

**BA Film & Theatre and German**  
**For students entering Part 1 in 2008/9**

**UCAS code:**

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Dance, Drama and Performing Arts; Communications, Media, Film and Cultural Studies; Modern Languages
Faculty:	Arts and Humanities Faculty
Programme length:	4 years
Date of specification:	06/Apr/2011
Programme Director:	Dr John Gibbs
Programme Advisor:	Dr Ian Roe
Board of Studies:	Film, Theatre and Television
Accreditation:	

**Summary of programme aims**

The central aim of the programme is to enable students to gain an understanding of major areas of cinema and of theatre since the late nineteenth century, and become competent communicators in German and well-informed about German culture, history and current affairs. Students will experience some of the varied achievements of film-makers, writers and theatre practitioners, become familiar with a range of perspectives which can inform analysis of literary, film and theatre texts, and gain a competence which comes as near as possible to that of an educated German person in the reception and production of spoken and written German.

**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, 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.

In addition, on completion of this programme, students are expected to have developed a range of specific transferable skills including: critical analysis and coherent argument; the ability to formulate and evaluate their own arguments and those of others; researching and evaluating evidence; use of library resources; undertaking self-directed, independent work; developing projects through co-operation and dialogue; taking leadership and management roles; effective time management; cultural awareness.

**Programme content**

Each Part of the degree comprises 120 credits. Students must normally take a minimum of 40 credits and a maximum of 60 credits worth of modules in the Department of Film, Theatre & Television and a minimum of 40 credits and a maximum of 60 credits worth of modules in the German Department in Part 1. In Part 1 the remaining credits can be made up from modules available elsewhere in the University. In Parts 2 and 4 they must normally take a minimum of 60 credits in both the Film, Theatre & Television and the German Departments in each Part. In Part 3 (study abroad), each student will take 40 credits in the Department of Film, Theatre & Television (the dissertation) and 80 credits worth of modules, or equivalent modes of study, in German. In Parts 2 or 4, students may substitute a Faculty module of 20 credits for a module of either Department in consultation with their programme adviser.

**Part 1 (three terms)**

*Compulsory modules*

FT1CHA	Introduction to Film and Theatre	40	C
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*Optional module*

FT1TFC	Introduction to Television Studies	20	C
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German Department

**Either** (for students entering with A- or AS-level German or equivalent)

Compulsory modules

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

**Or** (for students entering with GCSE German or equivalent)

Compulsory modules

LA1PG4	IWLP German Level 4	20	C
GM1ICI	Icons of Modern Germany (Intermediate/Beginners)	20	C

**Or** (for students entering with no knowledge of German)

Compulsory modules

GM1IG1	Intensive German 1	20	C
GM1IG2	Intensive German 2	20	C
GM1ICI	Icons of Modern Germany (Intermediate/Beginners)	20	C

## Part 2 (three terms)

*Compulsory modules*

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
FT2BTA	British Theatre	20	I
FT2BTB	British Theatre	10	I
FT2US1A	US Cinema 1	20	I
FT2US1B	US Cinema 1	10	I
ML2CMS	Career Management Skills	5	I

Optional Module

FT2BP	Bulmershe Production	10	I
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Notes

Students taking the Bulmershe Production optional module will substitute this for 10 credits in any Part 2 module.

Students may choose to replace one 20-credit Intermediate module in Film & Theatre with a module or modules totalling 20 credits from outside the programme.

German Department

**Either**

GM2L2	German Language II	20	I
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**Or** (only for students who took Intensive German 1 and 2 at Part 1)

GM1AGL	Advanced German Language	20	C
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The compulsory Option Modules 1 and 2 (GM2OP1 and GM2OP2) will each be made up of two short options chosen from a list of cultural, literary and social topics to be provided.

## Year abroad/Year away/Additional year (three terms)

*Compulsory modules*

<i>Mod Code</i>	<i>Module Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
FT3JDG	Dissertation (Film & Theatre and German)	40	H
GM3YO40	Oral and Aural German (full year)	40	H

Either

GM2YS40	German Scheine (full year)	40	5
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or

GM2YASR	Assistant's report	40	5
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or

GM2YWPL	Work placement report	40	5
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GM2YASR and GM2YWPL include 20 credits for work experience that do not contribute to the final assessment.

Part 3 (three terms) Honours level

Optional modules:

[various]	Critical Option	20+20	H
[various]	Critical Option	20	H

Students will normally take two Critical Options, one for 40 credits, comprising two modules with the same title and the suffixes 'A' and 'B', and one for 20 credits, with the suffix 'A'. A complete list of Critical Options is available from the Director of Teaching and Learning in Film, Theatre and Television. Admission to Critical Options will be at the discretion of the Director of Teaching and Learning.

Optional module:

FT3BP	Bulmershe Production	10	H
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Notes

Students taking the Bulmershe Production optional module will substitute this for 10 credits of assessment in any Part 3 module.

Students taking a 20 credit module from outside the programme will substitute this for one 20 credit critical option module with the suffix 'B'.

