

# **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**

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

#### **LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES**

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credit</b>
1ARA484	Arabic Language in Practice 2	2	4	15
1ARA486	Arabic Language for Work 2	2	4	15
1ARA584	Arabic Language in Practice 4	2	5	15
1ARA586	Arabic language for Work 4	2	5	15
1ARA686	Arabic Language in Practice 6	2	6	15
1ARA688	Arabic Language for Work 6	2	6	15

#### **AREA STUDIES MODULES**

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credit</b>
1ARA465	Culture and society (Arab World) II: Literary and Cultural Studies t	2	4	15
1ARA567	Arabic Literature in Transition: The Impact of Western Forms on Arabic Prose, Poetry and Drama in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	2	5	15
1ARA670	Towards New Identities: Language, Politics and Ideology in the Contemporary Arab World	2	6	15
SARA600	Contemporary Arabic Culture	2	6	15

### **CHINESE**

#### **LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODULES**

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

## LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1CHI484	Chinese Language in Practice 2	2	4	15
1CHI486	Chinese Language for Work 2	2	4	15
1CHI584	Chinese Language in Practice 4	2	5	15
1CHI586	Chinese language for Work 4	2	5	15
1CHI686	Chinese Language in Practice 6	2	6	15
1CHI688	Chinese Language for Work 6	2	6	15

## AREA STUDIES MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1CHI465	Introduction to Chinese Culture and Society II: Literature and Art	2	4	15
1CHI567	Between Art and Politics: Chinese Literature and Art from May Fourth to June Fourth	2	5	15
1CHI672	From Mao to Market: Contemporary Chinese Literature and Art in Search of a New Identity	2	6	15

## FRENCH

### LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODULES

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

## LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1FRE484	French Language in Practice 2	2	4	15
1FRE486	French Language for Work 2	2	4	15
1FRE584	French Language in Practice 4	2	5	15
1FRE586	French language for Work 4	2	5	15
1FRE686	French Language in Practice 6	2	6	15
1FRE688	French Language for Work 6	2	6	15
1FRX689	French Translation 3	2	6	15

## AREA STUDIES MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1FRE467	Introduction to Modern French Culture and Society: Literary and Cultural Studies	2	4	15
1FRE569	Modernity and the City: Revolution, Spectacle, Representation in Art and	2	5	15

	Literature, Paris Capital of the Arts 1848-1918			
1FRE672	French Identity and Difference since 1945	2	6	15

## GERMAN

### LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1GEX481	German Language Development 2	2	4	15
1GEX581	German Language Development 3	2	5	15

### LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1GER486	German Language for Work 2	2	4	15
1GER586	German Language for Work 4	2	5	15

### AREA STUDIES MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
TBC	Introduction to German Culture	2	4	15

## RUSSIAN

### LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODULES

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

### LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1RUS486	Russian Language for Work 2	2	4	15
1RUS586	Russian Language for Work 3	2	5	15

### AREA STUDIES MODULES

Module Code	Title	Semester	Level	Credit
1RUS489	Introduction to Russian Culture and Society II: Literature and Art	2	4	15
1RUS588	Art and Ideology in Russia: From the Totalitarian Concept to the Collapse of Ideology	2	5	15

## **SPANISH**

### **LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODULES**

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

### **LANGUAGES IN ACTION MODULES**

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credit</b>
1SPA484	Spanish Language in Practice 2	2	4	15
1SPA486	Spanish Language for Work 2	2	4	15
1SPA584	Spanish Language in Practice 4	2	5	15
1SPA586	Spanish language for Work 4	2	5	15
1SPA686	Spanish Language in Practice 6	2	6	15
1SPA688	Spanish Language for Work 6	2	6	15
1SPX689	Spanish Translation 3	2	6	15

### **AREA STUDIES MODULES**

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credit</b>
1SPA466	Introduction to Spanish and Latin American Culture	2	4	15
1SPA568	Spanish and Latin American Culture: Social Change and Revolution, 1900-1960	2	5	15
1SPA673	Spanish and Latin American Culture: The Boom and Beyond, 1960-Today	2	6	15

### **OTHER LANGUAGE CLASSES**

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credit</b>
1CCM400	Communication Between Cultures: Introduction to Cross-Cultural Studies	2	4	15

### **POLYLANG – LANGUAGES FOR ALL**

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

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Credit</b>
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) II: LITERARY AND CULTURAL STUDIES**  
**Module Code 1ARA465 Level 4 Credit 15 Semester 2**

This module gives an introduction to literary and cultural analysis with special reference to contemporary Arabic literature and culture.

