University of Birmingham

MA Applied Corpus Linguistics

The MA in Applied Corpus Linguistics is a flexible programme that allows you to study corpus linguistics and its application to other areas of linguistics, such as language teaching and learning, translation or discourse analysis.

Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham was awarded The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2013-14 (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx)

Course fact file

Type of Course: Taught

Study Options: Full time

Duration: 1 year full-time

Start date: September

Contact

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School of English, Drama and American & Canadian Studies (/schools/edacs/index.aspx)

Department of English Literature (/schools/edacs/departments/english/index.aspx)

Details

You will complete six taught modules and a 15,000-word dissertation.

There are three core modules:

Introduction to Corpus Linguistics

This module introduces you to the concepts and techniques involved in current qualitative corpus research, including corpus investigation software and the presentation and interpretation of corpus data, especially concordances and collocation. There is an emphasis on the relationships between corpus data and theories of language. You will be expected to carry out a small-scale corpus-based project of your own design, using monolingual or bilingual corpora.

Research Methods in Corpus Linguistics

This usually includes statistics, use and design of programs, corpus collection and research project design. The module content is flexible to cater for the needs and interests of individual students.

Advances in Corpus Linguistics

This module places corpus linguistics in the wider context of discourse studies, contrastive linguistics, social (particularly media) studies, CDA and language philosophy. It aims to contribute towards helping you to appreciate the contribution corpus linguistics makes to linguistics in general.

You will also choose three optional modules that can focus on a chosen area of application, from a range which includes:

In the autumn term -

- **Describing Language (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#describinglanguage)**
- **Discourse, Culture and Communication (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#describinglanguage)**
- **Language and Literature: Key Topics in Stylistics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#introductiontranslation)**
- **Second Language Learning and Teaching (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#researchmethodscorpuslinguistics)**
- **Social and Multimodal Aspects of Communication (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#secondlanguagelearningteaching)** OR **Social and Psychological Aspects of Language (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#socialmultimodalaspectscommunication)**
- **Syllabus and Materials Design (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#socialpsychologicalaspectslanguage)**

In the spring term -

- **Business English (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#advancescorpuslinguistics)**
- **Cognitive Approaches to Discourse Analysis (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#CognitiveApproachesDiscourseAnalysis)**
- **Cognitive Linguistics and Language Learning (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#businessenglish)**
- **Computer Assisted Language Learning (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#cognitivelinguisticslanguagelearning)**
- **Corpus Linguistics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#contemporarytranslationtheory)**
- **English as a Global Language (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#discourseteachers)**
- **Issues and Approaches in English for Academic Purposes (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#englishgloballanguage)**
- **Intercultural Communication (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#issuesapproachesenglishacademicpurposes)**
- **Language and New Media (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#interculturalcommunication)**

- **Language and Politics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#languagenewmedia)**
- **Language, Style and Identity (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#LanguageStyleIdentity)**
- **Language Teaching Observation and Practice (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#languagepolitics)**
- **Language Testing (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#languageteachingobservationpractice)**
- **Narrative Analysis in Film and Fiction (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#languagetesting)**
- **Teacher Training (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#specialisedtranslation)**

Please note that availability of optional modules may vary from year to year.

Fees and funding

We charge an annual tuition fee. Fees for 2015/16 are as follows:

- Home/EU: £6,840 full-time
- Overseas: £14,140 full-time

Tuition fees can either be paid in full or by instalments.

Eligibility for Home/EU or Overseas fees can be verified with Admissions. Learn more about **fees for international students (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/students/finance/fees.aspx)** .

Learn more about **postgraduate tuition fees and funding (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/pgt-fees/index.aspx)** .

Scholarships and studentships

Scholarships to cover fees and/or maintenance costs may be available. To discover whether you are eligible for any award across the University, and to start your funding application, please visit the University's **Postgraduate Funding Database (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees/funding/FundingFilter.aspx)** .

International students can often gain funding through overseas research scholarships, Commonwealth scholarships or their home government.

Entry requirements

We usually require an upper second-class Honours degree, or equivalent, in Applied Linguistics, Linguistics, English Language or another relevant subject (e.g. Translation Studies, TEFL/TESL, English Literature, Communication Studies). Appropriate work experience will also be taken into consideration.

Learn more about **entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/index.aspx)**

International students

Academic requirements

We accept a range of qualifications; our **country pages (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/international/students/country/index.aspx)** show you what qualifications we accept from your country.

