

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES AND LANGUAGES

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN AND APPLIED LANGUAGES

The School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Languages is large, multi-disciplinary and located in central London, the ideal context for its exciting portfolio of courses. The quality of teaching and the supportive environment provided in all subjects is reflected in excellent national subject assessment scores and underpinned by vibrant activity in research and scholarship across the School.

Languages have been taught at the University of Westminster since 1856 and there has been a strong association with the promotion and teaching of languages ever since. An acknowledged centre of professional excellence in languages, the University of Westminster is unique in the UK for being recognised by the professional interpreters' association (AIIC). In recent national league tables, scores have been high in language teaching, notably in French and Linguistics. The Central London location is excellent for socialising and immersing in the life of a multi-cultural world city, as well as making full use of the opportunities for foreign language cultural events available all over London.

Undergraduate degree programmes in the Department of Modern and Applied Languages offer an increasing range of language and subject combinations, attracting students from around the world, creating a stimulating and creative learning experience. Alongside degree courses, the Department also offers a university-wide language scheme, Polylang, which allows undergraduate students from any discipline to study a language. Established in 1990, Polylang is one of the oldest and biggest institution-wide language programmes in the UK.

Modules

Please note that the University of Westminster is unable to guarantee the availability of the modules in this catalogue. All modules are subject to change, but are as accurate as possible at the time of going to print.

The Undergraduate Languages Programme offers modules in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Russian, Spanish as part of the BA Modern Languages degree and associated courses. These modules are appropriate for students formally studying one of these languages and cultural areas as a substantial part of their home course. The modules offered include Language Development, Language in Action and Area Studies.

Area Studies modules are taught in English and language experience is not necessary. Language Development modules cover grammar and the four skills, while Languages in Action modules offer training in the applications of bilingual communication. Languages in Action modules include Language in Practice and Language for Work modules, which practise the same skills at different levels of language achievement mapped onto the Common European Framework (see below for details).

Please note that the Language Development and Languages in Action modules offered at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 have a pre-requisite requirement for students to have already completed specific modules or equivalents at a lower level as they form part of a structure and intensive programme of language acquisition. Students interested in taking one of these modules will be assessed by staff from the Undergraduate Languages Programme upon arrival to ensure correct placement.

The Polylang Open Language Programme offers modules to students from any disciplinary background in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese and Spanish. Polylang modules are worth half credits each semester (i.e. 7.5 UK credits instead of 15 UK credits). If you are studying at the University of Westminster for the full academic year and take a Polylang module, it is advisable that you begin it in September and take it for the full academic year. Polylang modules are worth 15 UK credits for the full academic year. Polylang

Grade 1 modules are at beginner level from September (i.e. the start of Semester 1). It is therefore not possible for a beginner to join a Polylang Grade 1 module from the start of Semester 2. Your ability to join a Polylang module will be assessed by the Polylang Team. You will be advised at your registration appointment when and where to go for this.

UNDERGRADUATE LANGUAGES PROGRAMME

ARABIC

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1ARX480	Arabic Language Development 1	1	4	15
1ARX580	Arabic Language Development 2	1	5	15
Various	Arabic Language Development 3	1	5/6	15
1ARX681	Arabic Language Development 4	1	6	15

LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1ARA483	Arabic Language in Practice 1	1	4	15
1ARA485	Arabic Language for Work 1	1	4	15
1ARA583	Arabic Language in Practice 3	1	5	15
1ARA585	Arabic language for Work 3	1	5	15
1ARA685	Arabic Language in Practice 5	1	6	15
1ARA687	Arabic Language for Work 5	1	6	15

AREA STUDIES MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1ARA464	Culture and society (Arab World) I: Analysing Issues in Historical and Social Development	1	4	15
1ARA566	Islam and Modernity in the Arab World	1	5	15

CHINESE

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1CHX480	Chinese Language Development 1	1	4	15
1CHX580	Chinese Language Development 2	1	5	15
1CHX680	Chinese Language Development 3	1	6	15
1CHX681	Chinese Language Development 4	1	6	15

LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1CHI483	Chinese Language in Practice 1	1	4	15
1CHI485	Chinese Language for Work 1	1	4	15
1CHI583	Chinese Language in Practice 3	1	5	15

