COURSE SPECIFICATION

BA (Hons) International Development and Languages

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

July 2021

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	*International Development and Languages*
Final Award	*BA (Hons)*
Exit Awards	*CertHE, DipHE, Ordinary*
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	*International Development and Languages - C2842F /U2482FTC*
Mode of study	*Full Time*
Mode of delivery	*Campus, with mandatory Year Abroad*
Normal length of course	*4 Years, including mandatory Year Abroad for C2842F*
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	*From September 2020 intake onwards*
Awarding Body	*University of Portsmouth*
Teaching Institution	*University of Portsmouth*
Faculty	*Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences*
School/Department/Subject Group	*School of Area Studies, History, Politics and Literature*
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	*https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/structure-and-governance/organisational-structure/our-academic-structure/faculty-of-humanities-and-social-sciences/school-of-area-studies-history-politics-and-literature*
Course webpage including entry criteria	*https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/ba-hons-international-development-and-languages*
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	*n/a*
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	*Level 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 Course and Module Catalogue for further information on the course structure and modules.

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 knowledge and understanding of developing countries and emerging economies using a range of appropriate disciplinary or interdisciplinary approaches.
- To equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be able to critically appraise key approaches in contemporary development policy and practice.
- To enable students to acquire an informed sense of the similarities and differences between areas, situated within a critical understanding of contemporary global development challenges, thus fostering cross-cultural and global perspectives.
- To equip students with a global perspective, fostering informed citizenship and promoting diversity and respect. This includes providing opportunities for international exchange and work placement, as well as fostering awareness of global ethical practice and social justice issues.
- To equip graduates with the necessary transferable skills for lifelong learning and flexibility in the context of changing, global labour markets.
- To provide students with the skills and knowledge required to maximize careers and postgraduate study opportunities.
- To provide opportunities for students to gain experience and skills relevant to employment (or further study) within the international development sector by choosing relevant work placement/work based learning/study options.
- 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 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
- To provide students with the opportunity to spend time in a country where their target language is spoken, in order to develop their linguistic and cultural competencies and their knowledge of the societies where their language is used

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.

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The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. **Knowledge and understanding of:**

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	The concepts, theories and methods used in the study of international development to the analysis of development ideas, practices and issues relative to the historical and contemporary context.	These outcomes are developed through a combination of lectures, seminars, workshops and tutorials/supervision sessions, and the provision of learning resources. Delivery method varies based on the topics being covered. Students also have the opportunity to develop these knowledges and understandings through optional placement and other work experiences. The curriculum is enhanced through opportunities to hear from external speakers who are invited to inform on specialist and current issues in the field.	A variety of assessments – coursework and exams - are used to demonstrate the achievement of these learning outcomes, appropriate to the particular knowledge and understanding that is being assessed. Coursework includes presentations, reports, simulations and portfolios.
A2	the origins, evolution and contemporary dynamics of international development policy and practice.		
A3	The relationship between global processes and local development challenges, and the diversity of the ways that these are experienced.		
A4	The target language for the purposes of understanding, expression and communication		
A5	The cultures, communities and societies where the language is used		

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Construct reasoned argument, synthesise relevant information and exercise critical judgement.	These outcomes are developed through lectures, discussions (normally in seminars and workshops) and via supported independent learning (including training in research methods, and the completion of a major piece of independent research under supervision). The delivery method varies based on the topics being covered.	These outcomes are assessed via examinations, however they are primarily assessed through coursework (both individual and group submissions). The coursework uses an array of methods including presentations, reports, simulations, portfolios, the production of a development index, an extended piece of independent research (dissertation).
B2	Gather, organise and deploy evidence, data and information from a variety of secondary and primary sources.		
B3	Identify, investigate, analyse, formulate and advocate solutions to problems.		
B4	Understand the linguistic principles required to analyse the target language(s)		

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Use communication and information technology, including audiovisual technology, for the retrieval and presentation of information and where appropriate, statistical or numerical information.	These outcomes are developed in particular through informed group discussions and debates, simulations, data workshops, written and oral feedback and tutorial/supervision sessions to discuss this, and opportunities to gain practical work experience through a placement year and/or other periods of work experience.	These outcomes are assessed through a variety of means suited to particular tasks. These include examinations and coursework (assessed essays and reports, simulations, individual/group projects and presentations).
C2	Demonstrate awareness of cultural assumptions, including their own, and the ways in which these impact on an interpretation of others in the context of international development engagement		
C3	Reflect on their own learning and seek and make use of constructive feedback		
C4	Use and present material in the target language and in one's own language in written and oral forms in a clear and effective manner		

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Communicate effectively and fluently in speech and writing, in their own language and their other target language of study. Employers require international development graduates to be able to communicate ideas effectively to a varied audience: this ability to translate complex ideas to a wide audience, and particularly across different languages and cultures, is a particularly valued skill.	Transferable skills are developed through a combination of lectures, group & personal tutorials, seminars and workshops, presentations, written and oral feedback, individual and group tasks, and guided independent study.	Essays, reports, portfolios, individual and group presentations, dissertation.
D2	Become mature, independent learners who can demonstrate initiative, self-organisation and time management attributes.		
D3	Collaborate with others to achieve common goals through, for example, group work, group projects, and group presentations. Employers regard collaboration and the identification of common goals highly. This is especially so as public sector organisations and other agencies increasingly work together, and multi-agency teams are developed.		**Opportunities for formative assessment are available at all levels of the course**

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 Strategy](#)
- [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, Cultures and Societies](#) and [Politics and International Relations](#)
- [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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