

Dr Craig Blunt

Senior Lecturer in French Studies

[Department of Modern Languages \(/schools/lcahm/departments/languages/index.aspx\)](/schools/lcahm/departments/languages/index.aspx)

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About

I was appointed to the University of Birmingham in 1995. My main areas of interest are all aspects of contemporary French politics and society.

Qualifications

BA French with International Studies (1991), MA French Studies (1992) and PhD French Studies (2000) all awarded by the University of Warwick.

Biography

I was born and brought up in the Midlands. I went to the local comprehensive school before going onto the local VIth form. At the time, it was a toss-up between Maths and Modern Languages as to which discipline I would pursue. In the end, I chose French and allied this with a growing interest in Politics and International Relations. My undergraduate degree allowed me to pursue both of these themes and I was also able to combine both in my postgraduate research. The dual focus on France and all things political is now a key feature of my teaching. Even the Maths has made a comeback. As the Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Recruitment for the College of Arts and Law, I do a fair bit of statistical analysis.

Teaching

I teach on all years of the undergraduate programme. In year 1, I convene La France moderne 1, a survey of socio-political changes in France post 1945. In year 2, I teach on La France moderne 2, a continuation of the ground covered in France moderne 1 but with a greater focus on the idea of the French Republican tradition. In the final year, I teach on the core language module, focusing in particular on translation into English and I run a specialist final year option on the Algerian War.

In 2005, I was awarded a University of Birmingham Teaching Fellowship and in 2012, I was fortunate enough to be awarded the Head of College's award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

Other activities

I am currently Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Joint Honours Senior Tutor (Admissions and Recruitment) for the College of Arts and Law. I work closely with applicants and with my fellow Admissions Tutors and serve on a number of College and University committees as part of this role.

I am also the Year 1 Welfare Tutor in the Department of Modern Languages.

Outside work I enjoy playing 6-a-side football, squash and tennis as well as watching most sports. I work my way through a fair few novels and have been known to devour the odd box set.