We use cookies to ensure that we deliver the best user experience of our website. If you would like to, you can change your cookie settings at any time. Continue

MA English Language and Applied Linguistics

This programme is ideal for language professionals, or for those intending to become language professionals. It will equip you with a detailed understanding of how English works, how it may be analysed, and how languages are learned. You will also have an opportunity to develop expertise in specific areas of linguistics, such as corpus linguistics, literary linguistics and cognitive linguistics.

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: Taught

Study Options: Full time

Duration: 1 year full-time, 2 years part-time

Start date: September

Contact

Ms Sheila Brady
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 two core modules:

- Describing Language
- Research Methods in Applied Linguistics

You will then choose four optional modules from a wide range, giving you the flexibility to focus on areas of language and linguistics which reflect your specific interests. (See module information below).

Each of your taught modules will be assessed by a 4,000 word essay and you will complete the programme with a 15,000-word dissertation on a topic of your choice.

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.

Modules

Your two core modules are as follows:

Describing Language

This module provides a grounding in the analysis of the lexis and grammar of English. You will be introduced to essential concepts and terminology in the field, and gain practice in analysing naturally-occurring language using the models (NB Systemic-Functional Grammar) discussed. There is some emphasis on the application of such analysis to the study of language in social context.

Research Methods in Applied Linguistics

This module includes a course in methods and approaches to research in Applied Linguistics.

In the autumn term, you will choose two optional modules from a range which includes:

- **Discourse, Culture and Communication (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#describinglanguage) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#discourseculturecommunication)**
- **Introduction to Corpus Linguistics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#discourseculturecommunication) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#introductioncorpuslinguistics)**
- **Language and Literature: Key Topics in Stylistics (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#introductiontranslation) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#literarystylistics)**
- **Social and Multimodal Aspects of Communication (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#secondlanguagelearningteaching) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#socialmultimodalaspectscommunication)** OR **Social and Psychological Aspects of Language (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#socialmultimodalaspectscommunication) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#socialpsychologicalaspectslanguage)**
- **Syllabus and Materials Design (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#socialpsychologicalaspectslanguage) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#syllabusmaterialsdesign)**

In the spring term, you will choose two further optional modules from a range which includes:

- **Business English** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#advancescorpuslinguistics) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#advancescorpuslinguistics) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#businessenglish)
- **Cognitive Linguistics and Language Learning** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#businessenglish) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#cognitivelinguisticslanguagelearning)
- **Computer Assisted Language Learning** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#cognitivelinguisticslanguagelearning) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#computerassistedlanguagelearning)
- **Corpus Linguistics** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#contemporarytranslationtheory) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#contemporarytranslationtheory) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#corpuslinguistics)
- **English as a Global Language** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#discourseteachers) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#englishgloballanguage)
- **Issues and Approaches in English for Academic Purposes** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#englishgloballanguage) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#issuesapproachesenglishacademicpurposes)
- **Intercultural Communication** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#issuesapproachesenglishacademicpurposes) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#interculturalcommunication)
- **Language and New Media** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#interculturalcommunication) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#languagenewmedia)
- **Language and Politics** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#languagenewmedia) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#languagepolitics)
- **Language Teaching Observation and Practice** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#languagepolitics) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#languageteachingobservationpractice)
- **Language Testing** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#languageteachingobservationpractice) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#languagetesting)
- **Narrative Analysis in Film and Fiction** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#languagetesting) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#narrativeanalysisfictionfilm)
- **Teacher Training** (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#specialisedtranslation) (/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/elal-modules.aspx#teachertraining)

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; £3,420 part-time
- Overseas: £14,140 full-time

For part-time students, the above fee quoted is for year one only and tuition fees will also be payable in year two of your programme.

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

You will need an Honours degree, normally of an upper second class standard.

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

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/CAL159.htm)

Learning and teaching

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

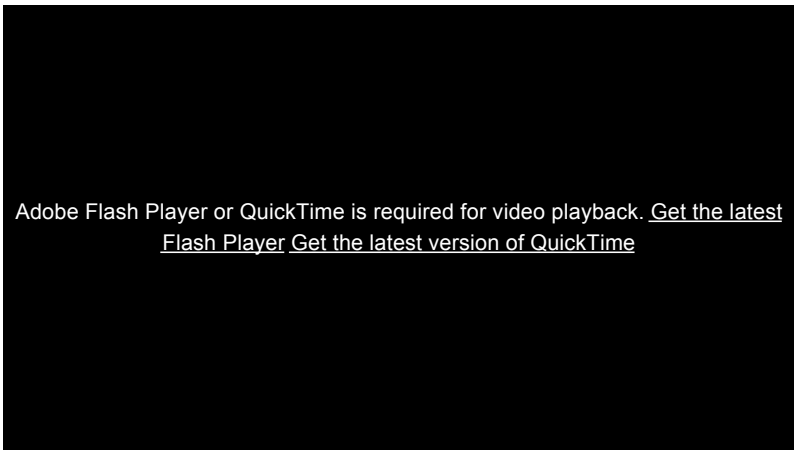
As a postgraduate student in the College of Arts and Law, you have access to the **Academic Writing Advisory Service (AWAS) (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/colleges/artslaw/student-experience/opportunities/awas/index.aspx)** which aims to help your transition from undergraduate to taught Masters 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)** .

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.

© University of Birmingham 2014