

BA French Studies and Mathematics



The French Studies and Mathematics Joint Honours degree provides you with an opportunity to study French and Mathematics to Honours degree level. Both elements of the course allow you to follow your interests and particular enthusiasms. You will study a range of modules across both subjects, giving you an excellent grounding for a wide range of careers. You will be attractive to a wide range of employers as you are able to bring together expertise from more than one discipline.

The degree offers a broad range of French Studies modules, coupled with a mix of general and specific Mathematics modules. Within the French Studies half of your programme, you will have the opportunity to study not just the French language but also the country's culture and history, including its politics, literature and films. French Studies does not only entail the study of France. After studying the history, politics and culture of France, you will be able to apply that knowledge in order to consider the role of French culture and politics in Europe and internationally.

Mathematics is one of the longest established of disciplines, and underpinning many others, mathematics is the language of science and engineering and an intellectual field in its own right. It is a discipline that is forever opening up to us, revealing new and fascinating truths and ideas, and helping to expand upon our knowledge in all directions. At the [School of Mathematics](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/mathematics/) in Birmingham we are internationally renowned for our world-leading research and research-led teaching and are committed to providing a challenging, first rate, education to all of our students in a friendly and supportive environment.

Student satisfaction rates for BA French Studies and Maths are very high. 92% of French Studies students and 93% of History students report that they are satisfied with the quality of their degree programme.

[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

UCAS code: GR11

Duration: 4 Years

Typical Offer: AAB ([More detailed entry requirements and the international qualifications accepted can be found in the course details \(OpenSection=EntryRequirements\)](#))

Start date: September

Contact

Admissions Coordinator:
Beth Astington

Email: modernlanguages@bham.ac.uk (<mailto:modernlanguages@bham.ac.uk>)

[School of Languages, Cultures, Art History and Music \(/schools/lcahm/index.aspx\)](#)

[Department of Modern Languages: French Studies \(/schools/lcahm/departments/french/index.aspx\)](#)

Details

In this programme, you study half of your modules (60 credits) in Mathematics and half in French (60 credits)

First year

French: In the first year of your programme, you study 3 modules – French language, La France moderne (an introduction to French politics and history) and an Introduction to French Literature and Film Studies. You can find out more about these modules here:

- [French Studies first year modules](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/undergraduate/lang/french-modules-firstyear.aspx)

Mathematics: The first two years are carefully designed to allow you as much choice as possible in your final year. In the first year, you take core calculus and algebra together with either applied mathematics or discrete mathematics and statistics.

Second year

French: As you progress into the second and fourth years of the course you can choose to study specialist modules focusing on politics, culture, literature or film so you're increasingly free to tailor the programme to suit your own interests. You continue to follow a core language module but then choose 2 options from a choice of 5. Further details of the modules available can be found here

- [French Studies second year modules \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/undergraduate/lang/french-modules-secondyear.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/undergraduate/lang/french-modules-secondyear.aspx)

Mathematics : You take modules in advanced calculus, pure mathematics, and management mathematics. Your computer skills are developed with an introduction to programming.

Third year

The third year is normally spent following a programme of study at one of our many partner universities in France or Montreal in Canada.

- [Year abroad information \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/undergraduate/lang/french-yearabroad.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/undergraduate/lang/french-yearabroad.aspx)

Fourth year

French: A wide range of specialist language and culture options is available in the final year. Current choices include: Interpreting; The French Press; Contemporary French Cinema; The Algerian War; and Drama and Politics in France. Further details of the modules available in French can be found here:

- [French Studies fourth year modules \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/undergraduate/lang/french-modules-finalyear.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/undergraduate/lang/french-modules-finalyear.aspx)

Mathematics: The final year offers you a choice of modules with the opportunity to study subjects such as number theory, numerical methods or the history of mathematics.

