BA European Cultures and Histories   **UCAS code: RV82**
For students entering Part 1 in 2011/2

Awarding Institution: University of Reading
Teaching Institution: University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):   Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Faculty: Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty
Programme length: 3 years
Date of specification: 15/May/2013
Programme Director: Prof Andrew Knapp
Programme Advisor: Dr Julia Waters
Board of Studies: European Studies
Accreditation: Not applicable

Summary of programme aims
The purpose of the programme is to provide a multidisciplinary degree-level education in the culture and history of Europe. The core modules aim both to introduce students to a wide and varied range of European cultural output, and to familiarise them with the historical roots of some of the most important contemporary issues facing Europe. Students will expand the range, depth and sophistication of their knowledge of European Histories and Cultures through the structured progression of the programme through Parts 1 to 3 of the programme. Around the core modules, they enjoy considerable freedom to choose historical or cultural options according to their interests. This programme, along with the European Studies programmes (R900, R901, R800) is distinctive in its emphasis on the application of both multi- as well as interdisciplinary skills and techniques.

Transferable skills
During the course of their studies at Reading, all students will be expected to enhance their academic and personal transferable skills. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to develop such skills, in particular relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology. 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 core modules follow two main strands: literary/cultural, and historical/political. The first develops students' comparative understanding of major European literary and cultural movements, including modernism, realism, and romanticism, as well as of dramatic and cinematographic developments in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The second strand builds students' grasp of major European issues through an introduction to European history since the French Revolution (Part 1), a focus on the processes of European integration and the historical forces that further and hinder it (Part 2), and a series of case studies on key European questions (Part 3). Students must take core modules from both strands, but may if they wish place a greater emphasis on one of them.
Around the core modules, students choose additional options within one or more of the following areas: (a) English Literature and (b) Film and Theatre, (c) History of Art, (d) Classics, and (e) History. The pre-requisites for modules within these areas, which contribute to the coherence of the programme of study, should be given particular attention by each student in planning his or her syllabus. The Programme Director will advise students on the best combination of modules, but students will normally be expected to focus on one of the main streams indicated above.
In addition, and although there is no specific language requirement for entry to the programme, students may choose optional modules provided by the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies. Options available to students without a language background include a wide range of language modules, from beginner's level up, supplied by the Institution-Wide Language Programme (IWLP), as well as French Cinema (at Part 1), Italian Cinema (at Part 2), and European Cinema (at Parts 2 and 3). IWLP modules and language modules offered by the Department of Modern Languages (French, German, and Italian) cannot be taken in the same language in the same year.
Opportunities for a work placement, and/or for a term's study abroad in a European institution teaching in English, are available at Part 3.
Not all options will necessarily be available every year. Admission to options will be at the discretion of the Programme Directors of the departments concerned, and subject to timetabling constraints.

Part 1 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

Core modules: students must take 60 or 80 credits from the following:

Module	Title	Credit	Level
ML1EMF	European Modernist Fiction	20	4
ML102	Core Issues in the Comparative Study of European Literature	20	4
EU1PRE45	Europe to 1945	20	4
EU1POST45	Europe since 1945	20	4

Options: 40-60 credits from one or more of the following subject areas (note: students are recommended to take 40 of their optional credits from one area).

English Literature (maximum 40 credits)

EN1LL	Languages of Literature	20	4
EN1WKT	What Kind of Text is This?	20	4

Film and Theatre

FT1CHA	Introduction to Film and Theatre	40	4
FR104	French Cinema	20	4

History of Art

HA1AA	Art's Histories: a survey	20	4
HA1AC	Makers and Making: artists, architects and their practices	20	4
IT1004	Italian Medieval and Renaissance Culture	20	4

Classics

CL1CA	The Civilisation of Fifth-century Athens	20	4
CL1CB	Rome in the Augustan Age	20	4
CL1TO	Text and Object: The History of Greek and Roman Writing	20	4

