**Film Studies and Modern Languages**

“This module [European Cinema] is another excellent example of the strength of the programme, which can harness the considerable expertise that permeates the staff in Modern Languages at Birmingham (Professor Owen Evans, External Examiner)”

**BA Modern Languages and Film Studies**

**UCAS code: RP83**

On this programme you either take half (60 credits) of film studies and one language, with a Year Abroad in Year 3, or one third (40 credits) of film studies and one or two languages (80 credits or 40 credits each). You may alter the balance of your film and language study between the first and second or second and final year, though may not take up a second language after Year 1. The table on the next page sets out the compulsory and optional film modules of the course year by year.

The languages of which you can study 60 credits alongside film are **French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish**.

The languages of which you can study 80 credits alongside film are **French, German and Spanish**. 40 credits of **Italian, Portuguese, Russian, French, German and Spanish** may be taken as one of two languages alongside film.*

*it is **not possible** to combine beginners Spanish with advanced Russian or Italian with Portuguese.

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<th>First year</th>
<th>Second year</th>
<th>Final Year</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction to Film Studies (ACS)</strong></td>
<td><strong>European Cinema (LCAHM)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dissertation in European Film (LCAHM)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Landmarks in European Film (LCAHM)</strong></td>
<td><strong>North American Cinema (ACS)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Avant-garde currents in French Cinema (MLs/French)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Media, Culture, and Communication (MLs)</strong></td>
<td><strong>French Cinema, Media and Visual Culture (MLs/French)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cold War Film (ACS)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The Art of the Moving Image (AHFVS, LCAHM)</strong></td>
<td><strong>German Reunification on Film (MLs/German)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Death and the Moving Image (ACS)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>European Media Culture (MLs)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Contemporary Spanish Cinema (MLs/Hispanic Studies)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Film under Franco (MLs/Hispanic Studies)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Contemporary Italian Cinema and Media (MLs/Italian)</strong></td>
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**Studying Film at Birmingham**

The modules in the table above are delivered by three departments, American and Canadian Studies (ACS), AHFVS (Art History, Film and Visual Studies), and Modern Languages (MLs, comprising French, German, Hispanic, Italian and Russian Studies), which like AHFVS is in LCAHM, the School of Languages, Cultures, Art History and Music. Staff from AHFVS teach alongside staff from MLs on the modules marked just LCAHM.

LCAHM’s department of Art History expanded in August 2012 to become a department of Art History, Film and Visual Studies, and is running three new film modules in 2013-14 (asterisked* in the table). The main art deco auditorium of the Barber Institute, which seats 350, is being equipped to screen film digitally during 2013, while the recently refurbished main Lecture Theatre of the nearby Muirhead Tower will become a dedicated film screening space in time for the start of the 2013/14 academic year.

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<tr>
<th>Twentieth Century Italian Theatre and Film (MLs/Italian)</th>
<th>The Political Thriller: Ideology, Genre, Emotion (AHFVS, LCAHM)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Behind the Camera: Women’s cinema from the 1960s to the present (AHFVS, LCAHM)</td>
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**Studying Modern Languages at Birmingham**

If you are studying two languages, you need an A-level in one of the languages you wish to study. If you are only studying one language, you will normally need at least a GCSE in a language. Any of the languages apart from French can be studied ab initio.

If you are taking a language ab initio, you will take 40 credits of concentrated language in the first year. Otherwise, in each year of language study, you will take 20 credits in the language and 20 or 40 credits (depending on whether you are taking one or two languages) in the politics, literature, culture or history of that country.

The third year of the course is spent abroad. You attend centres of learning in the country or countries of your language(s) of study. You may also spend the year as a teaching assistant, and work placements are available in some language

### Optional 2nd and 4th year modules in the culture, literature, history and politics of your language subject include:

- France moderne
- Wirtschaftsdeutsch
- The Italian Courts: Life and Society
- Renaissance to Realism (French)
- Cultures of Protest and Terror in West Germany 1967-1977
- Twentieth Century Italian Theatre and Film
- The Politics of Remembering: Germany and the Nazi Past
- Francophone Caribbean Literature and Film
- US Latino Culture
sections.

**Teaching and Assessment**

We will use a variety of methods to seek to improve your practical language skills – small group conversation classes with native speakers, language labs, grammar workshops, language lectures, computer-based assessments.

Non-language modules (including film modules) are taught through a combination of lectures, seminars, and regular film screenings.

Assessment will generally be by a mixture of essays submitted throughout the year, and continuous assessment and end-of-year examination in language.

**Careers and Employment**

During the course you will have the opportunity to acquire linguistic expertise and intercultural skills. The course aims to help you develop a range of highly prized transferable skills, including the ability to analyse complex and demanding material, to work independently and to communicate your findings effectively in spoken and written form. The enhanced abilities in linguistic and visual communication that the programme aims to develop are highly valued within the media and communications industries.

**Further information**

If you have any questions about the programme, please contact: Dr Kate Ince (k.l.ince@bham.ac.uk), or (from mid-September 2013 to mid-January 2014), Dr Elystan Griffiths (e.griffiths@bham.ac.uk).