an opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of these complex issues, and to acquire a range of skills that are valued by public and private sector employers and the voluntary sector. Core units in economics, human geography and international relations expand and deepen the students' knowledge and understanding of development theories and practices. Language study is an integral part of this degree programme. French, Mandarin, and Spanish can all be studied to degree level; other languages can also be studied as options. Language skills play an essential part in inter-cultural awareness. Moreover, many development organisations and international NGOs now require high-level language skills in at least one foreign language so the inclusion of language in the programme adds to an important attribute to the student skill set.

Awareness of the history and cultures of a wide range of developing countries and regions is conveyed through Area Studies units. By studying North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, Central America and South America, China and South East Asia and Russia, students gain a broad understanding of the developing world, and an appreciation of the diversity between regions and countries, and their relationship. Awareness of and sensitivity to other cultures is further developed through a range of units on inter-cultural communication and managing across cultures. Other transferable skills highly valued by employers are provided through elective units. These include volunteering in the community, social enterprise, advocacy and basic legal skills.

14. Educational Aims of the Course

- To enable students to acquire knowledge and understanding of a wide range of international development issues in the 21st century
- To provide students with a curriculum that covers a wide range of developing countries and regions through units in history, politics, economics, international relations, and human geography
- To provide students with knowledge and understanding of developing countries and emerging economies using a range of appropriate disciplinary or interdisciplinary approaches

- 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 so as to maximise careers and postgraduate study opportunities
- To provide a challenging and stimulating study environment
- To provide a framework allowing students to follow a flexible coherent programme of study by combining two subject areas and developing specialist interests and knowledge
- 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

15. Employability Statement

Employability skills will be delivered (and assessed where applicable) throughout the curriculum. We will provide structured support to enable students to develop their employability skills from L4 to L6. Core units at each level will include most of the academic and employability skills that are listed in Annex 5 of the 2012 Curriculum Framework. In addition, some course teams will have relevant work-related units in the curriculum. Career management skills (as a subset of employability skills) will be embedded throughout the curriculum.