1CHI585	Chinese language for Work 3	1	5	15
1CHI685	Chinese Language in Practice 5	1	6	15
1CHI687	Chinese Language for Work 5	1	6	15

AREA STUDIES MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1CHI464	Introduction to Chinese Culture and Society I: Politics and History	1	4	15
1CHI566	China's Century of Revolutions, from 1895 to 1980	1	5	15
1CHI671	China and the World: From Mao Zedong to Hu Jintao	1	6	15

FRENCH

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1FRX480	French Language Development 1	1	4	15
Various	French Language Development 2	1	4/5	15
Various	French Language Development 3	1	5/6	15
1FRX681	French Language Development 4	1	6	15
1FRX683	French Language Development 5	1	6	15

LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1FRE483	French Language in Practice 1	1	4	15
1FRE485	French Language for Work 1	1	4	15
1FRE583	French Language in Practice 3	1	5	15
1FRE585	French language for Work 3	1	5	15
1FRE685	French Language in Practice 5	1	6	15
1FRE687	French Language for Work 5	1	6	15
1FRX689	French Translation 3	1	6	15

AREA STUDIES MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1FRE466	Introduction to French History and Society: Analysing Issues in Historical and Social Development	1	4	15
1FRE568	Modernity and the French Republican Tradition	1	5	15

GERMAN

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1GEX481	German Language Development 2	1	4	15

1GEX581	German Language Development 3	1	5	15
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LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1GER485	German Language for Work 1	1	4	15
1GER585	German Language for Work 3	1	5	15

AREA STUDIES MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
TBC	Introduction to German History and Politics	1	4	15

RUSSIAN

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1RUX481	Russian Language Development 2	1	4	15
1RUX581	Russian Language Development 3	1	5	15

LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1RUS485	Russian Language for Work 1	1	4	15
1RUS585	Russian Language for Work 3	1	5	15

AREA STUDIES MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1RUS488	Introduction to Russian Culture and Society I: History and Politics	1	4	15
1RUS589	The Soviet Experiment in Perspective	1	5	15

SPANISH

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1SPX480	Spanish Language Development 1	1	4	15
Various	Spanish Language Development 2	1	4/5	15
Various	Spanish Language Development 3	1	5/6	15
1SPX681	Spanish Language Development 4	1	6	15
1SPX683	Spanish Language Development 5	1	6	15

LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1SPA483	Spanish Language in Practice 1	1	4	15
1SPA485	Spanish Language for Work 1	1	4	15
1SPA583	Spanish Language in Practice 3	1	5	15
1SPA585	Spanish language for Work 3	1	5	15
1SPA685	Spanish Language in Practice 5	1	6	15
1SPA687	Spanish Language for Work 5	1	6	15
1SPX689	Spanish Translation 3	1	6	15

AREA STUDIES MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1SPA467	Encounter of Two Worlds: Spain and the Americas, from Conquest to Revolution	1	4	15
1SPA568	Politics, Populism, Dictatorship and Democracy in Latin America: From Peron to Chavez	1	5	15
1SPA672	US-Latin American Relations, from Monroe to the Present	1	6	15

OTHER LANGUAGE CLASSES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1CCM400	Communication Between Cultures: Introduction to Cross-Cultural Studies	1	4	15

POLYLANG – LANGUAGES FOR ALL

Please note that most Polylang modules are worth 7.5 Credits per semester.

Module Code	Title	Semester	Credit
1ARXP01	Polylang Arabic Grade 1*	1	7.5
1CHXP01	Polylang Chinese Grade 1*	1	7.5
1FRXP01	Polylang French Grade 1*	1	7.5
1FRXP02	Polylang French Grade 2*	1	7.5
1FRXP03	Polylang French Grade 3*	1	7.5
1FRXP04	Polylang French Grade 4*	1	7.5
1FRXP05	Polylang French Grade 5*	1	7.5
1GEXP01	Polylang German Grade 1*	1	7.5
1GEXP02	Polylang German Grade 2*	1	7.5
1GEXP03	Polylang German Grade 3*	1	7.5
1GEXP04	Polylang German Grade 4*	1	7.5
1GEXP05	Polylang German Grade 5*	1	7.5
1ITXP01	Polylang Italian Grade 1*	1	7.5
1ITXP02	Polylang Italian Grade 2*	1	7.5
1ITXP03	Polylang Italian Grade 3*	1	7.5
1ITXP04	Polylang Italian Grade 4*	1	7.5
1JAXP01	Polylang Japanese Grade 1*	1	7.5
1JAXP02	Polylang Japanese Grade 2*	1	7.5

