

## Nicholas Hunter BA, MA

Language Tutor

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### About

I teach on a variety of language and content modules. I have particular interests in 17th-Century French literature and culture and in 20th-Century literature

### Qualifications

B.A. French Studies; M.A. in Seventeenth-Century Studies, both at Durham.

### Biography

I was born and grew up in South Yorkshire. After undergraduate and postgraduate study at Durham University I was appointed to the University of Birmingham in 1999.

### Teaching

I teach Year 1 and Year 2 French written language classes and run a cours de soutien for Year 2 students. I teach and lecture on **Introduction to French Literature and Film Studies** and **Cultural Intersections** in Year 1 and **Renaissance to Realism** and **French Text and Interpretation** in Year 2. From next year I will also contribute to a new module, **Conflict, Identity and Absurdity in twentieth-century French theatre**, convened by **[Dr Edward Boothroyd \(/staff/profiles/french/boothroyd-edward.aspx\)](/staff/profiles/french/boothroyd-edward.aspx)**.

My Final-Year option, **Women and Literature in Seventeenth-Century France**, analyses the representation of women in a variety of seventeenth-century French texts and genres, including a number of works written by female writers. Particular attention is paid to the social and political consequences of 'transgressive' behaviour displayed by women and men.

### Research

My principal interests lie in seventeenth-century literature and culture. I'm particularly interested in the ways dramatists use patriarchal structures of authority as a means of controlling the representation of - sometimes actively disruptive - female characters, thereby neutralising their potential to challenge or threaten the established social order. I have also undertaken research on the education of children in 17th-Century France with particular reference to the writings of Fénelon. I hope soon to explore documentary and literary representations of the garden during the reign of Louis XIV.

### Other activities

Undergraduate Examinations Officer for the School and for French Studies.

### Publications

- 'Visualising female education in Fénelon's *Traité de l'éducation des filles*', published in *Text(e) / Image*, ed. by Margaret-Anne Hutton, Durham French Colloquies No. 7, 1999.