

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

FOR TAUGHT PROGRAMMES AT ALL LEVELS



THE UNIVERSITY OF
BUCKINGHAM

Name of Programme:	BA Modern Languages (Flexible Honours)		
Final Award:	BA	Location:	Buckingham
Awarding Institution/Body:	University Of Buckingham	Teaching Institution:	University Of Buckingham
School of Study:	Modern Foreign Languages	Parent Department:	Modern Foreign Languages
Programme Code(s):	UBAF9SMLF / Full Time / 2 Years and 1 Term UBAF2SMLF / Full Time / 2 Years		
Professional Body Accreditation:	N/A	Relevant Subject Benchmark Statement (SBS):	Languages, Cultures and Societies (rev. ed. 2015)
Admission Criteria:	Only non-native speakers of French and Spanish will be accepted onto this programme. Students must meet the university entry requirements for the degree programme and be in possession of a good A Level or equivalent (CEFR B1/B2), in one of the two languages.	Applicable Cohort(s):	September 2020
FHEQ Level:	6	UCAS Code:	R900

Summary of Programme

This programme combines a vocationally-orientated Major in a traditional academic interdisciplinary programme. The programme equips graduates with the necessary skills and knowledge to work professionally in a range of careers within an international context. It is designed to develop key competences in speaking, listening, writing and reading the language studied, and to enhance communication skills in a variety of situations through interactively using the language in classes, language laboratory and in other forms including IT, internet and media. Languages are taught at Intermediate Level (stages 3-6) and Advanced Level (stages 5-8). The programme aims to develop linguistic competence in French and Spanish and intercultural awareness as well as in-depth knowledge and understanding of aspects of the cultures, communities and societies where these languages are used. Students will develop skills of media analysis using French and Spanish. Successful completion of the programme equips students with a range of transferable and communication skills and encourages competencies directly relating to employability, as well as developing their critical and analytical academic skills.

Students of Modern Languages (Flexible Honours) are invited to choose to combine a coherent Major programme (210-240 units) in Modern Languages with 120-150 units of study in a wide range of frontier subjects, including those taught in other Schools of the University. Where ≥ 90 units at the appropriate FHEQ Levels are selected from a single discipline, and where local pre-requisites are complied with, a combined honours degree will be awarded upon completion. Students will have the opportunity to undertake a dissertation project and/or, subject to availability, an external work placement.

Educational Aims of the Programme

Modern Languages specific:

- Develop skills for communicating fluently, confidently and effortlessly in both French and Spanish in a variety of social and professional environments and with a full range of intermediate/advanced grammatical structures of French and Spanish
- Equip students with a wide range of generalist and specialist French and Spanish vocabulary, including reference to different styles and registers of the language
- Develop knowledge of sociocultural, political and economic issues of the countries where French and Spanish are spoken, leading to increased cultural awareness
- Apply analytical skills to the study of political institutions and sociocultural norms in the countries where the languages are spoken through the use of up to date media and academic resources from the French and Spanish speaking countries
- On completion of the programme, students will have achieved a CEFR C2 level in the language for which they had previously gained an A level and a CEFR C1 level in the other language (beginners or students with a GCSE on entry)
- Provide a basis for further development of linguistic skills at advanced/postgraduate level
- Provide skills enabling students to operate professionally in French and Spanish to their full potential

Flexible Honours specific:

- To provide knowledge of a range of cognate or contrasting subjects and disciplines selected according to each student's intellectual interests and career objectives; or, of a single secondary subject/discipline, where ≥90 units are selected at appropriate FHEQ Levels
- To instil understanding of the methodologies and critical approaches, at basic, intermediate and advanced levels, of a range of cognate or contrasting subjects; or, of a single secondary subject/discipline where ≥90 units are selected at appropriate FHEQ Levels and local prerequisites are complied with
- To provide opportunities to synthesise and tailor knowledge and understanding to a bespoke programme of study undertaken with the advice and guidance of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages
- To facilitate the study, either broad or in-depth, of more than one subject/discipline, and to provide a wider range of skills-related outcomes than the study of traditional Single Honours facilitates

