Modules Outside the Main Discipline

2014/15

Level C
(for first year undergraduate students)
# Contents

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Introduction

What is a Module outside the Main Discipline?

Students on certain programmes are required to take a module outside their main programme of study. There are over 100 MOMDs to choose from, worth 10 and 20 credits which you can take to make up the 120 credits you need to be registered for in your first year. This can be something completely new or complimentary to your chosen programme, the choice is yours!

Can I take any of the MOMDs in this booklet?

All MOMDs listed in this booklet should be available in 2014/15. However, before finalising your MOMD choice you should ensure that:

• Your programme of study allows you to choose some modules outside the main discipline, and if so, how many MOMD credits you need to choose (for most single honours programmes you will be allowed to take up to 20 credits of MOMDs in each year; however, you are advised to check with your home School/Department before attending the MOMD Registration 2014 event)
• The MOMD you have chosen does not clash with any core teaching in your home School/Department
• You meet any entry requirements. Most MOMDs are open to all students, but some require a certain subject at A Level or GCSE, or some other prior knowledge of the subject. These requirements should be listed in the booklet; however, if you are thinking of taking a module in a very different area from your main degree subject, it would be wise to check with staff at the MOMD event.
• If you choose a module that you do not meet the entry requirements for, the module owning School has the right to refuse registration.

How do I register for my MOMD?

If you already know which modules you would like to study you can submit your options via an online form from 11.00am Monday 22nd September. Please go to our website where you will be directed to the MOMD online registration form. www.intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/momd

If you are unsure or would like further advice on which MOMD is best for you the MOMD Registration Event is taking place in the Great Hall Aston Webb Building (R7 on campus map) on Thursday 25th September.

You will be able to talk to School/Departmental representatives about the modules which interest you, and when you have made your choice, you will be directed to the online form where you can then submit your options. Please note that the online form closes at 12 noon on Friday 26 September, so you must submit your choices by that deadline.

There will be staff on hand to help you when you arrive.

I am interested in taking a ‘Languages for All’ module. Do I need to attend the MOMD Registration Event?

Yes, if you wish to register for a ‘Languages for All’ module - as first, second, or third choice - you need to attend the MOMD registration event in person for an assessment of your language proficiency and you will be directed to an alternate form. These modules are not available as options on the online form.

I am required to take more than twenty credits. Can I submit my choices on the online form?

No, the online form is for students taking 10 or 20 credits only. If your programme requires more than twenty credits’ worth of MOMD’s, there is an alternate form to complete. Please go
What happens if my MOMD has limited spaces available?

In most cases, you will be able to register for your preferred MOMD; however, some modules have limited spaces. Where this is the case, students will be allocated at random to fill the number of places available.

*To be fair to all students, allocation to limited space modules is not on a ‘first-come, first-served’ basis, therefore early registration at MOMD Registration 2014 will not increase the chances of securing your preferred MOMD. Do not worry if you cannot attend the event until the afternoon!*

Modules confirmed as limited space have been indicated in this handbook. The information was correct at the time of going to print. There will also be a final list available at the event on the day.

Those students who are not successful will be allocated their second or third choice of MOMD if there are places available. **You must submit a first, second and third choice of MOMD.**

How will I know which MOMD I have been enrolled on?

You can view your module registrations online, on [www.my.bham.ac.uk](http://www.my.bham.ac.uk) under the ‘my programme’ tab from 12 noon on Saturday 27 September.

Changing your MOMD after enrolment

If, following enrolment you decide that you would like to change your MOMD, you should contact by email both the School running your current MOMD module, and the School running the module you would like to change to, to establish if a change of registration would be possible. The deadline to change MOMD is Friday 10th October 2014.

Can I take an MOMD if I am an Erasmus/Exchange Student?

Study abroad/exchange students must enrol for a full credit load (60 credits per term taken in terms one and two) Erasmus students must take at least 50% of their modules within their host department. Students may contact the exchange tutor in each department for information about modules offered in that department, but are also encouraged to attend MOMD Registration 2014 to sign up for modules if not already enrolled for a full credit load. For further guidance on making appropriate module choices please speak to the exchange tutor in your host department.

Please note that the information contained in this booklet, particularly timetable details, may be subject to change. For further information regarding timetables, please contact the relevant School or Department.

*We look forward to welcoming you to the MOMD Registration Event!*
Financial Analysis for Non-Specialists

Banner code: 07 24999  
School/Dept: Business School  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 2

Description:
This module provides non-specialist accounting students with a broad introduction to the uses of accounting information. The module covers the content of the main published accounting statements and provides students with analysis tools that allow them to use these statements to judge the financial performance of an organisation. In addition the module covers the use of financial information by organisations for decision making purposes; specifically the use of financial information for investment decisions and the use of cost data to inform business decisions.

Assessment:
2 hour examination

Timetable: Wednesday 9-11  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff Contact: BBS-UG@contacts.bham.ac.uk
## Thinking Anthropologically

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<th>Credits:</th>
<th>Semester:</th>
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<tr>
<td>09 18770</td>
<td>Dept of African Studies and Anthropology</td>
<td>20</td>
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**Description:**
The module is a broad introduction to anthropological approaches to society and culture. It focuses on ethnography, the practice of ‘doing anthropology’ both in Africa and elsewhere. We use written texts and film to open up and discuss central ideas and debates in anthropology.

**Assessment:**
2 x 1000 word essays from a list of titles and a 3000 word essay focusing on any appropriate ethnographic debate (to be discussed with the tutor)

**Timetable:**
Thursday 11-12
Seminars: 1 hour
between 12-2 Thurs

**Entrance requirements:**
None

**Staff contact:**
m.j.egginton@bham.ac.uk

## Introduction to African Culture

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<tr>
<td>09 24292</td>
<td>Dept of African Studies and Anthropology</td>
<td>20</td>
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**Description:**
The course aims to introduce students to the study and appreciation of African cultures. It will stress the diversity, complexity and dynamism of culture across the continent. The course will focus on ‘the word’ as an agent of those diverse cultures: the written word, the spoken or sung word, the many languages of the continent, the relationships between those languages and the kinds of societies that have emerged at different times and in different places across the continent. The course will raise basic questions about orality and literacy and examine the range of oral and written cultures across Africa. A selection of contemporary texts by African writers will be read and studied. The course will also raise basic questions about African visual arts and African music and examine them in a range of cultures across Africa in the 20th Century. The extent and variety of creative art and music will be considered and problems of classification, aesthetics, function and audience will be explored.

**Assessment:**
2 x 1500 word essays, one at the end of the Semester 1 relating to the material studied in IAC I (25%), one at the end of Semester 2, relating to material studied in IAC II (25%). Jointly assessed with Introduction to African Culture B, one project (equivalent to 3000 word essay) in the summer term (50%).