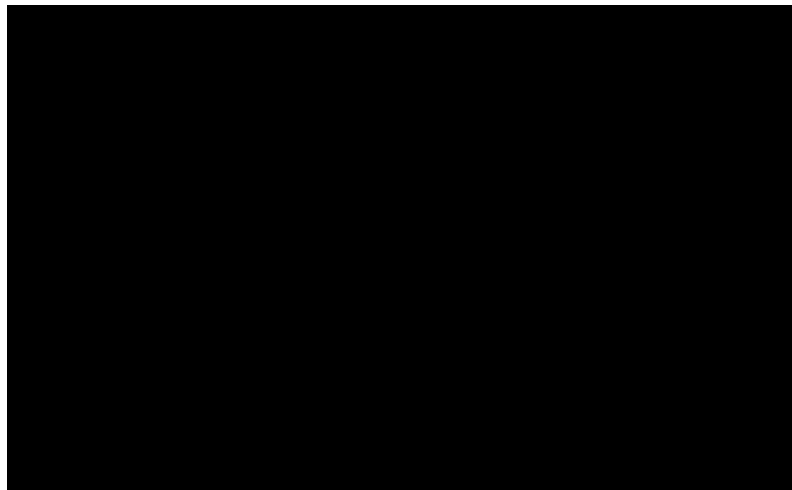
[Read about Sarah's experiences studying French and Maths \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/lcahm/departments/languages/undergraduate/student-profiles/sarah.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/lcahm/departments/languages/undergraduate/student-profiles/sarah.aspx).

Why study this course

The French half of your programme is designed to give you an in-depth knowledge of the language and culture of France. We put an emphasis on small group teaching and encourage student participation. We produce confident, articulate graduates who are enthused by their subject and who benefit from excellent possibilities for employment in the UK and EU. Joint Honours students follow the same language course as those studying Single Honours French but choose fewer literary, cultural or political options from the range available in the department. Within French, our staff expertise enables us to offer a wide range of subjects covering all areas of French language, culture, history, literature and film so you will study many different aspects of French language and culture and be part of a large, vibrant community of staff and students.

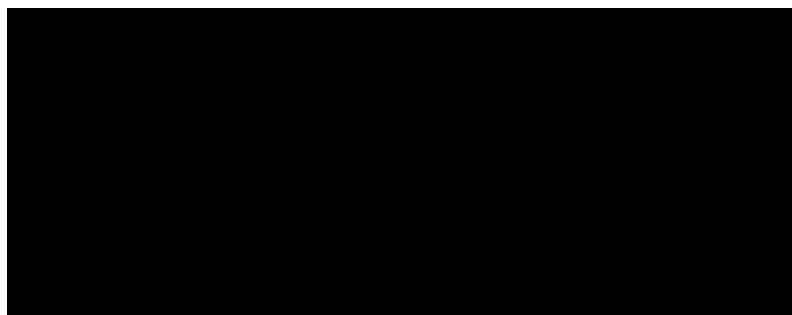
- The Department of Modern Languages at the University of Birmingham is the only one in the country to offer the full range of languages from the Iberian Peninsula (Basque, Catalan, Galician and Portuguese) in addition to our seven principal languages (French, German, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Russian, and Spanish). All programmes last four years, with the third year spent studying abroad. You can concentrate on a single language, study two or more languages or combine language study with some other subject.
- Birmingham is one of the top four universities for language provision in the judgement of employers, according to the Guardian.
- Our students are extremely satisfied with the experience they receive here at the University of Birmingham, which is reflected in our excellent returns in the National Student Survey over recent years. Our different language sections frequently achieve scores in excess of 80% or 90% for overall satisfaction.
- There are a wide range of Joint Honours with Languages subjects available at Birmingham.
- Read our [ten reasons to study Modern Languages at Birmingham. \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/lcahm/departments/languages/about/strengths.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/lcahm/departments/languages/about/strengths.aspx)

French open day talk



The Mathematics half of the programme is carefully designed to give you access to as many topics in later years of the programme as possible. It will help you to develop many of the skills you would get studying just Mathematics, such as the ability to formulate and tackle problems, to think logically, to use technical language and to express complex ideas clearly and accurately. Combined with the complementary skills offered by your Arts studies, a Joint Honours degree makes you very attractive to employers.

Joint honours open day talk





Dr Craig Blunt delivers an undergraduate open day talk about studying Joint Honours at the university.

Fees and funding

Standard fees (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/courses/fees/standard>) apply

Learn more about **fees and funding** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees/undergraduate/loans.aspx>).

Scholarships

Learn more about our **scholarships and awards** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees/undergraduate/funding/index.aspx>).