History

HS1APH	Approaches to History	20	4
HS1LMH	Landmarks in History	20	4

Options: Languages and Cultures

FR102	French Language (Intermediate)**	20	4
FR103	Contemporary France**	20	4
FR104	French Cinema	20	4
IT1003	Italian Language (Elementary) and Culture	40	4
IT1004	Italian Medieval and Renaissance Culture	20	4
GM1ICI	Icons of Modern Germany	20	4
GM1IG1	Intensive German 1 (for beginners) and	20	4
GM1IG2	Intensive German 2 (for beginners)	20	4

** FR102 and FR103 require at least a basic working knowledge of French.

Institution-Wide Language Programme

One module from the Institution-Wide Language Programme as available 20 4

Part 2 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

Core modules: students must take 60 or 80 credits from the following:

EN2MDR	Modern Drama	20	5

ML2ROM	European Romanticism: Themes and Genres	20	5
EU2UNR	Unity, Nationalism, Regionalism in Europe	20	5
EU2STA	Society, Thought, and Art in Modern Europe	20	5

Optional modules: 40 or 60 credits
Students must take their remaining credits (40 or 60, depending on choices of core modules) from options available within one or more of the following subject areas: History of Art; Literature; Cinema and Drama; Classics; and Ancient, Medieval, and Modern History.
Modules available in the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies available to non-linguists normally include Brecht in Translation (GM2BRE) and Italian Cinema (IT205). In addition, other modules in the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies may be available depending on the student's language credits gained at Part 1.
Modules in Philosophy and/or Music may also be available, in conjunction with other pathways, with the agreement of the Programme Director.
Students may take 20 credits of modules from the Institution-Wide Language Programme.
One optional module (20 credits) may be taken from modules normally taken either at Part 1 (level 4) or at Part 3 (level 6). This 20-credit total includes IWLP modules.

Part 3 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

60 credits

EU3DCH	Dissertation on a European cultural or historical topic	40	6
EU3CS3	European Case Studies III	20	6

Core modules: 20-60 credits

Students must choose at least 20 credits from the following list:

ML3REAL	European Realism	20	6
IT3EC2	European Cinema	20	6
ML3MAL	Medieval Arthurian Literature	20	6
EU3SA1	European Study Abroad 1	40	6

Optional modules: up to 40 credits
Students must take their remaining credits, to reach a total of 120, from options available within one or more of the following subject areas: History of Art; Literature; Cinema and Drama; Classics; and Ancient, Medieval, and Modern History.
The Study Abroad module, EU3SA1, is done in the Autumn Term of Year 3, and is subject to availability of places in a partner university.
The optional Work Placement module, EU3WPL, is done in the summer vacation between Year 2 and Year 3, and assessed in the Autumn Term of Year 3.
Part 3 (Level 6) modules in the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies available to non-linguists include France and Europe since 1945 (FR321) and European Cinema (IT3EC2). In addition, other modules in the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies may be available depending on the student's language credits gained at Part 2.
Either one of the European Studies modules EU3CS1 *or* EU3CS2 may be taken as an option. In the event of such a choice being made, there must be no overlap between the case studies chosen for EU3CS3 and those constituting the optional module EU3CS1 or EU3CS2.
One optional module (20 credits) may be taken from modules normally taken at Part 2 (Level 5) *or* from modules taught by the Institution-Wide Language Programme *except that* Level 1 IWLP modules can not be taken for credits by Part 3 students.

Progression requirements
To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2, students must
achieve 40% in each of the 3 core modules taken
achieve a threshold performance as defined in the University-wide Framework for Classification and Progression for First Degrees.

To proceed from Part 2 to Part 3, students must achieve a threshold performance as defined in the University-wide Framework for Classification and Progression for First Degrees.