Programme Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

Modern Languages (French and Spanish):

1. Demonstrate explicit knowledge and understanding of the French and the Spanish languages orally and in writing
2. Display significant cultural and intercultural awareness and understanding
3. Understand the sociocultural, political and economic issues and institutions of the countries where French and Spanish are spoken
4. Demonstrate the ability to interact in different general and professional situations whilst using French and Spanish to a high/very high standard

Flexible Combined Honours specific:

5. knowledge and understanding of a range of cognate or contrasting subjects and disciplines, studied at all three FHEQ Levels
- OR
6. knowledge and understanding of a secondary discipline (≥90 units) studied at all three FHEQ Levels

Teaching/Learning Strategy

Modern Languages:

1. Oral seminar presentations – to practise communication skills and demonstrate understanding
2. Teaching and practising French and Spanish grammar, syntax, vocabulary, as well as writing and reading skills
3. Authentic materials provide opportunities for use of target language to discuss aspects of French and Spanish culture and social practices and compare them with those in UK and students' own nations
4. Progressive introduction of topical issues, political, legal and education systems, administrative and economic structures and institutions
5. Study of aspects of the culture and society of French and Spanish speaking countries provides opportunities for use of target language to compare these with their counterparts in the UK and students' own nations
6. Simulations of situations typical from the professional and business world (report writing, professional presentations, meetings, job interviews) to develop the skills to interact in these situations in the real world

Flexible Combined Honours specific:

7. Context-dependent strategies from a range or single secondary discipline(s)

<p><u>Knowledge and Understanding</u></p> <p>Modern Languages (French and Spanish):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate explicit knowledge and understanding of the French and the Spanish languages orally and in writing 2. Display significant cultural and intercultural awareness and understanding 3. Understand the sociocultural, political and economic issues and institutions of the countries where French and Spanish are spoken 4. Demonstrate the ability to interact in different general and professional situations whilst using French and Spanish to a high/very high standard <p>Flexible Combined Honours specific:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. knowledge and understanding of a range of cognate or contrasting subjects and disciplines, studied at all three FHEQ Levels <p>OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. knowledge and understanding of a secondary discipline (≥90 units) studied at all three FHEQ Levels 	<p><u>Assessment Strategy</u></p> <p>Modern Languages:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In-class tests cover all four key linguistic skills, reflecting the type of exercises set in exams, giving students the chance to reflect on their language learning process halfway through the module and ensuring they have done enough work 2. Module essays, résumés and other creative writing work facilitate regular language acquisition and content learning 3. Regular oral presentations test students' ability to put together arguments and specific sociocultural knowledge in French and in Spanish 4. Final examinations in all four skills require students to have a good command of both linguistic skills and specific sociocultural content. Knowledge must be formulated in a focused way under time constraints 5. Regular formative assessment – presentations, class discussion, written work – provide feedback so students can ascertain their progress <p>Flexible Combined Honours specific:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Experience of a variety of Free Choice or Flexible Option programme assessment strategies
<p><u>Cognitive Skills</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use French and Spanish creatively and precisely for a variety of purposes and in different media 2. Extract key information from written and spoken sources in French and Spanish 3. Organise and present ideas in French and Spanish within a structured and reasoned argument, engaging in analytical and evaluative thinking 4. Analyse and evaluate media messaging and representation. 5. Be creative and self-reflexive in carrying out project work in different media. 6. Read, comprehend and report analytically on a range of political, social and historical narratives. <p>Flexible Combined Honours specific:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Apply techniques and methods of critical analysis appropriate to a range of cognate or contrasting subjects across the range of FHEQ Levels <p>OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Apply techniques and methods of critical analysis appropriate to a secondary discipline (≥90 units) across the range of FHEQ Levels 	<p><u>Teaching/Learning Strategy</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Small group tutorials (especially skills 1, 2, 3) 2. Oral skills in French and Spanish practised extensively in class and tested / examined regularly; written skills nurtured by grammar teaching and improved as result of detailed feedback for regular assignments (especially skills 1, 2, 3) 3. Résumé/report/essay/creative writing, listening exercises in class, independent study time, exams (especially skills 1, 2, 3) 4. In-class discussion of French and Spanish newspaper articles, radio and television broadcasts; testing and examining, orally and in writing (especially skills 1, 2, 3, 5, 6) 5. Requirement to gather, analyse and evaluate data from a variety of sources for the purpose of essay writing; testing via assignments, exams (especially skills 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) 6. Use of specific professional language through in-class simulated professional and business situations (especially skills 1, 2, 3) 7. The use of internet resources, such as Moodle (especially skills 1, 2) 8. Project and portfolio work in journalism (especially skills 4, 5, 6) 9. Use of log-books to encourage self-reflexive practice (especially skills 4, 5, 6) <p>Flexible Combined Honours specific:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Context-dependent strategies from a range of or single secondary discipline(s)