1JAXP03	Polylang Japanese Grade 3*	1	7.5
1SPXP01	Polylang Spanish Grade 1*	1	7.5
1SPXP02	Polylang Spanish Grade 2*	1	7.5
1SPXP03	Polylang Spanish Grade 3*	1	7.5
1SPXP04	Polylang Spanish Grade 4*	1	7.5
1SPXP05	Polylang Spanish Grade 5*	1	7.5

UNDERGRADUATE LANGUAGES PROGRAMME

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODULES

The Language Development modules focus on the acquisition of the structure of the language studied so that it can be used with increasing accuracy. The emphasis is on interaction and communication and all four language skills are covered. Students are expected to participate actively in class and to undertake independent study outside class time. Activities in class include group and pair work, debates, role play and presentations. Materials are provided for independent study.

LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES

Language in Practice and Language for Work modules are semester-long, each worth 15 credits. These modules offer training in the applications of bilingual communication – for example, précis or adaptations, orally and in writing according to a brief set in a professionally-related context. They aim to develop students' sensitivities to genre, register and text-types through task-based teaching. Semester 1 modules focus on receptive skills (Reading and Listening) and semester 2 on active skills (Writing and Speaking). The tasks are practised at the following language levels:

Language in Practice 1: CEF A1

Language in Practice 2: CEF A1/A2

Language in Practice 3: CEF A2/B1

Language in Practice 4: CEF B1/B2

Language in Practice 5: CEF B2

Language in Practice 6: CEF B2/C1

Language for Work 1: CEF B1/B2

Language for Work 2: CEF B1/B2

Language for Work 3: CEF B2/C1

Language for Work 4: CEF B2/C1

Language for Work 5: CEF C1/C2

Language for Work 1: CEF C1/C2

AREA STUDIES MODULES

ARABIC

CULTURE AND SOCIETY (ARAB WORLD) I: ANALYSING ISSUES IN HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Module Code 1ARA464 Level 4 Credit 15 Semester 1

The module aims to equip students with the concepts and methods required for the interdisciplinary study of Arabic history and society. Key historical and political issues relevant to the study of the contemporary Arab world are examined: imperialism, decolonisation and development; religion, gender and the construction of identity. Taught in English.

ISLAM AND MODERNITY IN THE ARAB WORLD

Module Code 1ARA566 Level 5 Credit 15 Semester 1

Intellectual, social and political developments in the Arab World 1798-1939, with special reference to Islam, analysed in terms of the theme of tradition and modernity in non-European culture. The module will enable you to: build on the subject-specific knowledge and critical skills gained in Level 4 Arabic Culture and Society I; apply analytical approaches to the study of the intellectual, social and political developments in the countries of the present-day Arab World for the period 1798-1939; analyse and discuss critically the representation of these developments in the works of key Islamic Modernist thinkers by comparison with alternative responses to modernity; contextualise contemporary debate about the place of Islam in the modern world by reference to the history of the social, intellectual and political contacts between Islamic societies and Europe in the 19th and early-20th century as manifested in the Arabic-speaking territories of the Ottoman Empire. Taught in English.

CHINESE

INTRODUCTION TO CHINESE CULTURE AND SOCIETY I: POLITICS AND HISTORY

Module Code 1CHI464 Level 4 Credit 15 Semester 1

The aim of this module is to provide students with an introduction to the study of historical, social and political issues in the context of Chinese culture. By studying a variety of different sources, this introduction to Chinese history, society and politics will also serve as an introduction to different academic sources and how to approach them. Great emphasis will be put on Chinese sources in translation. (Chinese texts will be made available for native speakers.) Through individual and group presentations this module also aims to build student confidence in an academic environment, focusing on the acquisition of the rhetorical skills needed to discuss Chinese historical, social and political issues in a critical and analytical register. Taught in English.