**Timetable:**
Tuesday 2-4
No seminars.

**Entrance requirements:**
None

**Staff contact:**
m.j.egginton@bham.ac.uk
Introduction to African Development

Banner code: 09 16275
School/Dept: Dept of African Studies and Anthropology
Credits: 10
Semester: 2

Description:
This module provides a broad but basic introduction to development principles, concepts and terminology as tools for a) studying Africa's integration into a global political-economy and assessing its changing place within a globalising world, b) explaining disparities in material conditions in Africa, and between Africa and other parts of the world, particularly the Global South, and c) examining regional and local examples of planned socio-economic change.

Assessment:
One 1,000 word evaluation of a development debate (40%); one 1,000 word review of a development-related document (plan, proposal, report etc.) (40%); one 1,000 word assessment of a log/record/folder of the reporting/representation/treatment of a development-related issue in an African country in the international media (20%)

Timetable: Friday 10-12
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: m.j.egginton@bham.ac.uk

Introduction to African Societies

Banner code: 09 24817
School/Dept: Dept of African Studies and Anthropology
Credits: 10
Semester: 2

Description:
Introduction to African Societies examines the social, economic, and political organisation of a number of African societies and their recent historical transformations. Although examples from all of Africa are considered, the module focuses on the West Africa region. Its main aim is to familiarise students with some of the main societies present in this region, their interactions, and the main dynamics of social, political, and economic change. Students are introduced to different systems of production (e.g. hunting-and-gathering; pastoralism; agriculture; industrial production); different modes of reckoning kinship and their consequences for social organisation (e.g. unilineal or cognatic systems); and different political formations, from less to more centralised systems. They are encouraged to think critically about the use of sociological models, ethnic labels, and kinship diagrams. Each session focuses on a particular area and the societies which have been living there. Students taking this module become acquainted with examples of African societies, their recent history, and the conceptual frameworks that have been developed to make sense of them.

Assessment:
2-hour exam paper in the Summer session (100%).

Timetable: Monday 4-6
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: m.j.egginton@bham.ac.uk
## African Societies

**Banner code:** 09 24818  
**School/Dept:** Dept of African Studies and Anthropology  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 2

**Description:**  
African Societies examines the social, economic, and political organisation of a number of African societies and their recent historical transformations. Although examples from all of Africa are considered, the module focuses on the West Africa region. Its main aim is to familiarise students with some of the main societies present in this region, their interactions, and the main dynamics of social, political, and economic change. Students are introduced to different systems of production (e.g. hunting-and-gathering; pastoralism; agriculture; industrial production); different modes of reckoning kinship and their consequences for social organisation (e.g. unilineal or cognatic systems); and different political formations, from less to more centralised systems. They are encouraged to think critically about the use of sociological models, ethnic labels, and kinship diagrams. Each session focuses on a particular area and the societies which have been living there. Students taking this module become acquainted with examples of African societies, their recent history, and the conceptual frameworks that have been developed to make sense of them.

**Assessment:**  
2-hour exam paper in the Summer session (50%).  
1 x 2000 word essay (50%)

**Timetable:** Monday 4-6  
**Entrance requirements:** None

**Staff contact:** m.j.egginton@bham.ac.uk

## Introduction to African History

**Banner code:** 09 20711  
**School/Dept:** Dept of African Studies and Anthropology  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1

**Description:**  
This module provides an introduction to the history of Sub-Saharan Africa, up to and including the point of formal colonization by European powers. We will identify the sources and methods that historians can use to investigate the African past. Broad themes in social, economic, cultural and political history will be explored through case studies of selected African peoples.

**Assessment:**  
2 x 2000 word essays 50% each

**Timetable:** Wednesday 11-1  
**Entrance requirements:** None

**Staff contact:** m.j.egginton@bham.ac.uk
Introduction to African Politics

Banner code: 09 05864  
School/Dept: Dept of African Studies and Anthropology  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 2

Description:  
This module surveys the continuities and changes in African politics and society from the pre-colonial period to the present, and introduces key conceptual approaches to understanding contemporary African issues. The emphasis falls equally on popular and elite, and domestic and international, concerns and agenda.

Assessment:  
2 x 1500 word essays

Timetable: Thursday 9-11  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: m.j.egginton@bham.ac.uk

Introduction to Geography and Africa

Banner code: 09 08800  
School/Dept: Dept of African Studies and Anthropology  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 1

Description:  
What exactly does Geography contribute to our understanding of a rapidly changing world? How do geographers go about studying Africa and its place in the wider world? How and what are our everyday lives intricately linked to those of distant people, places and times? This module provides you with opportunity for tackling these and similar questions, by introducing you to a selection of geographical ways of ‘seeing’ and ‘knowing’ the world and Africa’s place in it, before discussing a selection of nature-society interactions in and with Africa.

Assessment:  
2 x 1500-2000 word essays

Timetable: Wednesday 9-11  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: m.j.egginton@bham.ac.uk
Introduction to Social Policy

Banner code: 08 26006  
School/Dept: IASS  
Credits: 20  
Semester: 1 & 2

Description:
From the cradle to the grave social policy affects us all. These linked modules aim to introduce students to the study of Social Policy through the examination of current British policy in multiple areas.

Because policy is not made in a political or socio-economic vacuum, it endeavours to impart an understanding of the fluid and changing nature of social policy in the UK within the dynamic societal context. The module introduces key sets of policies, ideas and ideologies and students will be encouraged to critically examine current policies and their political, economic and social implications.

The module consists of four parts:

The ideas and concepts that underpin social policy: Who provides social policy, who pays for it and who decides important issues.
Application of these ideas, as well as an exploration of contemporary issues, to specific policy areas such as health and housing.
People and social policy; equal opportunities, citizenship and social exclusion.
The influence of demographic change, global social policy and the future prospects for British Social Policy.

Assessment:
To be confirmed.

Timetable: Tues 12-1 and 1 hour seminar (venue and time of seminar to be confirmed)  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: Sue Gilbert ugsocialpolicy@contacts.bham.ac.uk
Social Issues and Social Policy

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<tr>
<td>08 22084</td>
<td>IASS</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
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**Description:**
This module explores the relationship between social problems and social policy in contemporary society. The introductory part of the module explores why the label social problem has been attached to particular social phenomenon and not others. Is there a `social scientific’ rationale for such selections or have social problems been constructed and responded to because of other political, social and economic factors? Attention will also be given to the distinguishing features of social policy and the way in which such policies have been developed to ameliorate or resolve identified social problems. The core of the module will explore the relationship between social problems and social policy through a series of case studies on topics such as juvenile crime, homelessness, immigration, lone parenthood and poverty. In each of these case studies attention will be given to the historical background of the `problem,’ contemporary trends and developments and the various policy responses.

