BA Applied English Language Studies   **UCAS code: Q3R2**
with German, Part Time (Day Time)
For students entering Part 1 in 2008

Awarding Institution: The University of Reading
Teaching Institution:
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):   Linguistics, Languages and Related
                                                               Studies
                                                               Faculty of Arts & Humanities
Programme length: 5-7 years
Date of specification: July 2008
Programme Directors: Dr Jane Setter, Dr Ian Roe
Programme Advisers: Ms Clare Furneaux
Board of Studies: Linguistics and Applied Language
                                                               Studies
Accreditation: Not appropriate

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

The University's Strategy for Teaching and Learning has identified a number of generic transferable skills which all students are expected to have developed by the end of their degree programme. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to enhance their skills relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, numeracy, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology.
On completion of the programme, students will have mastered contemporary methodology for the study of language in use which involves the development of computer and IT skills, while techniques of text and language analysis will be relevant to a wide range of professional and personal contexts.

Programme content

Part-time degree programmes, like full-time programmes, are made up of study elements called *modules.* The size of a module is measured in terms of *credits*; a credit entails a notional 10 hours of study. For a full-time programme, each year contains modules totalling 120 credits. Most modules are 20 credits in size but some are 10 credits and others are multiples of 20 credits (for example dissertations are often 40 credits in size).

Modules are offered at one of three levels. In ascending order these are:

      Certificate (C) level
      Intermediate (I) level
      Honours (H) level

All part-time degree programmes entail study of modules totalling a minimum of 360 credits.

Students must take the compulsory and optional modules required for their degree programme, the following minimum number of credits being required at the levels indicated:

Certificate level (C)   100 credits minimum
Intermediate level (I)   100 credits minimum
Honours level (H)   100 credits minimum

Part-time programmes are divided into two sections:

Part 1 involves studying modules totalling at least 80 credits and no more than 120 Certificate level credits (120 credits are equivalent to one year of full-time study), then listing the Part 1 Examination in order to preview to the remainder of the degree.

Post-Part I, where students take the remaining modules needed to complete their degree programme.

Students must take at C level those modules required for progression to one or more degree subjects, but may take individual modules from any available programme to make up the necessary minimum total of 100 credits at C level.

Students must complete at least 80 credits at I level before they can proceed to study any H level modules.

The content of this particular degree programme is set out below.

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. Further advanced modules in German language and linguistics are provided.

Part 1 (three terms) Certificate Level   *Credits   Level*
Students are required to take 120 credits at Part 1, of which 40 must be in Applied Linguistics, and 40 must be in German, made up from the modules below. The remaining 40 credits may be made up of any combination of 10- and 20-credit modules offered in the university, subject to the requirement for Part 1 examination.

Applied Linguistics
Compulsory modules
Autumn, Spring and Summer terms:

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

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

LS1ELU	*English Language in Use*	20	C

German
Compulsory modules
For those with 'A' or 'AS' Level German

GM1AGL	*Advanced German Language*	20	C

and

GM1IMG	*Icons of Modern Germany*	20	C

For those with GCSE German

LA1PG4	*German Language Level 4*	20	C

and

GM1ICI	*Icons of Modern Germany*	20	C

The examination of these modules will take place in weeks 5-7 of the Summer term, save that assessed coursework will be undertaken throughout the year, including in the Christmas and Easter vacation.

Part 2 (three terms) Intermediate Level		*Credits*	*Level*

Students take 120 credits in Part 2, made up as indicated.

Applied Linguistics (80 credits)
Compulsory modules totalling 60 credits
Autumn, Spring and Summer terms:

LS2RM	*Research Methods*	20	I

Autumn term:

LS2EG	*English Grammar*	10	I
LS2SL	*Sociolinguistics*	10	I

Spring term:

LS2EP	*English Phonology*	10	I
LS2LM	*Language and the Mind*	10	I

Optional modules totalling 20 credits, selected from a list available from within the Department, subject to availability, and such as the following:
Autumn or Spring terms:

LS2ASD	*Approaches to Spoken Discourse*	20	I
LS2ASP	*Analysing Speech*	20	I
LS2AWD	*Approaches to Written Discourse*	20	I
LS2CB	*Corpus-based Approaches to Language Description*	20	I
LS2CL	*Child Language Development*	20	I
LS2EW	*English in the World*	20	I
LS2IDC	*Intercultural Discourse and Communication*	20	I
LS2SX	*From Saxons to Shakespeare*	20	I

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)
Compulsory modules

GM2L2	*German Language II*	20	I
GM2GMB	*German for Business Purposes*	20	I

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

The following component is compulsory. Its credits are distributed through Part 2 of the degree:

Careers Management Skills	5	I

The examination of these modules will take place in weeks 5-7 of the Summer term, save that assessed coursework will be undertaken throughout the year, including in the Christmas and Easter vacation.

Part 3 (three terms) Honours Level	*Credits*	*Level*

Students take 120 credits in Part 3, made up as indicated.
They may not take optional modules at H level which they have already studied at I level.

Applied Linguistics (80 credits)
Compulsory module totalling 40 credits
Autumn and Spring terms:

LS3DI	*Dissertation*	40	H

Optional modules totalling 40 credits, selected from a list available from within the Department, subject to availability, and such as the following:
Autumn or Spring term:

LS3ASP	*Analysing Speech*	20	H
LS3CL	*Child Language Development*	20	H
LS3CB	*Corpus-based Approaches to Language Description*	20	H
LS3ELT	*Core Issues in English Language Teaching*	20	H
LS3EW	*English in the World*	20	H
LS3GL	*English Grammar & Lexis*	20	H
LS3FL	*First Language Acquisition*	20	H
LS3FP	*Forensic Phonetics*	20	H
LS3LSE	*Literacy in Society and Education*	20	H
LS3PL	*Psycholinguistics*	20	H
LS3SLT	*Second Language Teaching & Learning*	20	H

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.

