

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

**Widening Horizons
Modules**

2016/17

Level C
(for first year undergraduate
students)

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Introduction

What are Widening Horizon Modules (WHM)?

For more than a century, Birmingham has thrived by being purposeful, pragmatic and pioneering; a trio of qualities that reinforce each other to strengthen our position as a leading global university.

With this philosophy in mind we have utilised the strength and depth of teaching excellence from across the university, providing students with a wide range of learning opportunities outside of their main discipline of study. A WHM can supplement your degree pathway to enhance and fortify post-university career prospects.

Students on certain programmes are required to take a module outside their main programme of study. There are a range of WHMs to choose from, all worth 20 credits which you can take to make up the 120 credits you need to be registered for in your first year. This can be something completely new or complementary to your chosen programme, the choice is yours!

Can I take any of the WHMs in this booklet?

All WHMs listed in this booklet should be available in 2016/17. However, before finalising your WHM choice you should ensure that:

- Your programme of study allows you to choose a module outside the main discipline

How do I register for my WHM?

If you already know which modules you would like to study you can submit your options via an online form from 12.00 on 20th September. Please go to our website where you will be directed to the WHM online registration form. www.birmingham.ac.uk/whm

If you are unsure or would like further advice on which WHM is best for you the WHM Registration Event is taking place in the Great Hall Aston Webb Building (R7 on campus map) on **Thursday 22nd September 2016**.

You will be able to talk to School/Departmental representatives about the modules which interest you, and when you have made your choice, you will be directed to the online form where you can then submit your options. ***Please note that the online form closes at 8am 23rd September, so you must submit your choices by that deadline.***

There will be staff on hand to help you when you arrive.

I am interested in taking a 'Languages for All' module. Do I need to attend the WHM Registration Event?

Yes, if you wish to register for a 'Languages for All' module - as first, second, third or fourth choice - you need to attend the WHM registration event in person for an assessment of your language proficiency. LFA representatives will be located in the Great Hall to guide you through this process.

What happens if my WHM has limited spaces available?

In most cases, you will be allocated your preferred WHM; however, some modules will have limited spaces due to teaching room capacity. Where this is the case, students will be allocated at random to fill the number of places available.

To be fair to all students, allocation to limited space modules is not on a 'first-come, first-served' basis, therefore early registration at WHM Registration 2016 will not

increase the chances of securing your preferred WHM. Do not worry if you cannot attend the event until the afternoon!

Those students who are not successful in obtaining their first choice WHM will be allocated their second, third or fourth choice of WHM if there are places available. **You must submit a first, second, third and fourth choice of WHM.**

How will I know which WHM I have been enrolled on?

You can view your module registrations online, on www.my.bham.ac.uk under the 'my programme' tab from 4pm on Saturday 24th September.

Changing your WHM after enrolment

It is possible to change your module providing that you do so within the first two weeks of Autumn term. For more information on how to change, contact whmenquires@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Can I take an WHM if I am an Erasmus/Exchange Student?

Study abroad/exchange students must enrol for a full credit load (60 credits per term taken in terms one and two) Erasmus students must take at least 50% of their modules within their host department. Students may contact the exchange tutor in each department for information about modules offered in that department, but are also encouraged to attend WHM Registration 2016 to sign up for modules if not already enrolled for a full credit load. For further guidance on making appropriate module choices please speak to the exchange tutor in your host department.

Please note that the information contained in this booklet may be subject to change.

We look forward to welcoming you to the WHM Registration Event!

Fundamentals of Accounting and Finance

Banner code: 07 29045	School/Dept: Accounting & Finance	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

In semester one this module will provide non-specialist accounting students with a broad introduction to the uses of accounting information. The module covers the content of the main published accounting statements and provides students with analysis tools that allow them to use these statements to judge the financial performance of an organisation. Basics of management accounting. Intro to the principles underlying the time value of money. Discounted cash flow approaches to decision making; Introduction to corporate governance and Corporate social responsibility.

Semester two provides non specialist finance students an introduction to finance information and its uses.

It introduces core concepts in finance. Topics covered will include:

Financial market instruments and their functions; Evaluation of different sources of finance. Cost of capital and elementary financial management; Impact of dividend and capital structure policies.

Assessment:

Exam (3 hours), Written Unseen (100%)

Timetable: Weds 10-11am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Chun Mak (C.Y.Mak@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: BBS-UG@contacts.bham.ac.uk

The Cultures of Contemporary Africa

Banner code: 09 29024	School/Dept: African Studies & Anthropology	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

This is an introduction to the study and appreciation of the diversity, creativity and complexity of African cultures. Using concepts and perspectives developed in several disciplines and domains – anthropology, languages and literature, theatre and film, art and architecture, music, cuisine, sport – we explore the social institutions and cultural products of a range of peoples and places across the African continent. The course focuses equally on performance and on text: on how people make culture, inhabit and elaborate on their surroundings, and celebrate and criticise their worlds in poetry, prayer, fiction, song, and the visual and fine arts.

Assessment:

One mid-year 2,000-word essay (50%) and one end-of-year two-hour written examination (50%)

Timetable: Friday 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

**Academic
Contacts:** Rebecca Jones (r.k.jones@bham.ac.uk)

**Admin
Contact:** dasaadmin@contacts.bham.ac.uk

African Environments and Development

Banner code: 09 29025	School/Dept: African Studies & Anthropology	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

In a rapidly changing world, our own everyday lives are intricately linked to those of Africans, and their changing economies, societies and environments. In the first semester, we introduce you to ways of 'seeing' and 'knowing' the world and Africa's place in it, before discussing a selection of nature-society interactions in and with Africa. In the second semester, we explore principles and concepts of development as tools for (1) studying Africa's integration into a global political economy and assessing its changing place within a globalising world; (2) explaining disparities in material conditions in Africa, and between Africa and other parts of the world; and (3) examining regional and local examples within Africa of both successful and failed planned socio-economic change.