**Assessment:**
one 2,500 word essay (50%), One 3 hour examination (50%)

**Timetable:**
Mon 1-2 and 1 hour seminar (venue and time of seminar to be confirmed)

**Entrance requirements:**
None

**Staff contact:**
Sue Gilbert ugsocialpolicy@contacts.bham.ac.uk
CLASSICS, ANCIENT HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Byzantium and the Transformation of the Roman World *Limited Spaces*

Banner code: 09 27298  
School/Dept: CAHA  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 1

Description: A survey of the history of the East Mediterranean from ca 300 to ca 850 tracing the transformation of the Roman world, the emergence of the (Christian) Byzantine Empire, and the rise of Islam. Lectures focus on the lands, peoples, cultures (including material and visual cultures), beliefs and socio-political history of the Late Antique, Byzantine and, to a lesser extent, Islamic worlds. Critical reading of the secondary literature is encouraged in class discussion.

Assessment: 1.5 hour examination

Timetable: Tues 12-1  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: l.brubaker@bham.ac.uk

Barbarians and the Transformation of the Roman World *Limited Spaces*

Banner code: 09 21448  
School/Dept: CAHA  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 2

Description: The course surveys the history and archaeology of Western Europe between AD c400 and c800 - the period when the Roman Empire collapsed and the Early Medieval kingdoms started to emerge. In particular, it will examine the interaction of the Romans and non-Roman groups, the movements of the tribal groups, their impact on the areas they settled, and the way that new identities were forged. We will look at how post-Roman Europe was organised - how political and social structures were shaped and what religious beliefs began to take hold. We will examine the way that networks of contacts stretched across this 'new Europe', resulting in diverse trading patterns, episodes of violence and artistic development. Sources used in this course include literary material, settlement archaeology, artefact study and funerary evidence.

Assessment: 1.5 hour examination

Timetable: Tues 12-1  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: g.m.sears@bham.ac.uk
World Archaeology

Banner code: 09 27246  
School/Dept: CAHA  
Credits: 20  
Semester: 1

Description:
This module provides an introduction to human physical evolution, society and cultural life from the Palaeolithic to the Middle Ages. It combines a developmental evolutionary narrative with comparative cross-cultural analyses of past social systems, material culture, transformative technologies and forms of symbolic communication. Key themes include: the emergence and nature of modern humans; the origins and spread of farming technologies, complex societies and urbanism; state formation; the nature of 'civilization' and complex symbolic and artistic representation; imperialism and hegemony; and large-scale systems of trade and political and cultural interaction. A major theme throughout the module is the unique character of archaeological enquiry as the primary source of knowledge for understanding humanity at a global scale over the last three million years.

Assessment:
3 hour examination (January)

Timetable:  
Mon 1-2  
Mon 4-5

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: d.n.smith@bham.ac.uk

Greek Art and Archaeology

Banner code: 09 27245  
School/Dept: CAHA  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 1

Description:
This module focuses on the art and archaeology of the Greek world between the Bronze Age and Hellenistic period. It has a broadly diachronic approach intended to provide students with a chronological framework within which specific themes and bodies of evidence will be examined, together with relevant theoretical and methodological approaches appropriate to the study of Mediterranean cultures.

Assessment:
1.5 hour examination

Timetable:  
Wed 11-12

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: k.a.wardle@bham.ac.uk
Roman Art and Archaeology

Description:
This module focuses on the art and archaeology of the Roman world. It has a broadly diachronic approach intended to provide students with a chronological framework within which specific themes and bodies of evidence will be examined, together with relevant theoretical and methodological approaches appropriate to the study of Mediterranean cultures, with particular emphasis on Rome itself but also incorporating case studies drawn from other areas of the Roman Empire (which may include Roman Britain).

Assessment:
1.5 hour examination

Timetable: Wed 11-12

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: a.s.esmonde_cleary@bham.ac.uk
DIGITAL HUMANITIES HUB

Digital Culture *Limited Spaces*

Banner code: 09 26392  
School/Dept: Digital Humanities Hub  
Credits: 20  
Semester: 2

Description:
We are living through a cultural revolution. In the 21st century, digital technologies are ubiquitous and so an understanding of their applicability and value within the Arts, the Humanities and beyond is of fundamental importance for both academic study and employability.

Looking at the case studies provided by the diverse holdings and users of cultural collections, this course will introduce students to a range of digital technologies in a practical, hands-on way within a broader context of concepts and theories behind their use within diverse disciplines’ research cultures. It will include the analysis of current and future trends in digital technologies such as massive and open data, augmented reality, multi-touch and multi-user interfaces, and the 3D internet. The module will enable students to begin to build their own digital outputs that relate directly to their own degree disciplines, and to share ideas and approaches from across disciplines.

Assessment:
Multimedia presentation and 1000 word transcript

Timetable: TBC  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: r.s.clay@bham.ac.uk
Languages for All offers a range of languages at up to 8 levels as MOMDs and students will take their chosen language at the level most suited to their previous knowledge. Entry levels range from 1 to 8: as a general rule, Level 1 is for complete beginners only. Levels 3 and 4 are aimed at students with a GCSE pass and Level 6 progresses from A-level. Levels 7 and 8 are the equivalent of undergraduate level language study. You should consult the entrance requirements as well as the module descriptions to find your entry level. If you are in any doubt about which level to enrol for, please contact us at the e-mail address given.

### IWLP Level 1 Language MOMDs *Limited Space*

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<tr>
<td>09 25174 IWLP Arabic Level 1</td>
<td>Languages for All</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>09 25283 IWLP French Level 1</td>
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<td>09 25298 IWLP German Level 1</td>
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<td>09 25176 IWLP Italian Level 1</td>
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<td>09 25230 IWLP Japanese Level 1</td>
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<td>09 25198 IWLP Mandarin Chinese Level 1</td>
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<td>09 25253 IWLP Russian Level 1</td>
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<td>09 25315 IWLP Spanish Level 1</td>
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<td>09 27125 IWLP Ukrainian Level 1</td>
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**Description:**
Level 1 language modules provide an introduction to the language for students with no previous knowledge. The courses aim to develop basic listening, speaking, reading and writing skills (including an introduction to different written scripts in Arabic, Chinese, Japanese and Russian), which will lay the foundation for further study and will help you to develop strategies for coping with the target language in real-life situations.

Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole-group and small group / pair-work activities with emphasis on communicative settings, use of visual aids and audio/video materials from the internet where appropriate.