Entry requirements

Number of A levels required: 3

Typical offer: AAB

Required subjects and grades: A level Maths grade A. A level French grade B

Additional information: Other qualifications are considered - learn more about **entry requirements** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/requirements>).

Additional information:

International Baccalaureate Diploma: 36 points including French at HL.

International students:

We welcome applications from international students and invite you to join our vibrant community of over 4500 international students who represent 150 different countries. 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.

Depending on your chosen course of study, you may also be interested in the Birmingham Foundation Academy, a specially structured programme for international students whose qualifications are not accepted for direct entry to UK universities. Further details can be found on the **foundation academy web pages** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/foundation-academy/Pathways/index.aspx>).

How to apply

Apply through UCAS at **www.ucas.com** (<http://www.ucas.com/>)

Learn more about **applying** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/courses/apply>).



Key Information Set (KIS)

Key Information Sets (KIS) are comparable sets of information about full- or part-time undergraduate courses and are designed to meet the information needs of prospective students.

All KIS information has been published on the Unistats website and can also be accessed via the small advert, or 'widget', below. On the **Unistats website** (<http://unistats.direct.gov.uk>) you are able to compare all the KIS data for each course with data for other courses.

The development of Key Information Sets (KIS) formed part of HEFCE's work to enhance the information that is available about higher education. They give you access to reliable and comparable information in order to help you make informed decisions about what and where to study.

The KIS contains information which prospective students have identified as useful, such as student satisfaction, graduate outcomes, learning and teaching activities, assessment methods, tuition fees and student finance, accommodation and professional accreditation.

Learning and teaching

As a Birmingham student you are part of an academic elite and will learn from world-leading experts. At Birmingham we advocate an enquiry based learning approach, from the outset you will be encouraged to become an independent and self-motivated learner, qualities that are highly sought after by employers. We want you to be challenged and will encourage you to think for yourself.

Your learning will take place in a range of different settings, from scheduled teaching in lectures and small group tutorials, to self-study and peer group learning (for example preparing and delivering presentations with your classmates).

Support

To begin with you may find this way of working challenging, but rest assured that we will enable you to make this transition. You will have access to a comprehensive support system that will assist and encourage you, including personal tutors and welfare tutors who can help with both academic and welfare issues, and a formal transition review during your first year to check on your progress and offer you help for any particular areas where you need support.

Our **Academic Skills Centre** also offers you support with your learning. The centre is a place where you can develop your mathematical, academic writing and general academic skills. It is the centre's aim to help you to become a more effective and independent learner through the use of a range of high-quality and appropriate learning support services. These range from drop-in sessions to workshops on a range of topics including note taking, reading, writing and presentation skills.

From the outset, you will be assigned your own **Personal Tutor** who will get to know you as you progress through your studies, providing academic and welfare advice, encouraging you and offering assistance in any areas you may feel you need extra support to make the most of your potential and your time here at Birmingham.

The **Academic Writing Advisory Service (AWAS)** will provide you with individual support from an academic writing advisor and postgraduate subject-specialist writing tutors. You will receive guidance on writing essays and dissertations at University-level which can be quite different from your previous experiences of writing. Support is given in a variety of ways, such as small-group workshops, online activities, feedback through email and tutorials.

Student experience

Supporting you throughout your transition to University, offering research opportunities and study skills support and helping you develop and prepare for your post-University careers - our **Arts and Law Student Experience Team** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/colleges/artslaw/student-experience/index.aspx>) strive to help you get the most out of your academic experience.

Language laboratory sessions allow you to practise your listening and spoken skills and are an essential part of all our language programmes.

Assessment methods

Studying at degree-level is likely to be very different from your previous experience of learning and teaching. You will be expected to think, discuss and engage critically with the subject and find things out for yourself. We will enable you to make this transition to a new style of learning, and the way that you are assessed during your studies will help you develop the essential skills you need to make a success of your time at Birmingham.

You will be assessed in a variety of ways, and these may be different with each module that you take. You will be assessed through coursework which may take the form of essays, group and individual presentations and formal exams (depending on your chosen degree).

During your first year you will undergo a formal 'transition' review to see how you are getting on and if there are particular areas where you need support. This is in addition to the personal tutor who is based in your school or department and can help with any academic issues you encounter.