CHINA'S CENTURY OF REVOLUTIONS, FROM 1895 TO 1980

Module Code 1CHI566 Level 5 Credit 15 Semester 1

This module looks at the monumental social and political changes that occurred in China during the course of the first eighty years of the 20th century with specific focus on the concept of revolution and its significance in the analysis of this time period. The module aims to enable you to: build on the knowledge and skills gained in Level 4 Chinese seminar; apply analytical approaches to the study of social transformation and transition in China in the period from 1900-1980 with regard to the revolutionary nature of these changes; analyse the social and historical developments and tensions arising from the concept of revolution as applied during this time period; develop the academic tools necessary to express yourself appropriately using suitable methodology to critically discuss issues concerning the discourse on revolution as it has developed in China. Taught in English.

CHINA AND THE WORLD: FROM MAO ZEDONG TO HU JINTAO

Module Code 1CHI671 Level 6 Credit 15 Semester 1

This module aims to provide students with detailed knowledge and critical understanding of the main social and political changes as they have occurred in China since 1976. More specifically, the module aims to enable students to understand China's political situation in 1976, both domestically and internationally, in order to then fully grasp the enormity and significance of changes on an economic, social, political and international level that have taken place in China since. The module is primarily concerned with the effect of the Four Modernisations, China's emerging civil society, China's military and Asian stability, China's possible future democratisation, human rights in China, as well as US-China relations. The focus of the module will be on China's transformation within three decades from an isolated and under-developed country to a rapidly developing economy and political power which is determined to play a significant part in shaping the world of tomorrow. The aim of the module is to create awareness in the students for the complexity of the subject as well as to gain a critical understanding of the various political positions involved. The module will also introduce the frameworks and concepts necessary to analyse China's development in the period under study. Both primary and secondary sources will be introduced, both in English and in Chinese (for Chinese speaking students) and great emphasis will be placed on research and presentation skills. Taught in English.

FRENCH

INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH HISTORY AND SOCIETY: ANALYSING ISSUES IN HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Module Code 1FRE466 Level 4 Credit 15 Semester 1

The module aims to equip you with the concepts and methods required for the interdisciplinary study of history and society in their relation to French and Francophone culture and develop the necessary skills for you to analyse socio-historical developments, in readiness to apply them in a variety of perspectives (political, social, philosophical) in relation to French and Francophone issues. In addition, the module will enable you to investigate

specific aspects of French culture, contextualise analytical approaches to the study of French history and society, and acquire the rhetorical skills needed to discuss these issues in a critical and analytical register. Taught in English.

MODERNITY AND THE FRENCH REPUBLICAN TRADITION

Module Code 1FRE568 Level 5 Credit 15 Semester 1

This is an introduction to the concepts of tradition and modernity in social, political and historical developments in 20th-century France. The module will enable you to: build on the knowledge and skills acquired at Level 4; apply analytical approaches to the concepts of Tradition and Modernity in a post-revolutionary context, focusing on France in the first half of the 20th century; analyse the tensions arising between these concepts; apply analytical approaches to the study of the citizen in the Republican state; develop the research and rhetorical skills in order to express yourself appropriately on these themes in writing. Taught in English.

RUSSIAN

INTRODUCTION TO RUSSIAN CULTURE AND SOCIETY I: HISTORY AND POLITICS

Module Code 1RUS488 Level 4 Credit 15 Semester 1

The module aims to provide students with detailed knowledge and critical understanding of Russia's development from Peter the Great to the 1917 revolution. Topics covered include the impact of geo-political factors and national traditions on government, autocracy and the Russian state, and serfdom and the peasant commune. Aspects of Russian social and political thought from the Slavophiles and Westerners to Marxism and Russian socialism will also be examined. The module equips students with the concepts and methods required for the inter-disciplinary study of history and society in addition to the reading, research and written skills needed to discuss these issues in an appropriate critical and analytical register. Taught in English.

THE SOVIET EXPERIMENT IN PERSPECTIVE

Module Code 1RUS589 Level 5 Credit 15 Semester 1

This module examines the history of the Soviet period from 1917 to 1991. Using primary documents in translation as well as English secondary sources it explores the events and consequences of the Russian Revolution, the Stalinist era and the post-war reforms. Equal weight is given to social, economic and political history and to the role of the USSR in world affairs. The module aims to provide a comprehensive knowledge of the period under study, and opportunities to pursue particular interests in depth and to develop analytical skills through written assignments, oral presentation and class discussion. Taught in English.