Modules in German

One of:

GM3GPT	Translation into German and English	20	6
GM3GSC	German Structure and Composition	20	6

Plus two 20-credit modules to be chosen from a list available in the department. Not all optional modules will be available in any one year; the availability of all optional modules is subject to availability of staff and will require a minimum and maximum number of participants.

### Progression requirements

Obtain an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in Part 1, where all the credits are at C level or above; and  
 Obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1; and  
 Obtain marks of at least 40% in all compulsory modules.

Obtain an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in Part 2; and

Obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 2;

Obtain a mark of 40% or above in their compulsory German language module and in the compulsory modules in Department of Film, Theatre & Television.

To proceed from the Year Abroad to Part 3, students must satisfy the examiners that they have completed an approved programme of study or employment in a German-speaking country and handed in the work and assignments required by the programme.

In the final assessment, the weighting ratio between modules taken during Year 2, modules taken during the Year Abroad, and modules taken during Part 3 is 2: 3: 4. Thus modules taken during Year 2 count for 22.2% of

the total credit weighting, modules taken during the Year Abroad count for 33.3% of the total credit weighting, and modules taken during Part 3 count for 44.4% of the total credit weighting.

### **Summary of Teaching and Assessment**

Teaching is through lectures, seminars and tutorials. Interaction in seminars is central to both parts of the programme, and weekly seminars, informed by lectures, are common to almost all modules in both Departments. Compulsory theatre visits and/or regular film screenings are integral to most modules in the Department of Film, Theatre & Television. In German, Language modules are taught in small groups; other modules typically involve a mixture of lectures and small-group seminars.

Assessment of critical modules in Parts 2 and 3 of Film & Theatre is mainly by coursework, which includes formal essays of various kinds (including extended essays) as well as other written assignments such as take away exam questions. In German, most modules are assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination; the Year Abroad module *Scheine* will be assessed on the basis of certificates gained at the German or Austrian university, and the Oral/Aural module will be examined at the beginning of Part 3.

The dissertation comprises a piece of independent research, directed through one-to-one tutorials, and assessed entirely through coursework.

The conventions for assessment and classification are included in the Programme Handbooks, but it should be noted that Part 2 modules count as two ninths, year abroad modules as three ninths and final year modules as four ninths of the assessment.

The University's honours classification scheme 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

University-wide classification criteria are explained in the *Framework for Classification and Progression of First Degrees (Post-2002 Structure)*.

### **Admission requirements**

Entrants to the Joint Degree programme are normally required to have obtained:

A levels

Either

300 points from 3 A2s, to include 100 pts (grade B) in one of English Literature, Drama, Theatre Studies, Film Studies;

or

320 pts from 3 A2s + up to 2 AS, to include 100 pts (Grade B) in one of English Literature, Drama, Theatre Studies, Film Studies.

German A level is normally required, except for admission to the post-GCSE course where GCSE A\* is required. Students admitted with no knowledge of German must normally have an A-level or equivalent in a European foreign language.

AS

2 good AS grades are accepted as 1 supporting A level

Irish Leaving Certificate at least ABBBB (A in English Literature)

International Baccalaureate 31 points with 6 or 7 for Higher level English Literature

GCSE/O Language preferred: grade C or above.

All applications are considered on their individual merits. Mature candidates will be expected to have a B at A level English Literature, Theatre Studies, Drama Studies or Film Studies, or equivalent qualification. In other respects, generous concessions may be made to reflect the value of other qualifications and experience.

**Admissions Tutor:** Ashley Thorpe and Tom Brown (Film, Theatre and Television)

### **Support for students and their learning**

University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support is provided by a wide array of services across the University, including: the University Library, the Student Employment, Experience and Careers Centre (SECC), In-sessional English Support Programme, the Study Advice and Mathematics Support Centre teams, IT Services and 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 advisers in the Student Services Centre. The Student Services Centre is housed in the Carrington Building and offers advice on accommodation, careers, disability, finance, and wellbeing. 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 and runs workshops and seminars on a range of topics. For more information see [www.reading.ac.uk/student](http://www.reading.ac.uk/student)

Students receive Handbooks from both Departments, which gives details of the Programme, guidance on study skills such as note-taking and essay writing, and information about staff, facilities, and sources of specialized help within the University, such as the Study Skills Advisor and the Counselling Service. The Programme is designed to give students extensive teaching support in Part 1 leading to more independent work in Part 3. Academic feedback and guidance is given through regular seminars and language-classes (German) and detailed written comments (Film & Theatre), and academic and personal support is provided through the personal tutor system and PAR. A series of discussions, talks and academic courses is provided to prepare students for the year abroad, and dissertation workshops prepare students for the Year Abroad dissertation, which is individually supervised. A video-viewing suite is available within the Faculty (on the Whiteknights campus). The Department of Film, Theatre & Television has an extensive collection of films and television programmes, to which students may have access, and a range of viewing facilities. The Library, which has buildings on both the Whiteknights and Bulmershe campuses, has an extensive collection of printed materials as well as electronic databases, such as the OED, the MLA Bibliography, and the DNB on CD ROM, and such on-line resources as JSTOR and First Search. Specialist subject librarians are available to give students advice and guidance to library resources.