Assessment:

One mid-year 2,000-word essay (50%) and one end-of-year two-hour written examination (50%)

Timetable: Weds 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Reg Cline-Cole (R.E.A.Cline-Cole@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: dasaadmin@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Art and its Contexts: Concepts and Categories, Methods and Interpretations

Banner code: 10 29030	School/Dept: Art History, Curating and Visual Studies	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

In the first semester, the module provides a thorough foundation in the historical concepts and categories employed in the analysis of works of art. These include: the meanings of style, artistic 'schools', iconography and symbolism, and 'genre' and different artistic genres; the distinction between 'fine' and 'applied' art; the changing concept of the artist.

In the second semester, the module provides an introduction to various approaches and methods used in the interpretation of works of art, with a particular focus on recent methods and the debates that have been prompted by their application. Such approaches and methods include: formal analysis; semiology; the social history of art; gender studies; studies of patronage and the art market; biography; the art history 'survey'.

These various subjects are explored in relation to individual artworks that are studied both in reproduction, and also include works that can be seen in situ in the Barber Institute.

Assessment:

Two 2000-word essays (50% each)

Timetable: Thursday 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Camilla Smith (h.c.smith@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Liam Campbell-Cave (l.b.l.campbell-cave@bham.ac.uk)

Evolution: An Introduction to its Impact in the 21st Century

Banner code: 03 29018	School/Dept: Biosciences	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

Nothing makes sense except in the light of Evolution: Evolution is arguably the single most important scientific idea ever. It is not simply a biological concept but permeates all aspects of 21 C life. Evolution and its interpretation drives our view of the world well beyond the narrower confines of biology. Everything from drug design, poetry, literature, conservation, politics, advertising, economics , history, race, gender, religion has been influenced by evolutionary ideas. To fully understand the modern world, a basic and accurate understanding of where modern evolutionary ideas come from and how they are interpreted and misinterpreted is essential

The module will deliver a basic understanding of the operation of evolution by natural selection, how the theory itself evolved and how it has been used (and misused).

The module will run long and thin over two semesters in the first year and adopt blended learning approaches with two overlapping methods of delivery. The necessary knowledge will be delivered using flipped approaches on line as AMD. Here the key concepts will be identified and delivered as a series of online sessions. These include pod casts, web sites, interviews and conventional reading. Each session will be backed up by a series of formative assessments which will include online MCQs, group work and peer marking. The academic and practical skills elements of the module will consist of face to face practicals, workshops and plenary sessions. The practicals will include some data collection, the workshops will include debates and presentations on topical / contentious issues related to Evolution. The online and face to face components will run concurrently and be supported by Canvas and (in part) the Biosciences tutorial system. The module is aimed at first year UGs with no Biology A level.

Assessment:

1. Evidence of successful engagement with online formative MCQ tests on Canvas (10%)
2. An individual write up of a lab based practical investigation (25%)
3. A 5 minute pod cast produced by the group (25%)
4. A 1000 word reflective essay (40%)

Timetable: Weds 10-11am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Jeremy Pritchard (j.pritchard@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: bio-yr1-ugadmin@contact.bham.ac.uk

The Place of Business in Society

Banner code: 07 29049	School/Dept: Business School	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

This module provides the opportunity for students to develop their understanding of the complex interdependence of business and society. Whilst cumulatively contributing to achieving the learning outcomes, each semester is also designed as a discrete section to be assessed separately.

The first semester develops students' understanding of the historical and theoretical development of firms and the international environment in which they operate. It will begin by considering the historical evolution of business models, the different explanations for why firms exist, and then moves on to examine how they compete in terms of the strategic, organisational and locational decisions that they make in pursuit of competitive levels of productivity. The analysis will then move up a level to consider our empirical and theoretical understanding of globalization and the uneven development that has occurred within, between and across countries.

The second semester critically considers the effect of business upon society across a range of dimensions. It considers the emergence of global finance, culminating in a review of the causes and consequences of the ongoing financial crisis. It subsequently addresses the uneasy relationship between business and its stakeholders. We examine the response of business to its critics in terms of the practice of business communication and of business ethics and corporate social responsibility. Finally, we will examine how ideas of capitalism and its governance have changed during the 20th century before considering the possibility of different capitalist futures.

Assessment:

A 3 hour exam in summer, based on both Semester 1 and Semester 2 content (100%)

Timetable: Friday 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: John Gibney (j.gibney@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: BBS-UG@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Food: Friend or Foe?

Banner code: 04 29046	School/Dept: Chemical Engineering	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

Food is essential to sustain life; however food can also be a major contributor towards a nation's morbidity and mortality rates. Examples include food poisoning, gastrointestinal diseases, allergic reactions, obesity, diabetes, and cancer. This module will introduce students to the nutritional value of food however the module will focus on the dangers from food. Commencing with the complex human relationship with food, society and politics; participants will study issues such as food poverty, food crime (e.g. horsemeat scandal) and obesity. Students will then continue to study microbial, physical, chemical and allergenic hazards associated with food, plus an understanding of how these can be controlled, reviewing food poisoning cases and outbreaks e.g. E. Coli 0157 . Lastly an understanding of the food production environment will be gained by studying the manufacturing technology, hygiene management systems and EU and domestic legislation used to control hazards and ultimately produce safe food.

