

**BA Honours Arabic and International Relations
Lemba de Miranda**

I chose to study at the University of Westminster because it offers the combination of Arabic with International Relations and both departments have an excellent reputation. After graduating I would like to use my language and analytical skills in the field of media and the arts.



Other related areas/courses you might be interested in:
English (p138) • International Business with (Languages) BA Honours (p88)
Politics and International Relations (p189) • Social and Historical Studies (p201)

At Westminster we aim to train competent linguists in Modern Languages ready to enter graduate employment. We place particular emphasis on employability and the contemporary cultural context, and offer high quality teaching in all language skills. We offer French, Spanish, German and Russian on these awards. You can combine any two of these languages with one other. You must have studied at least one of your chosen languages to A Level standard or equivalent. We accept students at three different entry points for these awards: Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced. Restrictions apply and all languages combinations are offered subject to timetable availability. Please note that we may need to test you to determine your entry point.

Course content

You will achieve a good or high level of linguistic competence in your chosen languages in all four skill areas (reading, writing, listening and speaking), and demonstrate a good or high degree of proficiency in mediating between your foreign language and English. You will be able to function in different cultural situations and acquire the generic qualities and skills of a humanities graduate, in particular in the areas of interpersonal communication and organisational skills, flexibility and tolerance, analysis and argument, autonomy and team working, and team management. These skills and qualities will put you in a very strong position in a competitive job market.

Depending on your particular combination or degree you will study modules in one or both languages from one or more of the following strands: Language Development (teaching of the four skills by native and non-native speakers), Languages in Action (focus on professional context and communication skills in and out of the target language and English) and Area Studies (cultural context).

Year abroad

An exciting and integral part of BA Honours Modern Languages and some other language awards is the year spent studying abroad. This is designed to enhance your language skills and allows you to experience the culture of the language(s) you are studying. Usually you are placed in universities with which we have formal exchange agreements, and follow a programme of study agreed beforehand. The option of working as a language assistant in secondary schools abroad also exists for those whose first language is English, and shorter placements are available.

We currently have exchange agreements with more than 40 universities in the European Union and beyond. Some of these are particularly unusual and exciting. For example, students of Spanish may go to Argentina or Mexico as well as Spain; students of French to Martinique, La Réunion and Tunisia, as well as France and Belgium; students of Arabic to Egypt, Jordan and Syria and students of Chinese to a wide range of universities in China. These examples are given for the purpose of illustration only; the arrangements for the year abroad may vary considerably from year to year due to factors beyond the University's control, but we do guarantee an appropriate placement for every student enrolled on this course. You do not pay tuition fees to the University of Westminster during your year abroad. However, depending on your placement, you may incur tuition costs while abroad, particularly in countries outside the European Union.

Length of course

Language Studies BA Honours: three-year, full-time or four to six years, part-time
 Modern Languages BA Honours: four-year, full-time sandwich degree, or five to nine years, part-time, including a full academic year abroad

UCAS codes

See p158

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

Our teaching and learning methods seek to foster confidence in language and communication skills, to promote the ability to analyse and evaluate critically diverse and complex forms of information and argument, and to encourage an interdisciplinary approach to cross-cultural practices. Teaching methods are student-centred, most notably through the explicit use of task-based and enquiry-based approaches to learning. Assessment will usually involve course work and an examination.

Associated careers

Our graduates have found employment as translators, interpreters and teachers (both in foreign languages and English as a Foreign Language), and in various other sectors, such as law, marketing, journalism, the Civil Service, administration, international business and financial services. Many have built on the skills acquired throughout the degree and opted for a postgraduate qualification.

Typical offer for September 2009

| Qualification type | Grade/points |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| A Levels | BCC |
| International Baccalaureate | 28 points |
| BTEC National Diploma | DMM |

See also entry requirements on p48.

Language and Other Disciplines BA Honours

At Westminster we aim to train competent linguists in modern languages ready to enter graduate employment. We place particular emphasis on employability and the contemporary cultural context, and offer high quality teaching in all language skills. We offer Arabic, Chinese, German, French, Spanish and Russian with five other disciplines – English Language, English Literature, Linguistics, International Relations and History – as part of this award.

We accept students at four different entry points: Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced and Proficient. Proficient speakers can only study a minor in the chosen language, and combinations with History are only available to Intermediate (post-A) entrants. Russian and German are only available to Intermediate (post-A) entrants or higher. Please note that we may need to test you to determine your entry point.

Course content

You will acquire a sound level of linguistic competence in your chosen language in all four skill areas (reading, writing, listening and speaking), and demonstrate a sound degree of proficiency in mediating between your chosen language and English. You will be able to function in different cultural situations and acquire the generic qualities and skills of a humanities graduate, particularly in the areas of interpersonal communication and organisational skills, flexibility and tolerance, analysis and argument, autonomy and team working, and team management. These skills and qualities will put you in a very strong position in a competitive job market.