<p><u>Cognitive Skills</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use French and Spanish creatively and precisely for a variety of purposes and in different media 2. Extract key information from written and spoken sources in French and Spanish 3. Organise and present ideas in French and Spanish within a structured and reasoned argument, engaging in analytical and evaluative thinking 4. Analyse and evaluate media messaging and representation. 5. Be creative and self-reflexive in carrying out project work in different media. 6. Read, comprehend and report analytically on a range of political, social and historical narratives. 	<p><u>Assessment Strategy</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unseen examinations (especially skills 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6) 2. In-class tests: Oral presentations and discussions, module essays, résumés and other creative writing work (especially skills 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6) 3. Formative assessment: regular writing and reading in English, French and in Spanish, presentations, class discussion (especially skills 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6) 4. Projects, log-books and portfolios (especially skills 4, 5 and 6) <p>Flexible Combined Honours specific:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Experience of a variety of Free Choice or Flexible Option programme assessment strategies
<p><u>Practical/Transferable Skills</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research skills, use of reference tools, note-taking and organisation of information in French and Spanish 2. Show receptivity and detailed attention to others' points of view and emotional intelligence of response 3. Use advanced presentation skills in professional settings 4. Ability to engage in effective communication according to the context (professional, business and academic contexts) 5. Ability to collate and communicate relevant information and synthesise data in a clear and structured form in writing and orally using selected information to illustrate and support the topic 6. Engage in intellectual and conceptual analysis, making informed critical judgements of sources consulted in different media and contexts 7. Ability to engage with independent thought and judgement, including assessing opposing and alternative points of view 8. Ability to engage constructively and creatively in seminars and contribute ideas and observations to class discussions 9. Using IT skills to exploit and evaluate sources of information available electronically, research and use information in different forms or media as appropriate 10. Time and project management for undertaking research and completing assignments individually or as part of a team <p>Flexible Combined Honours specific:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Skills-related outcomes derived from a bespoke range of cognate or contrasting disciplines <p>OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Skills-related outcomes deriving from a single secondary discipline (≥90 units) 	<p><u>Teaching/Learning Strategy</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requirement to submit certain assignments in word-processed form, to practise data gathering from the internet; encouragement to use internet resources and Moodle for language learning (especially skills 1, 5, 9 and 10) 2. Grammar emphasised in teaching; setting of assignments requiring use of reference tools (especially skills 1, 4 and 9) 3. Nurturing of co-operation among students to enable communicative approach to thrive; practice of interviewing, negotiating skills (especially skills 2, 4, 8 and 10) 4. Weekly independent-study tasks; coursework submission by specific deadlines; exams (especially skills 1, 9 and 10) 5. Time-constrained oral presentations to other students and in oral tests/exams; in-class debating (especially skills 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10) 6. Note taking from audio/video materials and report writing from notes; résumé writing; regular independent - study assignments, exams (especially skills 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10) 7. In-class debating and group discussions (especially skills 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8) 8. 'Key Skills for Media' course; on-going instruction in use of Library & Information Services, and advice on studying patterns (Personal Tutor system) (especially skills 1, 3, 9 and 10) 9. Detailed feedback on grammar, style and presentation of written work; provision of Department's Style Guide; compulsory instruction in touch-typing (especially skills 1, 3, 4, 9 and 10) 10. Students required to submit portfolios of DTP, print, broadcast and online work (especially skills 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10) 11. Setting frequent deadlines to encourage fluency and discipline (especially skills 10) 12. Students required to interact with actual and up-to-date examples of brands and formats, and practise writing in each genre (especially skills 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10)

