

**BA European Studies with a Major European Language (4-year programme)  
For students entering Part 1 in 2015/6**

**UCAS code: R900**

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Area Studies; Languages and Related Studies
Faculty:	Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty
Programme length:	4 years
Date of specification:	04/May/2017
Programme Director:	Dr Athena Leoussi
Programme Advisor:	Dr Julia Waters
Board of Studies:	Modern Languages and European Studies

**Summary of programme aims**

The purpose of the programme is to provide a multidisciplinary degree-level education in the history, politics, economy and ideas of Europe. The core modules of the programme aim to familiarise students both with the developments of European nation states and national conflicts and with the evolution, structure, institutions and impact of the European Union, developing a sound knowledge of the most important contemporary issues facing the on-going process of European integration. It also enables students to achieve a fluent working knowledge of at least one major European language. Students will expand the range, depth and sophistication of their knowledge of European Studies through the structured progression of the programme through Parts 1 and 2, the Year Abroad and Part 3. Around the core programme, they enjoy considerable freedom to choose historical, political, economic, or cultural options according to their interests. This programme, along with the three-year European Studies programmes (R901) is distinctive in its emphasis on the application of both multi- as well as interdisciplinary skills and techniques.

Students taking one 20 credit language module and at least one 20 credit content module in that language at Parts 1, 2 and 3, may opt to transfer on to an award title which includes the specific language(s) studied eg BA European Studies with French, or, BA European Studies with French and Italian, if two languages are taken as ‘major languages’, each language combining 40 credits of language and content modules at Parts 1, 2, and 3.

**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 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.

Students will have the major career asset represented by the command of at least one European language other than English and will have been encouraged to further develop and enhance the full set of skills through a variety of opportunities available outside their curriculum. They will also, by learning to live in outside the UK during the Year Abroad, have developed valuable life skills for their future careers.

**Programme content**

European studies is a relatively complex programme because it offers students the chance to choose between options from a range of departments within and beyond the School of Languages and European Studies. Below is an overview.

**Year 1**

Part 1 core modules in the Making of Modern Europe (Modern Europe to 1945; Europe since 1945: total 40 credits)

One ‘major’ language from: French, German, Italian, Spanish (40 credits)

Optional modules (40 credits), subject to availability, pre-requisites and co-requisites: may include a second major language.

(Total 120 credits)

**Year 2**

Part 2 core modules: Unity, Nationalism and Regionalism in Europe; Society, Thought and Art in Europe; Political Integration in Europe (total 40-60 credits)

One ‘major’ language from: French, German, Italian, Spanish (at least 20 credits)

Optional modules (at least 20 credits), subject to availability, pre-requisites and co-requisites: may include a second major language

(Total 120 credits)

**Year 3: Year Abroad**

Language project (40 credits)

and

either:

a) University study in Europe

or

b) Work placement/internship with report

or

c) Language assistant with report

(each of the above counts for 80 credits at Reading)

(Total 120 credits)

**Year 4**

Part 3 core modules in European Case Studies (at least 40 credits)

One 'major' language from: French, German, Italian, Spanish (at least 20 credits)

Optional modules (at least 20 credits), subject to availability, pre-requisites and co-requisites: may include a second major language

(Total 120 credits)

The core modules in Part 1 give students a solid grounding in European history since the late eighteenth century, with major themes including the development of the nation state; the two world wars; fascism; Europe's position in the Cold War; the development of European integration; and the reunification of Europe in the post-1989 era. Part 2 offers a more detailed focus on European integration and on the complex issues of nationalism and identity that surround it, and on major intellectual and cultural currents which have shaped modern Europe. In Part 3, a case study approach allow students to research contemporary European issues in greater depth. In parallel to the core modules, students will take at least 40 credits in a major European language throughout their time in Reading. The Year Abroad offers students the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of their chosen major language and the culture surrounding it.

Around the core modules, students choose additional options available within the Faculty, including: (a) Politics, (b) Economics, (c) History, (d) Law, (e) Classics and (f) Language and Culture (either additional modules in a single major European language, or modules in a second European language, which may be a major or minor). The pre- and co-requisites for optional modules, which contribute to the coherence of the programme of study, should be given particular attention by each student in planning his or her syllabus. 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.

**Part 1 (three terms)**

*Compulsory modules*

EU1PRE45	Europe to 1945	20	4
EU1POST45	Europe since 1945	20	4

**Compulsory Language modules**

40 credits of one major language except that (i) 60 credits are required for beginners in German and (ii) only 20 credits, which must consist of a language, not a cultural module, can be taken by students intending to take

Economics

**French**

either

FR1L3      Advanced French Language I      20      4

or

FR1L2      Intermediate French Language      20      4

and either

FR1MMF      The Making of Modern France      20      4

or

FR1IFC      Introduction to French Culture      20      4

## German

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

Code	Title	Credits	Level
GM1L3	Advanced German Language I	20	4
GM1IMG	Icons of Modern Germany	20	4

Or (for students entering with GCSE German or equivalent)

Code	Title	Credits	Level
GM1L2	Intermediate German Language	20	4
GM1IMG	Icons of Modern Germany	20	4

Or (for students entering with no knowledge of German)

Code	Title	Credits	Level
GM1L1A	Beginners German Language I	20	4
GM1L1B	Beginners German Language II	20	4
GM1IMG	Icons of Modern Germany	20	4

## Italian

For students with A-level or equivalent

Code	Title	Credits	Level
IT1L3	Advanced Italian Language I	20	4
IT1002	Twentieth-century Italian Culture	20	4

For non-advanced students:

<b>Either</b>	(for students with GCSE or AS-level)		
IT1L2	Intermediate Italian Language)	20	4
<b>Or</b>	(for students with no previous knowledge of Italian)		
IT1L1	Beginners Italian Language	20	4
<b>Plus either</b>			
IT1004	Italian Medieval and Renaissance Culture (in translation)	20	4
<b>Or</b>			
IT10M1	Making Italians: A Journey in the History and Culture of Modern Italy	20	4

## Spanish

SP1L3	Advanced Spanish Language I	20	4
SP1I1	Icons of Spain and Latin America: From conquest to independence; from revolution to globalisation	20	4

### Optional Modules

40 credits of modules in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, subject to pre-requisites, co-requisites and availability. The Programme Director will assist in the choice of modules. No more than ONE module offered by the Institution-Wide Language Programme may be taken. IWLP modules cannot be taken in a student's major language or languages.

Candidates wishing to take modules in Economics must have at least a B in GCSE Maths.

## Part 2 (three terms)

### Compulsory modules

#### Compulsory modules

Students must choose at least two of the following:

<i>Code</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
EU2UNR	Unity, Nationalism and Regionalism in Europe	20	5
EU2STA	Society, Thought and Art in Modern Europe	20	5
PO2EPI	European Political Integration	20	5

#### Compulsory Language modules

<i>Code</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
FR2L4	Advanced French Language II	20	5
or			
GM2L4	Advanced German Language II	20	5
or			
IT2L4	Advanced Italian Language II	20	5
or			
IT2L2	Intermediate Italian Language II	20	5
or			
SP2L4	Advanced Spanish Language II	20	5

At least 40 credits of modules in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, subject to pre-requisites, co-requisites and availability. It is normally expected that at least 20 credits will be taken from modules available in the candidate's major language. The Programme Director will assist in the choice of modules. No more than ONE module offered by the Institution-Wide Language Programme may be taken. Students will not be allowed to take any IWLP level 1 module for credit in their final year.

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

##### Compulsory modules

ML2YL5	Year Abroad Language	40	5
ML2YSWA	Year Abroad Study/ Work Placement/ Assistantship	80	5

#### Compulsory modules

Students must choose two or three of the following:

<i>Code</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
EU3CS1	European Case Studies I	20	6
EU3CS2	European Case Studies II	20	6
EU3CS3	European Case Studies III*	20	6
ML3EE	Extended Essay	20	6

\*EU3CS3 cannot be taken in conjunction with either EU3CS1 or EU3CS2.

#### Compulsory Language modules

<i>Code</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
FR3L6	Advanced French Language III	20	6
or			
GM3L6	Advanced German Language III	20	6
or			
IT3L6	Advanced Italian Language III	20	6
or			
SP3L6	Advanced Spanish Language III	20	6

At least 40 credits of modules in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, subject to pre-requisites, co-requisites and availability. The Programme Director will assist in the choice of modules. No more than ONE module offered by the Institution-Wide Language Programme may be taken. IWLP modules cannot be taken in

a student's major language or languages. Students will not be allowed to take any IWLP level 1 module for credit in their final year.

### **Progression requirements**

To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2, students must

- (i) obtain an average mark of at least 40% over the two compulsory modules in European Studies and also in the compulsory language modules
- (ii) achieve an overall average in Part 1 assessment (120 credits) of at least 40%
- (iii) achieve marks of at least 30% in 100 credits.

To proceed Part 2 to the Year Abroad, *and* from the Year Abroad to Part 3, students must:

- achieve an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2; and
- achieve a mark of at least 40% in 80 credits taken in Part 2, and
- achieve a mark of at least 30% in 120 credits taken in Part 2.

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification for four-year modern language programmes with a Year Abroad is

Year 2: one sixth

Year Abroad: one sixth

Year 4: two thirds.

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

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 38%, 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 38%, provided that the average for modules taken in Part 3 is 40 or more.

To be eligible for a degree award with a major language (European Studies with French, European Studies with German, European Studies with Italian, European Studies with Spanish, or European Studies with [a combination of two of the aforementioned languages]), students must pass modules in the relevant language(s) to a total of at least 40 credits in each of their three years at Reading.

For the University-wide framework for classification, which includes details of the classification method, please see: <http://www.reading.ac.uk/web/FILES/exams/UgClassification-post-2013.pdf>.

Language modules are taught in small groups. Other modules typically involve a mixture of lectures and seminars, although many Part 3 modules often involve seminars only. Most modules are assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination, though some are assessed by coursework only. Students will undertake an oral examination in their major foreign language(s) in compliance with arrangements set by the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies. Full details of the specific teaching and assessment arrangements are given in the module descriptions.

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

#### **Admission requirements**

Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained:

Grade C or better in English in GCSE; and achieved

UCAS Tariff: BBB from 3 three A Levels

International Baccalaureat: 30 points

Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBB

Scottish Highers: ABBBB

Applications from international candidates and from mature students are welcomed. International candidates are advised to contact either the EU or the University's International Students Office to discuss the suitability of their qualifications. Mature candidates are invited to contact the Department directly, via [languages@reading.ac.uk](mailto:languages@reading.ac.uk).

**Admissions Tutor:** Dr Sophie Heywood

### **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-session 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](http://www.reading.ac.uk/student)

The Department of Modern Languages and European Studies has a Resource Room containing a wide range of essential and secondary texts, dictionaries, and reference works.

Programme and Year Handbooks give guidance on essay writing and other practical matters. The Programme Director also acts as a course advisor to offer advice on the choice of modules within the programme, and there is specialist guidance from the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies on Year 3 placements abroad.

### **Career learning**

#### **Career prospects**

European Studies graduates are highly regarded by employers because of the combination of transferable language and analytical skills they possess. Students who have studied or worked abroad during their third year will find this especially valued by potential employers. Graduates have gone into the financial sector, export and marketing work, further education, diplomatic services and public administration and journalism.

#### **Opportunities for study abroad**

All students on this programme spend a year abroad either as an assistant teacher, on work placement or at an institute of higher education with which the University of Reading has an agreement under the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) and Erasmus University Charter. Full details of potential destinations can be found on both the departmental and Erasmus & Study Abroad websites.

#### **Placement opportunities**

Students may choose to do a work placement during the Year Abroad.

### **Programme Outcomes**

#### **Knowledge and Understanding**

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

1. the development of major European nation states;
2. the different processes involved in European integration;
3. key ways in which such processes are interconnected;

##### **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.

4. a more specific focus on either the historical, political, or cultural, dimensions of European development;
5. at least one major European language;

*Assessment*

Most knowledge is tested through a combination of coursework and formal examination. Oral presentations also contribute.

**Skills and other attributes**

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

the ability 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.

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

the ability 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;
6. speak, write and read at least one major European language at a high level of proficiency.

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

These are developed via seminars, essay assignments, language classes, and the experience of the Year Abroad.

*Assessment*

Coursework and examinations. Oral presentation also constitutes a percentage of the assessment of the Case Studies, while an oral examination is also part of the language assessment.

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

the ability 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.

*Assessment*

Coursework and examinations

**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.**