### **Career prospects**

Since Film & Theatre and German is not a vocational programme, career possibilities are very wide ranging. Graduates find that the specific as well as the transferable skills developed by the programme enable them to enter many fields of work including education, banking, commerce and industry, arts administration, advertising, accountancy, personnel, the civil service, local government and the performance/media industries. Students may also go on to post-graduate study in both subject areas at MA and PhD levels, both at Reading and elsewhere. Increasing numbers of students find positions in the business world, including the travel industry, where their knowledge of German can be a distinct asset.

### **Opportunities for study abroad or for placements**

Subject to arrangements made in exceptional cases only, all students on this programme spend a year abroad either at a German or Austrian university with which the University of Reading has an agreement under the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) and Erasmus University Charter, or as an assistant teacher, or on a work placement. Full details of potential destinations can be found on the Erasmus & Study Abroad website.

### **Programme Outcomes**

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

#### **Knowledge and Understanding**

##### **A. Knowledge and understanding of:**

1. A selection of film and theatre texts from a range of national and cultural contexts from the late nineteenth century until the present day. A selection of literary texts in German and in translation from a variety of historical periods and cultural contexts.
2. A variety of approaches to film and theatre making,.
3. Methods of, critical, dramatic, filmic and analysis
4. Ways in which social, cultural and historical issues relate to drama and film texts
5. A range of approaches in German studies and

##### **Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminar discussions, workshops, and individual essay feedback), prescribed and recommended reading and viewing, and the writing of essays and a dissertation. Part 1 offers a broad introduction to 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. In Part 2 the understanding and skills acquired in Part 1 are developed with particular emphasis on 1, 2 and 4 through seminars, lectures and individual feedback. Part 3 introduces more specialized study, particularly in relation to 3, 5 and 6, through a choice of seminar-based modules together with supervised, independent study leading to a

- Film and Theatre studies.
6. Selected special fields of German studies and Film and Theatre
  7. A wide range of German vocabulary and idiom and the fundamental aspects and concepts of German grammar and syntax

dissertation. 7 is taught throughout all parts of the programme and is enhanced by the period of study abroad.

*Assessment*

In Parts 1 and 2, knowledge and understanding of 1 - 5 and 7 are tested through a combination of essays, seen and unseen written examinations. In Part 3, assessment is through a mixture of methods, such as extended essays, essays plus seen and unseen exams, and the dissertation.

**Skills and other attributes**

**B. Intellectual skills - *able to:***

1. Capacity for independent analysis and research
2. Identification of problems and issues
3. The ability to read, watch analyse and interpret closely and critically
4. An ability to reflect on one's own positions

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Intellectual skills are acquired through independent reading and viewing (1), preparation and discussion in seminars and workshops, essay writing (1, 2, 3) and essay feedback, in both written forms and individual tutorials (2, 3 and 4).

*Assessment*

1 - 3 are assessed both formatively in coursework essays, and summatively in essays, seen and unseen exams. 1- 4 are assessed formatively through seminar discussion and essay feedback and tutorials. Formative assessments are for the guidance of the students, and do not contribute to the module mark.

**C. Practical skills - *able to:***

1. The ability to criticize and formulate interpretations of literature, drama and film texts (including theatre performances).
2. An ability to engage in critical argument using relevant theoretical approaches
3. An awareness of the rhetorical resources of the English and German languages
4. Bibliographical and research skills
5. A knowledge of appropriate conventions in the presentation of written work
6. An ability to relate the study of Film & Theatre and German culture and language to cultural and social issues

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

1 - 3 and 6 are developed in seminars, workshops, essays and essay tutorials. 4 and 5 are developed through essays, essay feedback and dissertation guidance and supervision.

*Assessment*

All the subject specific practical skills are assessed through formative and summative essays. 1 - 3 and 6 are also tested in seen and unseen examinations. Formative assessments are for the guidance of the students, and do not contribute to the module mark.

**D. Transferable skills - *able to:***

1. Fluency in written and oral communication
2. The ability to formulate and present arguments
3. Assessing the merits of competing approaches
4. The ability to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills into other environments
5. The ability to find and use relevant information resources
6. Time-management skills and the ability to manage personal workloads.
7. A creative approach to problem-solving
8. Group and interpersonal skills
9. An ability to self-evaluate and self-reflect

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

Transferable skills are developed through seminar and workshop discussions (1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 9), through seminar presentations, essay writing, tutorial feedback, seen and unseen examinations (1 - 9). 4 and 7 particularly are developed through requiring students to draw on acquired knowledge and skills when analysing new material in essays, seen and unseen examinations. 5 and 10 are developed through use of the library and other sources of information, for seminar preparation, essay writing and research for the dissertation. We require that all summatively assessed essays are

10. Use of information technology, especially word-processing

word-processed (10).

*Assessment*

1 - 7 and 9 are formatively assessed through coursework essays and seminar presentations, and summatively assessed through essays, seen and unseen examinations, and the dissertation. 9 is encouraged through essay feedback and essay tutorials. 8 is encouraged through seminars and in tutorials. Formative assessments are for the guidance of the students, and do not contribute to the module mark.

**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.**