**Assessment:**
Oral exam (20%) and written examination (80%)

**Timetable:**

**Entrance requirements:**
No previous knowledge required. Evidence of previous language learning preferred. e.g. GCSE in a different foreign language

**Staff contact:**
Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk
IWLP Level 2 Language MOMDs *Limited Space*

**Banner code:**
- 09 25180 IWLP Arabic Level 2
- 09 25285 IWLP French Level 2
- 09 25300 IWLP German Level 2
- 09 25182 IWLP Italian Level 2
- 09 25232 IWLP Japanese Level 2
- 09 25201 IWLP Chinese Level 2
- 09 25318 IWLP Spanish Level 2

**School/Dept:** Languages for All

**Credits:** 20

**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**
Level 2 language modules are designed for near-beginners and will build upon the knowledge acquired at Level 1 or equivalent by further developing and consolidating the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. As grammar rules become more complex, every new structure will be dealt with in depth while some time spent revising and consolidating past knowledge. Structured language will be taught in the context of situations and personalised topics. Simulation materials will be drawn from authentic sources and will be used to improve and to provide stimulus for the development of both productive skills (speaking and writing) and receptive skills (reading and listening). Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole-group and small group / pair-work activities with emphasis on communicative settings and including the use of visual aids and audio/video materials from the internet where appropriate.

**Assessment:**
Oral exam (20%) and written examination (80%)

**Timetable:**
2 hours/week as detailed in the IWLP 2014-15 timetable (available at http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/cmi/iwlp/momd/how-to-enrol.aspx)

**Entrance requirements:**
Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 1 language MOMD or equivalent (as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)

**Staff contact:**
Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk
**IWLP Level 3 Language MOMDs *Limited Space***

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09 25287 IWLP French Level 3</td>
<td>Languages for All</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>09 25305 IWLP German Level 3</td>
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<td>09 25185 IWLP Italian Level 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>09 25234 IWLP Japanese Level 3</td>
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<td>09 25206 IWLP Chinese Level 3</td>
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<td>09 25321 IWLP Spanish Level 3</td>
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**Description:**
Level 3 language modules are aimed at the lower-intermediate learner and will consolidate, develop, and extend listening, speaking, reading and writing skills acquired on the previous level. As grammar rules become more complex, every new structure will be dealt with in depth while some time will be spent revising and consolidating past knowledge. Structured language will be taught in the context of situations and personalised topics. Authentic and semi-authentic materials will be used to improve and to provide stimulus for the development of both productive (speaking and writing) and receptive skills (reading and listening).

In Chinese and Japanese modules, more Chinese/Japanese Chinese *(Kan-ji)* characters will be introduced in class.

Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole-group and small group / pair-work activities with emphasis on communicative settings; use of visual aids and audio/video materials from the internet where appropriate.

**Assessment:**
Oral exam (20%) and written examination (80%)

**Timetable:**

**Entrance requirements:**
Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 2 language MOMD or good/recent GCSE pass or equivalent (as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)

**Staff contact:**
Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk
IWLP Level 3 French MOMD (Distance Learning) *Limited Space*

Banner code: 09 27023
School/Dept: Languages for All
Credits: 20
Semester: 1 & 2

Description:
This module is identical to the conventional French Level 3 MOMD but with an alternative mode of delivery, suitable for students who are unable to attend classes on campus. It is aimed at the lower-intermediate learner of French and will consolidate, develop, and extend listening, speaking, reading and writing skills acquired on IWLP French level 2 or equivalent (post A1, start of A2 in the Common European Framework of Reference). As grammar rules become more complex, every new structure will be dealt with in depth while some time will be spent revising and consolidating past knowledge. Structured language will be taught in the context of situations and personalized topics. Authentic and semi-authentic materials will be used to improve and to provide stimulus for the development of both productive (speaking and writing) and receptive skills (reading and listening). Students will study course materials online through the University VLE (Canvas) supported by online seminars, tutorials and discussions with French staff in Languages for All.

Assessment:
Oral exam (20%) and written examination (80%)

Timetable: Not Applicable
Entrance requirements: Pass at IWLP French Level 2 MOMD or good/recent GCSE pass or equivalent (as agreed with the LfA French Language Co-ordinator)

Staff contact: Valérie Leick – V.Leick@bham.ac.uk
IWLP Level 4 European Language MOMDs *Limited Space*

**Banner code:** 09 25289 IWLP French Level 4  
09 25307 IWLP German Level 4  
09 25189 IWLP Italian Level 4  
09 25323 IWLP Spanish Level 4

**School/Dept:** Languages for All  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**  
Level 4 language modules progress from GCSE level and are aimed to the Intermediate level learner by consolidating, developing, and extending listening, speaking, reading and writing skills acquired at Level 3 or at GCSE. Receptive and productive skills will be developed within a range of contexts in the target language by the use of authentic materials, text and practice books, etc. Structured language will be taught in the context of situations and personalised topics and you will begin to cope with a variety of less predictable real life situations.  
Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole-group and small group / pair-work activities with emphasis on communicative settings; use of visual aids and audio/video materials from the internet where appropriate.

**Assessment:**  
Oral exam (20%) and written examination (80%)

**Timetable:** 2 hours/week as detailed in the IWLP 2014-15 timetable (available at [http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/cml/iwlp/momd/how-to-enrol.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/cml/iwlp/momd/how-to-enrol.aspx))

**Entrance requirements:** Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 3 language MOMD; for direct entry, GCSE A* or equivalent as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator

**Staff contact:** Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk
**IWLP Level 4 Japanese Language MOMD *Limited Space***

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<th>Semester:</th>
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<td>09 25236 IWLP Japanese Level 4</td>
<td>Languages for All</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
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**Description:**
This module is aimed to the Intermediate level learner and will consolidate, develop, and extend listening, speaking, reading and writing skills acquired at Level 3 or equivalent. Receptive and productive skills will be developed within a range of contexts in the target language by the use of semi-authentic materials, text and practice books, etc. Structured language will be taught in the context of situations and personalised topics and you will begin to cope with a variety of less predictable real life situations. Further Chinese Japanese (Kan-ji) characters will be introduced throughout the course.

Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole-group and small group / pair-work activities with emphasis on communicative settings; use of visual aids and audio/video materials from the internet where appropriate.

**Assessment:**
Oral exam (20%) and written examination (80%)

**Timetable:**
Wednesday 18:00 – 20:00

**Entrance requirements:**
Pass at the IWLP Japanese Level 3 language MOMD or equivalent as agreed with the LfA Japanese Language Co-ordinator

**Staff contact:**
Junko Ogawa – j.ogawa@bham.ac.uk
**Description:**
Level 5 language modules aim to further develop and extend listening, reading, speaking and writing skills acquired at Level 4 or at AS-level. It caters for students at a higher intermediate level (who have reached A2 in the Common European Framework of Reference). More emphasis will be put on developing learning strategies and debating skills. You will learn to cope with a variety of less predictable real-life situations, using a main textbook as well as a range of material from authentic sources: newspapers and magazines, radio and TV programmes and the Internet.