Requirements for an Honours degree
In the final assessment in European Studies, Part 2 modules count for 33.3% of the total credit weighting, while Part 3 modules count for 66.6%.
 To be eligible for Honours, students must obtain
(a) an overall weighted average of at least 40%, or
(b) an overall weighted average of at least 37%, provided that half or more of the weighted credits have a mark of 40 or more, or
(c) an overall weighted average of at least 37%, provided that the average for modules taken in Part 3 is 40 or more.

Assessment and classification
The University's honours classification scheme is:

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

For the University-wide framework for classification, which includes details of the classification method, please see: http://www.reading.ac.uk/internal/exams/Policies/exa-class.aspx.

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is

Three-year programmes
Part 2 one-third
Part 3 two-thirds

Teaching is delivered by a mixture of lectures, seminars and (where applicable) language classes in Parts 1 and 2, with a greater emphasis on seminars in Part 3. The dissertation in Part 3 comprises a piece of work based on supervised independent study.

Admission requirements
Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained:
Grade C or better in English in GCSE and Grade B or better in English at A-level; and achieved UCAS Tariff: 300 points from 3 A-levels or 320 points from A and A/S levels, which must include a minimum of 2 A-levels
International Baccalaureat: 30 points
Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBBC
Scottish Highers: BBBB

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

Admissions Tutor: Professor Andrew Knapp

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 Careers, Placement and Experience Centre (CPEC), 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, academic issues (eg problems with module selection) and exam related queries. 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

Within the providing Department, the Programme Director also acts as a Course Advisor to offer advice on the choice of modules within the programme.

Career prospects
Graduates in European Studies have found that their degree course has been a good basis for careers in management, the financial sector, export and marketing work, further education, diplomacy and public administration and journalism. Graduates have also gone on to postgraduate courses at Reading and elsewhere.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements
Opportunities for a work placement, and/or for a term's study abroad in a European institution teaching in English, are available at Part 3.

Programme Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

1. the development of Europe from nation states to EU;
2. major literary and cultural movements in Europe since the nineteenth century;
3. a more specific focus on either the historical, political, or cultural, dimensions of European development

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, language classes, seminars), individual advice (on such issues as choices of modules or essays), recommended reading, and the writing of essays and a dissertation.

Assessment
Most knowledge is tested through a combination of coursework and formal examination. The Dissertation and oral presentations also contribute.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills - *able to:*

1. reason critically;
2. assemble data from a variety of sources and discern and establish connections;
3. synthesise and evaluate primary and secondary material;
4. identify, analyse and solve problems;
5. demonstrate and exercise independence of mind and thought;
6. transfer appropriate knowledge and methods from one discipline within the subject to another;
7. plan, conduct and write an extended analysis on an independent project.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Intellectual skills are developed through tutorial seminar work, practical project work and coursework assignments. Each module, whatever the format of the teaching and the discipline, involves discussion of key issues, practice in applying concepts both orally and in writing, and an analysis and interpretation of material.

Assessment
1-6 are assessed throughout the programme, while 7 is assessed by means of the dissertation.

C. Practical skills - *able to:*

1. locate, sift and select information from a variety of sources;
2. apply key methods and concepts of historical, political, and cultural-linguistic analysis (according to a student's chosen area of specialism);
3. show critical judgement in the light of evidence and argument;
4. use library resources with care and discrimination;
5. plan, undertake and report a bibliographically-based piece of research.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

These are developed via seminars and essay assignments. Oral presentation also constitutes a percentage of the assessment of the Case Studies.

Assessment
Coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation.

D. Transferable skills - *able to:*

1. deploy a range of IT resources effectively;
2. present material orally in a clear and effective manner;
3. present material in a written form, with discrimination and lucidity in the use of language, professional referencing, and clear layout;
4. work creatively, flexibly and adaptably both independently and with others;
5. write and think under pressure and to deadlines;
6. plan a career.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

In lectures and seminars and applied in self-study and writing of assignments, as well as in embedded careers management skills training, and a work placement opportunity.

Assessment
Coursework and examinations, as well as in the dissertation

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.