COURSE SPECIFICATION

BA (Hons) Applied Languages

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Course Title	BA (Hons) Applied Languages
Final Award	BA
Exit Awards	CertHE, DipHE, Ordinary
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	U0392FTC/ Q140
Mode of study	Full time
Mode of delivery	Campus
Normal length of course	4 years
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	From September 2023 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 Education, Languages and Linguistics
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	School of Education, Languages & Linguistics| University of Portsmouth
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/ba-hons-applied-languages
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	The optional MFL with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) route is approved by the National College for Teaching and Leadership (NCTL)
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 provide students with a critical approach to language, communication and applied language skills in two languages from French, German, Spanish, Chinese (Mandarin), and English as a Foreign Language.
- To provide all students with the opportunities to develop their linguistic skills in accordance with their needs and with their overall programme objectives. This includes all four basic language skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking); understanding language structures (grammar); acquisition of vocabulary and idiom; appreciation of the foreign cultures (intercultural awareness) and linguistic conventions.
- To apply language skills to the specific domains of professional communication, translation and/or interpreting, and Teaching English as a Foreign Language.
- To enable students to acquire an understanding of cross-cultural management and communication in an international environment.
- To provide students with a detailed understanding of the fields of communication and digital communication.
- To prepare students for further research in language or linguistics-related areas.
- To equip students with the necessary transferable skills for lifelong learning, employability 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 students with the opportunity to gain an externally accredited qualification in the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language (modules recognised by Trinity College London).
- To provide students with the opportunity to be recommended for Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) by completing the optional Modern Foreign Languages with Qualified Teacher Status (MFL with QTS) pathway.

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.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	The effective use of the target languages for social, academic and professional purposes, and the linguistic principles and terminology required to analyse and describe these languages.	Seminars, language labs work, group work, independent study, placements and tutorials	Portfolios, examinations, presentations, summaries, recordings, news broadcast, mock conferences, interviews and blogs. Opportunities for formative assessment are available at all levels
A2	Intercultural awareness and understanding of the similarities and dissimilarities of the cultures, communities and societies where the languages are used in comparison with their own. This will normally be significantly enhanced by a period of residence in the countries of the target	Seminars, language labs work, group work, independent study, Global Café, placements and tutorials	Portfolios, presentations, summaries, recordings, news broadcast, mock conferences,

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
	languages, or an equivalent experience.		interviews and blogs. Opportunities for formative assessment are available at all levels
A3	Theory and application of linguistic analysis in different domains such as language acquisition, linguistics, translation or interpreting.	Seminars, laboratory work, court visits, authentic materials, group work, independent study, placements, tutorials and mock projects	Portfolios, essays, translations, presentations and commentaries. Opportunities for formative assessment available at all levels
A4	Specialist knowledge in the area researched for the Research Project.	Lectures, tutorials, workshops, placements and independent study	Research Project and draft research project (for formative purposes)
A5*	Approaches to the practice and theory underpinning language teaching, including learning and teaching styles, methods relevant to the subject content, and classroom management.	Lectures, seminars, observations, group work, independent study, tutorials and placements	Portfolios, commentaries, essays and presentations. Opportunities for formative assessment available at all levels

Students who additionally take the optional MFL with ITT pathway will be able to demonstrate this Education-based learning outcome (A5), although this can also be met by students who do not take this pathway but choose certain optional modules, such as Introduction to Teaching.

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Demonstrate ability to use language creatively and accurately, both orally and in writing, in different contexts.	Seminars, language labs, interpreting suite, group work, independent study, placements, tutorials and mock conferences	Portfolios, examinations, presentations, summaries, recordings, news broadcast, mock conferences, interviews and blogs. Opportunities for formative assessment are available at all levels
B2	Show awareness of the interaction between and influence of cultural norms and assumptions, meaning and judgement in the analysis of spoken and written texts.	Seminars, language labs, interpreting suite, group work, independent study, placements, tutorials and mock conferences	Portfolios, examinations, presentations, summaries, recordings, news broadcast, mock conferences, interviews and blogs. Opportunities for formative assessment available at all levels

