

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

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DEGREE COURSES

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE MINOR*

Students may offer a foreign language as a Minor together with any other Major available within the University, subject to the approval of the respective Heads of Department and to timetabling. They can opt for either French or Spanish, both of which are available from Beginners, post GCSE and post A-level (or equivalents). Programme contents are listed under the Major discipline (Economics, English Literature, International Studies, Law or Psychology).

LANGUAGE OR FREE-CHOICE OPTIONS*

These 2-term 30-unit courses are included in most undergraduate degree programmes. All levels of both French and Spanish are offered each year. For the complete list of levels available, see Free Choice section.

* Students will be allocated to the appropriate group following consultation with a member of the MFL teaching team.

Courses run by the DEPARTMENT OF MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Courses	Semester(s)*	Units	FHEQ Level
French Stage 1	January-June	30	4
	July-December		
French Stage 2	January-June	30	4
	July-December		
French Stage 3 (post GCSE)	January-June	30	4
French Stage 4	July-December	30	5
French Stage 5	January-June	30	5
(post A Level)			
French Stage 6	July-December	30	6
French Stage 7	January-June	30	6
French Stage 8	July-December	30	6
Spanish Stage 1	January-June	30	4
	July-December		
Spanish Stage 2	January-June	30	4
	July-December		
Spanish Stage 3 (post GCSE)	January-June	30	4
Spanish Stage 4	July-December	30	5
Spanish Stage 5	January-June	30	5
(post A Level)			
Spanish Stage 6	July-December	30	6
Spanish Stage 7	January-June	30	6
Spanish Stage 8	July-December	30	6

*MFL courses run over a whole semester. Only French Stages 1 and 2 and Spanish Stages 1 and 2 are offered both semesters of the year, subject to demand.

FAST-TRACK COURSES

In addition to the courses above, the Department of Modern Foreign Languages offers two foundation courses during the Autumn Term:

- Fast-track foundation course in French

- Fast-track foundation course in Spanish

Fast-track courses cater for students who are complete beginners in the language and want to follow a 9-term degree programme with a Language Minor at Buckingham, starting in September. The fast-track course will ensure that the students will have achieved the minimum level of the language required to start a Language Minor at the University of Buckingham the following January. They do not carry any units that can be counted towards the degree.

MINOR PROGRAMMES IN FRENCH / SPANISH

In order to qualify for a Minor in French/Spanish, students must take at least 90 units in the language and must complete Stage 6 or above.

1. Students with previous knowledge of French/Spanish:

Students who have previous knowledge of the language at GCSE or equivalent, can join a Minor programme in French or Spanish in Stage 3. Students with an A Level, or equivalent, in French / Spanish, will join the language Minor in Stage 5 of the language. The lowest entry level for a Minor programme in French / Spanish is Stage 3 of the language.

Entry points: September, January, July (Stage 4).

Please contact the Department of Modern Foreign Languages to have your existing knowledge of the language assessed prior to starting your Language Minor so we can allocate you to the right group.

2. Students with no previous knowledge of French / Spanish wishing to follow a Minor in French / Spanish can do so in two ways:

September entry: Minor in French / Spanish combined with a Major over 9 terms. Candidates will need to take a French / Spanish fast-track course in the first Autumn Term (see section above). It is strongly recommended that students following the fast-track course follow a 2-week intensive language course in France / Spain between the end of the Autumn Term and the beginning of the following Winter Term.

September is the only entry point at which the Department of Modern Foreign Languages can accept complete beginners onto a Minor programme.

January entry: Minor in French / Spanish combined with a Major over 8 terms. Prospective students wishing to start a Language Minor in January can do so by undertaking, at their own expense and prior to starting their programme at Buckingham, a language course that would bring them up to the right level of the language to enable them to join our French / Spanish Stage 3 in January.

FREE CHOICE OPTIONS

All stages of French and Spanish (Stages 1-8) can be taken as a Free Choice option.

Students wishing to take French or Spanish as a Free Choice option must have their level of French / Spanish assessed by a member of staff from the Department of Modern Foreign Languages at least one term before the student is due to take the language option. Once the level of language has been confirmed by a member of staff, the student must speak to their programme director. The programme director will check that the language option allows for the correct combination of units at Level 5 and Level 6 to be achieved for the specific programme.

Voluntary study

Full-time students wishing to take a language as a voluntary subject are welcome to do so. Acceptance on any language course is subject to confirmation and to any restrictions imposed by the timetable and any limitation on class size. Students wishing to take a language as a voluntary subject must have the consent of their Programme Director