Assessment:

Exam (100%)

Timetable: Weds 10-11am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Lisa Winnall (L.Winnall@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Gillian Burrows (G.Burrows@bham.ac.uk)

Molecular Detectives

Banner code: 03 29047	School/Dept: Chemistry	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

Analytical Chemistry is the Science by which the composition of materials is studied. Analytical Chemists (or Analysts) therefore play a key role in, for example, all manufacturing industries, the production of pharmaceuticals, forensic science and clinical laboratories, and in environmental and consumer protection.

This module first introduces the fundamental concepts of Analytical Chemistry and explains how Analysts communicate their results to others. The module then discusses how the Analyst detects which substances are present in a sample and determines their concentration.

This course will provide an introduction to a number of common analytical techniques including UV/Visible Absorption Spectroscopy, Infrared Spectroscopy, Mass Spectrometry, NMR Spectroscopy (13C and 1H), Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy, X-Ray Diffraction and X-Ray Fluorescence as well as integrated problem solving. Students will learn about each of the analytical techniques but the focus of the course is on learning how to interpret the spectra produced from each technique and the real-world applications of the techniques.

Assessment:

Assessments: PeerWise assessment (10%) (students will be required to author 10 MCQ's, answer 20 MCQ's and rate and comment on 20 MCQ's) and 2-hour closed-book examination (90%)

Timetable: Friday 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Natalie Rowley (n.m.rowley@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Helen Vahey (H.M.VAHEY@bham.ac.uk)

Ancient Worlds

Banner code: 09 29028	School/Dept: Classics, Ancient History & Archaeology	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

The Ancient Worlds module will examine major developments in the cultures of the Mediterranean, Near East and temperate Europe from the late fourth millennium BCE to the middle of the first millennium CE. Using a range of methodological and theoretical approaches, the module investigates key developments such as: the development of writing in the Near East and Egypt; the establishment of democracies, theatre and rhetoric in Greek city states; the creation of epic and historiography in ancient cultures; technological change in the bronze and iron ages in Europe and the Near East; the growth of territorial empires from Egypt to Rome and Byzantium; and religious change and diversity across the period. On this module students will encounter the cultures that created Stonehenge, Babylon and Persepolis, the Pyramids, the Parthenon, the Colosseum and the Hagia Sophia, through a range of evidence types including archaeological material, literary texts, and inscriptions.

Assessment:

2 x online quizzes (20% each), one two-hour exam (60%)

Timetable: Weds 10-11am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Elena Theodorakopoulos (e.m.theodorakopoulos@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Sarah Stimpson (S.L.Stimpson@bham.ac.uk)

Digital Image Processing and Analysis

Banner code: 06 28732	School/Dept: Computer Science	Credits: 20	Semester: 2
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Description:

This course will cover the fundamentals and practical application of digital image processing. The topics include:

Image formation: from a physical scene to a digital image;
Colour images: human colour perception and digital representations;
Improving image quality: de-noising, de-blurring, contrast enhancement;
Image segmentation: partitioning the scene into meaningful objects;
Detection, counting and localising: what and where of image objects;
Image registration: how to align or stitch images together;
Beyond colour: multispectral images;
Applications (e.g. medicine, biology, remote sensing, astronomy, food, forensics);
Overview of advanced topics

Assessment:

Three MCQ tests (15% each), 1.5hr examination (55%).

Timetable: Wednesday 10-11am
& Thursday 9-10am
and in some weeks
Wednesday 9-10am
(for computer
practicals). **NB this
module only runs in
Semester 2**

**Academic
Contact:** Ela Claridge (E.Claridge@cs.bham.ac.uk)

**Admin
Contact:** Caroline Wilson (C.Wilson@bham.ac.uk)

Economics and the Real World

Banner code: 07 29048	School/Dept: Economics	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

This introductory module provides an overview of fundamental economic principles, concepts and tools. The approach will be that of an “economic naturalist” aiming at examining a set of core principles and illustrating them through exercises, problems and real world examples. The emphasis is on developing economic intuition and the ability to apply key economic insights and principles to understand and explain the world around us. In the first semester, the focus will be on microeconomics with the aim to explain the behaviour of households, firms and markets. In the second semester, the focus shifts to macroeconomics where the aim is to explain the behaviour of the economy as a whole studying macroeconomic variables (e.g., GDP, unemployment, inflation) and the influence of macroeconomic policies on these. By the end of the course students will be able to view the world through the eyes of an economist.

Assessment:

3-hour written unseen examination (100%)

Timetable: Thursday 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Daniela Raeva-Beri (d.raeva-beri@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: BBS-UG@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Academic Studies in Education, An Introduction

Banner code: 11 29094	School/Dept: Education	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

The module explores education as a field of study. In doing this it pulls on the key perspectives of psychology, sociology, history and philosophy and does so with specific reference to policy and applied contexts. The module is essentially an academic exploration of the fields above, pulling on the key study approaches of Education within the social sciences. It is highly relevant to students who may have a post-graduation study aim of undertaking Initial Teacher Education (e.g. PGCE/ PGDipEd) and a career aim of entering the teaching profession but is also suitable for those with non-teaching further study or career aims or who simply have an interest in this module as a component to their home-subject studies. The module will include relevant coverage across, for example, the English Early Years Foundation Stage, Primary, Secondary and Post-16 'phases' of education as well as teaching & learning, schools and schooling themes.

