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MA Applied Linguistics

This programme is intended for anyone interested in the application of language research to language pedagogy, and for teachers of English who wish to upgrade their professional standing. All students on this programme are introduced to the 400 million-word Bank of English corpus, an invaluable collection of authentic language data against which theory, intuition and pedagogic materials can be measured.

We also offer a distance learning programme over 2.5 years. For more information see **Applied Linguistics MA (Distance Learning) (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/distance/english/applied-linguistics.aspx)** .

Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham has been 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: Continuing professional development, taught

Study Options: Full time

Duration: 1 year full-time

Start date: September 2014

Contact

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Postgraduate Administrator
Tel: +44 (0)121 414 3239
Email: **s.a.brady@bham.ac.uk (mailto:s.a.brady@bham.ac.uk)**

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 study four core modules [full descriptions available below]:

- Describing Language
- Social and Psychological Aspects of Language
- Discourse Culture and Communication
- Research Methods in Applied Linguistics

You will also choose three optional modules from a wide range and complete a 15,000-word dissertation.

In addition, there are two non-assessed components in the programme:

- All students will take a short course – Introduction to the Bank of English – which introduces you to the 400 million-word Cobuild Bank of English corpus, an invaluable collection of authentic language data against which theory, intuition and pedagogic materials can be measured
- You may also take a course in Academic Writing. Those whose first language is not English are particularly encouraged to follow this course.

You will do a total of six assessed pieces of coursework over the year. For assessment purposes, one of the modules you take during the spring term will be 'linked' with the Research Methods module – that is, you will produce a piece of work in the field covered by that module, but with a particular focus on research methods.

Modules

You will study four core modules:

Describing Language

This module includes the study of lexis and of Systemic-Functional grammar. This gives you the tools to describe and analyse language in a range of settings.

Social and Psychological Aspects of Language

This module includes courses on both Sociolinguistics and Psycholinguistics. You will look at issues of language in society, focusing on the linguistic and political implications of language variation and languages in contact. In Psycholinguistics, you are introduced to the study of first and second language acquisition and cognitive models of language.

Discourse Culture and Communication

This module covers aspects of how spoken and written discourse is organised, how it varies, and how it may be described and analysed. There is a strong focus on issues of culture and communication. As an alternative to this module, you may choose to take the Syllabus and Materials Design module from the MA in TEFL/TESL.

Research Methods in Applied Linguistics

This module includes a course in methods and approaches to research in Applied Linguistics. In addition, you will select one option from the range on offer and apply what you have learned to a small research project.

You will also choose three optional modules from a range which may include the following:

- Business English
- Computer Assisted Language Learning
- Cognitive Linguistics and Language Learning
- Corpus Linguistics
- English as a Global Language
- English for Specific/Academic Purposes
- Intercultural Communication
- Language and Literature
- Language and New Media
- Language and Politics
- Management of Innovation
- Media Literacy
- Narrative Analysis in Fiction and Film
- Stance, Appraisal and Evaluation
- Teacher Training
- Teaching Young Learners

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

Fees and funding

We charge an annual tuition fee. Fees for 2014/15 are as follows:

- Home/EU: £6,570 full-time
- Overseas: £13,665 full-time

Learn more about **fees and funding (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees/postgraduate/fees.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.

University of Birmingham graduates - including those due to graduate in summer 2014 - may be entitled to a fee reduction through the **College of Arts and Law Alumni Bursary scheme (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/calgs/scholarships/alumni-bursary.aspx)** .

Entry requirements

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
- 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

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/CAL051.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/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 450 million word Bank of English corpus, and 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)** .

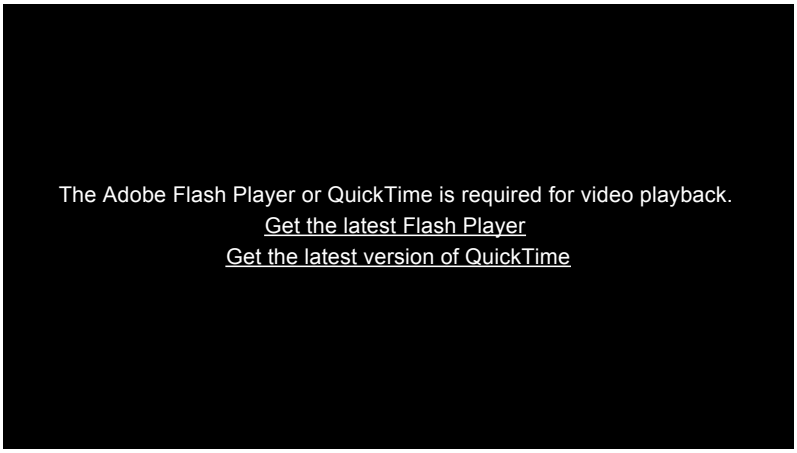
Related staff

Dr Crayton Walker (/staff/profiles/elal/walker-crayton.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.



Over the last five years, over 95% of English postgraduates have been in work and/or further study six months after graduation using the transferable skills gained in their postgraduate degree. Graduate occupations have included banking, the charity sector, education, higher education, local government, police, PR, and media.

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