The course content will be delivered in a lively and interactive way, through activities designed to enable you to use the language in context, either in small groups or in pairs.

**Assessment:**
Oral exam (20%) and written examination (80%)

**Timetable:**

**Entrance requirements:**
Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 4 language MOMD; for direct entry, good AS-level pass or equivalent (as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)

**Staff contact:**
Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk
IWLP Level 6 European Language MOMDs *Limited Space*

**Banner code:**
- 09 25293 IWLP French Level 6
- 09 25311 IWLP German Level 6
- 09 25328 IWLP Spanish Level 6

**School/Dept:** Languages for All  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**
This module aims at the advanced learner of the language. It will further develop and extend listening, reading and writing skills acquired at previous levels or at A-level. Students will acquire a high level of competence in written and oral language including debating skills on less common topics. In addition, a particular emphasis will be put on specific skills like summarizing and report writing. Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole group and small-group/pair-work activities, aiming at developing all language skills, with emphasis on oral communication. Visual aids, audio/video recordings and the Internet are used routinely.

**Assessment:**
Oral exam (20%) and written examination (80%)

**Timetable:**
2 hours/week as detailed in the IWLP 2014-15 timetable (available at http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/cml/iwlp/momd/how-to-enrol.aspx)

**Entrance requirements:**
Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 5 language MOMD; for direct entry, good A2 level pass or equivalent (as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)

**Staff contact:** Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk
IWLP Level 7 European Language MOMDs *Limited Space*

Banner code:  
09 25295 IWLP French Level 7  
09 25314 IWLP German Level 7  
09 25330 IWLP Spanish Level 7  

School/Dept: Languages for All  
Credits: 20  
Semester: 1 & 2

Description:  
This module aims at the more advanced level student and extends receptive and productive skills to a more sophisticated level. Learning strategies and study methods will be developed to increase independent learning. Students will be exposed to a variety of different types of spoken and written texts. They will increase their awareness and use of different registers. Substantial authentic video and audio material will be used as well as newspaper articles and the Internet in order to enhance students’ cultural knowledge of the country where the language is spoken. Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole group and small-group/pair-work activities, aiming at developing all language skills, with emphasis on oral communication. Visual aids, audio/video recordings and the Internet are used routinely.

Assessment:  
Oral exam (20%) and written examination (80%)

Timetable:  
2 hours/week as detailed in the IWLP 2014-15 timetable (available at http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/cml/iwlp/momd/how-to-enrol.aspx)

Entrance requirements:  
Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 6 language MOMD or equivalent (as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)

Staff contact:  
Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk
IWLP Level 8 European Language MOMDs *Limited Space*

**Banner code:**
- 09 26135 IWLP French Level 8
- 09 26139 IWLP German Level 8
- 09 26138 IWLP Spanish Level 8

**School/Dept:** Languages for All  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**
Level 8 language modules are for students who have already attained a high level of proficiency and who wish to extend receptive and productive skills to a highly sophisticated level, encompassing several registers. Strategies and study methods will be further developed to increase independent learning. Cultural knowledge of the country where the language is spoken will be enhanced through students’ research. Teaching is through practical language classes involving both whole group and small-group/pair-work activities, aiming at developing all language skills, with particular emphasis on oral communication. Conversations, discussions and debates on topical (current) issues will be a constant feature. A wide range of audio-visual resources are used routinely.

**Assessment:**
- 1 end of year written exam (2 hours) 60%; 1 end of year oral assessment 40%

**Timetable:**
2 hours/week as detailed in the IWLP 2014-15 timetable (available at http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/cml/iwlp/momd/how-to-enrol.aspx)

**Entrance requirements:**
- Pass at the appropriate IWLP Level 7 language MOMD or equivalent (as agreed with the appropriate LfA Language Co-ordinator)

**Staff contact:**
Judith Hancock – lfa@contacts.bham.ac.uk
European Economic Issues

**Banner code:** 08 03606  
**School/Dept:** Economics  
**Credits:** 10  
**Semester:** 1

**Description:**
This module will involve the presentation and evaluation of economic data relevant to analysis of the European Union and various policy issues such as, agriculture, regional policy, economic and monetary union and competition policy.

**Assessment:**
2 hour written examination (75%); coursework (25%)

**Timetable:** TBC  
**Entrance requirements:** A-Level Economics or Business studies  
**Staff contact:** BBS-UG@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Introduction to Economics for Non-Specialists

**Banner code:** 08 11093 & 08 11094  
**School/Dept:** Economics  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**
This linked module provides an introduction to economics for students not going on to specialise in the subject. It provides an introduction to the concepts and terminology of economics. Topics covered include: basic supply and demand analysis, consumer and producer theory, market failure, externalities and public goods, non-market (government) failure and several special topics illustrating how economic analysis is carried out – these include crime and crime policy, marriage and divorce etc. Factor markets and the distribution of income. Inequality of income and wealth. Poverty traps and welfare reform.

**Assessment:**
2 hour written examination (60%); 4 x coursework (40%)

**Timetable:** TBC  
**Entrance requirements:** Available to students without A-Level Economics  
**Staff contact:** BBS-UG@contacts.bham.ac.uk
Principles of Economics

Banner code: 08 11095 & 08 11096  
School/Dept: Economics  
Credits: 20  
Semester: 1 & 2

Description:
This linked module provides an introduction to economics for students wishing to take a degree in which economics is a major component, laying the foundations for subsequent courses in advanced economics. Principles of Economics B: Basic theoretical macroeconomics; inflation and unemployment; exchange rates, determinants of national income; money and interest rates; fiscal and monetary policy.

Assessment:
3 hour written examination 100%.

Timetable: TBC  
Entrance requirements: A-Level Economics Grade C or above

Staff contact: BBS-UG@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Sustainable Development: Economy and Environment

Banner code: 08 03457  
School/Dept: Economics  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 2

Description:
This module examines the interactions between the economy and the environment and provides an introduction to environmental economics. The economic causes and effects of environmental degradation will be examined together with the economic incentives to ameliorate environmental problems.

Assessment:
2 hour written examination.

Timetable: TBC  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: BBS-UG@contacts.bham.ac.uk
Equality and Diversity: Children, Families and Society *Limited Space*

Banner code: School/Dept: Credits: Semester:
11 19247 Education 20 1 & 2

Description:
This module will explore relationships between cultural identity, social policy and issues of equality and diversity in Britain. The module will explore popular and state responses, both national and local, to issues of equality, diversity and social justice. It will examine patterns of inequality in selected areas of social policy and provision. While the focus of the module will be on the British experience, some international comparative data will be used.