SPANISH

SPANISH TRANSLATION 3

Module Code 1SPX689 Level 6 Credit 15 Semester 1

This module is taught by focusing on translation processes. You will work with real world texts that are linguistically and thematically sophisticated within four broad subject areas: Business, Health, Law and Technical. Taught in English.

ENCOUNTER OF TWO WORLDS: SPAIN AND THE AMERICAS, FROM CONQUEST TO REVOLUTION

Module Code 1SPA467 Level 4 Credit 15 Semester 1

This module aims to examine and assess the impact of the discovery and settlement of America on a recently united Spain. It contrasts the 19th century, Eurocentric, assessment of these events, with its emphasis on firstly the motives, methods and achievements of explores and conquerors, and secondly the (beneficial) impact of Europe in the New World with the 20th century reassessment of the pre-European past and the European legacy. Taught in English.

POLITICS, POPULISM, DICTATORSHIP AND DEMOCRACY IN LATIN AMERICA: FROM PERON TO CHAVEZ

Module Code 1SPA568 Level 5 Credit 15 Semester 1

The module will provide a broad look and analysis of political developments in Latin America from the 1940s to the present. Sources of political instability will be discussed, with an emphasis on political representation, crises of participation, military interventions, transitions to democracy and old and new populisms. Case studies: Venezuela, Argentina, Chile and Bolivia. The module aims to equip students with the concepts required for the study of contemporary Latin American politics and society; to develop the necessary skills for students to analyse social, political and economic developments; to investigate Latin American political issues more fully (see Indicative Syllabus Content for details of these issues); to contextualise approaches to the study of Latin American politics, economy, and society; to develop the intellectual tools necessary for students to express themselves appropriately and to discuss political and economic issues in the Latin American contexts; to understand the main political and economic transformations in Latin America in the last 60 years. Taught in English.

US-LATIN AMERICAN RELATIONS, FROM MONROE TO THE PRESENT

Module Code 1SPA672 Level 6 Credit 15 Semester 1

An analysis of the evolution of the relations of the Latin American states with the United States (including hemispheric institutions such as the OAS, Summit of the Americas, FTAA); the changing place of the region in the global economy; and the evolving character of intra-Latin American relations, covering new security issues, ideological shifts, indigenous movements and the vicissitudes of regional integration. Students will become familiar with the broad historical development of the international relations of the region. Taught in English.

OTHER LANGUAGE CLASSES

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CULTURES: INTRODUCTION TO CROSS-CULTURAL STUDIES

Module Code 1CCM400 Credit 15 Semester 1

This module is an introduction to the recently established field of Cross-Cultural Studies, but is very closely focused on those aspects of theory and practice relevant to students' personal situations, living and studying in the London area. It introduces students to theory allowing them to analyse more closely how different cultures interact and why they do so successfully or otherwise. Students are also asked to apply theory and skills of analysis to intercultural encounters in their own lives. They then learn forms of methodology for carrying out research on various types of cultural or inter-cultural issues and do a research project on a cross-cultural issue of particular interest to them.

POLYLANG - LANGUAGES FOR ALL

GRADE 1 (ALL LANGUAGES)

These modules are designed for absolute beginners and teach the basic structures of the language and the essential communication skills necessary to survive in the country/countries in which the language is spoken.

GRADE 2 (ALL LANGUAGES)

These modules consolidate and expand basic linguistic skills & enable students to function with greater autonomy in the country/countries in which the language is spoken.

GRADE 3 (ALL LANGUAGES)

These modules enable students to communicate effectively in social & work-related situations & to acquire an awareness of the cultural background of the country/countries in which the language is spoken.

GRADE 4 (ALL LANGUAGES)

These modules enable students to play a key role in a variety of work situations & function in the language at an appropriate level in their specialism.

GRADE 5 (ALL LANGUAGES)

These modules enable students to acquire a high level of linguistic competence in order to cope in a variety of work, social & academic situations in English.