Assessment:

3000 Word Report (100%)

Timetable:
Weds 10-11am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Tracy Whatmore (t.whatmore@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: esjundgrad@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Old English

Banner code: 09 29092	School/Dept: English	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

This module offers the opportunity to begin the study of literature written in Old English, the variety of English used in the British Isles by Anglo-Saxons until 1066. Students read a selection of texts in the original language and investigate their literary, cultural, historical and artistic contexts. In semester one, students read 'Cynewulf and Cyneheard' and the Old English translation of Bede's 'Account of the Poet Caedmon'. In semester two, students read 'The Dream of the Rood' and 'The Rune Poem'. Reading skills are taught in the seminars and are supported by a variety of resources.

Assessment:

1 hour examination (35%); 3,000 word essay (65%)

Timetable: Weds 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Philippa Semper (p.semper@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Ian Evans (I.C.Evans@bham.ac.uk)

Introduction to English Literature 1790 to present

Banner code:
09 26210

School/Dept:
English

Credits:
20

Semester:
1 & 2

Description:

This course provides students with an introduction to British literature from 1790 until the present. It develops students' understanding of different critical and theoretical approaches to the analysis of literature. The texts studies may vary from year to year, but include a selection of poetry, fiction and drama. The texts are studied in relation to their social, political and literary contexts.

Assessment:

2 x 2000 word essays (50% each)

Timetable: Thursday 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Matt Geary (M.K.Geary.1@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Ian Evans (I.C.Evans@bham.ac.uk)

Global Hazards: Physical & Human Perspectives

Banner code: 03 29019	School/Dept: Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

The module aims to introduce students to a range of hazards associated with geological, meteorological and hydrological processes, and will explore how humans can manage, forecast and mitigate natural hazards.

The first part of the module will examine the basic science behind natural hazards, using suitable worked examples. The second part of the module will move on to consider the impact of natural hazards on humans and, allied to this, the way in which natural hazards are conceptualised and managed at regional and national levels.

Assessment:

MCQ end of Semester 1 (50%) and 2 (50%)

Timetable: Friday 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: John Round (j.round@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Deborah Downs (D.M.Downs@bham.ac.uk)

From Riches to Rags? Britain in the World Economy since 1850

Banner code: 09 29027	School/Dept: History	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

This module provides an introduction to key issues in British and global history and will help develop your understanding of the contemporary world. One of the most significant threads in the story of the world's shifting political and economic situation is the role that Britain has played within it. Modern debates about Britain's role in the European Union and the wider world also have deep historical roots. This module therefore examines the huge changes in the global economic system from a British perspective since 1850. In 1850 Britain was truly a world superpower with a vast global empire; today it wrestles with an entirely different set of political and economic circumstances. Key issues the module examines therefore include: the economics of empire up to 1945; the economic impact of World Wars I and II; trade relations and the rise and fall of 'free trade'; overseas investment, currency systems and sterling's role as an international currency; the role of the City of London; Britain and European economic union; and Britain's economic relations with the USA since 1914.

Assessment:

2 x online quizzes (20% each), one two-hour exam (60%)

Timetable: Weds 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Julian Greaves (j.i.greaves@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Lily Cooksey (CookseyL@adf.bham.ac.uk)

Key Moments and Current Issues in Law and Policy

Banner code: 09 29033	School/Dept: Law	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

This module introduces non-law students to (1) key moments and (2) current issues in law and policy.

(1) The “Key Moments in Law and Policy” content will focus on pivotal decisions in case law which were both legally significant at the time, and whose significance and impact continues to resonate on law and policy in modern society. Different cases/moments might be examined each year.

(2) The “Current issues in law and policy” content involves examining a series of current issues raising important/controversial issues of law and policy. Each year a number of different areas will be examined, and the topics covered from year-to-year will change depending on current events and staff expertise. In examining particular topic areas the objective is to provide students with an introduction to some of the legal issues which arise in particular areas covered seeking to help them differentiate between fact and fiction in the way in which the issue is presented/represented in the media and the actual content and resolution of the legal issues in question.

A non-exhaustive, indicative list of the kinds of topic areas, some of which might be covered in any one year, is set out below:

Euthanasia
Immigration/Migration/Refugees
European Union Membership
International conflict
Terrorism
Human Rights
Animal Rights
Copyright and the internet/music, intellectual property
Law and Religion
Race
Abortion
Money
Discrimination
Privacy and the internet

Assessment:

Two take-home assessment exercises each limited to 1500 words. (50% each)

Timetable: Weds 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Kieren McGuffin (M.K.McGuffin@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Lee Beddow (L.Beddow@bham.ac.uk)

An Introduction to Mathematics

Banner code: 06 29064	School/Dept: Mathematics	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

The first semester will follow the book 'Mathematics: A Very Short Introduction' by Timothy Gowers. The preface of this book notes that 'Very little prior knowledge is needed to read this book – a British GCSE course or equivalent should be enough'. The first semester of this module is meant to be a fun and accessible introduction to Mathematics.

The second semester of this module naturally follows from the first and includes topics that students may have heard of before, but, may not have been formally taught. Topics may include:

1. Number theory - Modular arithmetic, finding out last digits of sums of huge powers, Pythagorean triples, Fermat's theorem for power 4, etc.
2. Geometry/topology - Solving questions by "Geometry of masses", Non-Euclidean geometry model in a circle, basics of topology, interesting examples such as Möbius strip, Klein bottle.
3. Graphs – Exploring the features of trees, planar graphs, Euler's formula, Platonic solids
4. Inequalities – Examining the features of the Arithmetic/Geometric mean inequality, different methods of proving it, and the many inequalities derived from this.