Indicative content:
- Theories of equality
- Patterns of inequality in relation to race and ethnicity; social class; gender; disability
- Ethnographies of community and family life in multi-ethnic Britain
- Children, families and education
- Children, families and health
- Interagency services
- Campaigning and legislating for equality and social justice

Assessment:
A critical review of 1500 words of an article/document relating to equality and diversity in the U.K. (50%).
End of year examination of a 1500 word essay completed under exam conditions (50%).

Timetable:
Seminars: Wed 10-11  

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: Angela Poultney/Matt Raine (Programme Administrators):
esjundergraduate@contacts.bham.ac.uk
Students should include ‘MOMD Equality and Diversity’ in the subject box.
Fundamentals of Materials Science: Shaping

Banner code: 04 17034  School/Dept: Met & Mat Engineering  Credits: 10  Semester: 2

Description:
The module will introduce the following aspects of the shaping of materials:
Metals - solidification behaviour of metals; zones in ingot casting; segregation, constitutional undercooling and porosity; grain size control (inoculation and vibration); shaped casting - sand, die and investment; casting defects - inclusions, hot tearing. Characteristics of hot and cold forming; directionality and grain size; forging; rolling; extrusion and cold drawing. Fusion welding of metallic components; welding processes - MMA, MIG, TIG, SAW, power beam, resistance and friction; welding defects.
Polymers - calendaring of sheet polymers (differences from sheet metal forming); thermoforming of polymeric sheets; injection moulding of polymers; modifications of injection moulding for ceramics. Extrusion of polymers (differences from metals). Adhesive bonding and fasteners.
Ceramics - modifications for extrusion of ceramics; ceramic powder preparation - colloids and gels; cold and hot uniaxial pressing; isostatic processes; slip casting. Material and process selection examples for polymers, metals and ceramics.
This module is not linked to “Fundamentals of Materials Science: Structure” and can be taken separately.

Assessment:
Examination (70%); tutorials sheets (10%); laboratory reports (20%)

Timetable:
Thurs 10 – 11.00am  Entrance requirements: Available only to Level C
MMT-NG08  Engineers
Fri 10-11.00
MMT-NG08

Staff contact: w.d.griffiths@bham.ac.uk
### Fundamentals of Materials Science: Structure *Limited Space*

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<td>04 17033</td>
<td>Met &amp; Mat Engineering</td>
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**Description:**
This module will aim to develop in the students an understanding of how bonding controls the chemistry, structure and engineering properties of materials; to introduce some basic concepts of crystallography; to introduce the concept of phase diagrams; and to apply phase diagrams to a number of binary alloy systems.

This module is not linked to “Fundamentals of Materials Science: Shaping” and can be taken separately.

**Assessment:**
Examination (70%); tutorials (10%); laboratory reports (20%)

**Timetable:**
Wed 12-1, MMT-NG31
Thurs 12-1, P52-LT1

**Entrance requirements:**
Available only to Level C Engineers

**Staff contact:**
[i.p.jones@bham.ac.uk](mailto:i.p.jones@bham.ac.uk)

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### Introduction to Energy Engineering *Limited Space*

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<td>04 21167</td>
<td>Electronic, Electrical and Systems Engineering</td>
<td>20</td>
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**Description:**
This module is compulsory for students on a degree involving Energy Engineering and available as an EMOD for other engineering students.

It introduces the UK and global context of energy production in the context of pressures to shift away from fossil fuels and other finite sources. The IPCC reports on Climate Change will be introduced. Students will understand the state of the developed world’s energy production capability. Overview coverage of the multitude of renewable resources will include some detailed consideration of demand and supply figures. In addition to probing the technical and numerical details, a case study approach will be adopted including site visits. A team-based assignment will consolidate the knowledge gained.

**Assessment:**
Coursework (100%): Comprising Class Tests, Individual and team-based reports and team-based presentations.

**Timetable:**
Wed 9-11, 6-16 (weeks 21-31)
Occasionally Thurs 9-10. Room: tbc

**Entrance requirements:**
Available only to Level C Engineers and Physical Scientists

**Staff contact:**
[h.evodorides@bham.ac.uk](mailto:h.evodorides@bham.ac.uk)
Introduction to Information Engineering

Banner code: 04 11186  
School/Dept: Electronic, Electrical and Systems Engineering  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 1

Description:
Course Description
Students are introduced to the elements of information theory and its application to the design of communication systems.
Outline Syllabus
Elements of communication systems; concepts and calculations of information theory; sampling and reconstruction of continuous signals; digital coding methods.
Objectives
On successful completion of this module, the student will be able to:
- Describe the main elements of a communication system.
- Describe the main features of a variety of physical communication mechanisms (e.g. radio & microwave, optical fibre, coaxial cable), identifying sources of noise and error, explaining factors limiting bandwidth, and explaining the need for modulation of signals.
- Apply the basic concepts of information theory.
- Perform basic information theory calculations.
- Construct simple error detecting codes.

Detailed Syllabus
2. Simple communications systems and electromagnetic communication media: baseband, radio, coaxial cable, optical fibre. Link budget equation for simple free space line of sight radio.
3. Line coding schemes: Unipolar, Bipolar, NRZ, AMI, Manchester Split Phase Coding, HDB3, CMI. Qualitative concepts of DC content, bandwidth and clock content of different coding schemes.
4. Noise and bandwidth, and their relationship to channel capacity.
5. Simple error detection and correction codes. Concept of distance between codewords. Use of generator and check matrix methods, and interpretation of the syndrome vector.

Assessment:
Coursework: Assessed Lab (25%)
Written unseen examination (1.5hrs, Answer 2 questions from 3) (75%)

Timetable:
Lectures: Fri 9-10  
Labs: Wed 9-11, weeks 7, 8 and 9 of Autumn term.  
Tutorials: Thurs 9-10, weeks 6 to 11 of Autumn term.

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: m.oussalah@bham.ac.uk
Introduction to Magnetic and Electronic Materials

Banner code: 04 17035  
School/Dept: Met & Mat Engineering  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 2

Description:
This course is an introduction to functional materials including a selection of basic fundamental principles, processing techniques, properties and applications. The range of materials covered are: conductors (metallic, ionic, superconducting and semiconducting), magnetic materials (hard, soft and recording media), and dielectric materials (insulators, piezoelectric and ferroelectric).

It will provide an introduction to functional materials and properties including the concept of intrinsic and extrinsic properties; describe the periodic table, atomic structure, types of bonding and how electronic structure influences functional properties of materials (e.g. resistivity/conductivity), basic crystal structures; introduce basic superconducting behaviour, processing and applications of superconducting (e.g. MRI); discuss semiconducting materials, including a simple model of energy levels and a range of applications (e.g. solar cells); describe hard and soft magnetic materials: properties, processing and applications (e.g. NdFeB magnets for bioMEMS), methods of data recording including magnetic, CD, CDR/W and DVD; describe dielectric materials: properties, electrostrictives, ferroelectrics and applications (e.g. capacitors), optical properties and optical fibres.