<p><u>Practical/Transferable Skills</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research skills, use of reference tools, note-taking and organisation of information in French and Spanish 2. Show receptivity and detailed attention to others' points of view and emotional intelligence of response 3. Use advanced presentation skills in professional settings 4. Ability to engage in effective communication according to the context (professional, business and academic contexts) 5. Ability to collate and communicate relevant information and synthesise data in a clear and structured form in writing and orally using selected information to illustrate and support the topic 	<p><u>Assessment Strategy</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unseen examinations and in-class tests (especially skills 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10) 2. Essays, résumés and creative writing (especially skills 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11) 3. Oral presentations (especially skills 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10) 4. Formative assessment and feedback on class participation and regular independent work (especially skills 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10) <p>Flexible Combined Honours specific:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Experience of a variety of Free Choice or Flexible Option programme assessment strategies
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External Reference Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/qualifications-frameworks.pdf); • Relevant Subject Benchmark Statement(s) https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/sbs-languages-cultures-and-societies-15.pdf • Other: Common European Framework of Reference for Languages http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/Source/Framework_EN.pdf
<p>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 course unit/module can be found in the departmental or programme handbook. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed annually by the University of Buckingham and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency.</p>

Date of Production:	Autumn 2019
Date approved by School Learning and Teaching Committee:	Autumn 2019
Date approved by School Board of Study:	Autumn 2019
Date approved by University Learning and Teaching Committee:	Autumn 2019
Date of Annual Review:	In line with the University Annual Monitoring Review process.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURES

BA Modern Languages (Flexible Honours)

Jan Entry

Year One	Term 1 Winter	One of: French Stage 3 [L4/30U] French Stage 5 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 3 [L4/30U] Spanish Stage 5 [L5/30U] (MFLPRELIM1)	One of: French Stage 5 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 5 [L5/30U] (MFLPRELIM2)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L4/15U] (FLEXLV4)
	Term 2 Spring	One of: French Stage 3 [L4/30U] French Stage 5 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 3 [L4/30U] Spanish Stage 5 [L5/30U] (Continued)	One of: French Stage 5 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 5 [L5/30U] (Continued)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L4/15U] (FLEXLV4)
Preliminary Examination				
Year One	Term 3 Summer	One of: French Stage 4 [L5/30U] French Stage 6 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 4 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 6 [L6/30U] (MFLPART11)	One of: French Stage 6 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 6 [L6/30U] (MFLPART12)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L4/15U] ** (FLEXLV4)
	Term 4 Autumn	One of: French Stage 4 [L5/30U] French Stage 6 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 4 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 6 [L6/30U] (Continued)	One of: French Stage 6 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 6 [L6/30U] (Continued)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L5/15U] (FLEXLV5)
Part 1 Examination				
Year Two	Term 1 Winter	One of: French Stage 5 [L5/30U] French Stage 7 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 5 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 7 [L6/30U] (MFLP2S11)	One of: French Stage 7 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 7 [L6/30U] (MFLP2S12)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L5/15U] *** (FLEXLV5)
	Term 2 Spring	One of: French Stage 5 [L5/30U] French Stage 7 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 5 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 7 [L6/30U] (Continued)	One of: French Stage 7 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 7 [L6/30U] (Continued)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L5/15U] *** (FLEXLV5)
Part 2 Stage 1 Examination				
Year Two	Term 3 Summer	One of: French Stage 6 [L6/30U] French Stage 8 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 6 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 8 [L6/30U] (MFLP2S21)	One of: French Stage 8 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 8 [L6/30U] (MFLP2S22)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L6/15U] * (FLEXLV6)
	Term 4 Autumn	One of: French Stage 6 [L6/30U] French Stage 8 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 6 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 8 [L6/30U] (Continued)	One of: French Stage 8 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 8 [L6/30U] (Continued)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L6/15U] * (FLEXLV6)
Part 2 Stage 2 Examination				