Students should not be scared if they do not recognize any of the above topics. This module has been designed for non-mathematics majors.

Assessment:

Assessments: This module will be 100% continuously assessed with no final examination. There will be two assignments in each of the Autumn and Spring terms. Each of the four assignments in total will have an equal weighting of 25% towards the overall module mark.

Timetable: Weds 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contacts: Richard Kaye (R.W.KAYE@bham.ac.uk)
and Olga Maleva (O.Maleva@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Tracey Priest (T.J.Priest@bham.ac.uk)

Archaeomaterials

Banner code: 04 29031	School/Dept: Metallurgy and Materials	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

The module is intended as a survey of the development of human society with reference to the increasing exploitation of materials, placed in the context of Materials Science as a discipline. The structure, properties and applications of ceramics, metals, polymers, composites and natural materials, used in the past, will be interpreted using the materials science tools of the present. This involves the learning of basic crystallography, phase diagrams, mechanical properties and materials behaviour so that the earlier uses of materials in the past may be understood.

Assessment:

2 hour examination (70%) and two coursework exercises (15%) each.

Timetable: Weds 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: William Griffiths (w.d.griffiths@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Sharon Jones (S.Jones.2@bham.ac.uk)

Music in Society

Banner code: 10 29029	School/Dept: Music	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

This module comprises twenty one-hour lectures on various aspects of both art music (i.e. the 'Western Classical Tradition') and popular music traditions (which refers here not just to commercial music produced in the Western hemisphere post-World War 2, but also from before this time, and traditions from around the world), and their role in society, both present and historic. Issues addressed may include 'What is Art Music and how and why did it originate?'; 'Has there always been a distinction between Art and Popular musics?'; 'Who is the composer writing for and why?'; 'What makes a piece of 'great' music great, and who decides?'; and 'Is Art Music necessarily elitist?'; 'What exactly is meant by the term 'popular music'?'; 'Who are the producers and consumers?'; 'How does popular music represent or reflect (sub)cultures?'; 'Can popular music be elitist?'. These and other questions will be addressed with reference to a wide range of art and popular musics, from the medieval period to the twenty-first century. Students will be expected to read literature that addresses these questions, and to listen to representative examples as part of their independent study.

Assessment:

One 2 hour examination (100%)

Timetable: Friday 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Paul Rodmell (p.j.rodmell@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Sue Miles (s.miles@bham.ac.uk)

Philosophical Problems

Banner code:
09 29060

School/Dept:
Philosophy

Credits:
20

Semester:
1 & 2

Description:

Students are introduced to approximately ten of the most quintessential problems in Western analytic philosophy – problems which practically everyone with a philosophical temperament has will have puzzled over before. The lectures supporting the module are delivered by around five different members of Philosophy staff, and the seminars by Philosophy PGTAs, so students will be exposed to a healthy variety of teaching styles.

The issues covered are:

- Scepticism (how can I know anything at all about the world?)
- Free will (how can I think and act freely, if all my thoughts and actions are determined by the laws that govern the Universe?)
- The existence of God (does S/He exist?)
- Realism vs antirealism (to what extent is reality distinct from how it appears?)
- The mind/body problem (is the mind just the brain?)
- Personal identity (what is it about you that makes you the same person as you were years ago?)
- Utilitarianism vs. Deontology (are actions morally right and wrong 'in themselves', or are they so just because of the effects they have on people's happiness etc.?)
- Ethical obligation (how much should we help people much worse-off than ourselves?)
- Moral relativism (are moral values absolute or do they vary from one culture/person to others?)
- The requirements of justice (Who should have what?)

Assessment:

Assessments:

2 x 1500 word essays (each essay worth 25%) and 1 x centrally-timetabled 90 minute (summer) exam (the exam is worth 50%)

Timetable: Weds 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Darragh Byrne (d.byrne@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Michael O'Sullivan (M.T.OSullivan@bham.ac.uk)

The Cosmic Connection

Banner code: 03 29095	School/Dept: Physics	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

Although we no longer find our way from the pattern of stars in the sky, we still wonder about our place in the Universe. Modern science provides explanations for much of what we see: we believe nuclear fusion powers the Sun and that the sky is dark at night because the Universe is expanding and has a finite age. The module will chart the life and death of stars and the Universe itself and will emphasise how it is possible to test theories about, for example, the initial fireball of the Universe.

Assessment:

Exam - Written Unseen (100%)

Timetable: Thursday 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: William Chaplin (w.j.chaplin@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: physics-tso@adf.bham.ac.uk

Theories of Global Politics

Banner code: 08 29057	School/Dept: Political Science and International Studies	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

How to 'make sense' of global politics is a matter of theory, for alternative theoretical perspectives offer radically different assessments of real world issues such as globalisation, development, poverty, and war. Across a range of disciplines such as Political Science, International Relations, Geography, Sociology, Anthropology, Cultural Studies, Philosophy, Economics, Law, Criminology, and History, scholars contest how best to understand global political, economic and cultural processes. This module introduces students to different theoretical traditions in the study of global politics, and offers students the opportunity to interrogate key scholarly debates and contemporary issues through multiple theoretical lenses.

The module will be taught in three parts. The first part, 'Theories', introduces students to mainstream and critical perspectives on global politics, including liberal, Marxist, feminist, and postcolonial theories, and encourages students to reflect upon the relationship between knowledge production and power relations in the study and practice of global politics. The second part, 'Debates', explores key scholarly debates about the political, economic and cultural dimensions of global processes. The final section, 'Issues', interrogates key contemporary issues in global politics including environmental degradation, economic development, war and violence, and the global sex industry.