Assessment:
Examination (70%), tutorial sheets (10%), laboratory reports (20%)

Timetable:  
Wed 12-1 MMT-NG31  
Thurs 12-1 MMT-SG07c

Entrance requirements:  
Available only to Level C Engineers

Staff contact:  
A.J.Williams@bham.ac.uk
Multimedia Data

Banner code: 04 11187  
School/Dept: Electronic, Electrical and Systems Engineering  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 2

Description:
The aims of this module are To introduce students to the properties of the various types of multimedia data that enable them to be efficiently manipulated, compressed and transmitted. To introduce students to techniques of image, video and audio coding and to introduce aspects of multimedia and interactive Web pages.

Outline Syllabus
Students are introduced to the basic properties of a variety of data types: audio, speech, still image, and video. Manipulation of these data types is explored and methods of representation are considered; bandwidth requirements and sources of redundancy are explored. The basic principles of human visual and auditory performance are introduced, and their impact on the design of data coding methods is considered. Aspects of photography, digital imaging, Internet communication and cryptography are introduced and languages such as SVG (Scalable Vector Graphic) and JavaScript are introduced in the context of the design of graphical and interactive web pages.

Assessment:
100% examination

Timetable: Thurs 9-10  
Labs: Wed 9-11 in weeks 4-5 of term  
Tutorial: Wed 10-11 in week 7 of term

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: M.Spann@bham.ac.uk
Polymers, Composites and Ceramics

Banner code: 04 17031  Met & Mat Engineering  Credits: 10  Semester: 2

Description:
The module aims to develop depth of knowledge in the areas of polymer science, composites technology and structure/property relationships in ceramics. The main focus will be to develop qualitative and conceptual understanding with emphasis on mechanical and physical properties. The module will develop concepts introduced in 'Properties and Applications of Materials' - semester 1.

The polymer course will begin with an introduction to the means by which polymers can be produced and move on to consider the range of possible morphologies. Thermal transitions such as crystallisation and melting will be introduced as will the effect of crystallinity on mechanical properties. The use of polymers as matrix materials in fibre reinforced composites will also be introduced in the composites course. The content will develop a number of concepts introduced in the polymer course. Sources of fibre and resins will be outlined and the material known as 'pre-preg' introduced. The effect of fibre orientation will be quantified and the concept of lamination described.

The ceramics course aims to develop a conceptual understanding of how both the atomic structure and the microstructure of a ceramic material influences its behaviour and properties, with the main focus being on its mechanical and physical properties.

Assessment:
Exam (70%); case study report (10%); laboratory exercise reports (20%)

Timetable:
Weeks 21-31
Mon 4-5, GK-NG16
Thurs 11-12, MMT-NG08

Entrance requirements: Available only to Level C Engineers

Staff contact: m.j.jenkins@bham.ac.uk
ENGLISH LITERATURE

Introduction to English Literature 1790 to present *Limited Space*

Banner code: 09 26210  School/Dept: English Literature  Credit: 20  Semester: 1+2

Description: This course provides students with an introduction to British literature from 1790 until the present. It develops students' understanding of different critical and theoretical approaches to the analysis of literature. The texts studies may vary from year to year, but include a selection of poetry, fiction and drama. The texts are studied in relation to their social, political and literary contexts.

Please note that students taking English as a formal part of their degree are not permitted to take this module as an MOMD.

Assessment: 2 x 2000 word essays

Timetable:
Tuesday 9-10. Room tbc.  Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: j.mussell@bham.ac.uk

Old English 1 *Limited Space*

Banner code: 09 10629 & 09 10630  School/Dept: English Literature  Credit: 20  Semester: 1 & 2

Description: These linked modules offer the opportunity to begin the study of literature written in Old English, the variety of English used in the British Isles by Anglo-Saxons until 1066. Students read a selection of texts in the original language and investigate their literary, cultural, historical and artistic contexts.

In semester one, students read 'Cynewulf and Cyneheard' and the Old English translation of Bede's 'Account of the Poet Caedmon'. In semester two, students read 'The Dream of the Rood' and 'The Rune Poem'. Reading skills are taught in the seminars and are supported by a variety of resources.

Assessment: 1 hour examination that tests translation of set texts (35%); 2000 word essay (65%)

Timetable:
Wednesday 9-11 or 9-10 plus another tbc. Location tbc.  Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: p.semper@bham.ac.uk
FILM AND CREATIVE WRITING

Introduction to Film Studies *Limited Space*

Banner code: 09 24831 & 09 24802  
School/Dept: Film and Creative Writing  
Credits: 20  
Semester: All year

Description:
Part A: This module will provide students with an introduction to the study of film through a focus on textual analysis. Students will be taught the basic skills of film analysis and be provided with the necessary vocabulary to interpret film with regard to film aesthetics and cinematographic devices. In this semester, we focus on the film text: how what is on the screen determines the meaning of the film. Topics covered include: mise-en-scene, sound and editing.

Part B: This module will provide students with an introduction to the study of film through a focus on contextual analysis. Students will be taught the key conceptual frameworks with which to interpret the film text. In this semester we will focus on how the meaning of a film is determined by film and audience context. Topics covered include: film style, stars and narrative, and a range of theoretical approaches such as Marxism and psychoanalysis.

Assessment:
1.5 hour in-class exam during final week of first semester (50%); one 2,000 word essay (50%)

Timetable: Wed 9-12  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: m.aaron@bham.ac.uk
**Story-telling for Page and Screen *Limited Space*\**

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<td>09 20854</td>
<td>Film and Creative Writing</td>
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**Description:**
This is a practical module designed to develop the skills necessary for successful story telling in the two contrasting genres of prose and screenwriting. Students participate in interactive workshops and undertake take-away writing tasks. In the module’s first half, students will become familiar with generic creative writing skills and processes. They will also acquire writing tools specific to prose writing, such as characterisation, description, handling of point-of-view, ‘pivotal moment’ and dialogue. The aim is to ‘build up’ a complete short story. In the module’s second half, students will explore ways in which writing for the screen differs radically from story-telling in prose, both in technique and layout. Students will also acquire background knowledge of the industry. This module has a 70% attendance requirement.

**Assessment:**
Two assignments: 1: a short story of 2000w (75%), plus 1000w writer’s notes (25%), and 2: an extract from a screen play of 2000w/5mins (75%) plus 1000w writer’s notes (25%).