At the beginning of each module, you will be given information on how and when you will be assessed for that particular programme of study. You will receive feedback on each assessment within four weeks, so that you can learn from and build on what you have done. You will be given feedback on any exams that you take; if you should fail an exam we will ensure that particularly detailed feedback is made available to enable you to learn for the future.

Assessment varies across modules and can include:

- Examinations - usually taken at the end of the year in which the module is taught
- Coursework - this could be continuous or at the end of the module, and is assessed in a variety of ways.
- Class tests - some lecturers set regular class tests which could be written tests, group presentations or computer-based tests providing instant feedback.

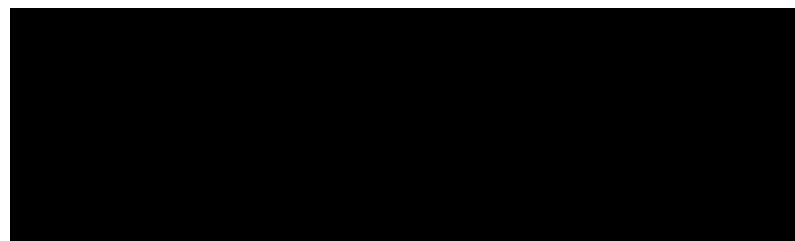
Research projects are assessed by, for example, interim reports, a final written report and oral presentations.

During your first year the University will require you to undergo a formal **'transition' review** (<https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/student/transitionreview/index.aspx>) to see how you are getting on and if there are particular areas where you need support. This is in addition to the personal tutor who is based in the School and can help with any academic issues you encounter. The University's Academic Skills Centre also offers you support with your learning. The Centre is a place where you can develop your mathematical, academic writing and general academic skills. It is the Centre's aim to help you to become a more effective and independent learner through the use of a range of high-quality and appropriate learning support services. These range from drop-in sessions with support with mathematics and statistics based problems provided by experienced mathematicians, to workshops on a range of topics including note taking, reading, writing and presentation skills.

At the beginning of each module, you will be given information on how and when you will be assessed for that particular programme of study. You will receive feedback on each assessment within four weeks, so that you can learn from, and build on, what you have done. You will be given feedback on any exams that you take; if you should fail an exam we will ensure that particularly detailed feedback is made available to enable you to learn for the future.

Employability

French Studies



[Video above - Dr Emma Tyler discusses careers and employability during the Modern Languages open day presentation]

Modern Languages graduates have a range of skills that are highly prized by graduate employers: oral and written communication in one or more foreign languages, critical thinking, intercultural awareness and understanding. You will also develop leadership, teamwork and organisational skills through activities such as group projects and your year abroad.

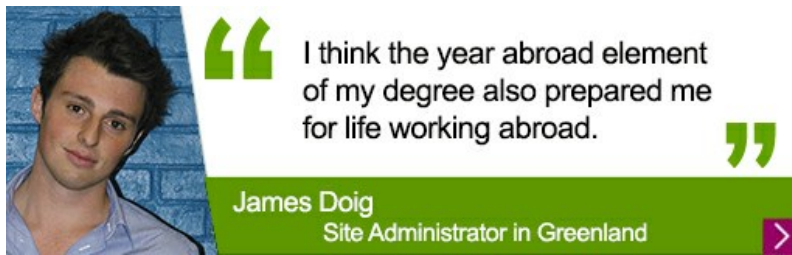
87% of our Modern Language graduates go into work or study within six months of graduation. 50% of vacancies advertised for new and recent graduates don't specify a degree subject, and our graduates enter a wide range of careers similar to other arts and humanities graduates but with much greater scope in international settings. This includes business, government, journalism, the creative arts, teaching and law. Some go abroad to develop their language skills while working as TEFL teachers and university language tutors.

Modern Languages graduates from the University of Birmingham have excellent prospects after graduation. An impressive 85% of our graduates go into professional or managerial jobs within six months of graduation. Our graduates have started careers with employers including British Airways, Deloitte, HSBC, Pricewaterhouse Coopers, the British Council, NATO, BP, central and local government, and universities in the UK and abroad.