Assessment:

Assessments: Semester 2: Take-home test (100%)

Timetable: Weds 10-11am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Nicola Smith (n.j.smith.1@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Andrew Howell (A.Howell@bham.ac.uk)

Applied Psychology

Banner code: 03 29159	School/Dept: Psychology	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

Semester 1: Psychology, Health & Wellbeing

The purpose of this module is to provide an overview of the main concepts, theories and research methods in Health Psychology. Topics to be covered include health beliefs, symptom perception, stress, coping, health-related behaviours (smoking, alcohol use, eating/obesity), risk perception, resilience, survivorship, benefit finding and quality of life.

Current evidence related to each area will be examined through one recommended journal article associated with each lecture.

Semester 2: Neurodevelopmental Disorders

The module will focus on neurodevelopmental disorders. Major topics to be covered include: Prefrontal development abnormalities and antisocial behaviour; psychopaths; attachment problems and sexual offending; attention deficit hyperactive disorder; dyslexia; Tourette's; obsessive compulsive disorder; Huntington's disease; Parkinson's disease.

Current evidence related to each area will be examined through one recommended journal article associated with each lecture.

Assessment:

2 MCQ tests (50% each)

Timetable: Friday 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Ian Charest (i.charest@bham.ac.uk)
& Damian Cruse (d.cruse@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Graham Davies (g.k.davies@bham.ac.uk)

Introduction to Social Problems and Social Policy

Banner code: 08 29063	School/Dept: Social Policy	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

This module explores the relationship between social problems and social policy in contemporary society. The introductory part of the module explores why the label social problem has been attached to particular social phenomenon and not others. Is there a 'social scientific' rationale for such selections or have social problems been constructed and responded to because of other political, social and economic factors? Attention will also be given to the distinguishing features of social policy and the way in which such policies have been developed to ameliorate or resolve identified social problems. The core of the module will explore the relationship between social problems and social policy through a series of 5 case studies on various topics, for example poverty, migration and health.

Assessment:

3hr exam (100%)

Timetable: Weds 10-11am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Surinder Guru (s.guru@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Katherine Burley (K.Burley@bham.ac.uk)

Enterprise and Exercise Promotion

Banner code: 03 29065	School/Dept: Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

This interdisciplinary module explores the concept of enterprise, using the example of exercise promotion campaigns. Being enterprising means that you can spot challenges, come up with innovative solutions, and act effectively to make things happen. In this module, the “challenge” is physical inactivity, which has been declared a global public health problem by the World Health Organisation. You will learn how exercise affects physical and mental health in different populations; explore different theoretical approaches to promoting exercise and physical activity; and develop enterprising behaviours, attributes and skills to help you design an effective infographic for an exercise promotion campaign.

Assessment:

Assessments:

20% In class test (Multichoice questions)
30% Infographic (produced as a small group)
50% Final exam (MCQ)

Timetable: Thursday 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Victoria Burns (v.e.burns@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Natalia Bateson (WojtczaN@adf.bham.ac.uk)

Constructing the Holocaust

Banner code:
09 28944

School/Dept:
Theology & Religion

Credits:
20

Semester:
1 & 2

Description:

The module analyses the construction of 'the Holocaust', both how events were perceived by a range of participants as events were unfolding and subsequently. This is done by focusing on a range of different approaches to, and controversies in, the construction of the history and memorialization of the Holocaust. Topics explored may include:

Debates over how to define, 'name' and account for the Holocaust

'Dating' the Holocaust,

The nature of non-Jewish victimhood;

How the Holocaust was understood differently from the perspective of victims and perpetrators, both at the time and with the benefit of hindsight;

Who was a perpetrator (with reference to Nazis, 'ordinary' Germans, non-German perpetrators), and i.e., whether it is possible to be both victim and perpetrator;

The growth of policies and rituals of exclusion via anti-Jewish legislation, the emergence of the 'racial state', and acts of public violence;

The establishment and function of German-established ghettos and controversies over the role of the Judenräte (Jewish councils),

The activities of the Einsatzgruppen in the occupied Soviet Union,

The function and evolution of concentration camps and death camps

Assessment:

Assessments: 1 x 2500 word essay (50%, semester 2, week 11) + 90 minute exam in May/June (50%) focusing on goblets/sources (both written texts and images).

Timetable: Weds 9-10am,
Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Contact: Isabel Wollaston (i.l.wollaston@bham.ac.uk)

Admin Contact: Michael O'Sullivan (M.T.OSullivan@bham.ac.uk)

LANGUAGES FOR ALL

INSTITUTION WIDE LANGUAGE PROGRAMME

Languages for All offers a range of languages as WHMs and students will take their chosen language at the level most suited to their previous knowledge. Entry levels range from 1 to 8. As a general rule, Level 1 is for complete beginners only, Levels 3 and 4 are suitable for students with a good or excellent GCSE pass and Level 6 progresses from A-level. Levels 7 and 8 are the equivalent of undergraduate level language study. The module descriptions in this section give guidance to our entry levels and [placement tests](#) are also available on our website. Students who intend to apply for a Languages for All WHM should attend the Languages for All helpdesks at the WHM Event before submitting an application to confirm their entry level and to submit teaching group choices.