**ARABIC LITERATURE IN TRANSITION: THE IMPACT OF WESTERN FORMS ON ARABIC PROSE, POETRY AND DRAMA IN THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

**Module Code 1ARA567 Level 5 Credit 15 Semester 2**

The module looks at the impact of western literary forms on the development of Arabic literature in the 20<sup>th</sup> century with special reference to the rise of the Arab novel, the impact of modernism on traditional poetic forms and the role of language in the development of contemporary Arabic theatre.

**TOWARDS NEW IDENTITIES: LANGUAGE, POLITICS AND IDEOLOGY IN THE CONTEMPORARY ARAB WORLD**

**Module Code 1ARA670 Level 6 Credit 15 Semester 2**

The module gives an in-depth study of the relationship between language, politics and ideology in the contemporary Arab world with special reference to the construction and dissemination of official and unofficial textual representations of the ideological alternatives of Islamism and Arabism. The module aims to enable you to: build on the knowledge and develop methods acquired in the earlier stages of the Arabic Area Studies strand in order to study recent issues in the history of contemporary Arab societies in greater depth.

**CONTEMPORARY ARABIC CULTURE**

**Module Code SARA600 Level 6 Credit 15 Semester 2**

This module aims to provide students with detailed knowledge and understanding of contemporary Arabic culture and social developments that have shaped it. A variety of examples of cultural production will be read or viewed, in translation or in the original, and analysed in the context of social change at local, national and international levels.

**CHINESE**

**INTRODUCTION TO CHINESE CULTURE AND SOCIETY II: LITERATURE AND ART**

**Module Code 1CHI465 Level 4 Credit 15 Semester 2**

This module looks at the field of cultural production in Chinese culture. Relevant concepts will be introduced in order to study specific aspects of Chinese art and literature. The module is taught in English.

**BETWEEN ART AND POLITICS: CHINESE LITERATURE AND ART FROM MAY FOURTH TO JUNE FOURTH**

**Module Code 1CHI567 Level 5 Credit 15 Semester 2**

The module looks at cultural production in China between 1919 and 1989 with particular focus on the dominant debate of this period regarding the function of literature and the arts in a changing society.

**FROM MAO TO MARKET: CONTEMPORARY CHINESE LITERATURE AND ART IN SEARCH OF A NEW IDENTITY**

**Module Code 1CHI672 Level 6 Credit 15 Semester 2**

This module aims to provide you with detailed knowledge on the developments and changes that have occurred/are occurring in China of the reform era on a social and cultural level. We will start with the concept of identity and its meaning, exploring different Chinese identities at different times and in different locations. Subsequent themes will include intellectuals and their changing identity, changes in society and changes in the art world. All the themes will be built around a piece of creative writing from the post-Mao period with the inclusion of additional material to support our class discussions.

**FRENCH**

**INTRODUCTION TO MODERN FRENCH CULTURE AND SOCIETY: LITERARY AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

**Module Code 1FRE467 Level 4 Credit 15 Semester 2**

This is an introduction to literary and cultural analysis. The module looks at issues in modern and contemporary French and Francophone literature and culture.

**MODERNITY AND THE CITY: REVOLUTION, SPECTACLE, REPRESENTATION IN ART AND LITERATURE, PARIS CAPITAL OF THE ARTS 1848-1918****Module Code 1FRE569 Level 5 Credit 15 Semester 2**

This module aims to provide you with an introduction to innovation in various forms of European artistic and cultural production (the visual arts, the novel, poetry) in response to urbanisation and rapid technological change in the 19th and early-20th centuries. The main focus will be on French cultural life in Paris, but there will be comparative analysis of the exchanges with other urban centres, notably London.

**FRENCH IDENTITY AND DIFFERENCE SINCE 1945****Module Code 1FRE672 Level 5 Credit 15 Semester 2**

The module looks at contemporary French and Francophone issues, texts and representations arising from the post-war and postcolonial world. The module aims to enable you to: build on the knowledge and develop methods acquired in the earlier stages of the Area Studies strand of the course, in order to study issues in contemporary French/francophone culture; debate, contextualise and critically analyse French and Francophone cultural and cross-cultural issues; demonstrate a high level of analytical and critical competence enhanced by the experiential knowledge of French/Francophone cultural practices acquired during the previous years.

**RUSSIAN****INTRODUCTION TO RUSSIAN CULTURE AND SOCIETY II: LITERATURE AND ART****Module Code 1RUS489 Level 4 Credit 15 Semester 2**

The module aims to provide an introduction to aspects of Russian culture from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century to the Russian revolution.

**ART AND IDEOLOGY IN RUSSIA: FROM THE TOTALITARIAN CONCEPT TO THE COLLAPSE OF IDEOLOGY****Module Code 1RUS588 Level 5 Credit 15 Semester 2**

This module examines the development of Soviet culture from the Russian Revolution to the end of the communist era (1917 to 1991). Using primary documents in translation, artefacts and secondary sources it explores artistic movements (avant-garde and socialist realism) and popular culture. Topics include fiction, poetry and painting, cinema, television and music, and graphic art, advertising and fashion. In every instance modes of cultural production and individual artefacts are placed in social context. 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.

**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.

**INTRODUCTION TO SPANISH AND LATIN AMERICAN CULTURE****Module Code 1SPA466 Level 4 Credit 15 Semester 2**

The module introduces you to literary and cultural analysis; introduction to the genres of the novel, film, theatre and poetry; issues in modern and contemporary Spanish and Spanish-speaking literature and culture.

## **SPANISH AND LATIN AMERICAN CULTURE: SOCIAL CHANGE AND REVOLUTION, 1900-1960**

### **Module Code 1SPA569 Level 5 Credit 15 Semester 2**

The module aims to: introduce you to the culture of Spain and the Spanish-speaking world in the period 1900-1960, including the literary vanguards of the "inter-war" years, and the relationship between artistic production and the political regimes of the first half of the twentieth century; develop methods of literary and cultural analysis introduced at Level 4 or equivalent; contextualise a variety of examples of cultural production against the political and historical background of the period and earlier including literary and political revolutions, and the rise of dictatorships and other political regimes and apply appropriate methods of literary and textual analysis to the chosen texts.

## **SPANISH AND LATIN AMERICAN CULTURE: THE BOOM AND BEYOND, 1960-TODAY**

### **Module Code 1SPA673 Level 6 Credit 15 Semester 2**

The module aims to: introduce you to the culture of Spain and the Spanish-speaking world in the period 1960 to the present day, including the background of literary innovations of the 1950s and 60s, the boom of the Latin American novel, the emergence of new writers in Spain; introduce you to genres and styles that emerge as important during this period, including the magical-realist novel and the testimonial; contextualise a variety of examples of cultural production against the political and historical background of the period including dictatorships and other political regimes, the increasing socio-political presence of culturally underrepresented groups (indigenous peoples, women, regional communities); apply methods of literary and textual analysis to the chosen texts.

## **OTHER LANGUAGE CLASSES**

### **COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CULTURES: INTRODUCTION TO CROSS-CULTURAL STUDIES**

#### **Module Code 1CCM400 Credit 15 Semester 1**

This module examines recent theories which try to define the skills that a person needs, apart from linguistic ones, if they are to be good at relating to people in other cultures. Amongst the skills research findings have emphasised are the ability to cope with uncertainty and to take risks, to listen and observe without judging, and the ability to see one's own culture through the eyes of another culture. These theories are compared and evaluated and students are challenged to develop their intercultural skills systematically using 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.