Whether you have a clear idea of where your future aspirations lie or want to consider the broad range of opportunities available once you have a Birmingham degree, **our Careers Network** (<https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/employability/careers/index.aspx>) can help you achieve your goal. This is a unique careers guidance service tailored to your academic subject area, offering a specialised team who can give you expert advice. This includes individual careers advice and talks and events, including 'Careers with Languages', to provide insight into careers of interest to our students. Many languages students will also find our events about careers such as teaching, law, marketing, journalism and advertising of interest.

We work hard to help students identify how the year abroad may help their future career. We also encourage all our students to apply their skills in the workplace by undertaking internships in the summer; the work experience bursary scheme enables students to apply for funding for those career areas where placements are often unpaid. You can even apply for our 'Global Challenge' to work overseas on an expenses paid placement during your summer vacation.

Modern Languages alumni profiles



A graphic featuring a portrait of James Doig on the left. To his right, a quote is presented in a white box with green quotation marks: "I think the year abroad element of my degree also prepared me for life working abroad." Below the quote, a green bar contains the name "James Doig" and his title "Site Administrator in Greenland" in white text. A small white arrow icon is on the right side of the green bar.

(<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/lcahm/departments/languages/undergraduate/modern-languages-alumni-ug.aspx>)

Mathematics

Preparation for your career should be one of the first things you think about as you start university. Whether you have a clear idea of where your future aspirations lie or want to consider the broad range of opportunities available once you have a Birmingham degree, our Careers and Employability Service can help you achieve your goal.

Our unique careers guidance service is tailored to your academic subject area, offering a specialised team (in each of the five academic colleges) who can give you expert advice. Our team source exclusive work experience opportunities to help you stand out amongst the competition, with mentoring, global internships and placements available to you. Once you have a career in your sights, one-to-one support with CV's and job applications will help give you the edge.

If you make the most of the wide range of services you will be able to develop your career from the moment you arrive.

Extra-curricular activities

To enhance your career prospects even further, you will need to think about engaging in some extra-curricular activities while you're at university to broaden your skills and your network of contacts. This can include the many societies at the Guild of Students and also the many voluntary opportunities offered with local arts organisations. Our employer-endorsed award-winning **Personal Skills Award** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/careers/psa.aspx>) (PSA) recognises your extra-curricular activities, and provides an accredited employability programme designed to improve your career prospects.

Our College of Arts and Law **undergraduate research scholarship scheme** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/colleges/artslaw/studentexperience/urs/index.aspx>) enables interested students to work on a current academic research project being run by one of the College's academic researchers. Undergraduate research scholars gain work experience over the summer after their first or second year and have the chance to develop skills in both collaborative and independent research.

Cultural Internships

Our innovative **Cultural Internships** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/culture/volunteering/regionally.aspx>) offer graduates the opportunity for a six month paid internship at a leading cultural institution in the West Midlands. These internships are a unique opportunity to learn fundamental, transferable business and interpersonal skills, through experience of real work in an established cultural institution. Our current partners include Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery, Birmingham REP, Birmingham Royal Ballet, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Ironbridge Gorge Museums Trust and the Library of Birmingham. We have plans to expand the scheme to include our own major cultural assets, such as Winterbourne House, the Lapworth Museum, and the Barber Institute of Fine Arts. This scheme will give you professional experience to set you apart in a competitive graduate market.

We also offer voluntary work which complements your studies by helping you gain practical experiences in occupational settings while contributing back to society. This can bring new skills that will be useful throughout your future and can make a positive impact on your learning whilst at university. Volunteering enables you to develop skills such as communication, interpersonal skills, teamwork, self-confidence and self-discipline all of which can be transferred into your studies.

Your Birmingham degree is evidence of your ability to succeed in a demanding academic environment. Employers target Birmingham students for their drive, diversity, communication and problem-solving skills, their team-working abilities and cultural awareness, and our graduate employment statistics have continued to climb at a rate well above national trends. If you make the most of the wide range of services you will be able to develop your career from the moment you arrive.

<p>Additional accreditation No</p> <p>BA (Hons) French Studies and Mathematics Full time Year abroad</p>	<p>To see more details and compare with other courses</p> <p>Visit UNISTATS ▶</p> <p>Official data collected by HEFCE</p>
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