English language requirements

You can satisfy our English language requirements in two ways:

- by holding an **English language qualification (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/index.aspx)** to the right level; for this course we ask for IELTS 6.5 in all bands.
- by taking and successfully completing one of our **English courses for international students (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/english-courses.aspx)**

How to apply

Before you make your application

You may wish to **register your interest with us (https://bham.hobsons.co.uk/emtinterestpage.aspx?ip=postgraduate)** to receive regular news and updates on postgraduate life within this Department and the wider University.

Making your application

When clicking on the Apply Now button you will be directed to an application specifically designed for the programme you wish to apply for where you will create an account with the University application system and submit your application and supporting documents online. Further information regarding how to apply online can be found on the **How to apply pages (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/apply-pg/index.aspx)**

Apply now (https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/CAL050.htm)

Related news and events

December graduations (/schools/edacs/departments/english/news/2011/cels2011/december-graduations.aspx)

Researchers to unlock distinctive West Midlands accent (/research/impact/our/news/items/vernon-manuscript.aspx)

Learning and teaching

As an English language student, you will be able to benefit from having free access to the hardware, software and data resources held at the **Centre for Corpus Research (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/corpus/index.aspx)** .

You will also become part of, and contribute to, the vibrant international community of the College of Arts and Law Graduate School, which offers dedicated research resources and a supportive working environment. Our team of academic and operational staff are on hand to offer support and advice to all postgraduate students within the College.

Support with academic writing

As a postgraduate student in the College of Arts and Law, you have access to the **Academic Writing Advisory Service (AWAS) (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/colleges/artslaw/student-experience/opportunities/awas/index.aspx)** which aims to help your transition from undergraduate to taught Masters level, or back into academia after time away. The service offers guidance on writing assignments and dissertations for your MA/MSc programme with individual support from an academic writing advisor via tutorials, email and the provision of online materials.

International students can access support through the **English for International Students Unit (EISU) (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/eisu/insessional/index.aspx)** .

Related research

- **Centre for Corpus Research (/research/activity/corpus/index.aspx)**

Related staff

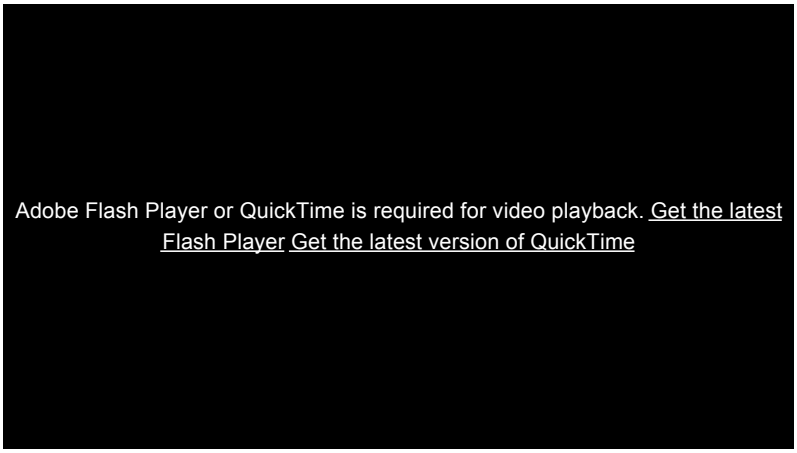
Dr Nicholas Groom (/staff/profiles/elal/groom-nicholas.aspx)

Robert Holland (/staff/profiles/elal/holland-robert.aspx)

Employability

The University of Birmingham has been ranked 8th in the UK and 60th in the world for post-qualification employability in the latest global survey of universities commissioned by the International Herald Tribune.

Your degree will provide excellent preparation for employment and this will be further enhanced by the employability skills training offered through the College of Arts and Law Graduate School.



Birmingham?s English Language and Applied Linguistics postgraduates develop a broad range of transferable skills that are highly valued by employers, particularly in relation to verbal and written communication. They also develop crucial skills in organisation, time management, analysis and interpretation of information.

Over the past five years, over 92% of English Language and Applied Linguistics postgraduates were in work and/or further study six months after graduation. Some of our graduates enter roles for which their programme has prepared them, such as translation, interpreting or teaching; others use their transferable skills in a wide range of occupations including journalism, marketing, publishing and media.

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