The examination of these modules will take place in weeks 3-7 of the Summer term, save that assessed coursework, where applicable, will be completed during the academic year, including the Christmas and Easter vacations.

Progression requirements
The structure of part-time degrees is that students first of all take the degree subject(s) they want to study at Certificate level. The subject(s) form Part 1 of the programme. Part 1 must contain at least 80 credits, so that, if the modules for a student's chosen subject (s) add up to less than 80 credits, an additional module or two will need to be taken to achieve that total.

There is a Part 1 Examination in May or June, which students have to pass in order to go on to their degree choice at Intermediate and Honours levels.

To proceed from Part 1 students must have passed modules totalling at least 80 credits at Certificate level and must also have passed those modules required for progression to their chosen degree, with a minimum mark of 40%. To pass the Part 1 Examination a student must have a minimum average of 40% in at least 80 credits and not less than 30% in any individual module. Students who do not qualify to proceed from Part 1 at the first attempt may re-sit the required modules in a re-examination held in September.

Students must complete at least 80 credits at I level before they can proceed to any module at level H.

Re-examinations for C, I and H level modules are held annually in September.

Students who do not qualify for a degree will be entitled to the following qualification provided they have obtained the minimum number of credits indicated:

Certificate of Higher Education	100 credits at levels C and 20 credits at any level.
Diploma of Higher Education	240 credits, with at least 100 credits at I level or above.

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. 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. In each case, 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.

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%.

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

Admission requirements

Any combination of 'A' levels (or equivalent) will be considered. However, English Language and German 'A' levels will be considered an advantage. It is also recommended that applicants should have an 'A' level (or equivalent) in one or more of the following: English Language, English Literature, combined English Language and Literature, German, a language other than English or German, Sociology.

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

GCSE English:	Grade C
GCSE German:	Grade A*
UCAS Tariff:	300 points from 3 A Levels or 320 points from 3 A Levels and 1 AS Level, including 80 points (Grade C) in English Language, English Literature or English Language & Literature
International Baccalaureat:	Pass with 25 points
Irish Leaving Certificate:	ABBBB
Access:	Students graduating from Access programmes will be considered on an individual basis
Edexcel/BTEC (Level 3):	Distinction Distinction Merit
Scottish (Advanced) Highers:	300 UCAS points from three Advanced Highers, or from five Highers
European Baccalaureat:	75% overall
German Abitur:	Pass with average of 2.2
Greek Apolytirion:	17/20 + one or two A Levels or equivalent

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

Mature and international applicants. It will be appreciated from the extensive list of qualification routes above that 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.

The School Admissions Secretary is Mrs Janice Brooks, who will pass on any enquiries to the Admissions Tutor, and can be contacted by:
Telephone – (0118) 378 8123 (+44 118 prefix for callers from outside the UK)
Email – j.i.brooks@rdg.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 4000 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 through the University's Personal Academic Record (PAR) Scheme, in which students meet their Personal Tutors regularly to review their progress, and through the Careers Advisory Service, the University's Special Needs Advisor, Study Advisors, Hall Wardens and the Students' Union.

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, German 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 German 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 German 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
N/A

Educational aims of the programme
The main focus of the programme is the use of language in social contexts. A thorough grounding is provided in theories and descriptions of the phonology, grammar, and lexicon of English, the way the mind stores, acquires and processes language (psycholinguistics), and variations in individual, social, regional and historical use of language (sociolinguistics).In all areas, there is an emphasis on developing the critical skills to analyse the relations between linguistic, educational, sociological and political phenomena.The German part of the programme aims to enable students

to achieve a high level of understanding of the language, culture and society that may be applied to their further studies and career.

Although the language description aspects of the part of the degree taught in Applied Linguistics will mainly focus upon English, much of the content of the degree will be relevant to the study of other languages, and the degree will include modules focusing upon the changing relation between English and other languages in the contemporary world. The interdisciplinary and problem-oriented focus of the degree means that it can provide an unusually broad range of transferable skills, to develop students' confidence in their ability to work and learn effectively, both independently, and in cooperation with others; to provide students with the knowledge and experience necessary for further academic and professional study; to produce graduates with experiences and skills which will prepare them for effective participation in society.

By the end of the programme, successful students will have attained the following objectives: a detailed knowledge and understanding of the theory and practice of applied linguistics; ability to describe instances of language in use and to relate them to their contexts; an excellent knowledge of German language; the capacity to undertake and successfully complete independent research.

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:	Teaching/learning methods and strategies
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 German language 8. German politics and literature	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 module Language and the Mind with an optional module Psycholinguistics, which are both lecture based with and guided assignments. 7 is achieved through the language modules at Parts 1, 2 and 3. 8 is achieved through the other German 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.

Skills and other attributes

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:	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**
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 German at a high or near-native level of proficiency	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, Sociolinguistics* and *Research Methods*.. 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 German 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.

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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 career contexts

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 Module.*

Assessment

1 is assessed by coursework and is also assessable in the *Dissertation*

2 is assessed by group presentation and individual writing up of the project carried out in the Part 2 module *Research Methods*, and in the *Dissertation*

3 is assessed by coursework and examination on relevant modules

4-6 are not specifically assessed but contribute to success in forms of assessment generally

7 is assessed by three equally weighted assignments

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 expect 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 module and programme handbooks. The University reserves the right to modify this specification under unforeseen circumstances, or where the processes of academic development and feedback from students, quality assurance processes or external sources, such as professional bodies, require a change to be made. In such circumstances, a revised specification will be issued.**