Level 1 Language WHMs

Banner code:	School/Dept:	Credits:	Semester:
09 25283 IWLP French Level 1	Languages for All	20	1 & 2
09 25298 IWLP German Level 1			
09 25176 IWLP Italian Level 1			
09 25230 IWLP Japanese Level 1			
09 25198 IWLP Mandarin Chinese Level 1			
09 25253 IWLP Russian Level 1			
09 25315 IWLP Spanish Level 1			
09 27125 IWLP Ukrainian Level 1			

Description:

Level 1 language modules provide an introduction to the language for students with no previous knowledge. The courses aim to develop basic listening, speaking, reading and writing skills (including an introduction to different written scripts in Chinese, Japanese and Russian), which will lay the foundation for further study and will help you to develop strategies for coping with the target language in real-life situations.

Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole-group and small group / pair-work activities with emphasis on communicative settings, use of visual aids and audio/video materials from the internet where appropriate.

Assessment:

Oral exam (30%) and written examination (70%)

Timetable:	Available at www.birmingham.ac.uk /Documents/college-artslaw/cml/momd-timetable.pdf	Entrance requirements:	No previous knowledge required. Evidence of previous language learning preferred. e.g. GCSE in a different foreign language
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Staff contact: Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Level 2 Language WHMs

Banner code:	School/Dept:	Credits:	Semester:
09 25285 IWLP French Level 2	Languages for All	20	1 & 2
09 25300 IWLP German Level 2			
09 25182 IWLP Italian Level 2			
09 25232 IWLP Japanese Level 2			
09 25201 IWLP Mandarin			
Chinese Level 2			
09 25318 IWLP Spanish Level 2			

Description:

Level 2 language modules are designed for near-beginners and will build upon the knowledge acquired at Level 1 or equivalent by further developing and consolidating the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. As grammar rules become more complex, every new structure will be dealt with in depth while some time spent revising and consolidating past knowledge. Structured language will be taught in the context of situations and personalised topics. Simulation materials will be drawn from authentic sources and will be used to improve and to provide stimulus for the development of both productive skills (speaking and writing) and receptive skills (reading and listening). Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole-group and small group / pair-work activities with emphasis on communicative settings and including the use of visual aids and audio/video materials from the internet where appropriate.

Assessment:

Oral exam (30%) and written examination (70%)

Timetable:	Available at www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documentation/college-artslaw/cml/momd-timetable.pdf	Entrance requirements:	Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 1 language WHM or equivalent (as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)
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Staff contact: Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Level 3 Language WHMs

Banner code:	School/Dept:	Credits:	Semester:
09 25287 IWLP French Level 3	Languages for All	20	1 & 2
09 25305 IWLP German Level 3			
09 25185 IWLP Italian Level 3			
09 25234 IWLP Japanese Level 3			
09 25206 IWLP Mandarin Chinese Level 3			
09 25321 IWLP Spanish Level 3			

Description:

Level 3 language modules are aimed at the lower-intermediate learner and will consolidate, develop, and extend listening, speaking, reading and writing skills acquired on the previous level. As grammar rules become more complex, every new structure will be dealt with in depth while some time will be spent revising and consolidating past knowledge. Structured language will be taught in the context of situations and personalised topics. Authentic and semi-authentic materials will be used to improve and to provide stimulus for the development of both productive (speaking and writing) and receptive skills (reading and listening).

In Chinese and Japanese modules, more Chinese/Japanese Chinese (*Kan-ji*) characters will be introduced in class.

Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole-group and small group / pair-work activities with emphasis on communicative settings; use of visual aids and audio/video materials from the internet where appropriate

Assessment:

Oral exam (30%) and written examination (70%)

Timetable:	Available at www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documentation/college-artslaw/cml/momd-timetable.pdf	Entrance requirements:	Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 2 language WHM or good/recent GCSE pass or equivalent (as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)
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Staff contact: Judith Hancock – lfra@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Level 3 French WHM (Distance Learning)

Banner code: 09 27023	School/Dept: Languages for All	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

This module is identical to the conventional French Level 3 WHM but with an alternative mode of delivery, suitable for students who are unable to attend classes on campus. It is aimed at the lower-intermediate learner of French and will consolidate, develop, and extend listening, speaking, reading and writing skills acquired on IWLP French level 2 or equivalent (post A1, start of A2 in the Common European Framework of Reference). As grammar rules become more complex, every new structure will be dealt with in depth while some time will be spent revising and consolidating past knowledge. Structured language will be taught in the context of situations and personalized topics. Authentic and semi-authentic materials will be used to improve and to provide stimulus for the development of both productive (speaking and writing) and receptive skills (reading and listening).

Students will study course materials online through the University VLE (Canvas) supported by online seminars, tutorials and discussions with French staff in Languages for All

Assessment:

Oral exam (30%) and written examination (70%)

Timetable:	Not Applicable	Entrance requirements:	Pass at IWLP French Level 2 MOMD or good/recent GCSE pass or equivalent (as agreed with the LfA French Language Co-ordinator)
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Staff contact: Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Level 4 Language WHMs

Banner code:	School/Dept:	Credits:	Semester:
09 25289 IWLP French Level 4	Languages for All	20	1 & 2
09 25307 IWLP German Level 4			
09 25189 IWLP Italian Level 4			
09 25209 IWLP Mandarin Chinese Level 4			
09 25323 IWLP Spanish Level 4			

Description:

Level 4 language modules progress from GCSE level and are aimed to the Intermediate level learner by consolidating, developing, and extending listening, speaking, reading and writing skills acquired at Level 3 or at GCSE. Receptive and productive skills will be developed within a range of contexts in the target language by the use of authentic materials, text and practice books, etc. Structured language will be taught in the context of situations and personalised topics and you will begin to cope with a variety of less predictable real life situations.

Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole-group and small group / pair-work activities with emphasis on communicative settings; use of visual aids and audio/video materials from the internet where appropriate.