* At the discretion of the Programme Director, a Dissertation (L6/30U) may be substituted.

** Level 4 or Level 5 option.

*** Level 5 or Level 6 option.

Availability of modules for Flexible Honours choices are subject to timetabling constraints, minimum and maximum class sizes and any agreed pre-requisite modules.

BA Modern Languages (Flexible Honours)

Sep Entry

Year One	Term 4 Autumn	One of: French fast-track [L3/0U] Spanish fast-track [L3/0U] (MFLPRELIM3)	One of: French for Academic Purposes [L4/0U] Spanish for Academic Purposes [L4/0U] (MFLPRELIM4)	
Preliminary 1 Examination				
Year Two	Term 1 Winter	One of: French Stage 3 [L4/30U] French Stage 5 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 3 [L4/30U] Spanish Stage 5 [L5/30U] (MFLPRELIM1)	One of: French Stage 5 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 5 [L5/30U] (MFLPRELIM2)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L4/15U] (FLEXLV4)
	Term 2 Spring	One of: French Stage 3 [L4/30U] French Stage 5 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 3 [L4/30U] Spanish Stage 5 [L5/30U] (Continued)	One of: French Stage 5 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 5 [L5/30U] (Continued)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L4/15U] (FLEXLV4)
Preliminary 2 Examination				
Year Two	Term 3 Summer	One of: French Stage 4 [L5/30U] French Stage 6 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 4 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 6 [L6/30U] (MFLPART11)	One of: French Stage 6 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 6 [L6/30U] (MFLPART12)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L4/15U] ** (FLEXLV4)
	Term 4 Autumn	One of: French Stage 4 [L5/30U] French Stage 6 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 4 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 6 [L6/30U] (Continued)	One of: French Stage 6 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 6 [L6/30U] (Continued)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L5/15U] (FLEXLV5)
Part 1 Examination				
Year Three	Term 1 Winter	One of: French Stage 5 [L5/30U] French Stage 7 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 5 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 7 [L6/30U] (MFLP2S11)	One of: French Stage 7 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 7 [L6/30U] (MFLP2S12)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L5/15U] *** (FLEXLV5)
	Term 2 Spring	One of: French Stage 5 [L5/30U] French Stage 7 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 5 [L5/30U] Spanish Stage 7 [L6/30U] (Continued)	One of: French Stage 7 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 7 [L6/30U] (Continued)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L5/15U] *** (FLEXLV5)
Part 2 Stage 1 Examination				
Year Three	Term 3 Summer	One of: French Stage 6 [L6/30U] French Stage 8 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 6 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 8 [L6/30U] (MFLP2S21)	One of: French Stage 8 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 8 [L6/30U] (MFLP2S22)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L6/15U] * (FLEXLV6)

Year Three	Term 4 Autumn	One of: French Stage 6 [L6/30U] French Stage 8 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 6 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 8 [L6/30U] (Continued)	One of: French Stage 8 [L6/30U] Spanish Stage 8 [L6/30U] (Continued)	Free Choice / Flexible Option [L6/15U] * (FLEXLV6)
Part 2 Stage 2 Examination				

* At the discretion of the Programme Director, a Dissertation (L6/30U) may be substituted.

** Level 4 or Level 5 option.

*** Level 5 or Level 6 option.

Availability of modules for Flexible Honours choices are subject to timetabling constraints, minimum and maximum class sizes and any agreed pre-requisite modules.