B3	Demonstrate critical understanding of contributory disciplines and theories, and the capacity to assess & compare the merits of different approaches.	Lectures, seminars, group work, independent study, placements and tutorials	Portfolios, essays, examinations, presentations, interviews and blogs. Opportunities for formative assessment available at all levels
B4	Reflect critically on the relationship between theory and professional practice.	Lectures, seminars, workshops, group work, independent study, placements and tutorials	Portfolios, essays, examinations, presentations and blogs. Opportunities for formative assessment available at all levels
B5*	Deal with educational issues ethically, systematically and creatively using principal sources of educational information and data; and make sound judgements based on information.	Lectures, seminars, workshops, group work, independent study, internship, placements, tutorials and observations	Portfolios, essays, commentaries, presentations and lesson planning. Opportunities for formative assessment available at all levels

Students who additionally take the optional MFL with ITT pathway will be able to demonstrate this Education-based learning outcome (B5), although this can also be met by students who do not take this pathway but choose certain optional modules, such as Introduction to Teaching.

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 in a professional context.	Seminars, language labs, interpreting suite, group work, independent study, placements, tutorials and mock conferences	Portfolios, examinations, presentations, summaries, recordings, news broadcast, mock conferences, interviews and blogs. Opportunities for formative assessment available at all levels available at all levels
C2	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the structures, registers and, as appropriate, varieties of the target language.	Seminars, language labs, interpreting suite, group work, independent study, placements and tutorials	Portfolios, examinations, presentations, summaries, recordings, news broadcast, mock conferences, interviews and blogs. Opportunities for formative assessment available at all levels available at all levels
C3			

	Make specialised vocational use of their language skills through applied studies of translation or interpreting, using target language source materials appropriately.	Seminars, language labs, interpreting suite, group work, independent study, placements and tutorials	Portfolios, examinations, presentations, summaries, recordings, news broadcast, mock conferences, interviews and blogs. Opportunities for formative assessment available at all levels available at all levels.
C4	Teach English as a Foreign Language at the initial level (students taking the modules accredited by Trinity College London)	Seminars, observations, teaching sessions, group work and independent work	Portfolios, presentations, essays and teaching practice. Opportunities for formative assessment.
C5*	Improve their own teaching, by evaluating it, learning from the effective practice of others and from evidence; and demonstrate that they treat pupils consistently with respect and consideration.	Seminars, observations, teaching sessions, group work and independent work	Portfolios, presentations, essays, teaching practice and reflections. Opportunities for formative assessment.

*Students who additionally take the optional MFL with ITT pathway will be able to demonstrate this Education-based learning outcome (C5), although this can also be met by students who do not take this pathway but choose certain optional modules, such as Introduction to Teaching.

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Communicate, present, and interact effectively and accurately, being able to gather, process and critically evaluate information from written, spoken and audio-visual sources.	Seminars, language labs, interpreting suite, group work, independent study, placements and tutorials	Portfolios, examinations, presentations, summaries, recordings, news broadcast, mock conferences, interviews and blogs. Opportunities for formative assessment available at all levels available at all levels
D2	Use a variety of computer-based skills ranging from basic competences such as data analysis to web-based technology and digital multimedia.	Seminars, language labs, interpreting suite, Learning Resource Centre, group work, independent study and placements	Portfolios, presentations, recordings, news broadcast, mock conferences, blogs and magazine production. Opportunities for formative assessment

			available at all levels available at all levels
D3	Work with a significant amount of independence, demonstrated in self-direction, self-management and intellectual initiative both in learning and studying, and in time management.	Group work, independent study and placement	Portfolios, essays, examinations, presentations, summaries, recordings and blogs. Opportunities for formative assessment available at all levels available at all levels
D4	Develop cross-cultural awareness and intercultural communication.	Seminars, group work, workshops, Global Café and placements	Portfolio, presentations, exams, news broadcast and interviews.
D5	Develop a range of relevant professional skills by engaging in simulated or authentic work-related learning.	Seminars, workshops and placements	Portfolios, presentations, recordings, news broadcast, mock conferences, interviews and blogs. Opportunities for formative assessment available at all levels available 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.

In addition to these University support services this course also provides dedicated induction activities and student tutorial programmes which are specifically designed to support the transition of students from college or other backgrounds to studying at University. The course is also supported by Learning Development Tutors, who support students in development of their academic skills, and by the Language Corner, a service that provides language skills support. Students can also benefit from attending the Global Café and practise their target languages with native speakers.

Students in this course also have access to the Learning Resource Centre, where they will find a wide range of language materials and resources to support the development of their language learning.

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 2025 - 2030](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#) for Languages, Cultures and Societies
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#) for Linguistics
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#) for Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#) for Education
- [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](#).

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