Assessment:

Oral exam (30%) and written examination (70%)

Timetable:	Available at www.birmingham.ac.uk /Documents/college- artslaw/cml/momd- timetable.pdf	Entrance requirements:	Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 3 language WHM; for direct entry, GCSE A* or equivalent as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)
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Staff contact: Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Level 4 French WHM (Distance Learning)

Banner code: 09 28183	School/Dept: Languages for All	Credits: 20	Semester: 1 & 2
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Description:

This module is identical to the conventional French Level 4 WHM but with an alternative mode of delivery, suitable for students who are unable to attend classes on campus. It progresses from GCSE level and is aimed to the Intermediate level learner by consolidating, developing, and extending listening, speaking, reading and writing skills acquired at Level 3 or at GCSE. Receptive and productive skills will be developed within a range of contexts in the target language by the use of authentic materials, text and practice books, etc. Structured language will be taught in the context of situations and personalised topics and you will begin to cope with a variety of less predictable real life situations. Students will study course materials online through the University VLE (Canvas) supported by online seminars, tutorials and discussions with French staff in Languages for All.

Assessment:

Oral exam (30%) and written examination (70%)

Timetable:	Not Applicable	Entrance requirements:	Pass at IWLP French Level 3 MOMD or good/recent GCSE pass or equivalent (as agreed with the LfA French Language Co-ordinator)
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Staff contact: Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Level 5 Language WHMs

Banner code:

09 25291 IWLP French Level 5

09 25309 IWLP German Level 5

09 25325 IWLP Spanish Level 5

School/Dept:

Languages for All

Credits:

20

Semester:

1 & 2

Description:

Level 5 language modules aim to further develop and extend listening, reading, speaking and writing skills acquired at Level 4 or at AS-level. It caters for students at a higher intermediate level (who have reached A2 in the Common European Framework of Reference). More emphasis will be put on developing learning strategies and debating skills. You will learn to cope with a variety of less predictable real-life situations, using a main textbook as well as a range of material from authentic sources: newspapers and magazines, radio and TV programmes and the Internet.

The course content will be delivered in a lively and interactive way, through activities designed to enable you to use the language in context, either in small groups or in pairs.

Assessment:

Oral exam (40%) and written examination (60%)

Timetable:Available at
[www.birmingham.ac.uk
/Documents/college-artslaw/cml/momd-timetable.pdf](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/college-artslaw/cml/momd-timetable.pdf)**Entrance requirements:**

Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 4 language WHM; for direct entry, good AS-level pass or equivalent (as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)

Staff contact: Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Level 6 Language WHMs

Banner code:	School/Dept:	Credits:	Semester:
09 25293 IWLP French Level 6	Languages for All	20	1 & 2
09 25311 IWLP German Level 6			
09 25328 IWLP Spanish Level 6			

Description:

This module aims at the advanced learner of the language. It will further develop and extend listening, reading and writing skills acquired at previous levels or at A-level. Students will acquire a high level of competence in written and oral language including debating skills on less common topics. In addition, a particular emphasis will be put on specific skills like summarizing and report writing. Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole group and small-group/pair-work activities, aiming at developing all language skills, with emphasis on oral communication. Visual aids, audio/video recordings and the Internet are used routinely.

Assessment:

Oral exam (40%) and written examination (60%)

Timetable:	Available at www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/college-artslaw/cml/momd-timetable.pdf	Entrance requirements:	Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 5 language WHM; for direct entry, good A2 level pass or equivalent (as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)
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Staff contact: Judith Hancock – lfaf@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Level 7 Language WHMs

Banner code:	School/Dept:	Credits:	Semester:
09 25295 IWLP French Level 7	Languages for All	20	1 & 2
09 25314 IWLP German Level 7			
09 25330 IWLP Spanish Level 7			

Description:

This module aims at the more advanced level student and extends receptive and productive skills to a more sophisticated level. Learning strategies and study methods will be developed to increase independent learning. Students will be exposed to a variety of different types of spoken and written texts. They will increase their awareness and use of different registers. Substantial authentic video and audio material will be used as well as newspaper articles and the Internet in order to enhance students' cultural knowledge of the country where the language is spoken. Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole group and small-group/pair-work activities, aiming at developing all language skills, with emphasis on oral communication. Visual aids, audio/video recordings and the Internet are used routinely.

Assessment:

Oral exam (40%) and written examination (60%)

Timetable:	Available at www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documentation/college-artslaw/cml/momd-timetable.pdf	Entrance requirements:	Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 6 language WHM or equivalent (as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)
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Staff contact: Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Level 8 Language WHMs

Banner code:	School/Dept:	Credits:	Semester:
09 26135 IWLP French Level 8	Languages for All	20	1 & 2
09 26139 IWLP German Level 8			
09 26138 IWLP Spanish Level 8			

Description:

Level 8 language modules are for students who have already attained a high level of proficiency and who wish to extend receptive and productive skills to a highly sophisticated level, encompassing several registers. Strategies and study methods will be further developed to increase independent learning. Cultural knowledge of the country where the language is spoken will be enhanced through students' research. Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole group and small-group/pair-work activities, aiming at developing all language skills, with particular emphasis on oral communication. Conversations, discussions and debates on topical (current) issues will be a constant feature. A wide range of audio-visual resources are used routinely.

Assessment:

Oral exam (40%) and written examination (60%)

Timetable:	Available at www.birmingham.ac.uk /Documents/college- artslaw/cml/momd- timetable.pdf	Entrance requirements:	Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 7 language WHM or equivalent (as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)
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Staff contact: Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk