BA Applied English Language Studies with German   **UCAS code:**
For students entering Part 1 in 2008/9

Awarding Institution: University of Reading
Teaching Institution: University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):   Linguistics, Languages and Related Studies
Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Programme length: 3 years
Date of specification: 05/Aug/2009
Programme Director: Dr Judith Baxter
Programme Advisor: Dr Ian Roe
                                                             DrJane Setter

Board of Studies: Linguistics
Accreditation:

Summary of programme aims
The programme in Applied English Language Studies with German aims to provide a thorough degree-level education in those subjects. There is special emphasis upon the use of the English language in its social context, and upon the application of knowledge about language to problem solving in the contemporary world. The German part of the programme aims to produce graduates who are competent communicators in German, who have a sound critical understanding of German language and culture, and who have acquired a range of skills to underpin their life-long development. The programme is distinctive in situating theories and descriptions developed in linguistics within an interdisciplinary and applied perspective.

Transferable skills
During the course of their studies at Reading, all students will be expected to enhance their academic and personal transferable skills in line with the University's Strategy for Learning and Teaching. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to develop such skills, in particular relating to communication, interpersonal skills, learning skills, numeracy, self-management, use of IT and problem-solving , and will have been encouraged to further develop and enhance the full set of skills through a variety of opportunities available outside their curriculum.

Programme content
The following profile states which modules must be taken (the compulsory part), together with lists of modules in any Part from which students must make a selection (the option modules). Students must choose such additional modules as they wish, in consultation with their programme adviser, to make 120 credits in each Part. The number of credits for each module is shown after its title.
 The compulsory modules provide a thorough and staged grounding in (1) theories and descriptions of the phonology, grammar, lexis and discourse of English; (2) the relation of knowledge about language to issues in society and education; (3) the relation of knowledge about language to the mind (4) German language and translation, and (5) further modules on aspects of German language in business environments. The compulsory dissertation allows students to conduct a more specialised and guided investigation.   Students will expand the range, depth and sophistication of their knowledge of language and the potential for its application through the structured yet flexible progression of the programme through Parts 1, 2 and 3.
Part 1 (a) provides the basic resources for the description of the sounds, grammar and semantics of English, and (b) provides a broad overview of the scope of Applied English Language Studies and introduces a sociolinguistic perspective to the study of language. Students additionally get a German language module suitable to their level of entry, and a further module on aspects of German culture. Part 2 provides further grounding in English phonology and grammar, and adds to this theory and practice in psycholinguistics,, and training in research methods. Further German language learning is provided, as well as a module on German for business purposes. Part 3 provides one-to-one tutorials to enable students to prepare and write about a more specialised research topic for their dissertation. There is again a suite of options, including opportunities to select from topics available at Part 2 and study these at a more advanced level, and also additional and more specialised topics. There is greater opportunity at Part 3 for students to select the topics they prefer to study, and for guided independent study. Further advanced modules in German language and linguistics are also provided.

Part 1 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

LS1ELS	English Language and Society	20	C
LS1SG	Sounds, Grammar & Meaning	20	C

Optional modules totalling 20 credits:
Autumn, Spring and Summer terms:

LS1ELU	English Language in Use	20	C

Compulsory modules
For those with A or AS Level German:

GM1AGL	Advanced German Language	20	C
GM1IMG	Icons of Modern Germany	20	C

For those with GCSE German

LA1PG4 and	German Language Level 4	20	C
GM1ICI	Icons of Modern Germany	20	C

Part 2 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

Mod Code	*Module Title*	*Credits*	*Level*
LS2RM	Research Methods	20	I
LS2EG	English Grammar	10	I
LS2EP	English Phonology	10	I
GM2L2	German Language II	20	I
GM2GMB	German for Business Purposes	20	I
LS2CMS	Career Management Skills	5	I
LS2LM	Language and the Mind	10	I
LS2SL	Sociolinguistics	10	I
LS2RM	Research Methods	20	I
LS2EG	English Grammar	10	I
LS2EP	English Phonology	10	I
GM2L2	German Language II	20	I
GM2GMB	German for Business Purposes	20	I
LS2CMS	Career Management Skills	5	I
LS2LM	Language and the Mind	10	I
LS2SL	Sociolinguistics	10	I
LS2RM	Research Methods	20	I
LS2EG	English Grammar	10	I
LS2EP	English Phonology	10	I
GM2L2	German Language II	20	I
GM2GMB	German for Business Purposes	20	I
LS2CMS	Career Management Skills	5	I
LS2LM	Language and the Mind	10	I
LS2SL	Sociolinguistics	10	I