You will study language modules from one or more of the following strands: Language Development (teaching of the four skills by native and non-native speakers), Languages in Action (focus on professional context and communication skills in and out of the target language and English) and Area Studies (cultural context).

Depending on your particular combination you will study a set of core modules or a set of core and optional modules in your other discipline.

Year abroad

If you are studying your language at Beginner or Intermediate Level you have the opportunity to spend a full academic year abroad at a partner institution and/or approved form of employment in a country where your chosen language is the official language. Further information is available under BA Honours Modern Languages.

Length of course

Three- or four-year, full-time; four to six years, or five to nine years, part-time with an optional year abroad

UCAS codes

See p158

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

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Associated careers

Our graduates have found employment as translators, interpreters and teachers (both in foreign languages and English as a Foreign Language), and in various other sectors, such as law, marketing, journalism, the Civil Service, administration, international business and financial services. Many have opted for a postgraduate qualification.

Typical offer for September 2009

| Qualification type | Grade/points |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| A Levels | BC/BCC |
| International Baccalaureate | 28 points |
| BTEC National Diploma | DMM |

See also entry requirements on p48.

Translation BA Honours

At Westminster we aim to train competent linguists in modern languages ready to enter graduate employment. We place particular emphasis on employability and the contemporary cultural context, and this course gives you professionally-orientated training in the skills, knowledge and competencies which will allow you (typically following further postgraduate training) to develop a career as a professional translator.

The course offers Arabic, Chinese, French, Polish and Spanish as main languages, which you can combine with another language or Linguistics. For Arabic, Chinese and Polish, we only accept Proficient speakers of these languages to this award. In Spanish and French we accept Intermediate (post-A), Advanced and Proficient speakers. This is a linguistically challenging course and we may need to assess you in order to determine your entry point and suitability.

Course content

In your major language you will study modules from the following strands: Languages in Action (focus on professional context and communication skills in and out of your chosen language), Bilingual Translation (theory of translation and their application) and Translation as Cultural Practice (issues of translation in culture and society). You will study Language Development modules for your second language or a set of core modules for Linguistics.

Year abroad

If you are studying your second language from Beginner or Intermediate Level, then you have the option of spending a full year abroad for this language. Further information is available under BA Honours Modern Languages (see p155).

Length of course

Three- or four-year, full-time; four to six years, or five to nine years, part-time, with an optional year abroad

UCAS code

See p158

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

Our teaching and learning methods seek to foster confidence in language and communication skills, to promote the ability to analyse and evaluate critically diverse and complex forms of information and argument, and to encourage an interdisciplinary approach to cross-cultural practices. Teaching methods are student-centred, most notably through the explicit use of task-based and enquiry-based approaches to learning. Assessment will usually involve course work and an examination.

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Typical offer for September 2009

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| A Levels | BC/BCC |
| International Baccalaureate | 28 points |
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See also entry requirements on p48.

Combination UCAS codes

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|---|------|
| Arabic and English Language | QTH6 |
| Arabic and English Literature | QT36 |
| Arabic and Linguistics | TQ61 |
| Chinese and English Language | TQ13 |
| Chinese and English Literature | QT31 |
| Chinese and Linguistics | TQ11 |
| English Language and French | QRH1 |
| English Language and German | QR32 |
| English Language and Russian | QR37 |
| English Language and Spanish | QRH4 |
| English Literature and French | QR31 |
| English Literature and German | QR3F |
| English Literature and Russian | QR3R |
| English Literature and Spanish | QR34 |
| French and Linguistics | RQ11 |
| French and Spanish | RR14 |
| German and French | RR21 |
| German and Russian | RR27 |
| German and Spanish | RR24 |
| History and French | RV11 |
| History and German | VR12 |
| History and Russian | VR17 |
| History and Spanish | VR14 |
| International Relations and Arabic | ITG6 |
| International Relations and Chinese | IT2C |
| International Relations and French | LR21 |
| International Relations and German | LR22 |
| International Relations and Russian | LR27 |
| International Relations and Spanish | LR24 |
| Journalism and Contemporary Arabic Studies | PT56 |
| Journalism and Contemporary Chinese Studies | PT51 |
| Linguistics and German | QR12 |
| Linguistics and Russian | QR17 |
| Linguistics and Spanish | RQ41 |
| Russian and French | RR71 |
| Russian and Spanish | RR74 |
| Translation Studies (Arabic) | QT96 |
| Translation Studies (Chinese) | QT91 |
| Translation Studies (French) | QR91 |
| Translation Studies (Polish) | QR97 |
| Translation Studies (Spanish) | QR94 |

For further information about Languages courses visit the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Languages website at www.westminster.ac.uk/sshl