Optional modules totalling 20 credits, selected from a list available from within the Department, subject to availability.
At the discretion of the programme convenor, students may choose to replace one 20-credit module in Applied Linguistics with a module or modules totalling 20 credits from outside the programme.

Compulsory modules

An alternative Part 2 module in German may be substituted for GM2GMB with the agreement of the Programme Director.

Part 3 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

Mod Code	Module Title	Credits	Level
LS3DI	Dissertation	40	H

Optional modules totalling 40 credits, selected from a list available from within the Department, subject to availability.
At the discretion of the programme convenor, students may choose to replace one 20-credit module in Applied Linguistics with a module or modules totalling 20 credits from outside the programme.

German (40 credits)
At least one of the following:

GM3GSC	German Structure and Composition	20	H
GM3GPT	Translation into German and English	20	H

Optional modules

GM3GMB	German for Business and Management	20	H
GM3TGL	Trends in Modern German Language	20	H

An alternative Part 3 module in German may be substituted for GM3GMB or GM3TGL with the agreement of the Programme Director.

Progression requirements
To proceed to Part 2, a student must (a) obtain an average of at least 40% in each of the compulsory Part 1 modules in Applied Linguistics, b) obtain an average of at least 40% across the compulsory modules in German, and (c) achieve an overall average of at least 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination. The student must have no module mark less than 30%, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

To proceed to Part 3, a student must obtain a weighted average of at least 40% in each of the compulsory Part 2 modules LS2EP, LS2EG, LS2SL and LS2LM in Applied Linguistics, and achieve an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2. The student must have no module mark less than 30%, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

The conventions for classification are included in the Programme Handbook but it should be noted that weighting between Part 2 and Part 3 for classification purposes is 33% and 67%.
The University's honours classification is as follows:
 Mark: Interpretation
 70%-100% First class
 60%-69% Upper Second class
 50%-59% Lower Second class
 40%-49% Third class
 35%-39% Below Honours standard
 0%-34% Fail

Summary of teaching and assessment
Teaching is delivered in modules that involve lectures, seminars and (in some modules) workshops. Seminars will involve oral presentation by students, and workshops will include training and practice in the description and analysis of texts and transcripts. German language modules are taught in small groups. Modules are

assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination, with the proportion of coursework increasing as the degree progresses. The final-year dissertation comprises a piece of independent research, directed through a series of one-to-one tutorials, and assessed entirely by coursework.

The conventions for classification are included in the Programme Handbook but it should be noted that weighting between Part 2 and Part 3 for classification purposes is 33% and 67%.

Admission requirements

Entrants to this programme will normally be required to have obtained:

GCSE English: Grade C

GCSE German: Grade A* or A Level

UCAS Tariff: 280 points from 3 A Levels or 300 points from 3 A Levels and 1 AS Level

International Baccalaureat: Pass with 31 points

Irish Leaving Certificate: Five B grades

Two AS grades are accepted in place of one A-Level

Mature and international applicants: We welcome applications from candidates with a range of backgrounds, including mature candidates and those from other countries. While the list above is indicative, it is not intended to be exhaustive, and all such candidates can be sure that their applications will be considered individually and by taking account of particular circumstances. International candidates who are not offering one of the listed set of qualifications are advised to contact either the EU or the international admissions tutor first, to discuss the suitably of their qualifications.

Admissions Tutor: The Admissions Secretary is Mrs Janice Brooks, who will pass on any enquiries to the Admissions Tutor, and can be contacted by:

Telephone - (0118) 931 8123 (+44 118 prefix for callers from outside the UK)

Email j.i.books@reading.ac.uk

or by post.

Support for students and their learning

University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support includes IT Services, which has several hundred computers, and the University Library, which across its three sites holds over a million volumes, subscribes to around 4,000 current periodicals, has a range of electronic sources of information and houses the Student Access to Independent Learning (S@il) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, School Senior Tutors, the Students' Union, the Medical Practice and the Student Services Centre. The Student Services Centre is housed in the Carrington Building and includes the Careers Advisory Service, the Disability Advisory Service, Accommodation Advisory Team, Student Financial Support, Counselling and Study Advisors. Student Services has a Helpdesk available for enquiries made in person or online, or by calling the central enquiry number on (0118) 378 5555. Students can get key information and guidance from the team of Helpdesk Advisers, or make an appointment with a specialist adviser; Student Services also offer drop-in sessions on everything from accommodation to finance. The Carrington Building is open between 8:30 and 17:30 Monday to Thursday (17:00 Friday and during vacation periods). Further information can be found in the Student Diary (given to students at enrolment) or on the Student website.

At Part 1, students receive an induction course in Academic Writing. Each student is provided with a course handbook which contains full details of the degree programme, the staff and facilities in the School of Languages and European Studies, and a range of useful information including advice on note-taking in lectures, preparation of written work especially the dissertation, and dates of terms and examinations, and the University's procedure for assessment. Each Part of the programme has a Course Tutor to advise students on selection of modules, learning and assessment. Learning on core modules is supported by small group seminars. Learning is also supported by dedicated facilities in the School. The library of the University houses an important specialist collection of books, journals, dissertations and theses, reports and conference proceedings on Applied Linguistics, French and the Teaching and Learning of English. The Language Research Laboratory in the Department of Applied Linguistics has 6 networked PCs that are intended students researching corpora and databases, such as the British National Corpus and CoBUILD, as well as a wide range of instrumentation for the investigation of many aspects of speech. We also have our own research corpora and databases, and

these can be accessed from these machines. The facility uses the very latest software in language and speech analysis. Also available for students are word-processing and statistics, e-mail, and Internet access. Further PCs are located in the student common room for student use.

Career prospects

The BA in Applied English Language Studies with French at Reading offers a firm foundation for further study in the humanities or social sciences, and a set of skills relevant to many careers and life-long learning. Potential careers for graduates will include: teaching English and French abroad, speech therapy, publishing, linguistic computing, journalism, the Civil Service, the media (including advertising, marketing and public relations) and information technology (including library work). The proposed programme is also likely to be of interest to students intending to become teachers (although policy on admitting graduates in subjects not named in the National Curriculum is changeable). The Teacher Training Agency and representatives of providers of Initial Teacher Training have been consulted, and have indicated that, provided graduates meet the specific requirements for entry to teacher training in force at the time, this programme is likely to constitute an appropriate first degree, particularly for entrants to the primary phase. The interdisciplinary nature of the degree, and the emphasis on transferable skills such as analysis of language data, including the use of IT, problem-solving, oral presentations and team-working, will produce graduates prepared for a wide range of professions, including those listed above.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements

There are no study or work abroad opportunities as part of this programme.

Programme Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

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Knowledge and Understanding

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A. Knowledge and understanding of:

1. the principles of phonological contrast and the organisation of the sound system of English.
2. principles for the description of English grammar, lexis and discourse
3. the main areas of applied linguistic inquiry
4. the role of linguistic knowledge in personal, political and social decision making
5. a wide range of specialist areas in which linguistic principles are applied
6. ways in which the mind acquires, stores and processes language, drawing on theories from linguistics, psychology, speech science and neuroscience.
7. the French language
8. French and francophone politics and literature

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

1-6 are achieved through Part 1 modules Sounds, Grammar and Meaning and English Language & Society, Part 2 modules Sociolinguistics, Language and the Mind, English Grammar and English Phonology as well as by lectures and small group seminars. Further knowledge and understanding in areas 1-6 are offered in option modules at Parts 2 and 3, by lectures, small group seminars and guided assignments. 6 is achieved through the Part 2 core module Language and the Mind with an optional module at Part 3, Psycholinguistics, which are both lecture-based with guided assignments. 7 is achieved through the language modules at Parts 1, 2 and 3. 8 is achieved through the other French modules at Parts 1, 2 and 3.

Assessment

1-6 are assessed by coursework and written examination. Dissertation and oral presentations also contribute in theoretical and applied areas. 7 and 8 are assessed by a combination over the whole degree of unseen examination and coursework essays.

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Skills and other attributes

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B. Intellectual skills - *able to:*

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

1. analyse and solve problems
2. generalise knowledge and methods from one area of study to others, where appropriate
3. critically assess theories of language and society and their application in a variety of social contexts
4. evaluate contrasting academic arguments and claims
5. negotiate both primary and secondary applied linguistic sources and demonstrate how they interrelate
6. develop a critical and nuanced appreciation of issues, and challenge received conclusions
7. develop creative intelligence in independent research and interpretation
8. plan, carry out and present an extended independent investigation of a research topic

1-6 are achieved through demonstration and example in lectures as well as experience in small group seminars, the Part 2 module Research Methods, and the Dissertation at Part 3.
7 and 8 are achieved mainly through the Part 2 module Research Methods, and through the Dissertation at Part 3.
3-6 are achieved through the progression of concepts particularly in the compulsory modules across Parts 1, 2 and 3. Further opportunities are offered through option modules, especially those in theoretical and applied areas at Parts 2 and 3.

Assessment
1-6 form part of the evaluation of the quality of students' coursework and their written examinations. Additionally, 7 and 8 are assessed through small-scale and subsequent larger project work, respectively, in the modules Research Methods, and the Dissertation.

C. Practical skills - *able to:*

1. produce a phonological transcript of English speech
2. analyse English sentences
3. analyse and interpret linguistic data from various psycholinguistic and sociolinguistic perspectives.
4. assemble and assess the information contained in modern electronic linguistic corpora
5. prepare bibliographies and references
6. speak, write, read and understand French at a high or near-native level of proficiency

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

1 is achieved through small group phonetics practical sessions, based on general information provided in the main core lectures on the sounds of language.
2 is achieved through compulsory modules Sounds, Grammar and Meaning and English Grammar.
3 is achieved through the compulsory Part 2 modules Language and the Mind, Research Methods and Sociolinguistics..
4-5 are achieved through introductory sessions and assignment in the module Research Methods, and through the option module Corpus-Based Approaches to Language Description.
6 is achieved through the compulsory French language modules taken throughout the programme.

Assessment
1-5 are assessed by assignment; and 5 additionally by evaluation of the Dissertation.
6 is assessed by orals and unseen examinations. There is also regular unassessed coursework.

D. Transferable skills - *able to:*

1. use IT (including word-processing, internet search and communication and database analysis)
2. define a research topic and mount a principled investigation by methods appropriate to the topic
3. assess the effectiveness of given instances of spoken, written and multi-modal texts
4. work as part of a team
5. use library resources
6. manage time
7. formulate and implement career plans
8. deploy critical awareness of language and society in effective communication in a range of

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

1-6 are achieved through the Part 2 module Research Methods
2, 5 and 6 are additionally achieved through the Dissertation
3 is additionally achieved in a number of option modules.
5 and 6 are also required for successful execution of assignments throughout the programme
7 is achieved through the 5-credit Part 2 distributed module Career Management Skills
8 will be addressed throughout the course and further developed in the Career Management Skills

career contexts

Module.

Please note - This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the module description and in the programme handbook. The University reserves the right to modify this specification in unforeseen circumstances, or where the process of academic development and feedback from students, quality assurance process or external sources, such as professional bodies, requires a change to be made. In such circumstances, a revised specification will be issued.