**Timetable:**
Wed 9-10, 10-11, location tbc.

**Entrance requirements:**
None

**Staff contact:**
[r.house@bham.ac.uk](mailto:r.house@bham.ac.uk)
Natural Hazards

Banner code: 03 20951  
School/Dept: GEES  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 1

Description:
The module aims to provide an insight into the causes and effects of natural hazards and the way in which natural processes and human activity interact to produce them and, sometimes, increase their effects. The course will also examine the problems involved in determining the timing and magnitude of the hazards and will assess mitigation procedures to minimise their effects. The hazards examined include volcanoes, earthquakes, landslides, floods, glacier-related hazards and hurricanes.

Assessment:
One mapping and word project (equivalent to 1,000 words) (50%); one 1.0 hour exam (50%).

Timetable: Wed 9–11

Staff Contact: n.v.smith@bham.ac.uk
Society, Space and Policy *Limited Space*

**Banner code:** 08 03434  
**School/Dept:** GEES  
**Credits:** 10  
**Semester:** 1

**Description:**
This module provides an introduction to the changing social fabric of cities in Britain, Europe and North America. It explores how contemporary processes of social change are shaping the development of major urban areas and the priorities for urban planning and policy within them.

Topics include:
- Globalisation and changing role of major cities
- The rise of World Cities and growing polarisation within them
- Re-urbanisation: how sustainable is the move back to the city?
- Gentrification pressures: really a bad thing for our cities?
- Class restructuring: the urban creative class and the disputed underclass
- International migration: what are the implications for urban planning?

We examine these issues through case studies of major cities such as London, Toronto, Barcelona, Hamburg and Chicago.

The teaching programme involves a mix of methods including a series of lectures with plenty of scope for discussion, interactive small group classes, and a site visit to an inner city district of Birmingham experiencing rapid social and physical transformations.

*This 10 credit module can be taken on its own or paired with its twin module Economy, Space and Policy, which runs in semester 2, for 20 credits overall.*

**Student Feedback:**
Excellent, Clear and well organised
Enthusiastic and approachable lecturer
Clear outline handouts

**Assessment:**
2500 word essay

**Timetable:**
Tues 11-12, Thurs 11-12

**Entrance requirements:**
This module is open to students in: Geography, Social Policy, Political Science, Liberal Arts

**Staff contact:** n.v.smith@bham.ac.uk
Description:
This module provides an introduction to the changing economic structure of cities in Britain, Europe and North America.

The module examines how the fortunes of our cities have been affected by profound structural changes in the economy in recent years. We consider how these trends have shaped the physical and social fabric of major cities and the implications for urban planning and policy priorities. The issues explored in the module are particularly relevant in the recent climate of financial crisis and recession.

Key topics covered include:

- What makes a successful city economy? Moving beyond economic growth to more sustainable measures of progress
- The roles of manufacturing and services – do our cities need industry any more?
- The creative and cultural economy as a driver of urban regeneration
- Post-Fordism, clustering and new urban business districts
- How robust is the urban economic revival of the past 10 years?
- Planning for sustainable urban economies after the financial crisis

The module takes an accessible and practical approach to economic issues and their urban implications. It draws upon many case studies from cities such as Munich, Manchester, Barcelona and Detroit to illustrate key trends.

*This 10 credit module can be taken on its own or paired with its twin module Society, Space and Policy, which runs in semester 1, for 20 credits overall.*

Assessment:
A 2,500 word report on planning for sustainable economic development in a case study city of your choice.

Student Feedback:
Really interesting content and enthusiastic lecturer
Real-life examples and group sessions were very helpful
It was very interesting to learn about different case study cities and approaches to city policy

Timetable: 
Tues 11-12, Thurs 11-12

Entrance requirements: 
This module is open to students in: Geography, Social Policy, Political Science, Liberal Arts.

Staff contact: 
[ n.v.smith@bham.ac.uk ]
The Planning of the Built Environment

Banner code: School/Dept: Credits: Semester:
08 27026 GEES 20 1 & 2

Description:
Urban and regional planning plays a critical role in shaping the nature of the built environment in which we all live. Our towns and cities are constantly evolving and the need to manage this change in order to create much better quality urban environments is critical. The recent transformation of Birmingham City Centre is testament to the important role that planning can play.

If you are interested in towns and cities, how they have evolved and why, these modules are for you. A key objective of these modules is the understanding of how cities and planning should be understood today.

In the first semester we will examine the roots and the development of planning from its origins up to the present day. Here we will pick up on a number of the themes in the recent BBC2 series The History of our Streets that will be of relevance to the story of the development of planning. Key texts for this part of the module will be Hall, P (2002) Cities of Tomorrow, Blackwell Publishing (3rd edition) and LeGates, R.T and Stout, F.(eds) (2007) The City Reader, Routledge (4th Edition)

In semester 2 we look at the contemporary operation of the planning system and examine the tools that urban planners have at their disposal to help shape the nature of the built environment. Here we will cover key issues such as the spirit and purpose of planning, the organisation and management of the planning system, and how we engage the community in the process. We will also examine key contemporary planning issues such as the impact of localism on planning, climate change, urban design and transport. A key element of the second semester teaching will be the inclusion of planning practitioners who are actively engaged in the delivery of the system.

Assessment: Two 1,500 word essays (50%) and one 2hr examination (50%)

Timetable: Thurs 9-10, Fri 9-10

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: n.v.smith@bham.ac.uk
The Social History of Modern Britain, 1870-1990 *Limited Space*

Banner code: 09 21993  
School/Dept: History  
Credits: 20  
Semester: 1 & 2

Description:
Semester 1: This linked module examines the development of modern British society from c1870 to the interwar years. It examines changing social and political relations in the period, the rise of labour, the development of party politics, changing patterns of work and the development of industrial conflict as well as changes in social structure and in attitudes to social class.

Semester 2: This linked module examines the development of modern British society from the interwar years to the 1990s. It examines changing social and political relations in the period. It examines the social impact of depression, the changing response to poverty, the impact of the two World Wars and the rise of the Welfare State and of 'affluence'. It examines changes in social structure and in attitudes to social class.

Assessment:
One 2 hour examination (67%); assessed essay of 2,000 words (33%)

Timetable:
Mon 1-2  
Block timetable: Not in a block  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: Dr Chris Hill: c.hil.4@bham.ac.uk

Introduction to Modern History, 1500-1800 *Limited Space*

Banner code: 09 22628  
School/Dept: History  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 1

Description:
This module aims to introduce students to aspects of the early-modern world, including its social, economic, military, political, intellectual, religious and cultural history. The course will cover of the period from around 1500 with the discoveries of the new world and invention of printing, up to the late eighteenth century with the Enlightenment and the French Revolution. Though the focus will be primarily European (including the British Isles), the wider world will also be explored (e.g. interaction with the New World; American Revolution). Students will examine the developments of the period through lectures and directed reading, to gain awareness of key issues involved in the scholarly study of the period.

Assessment:
One summative essay of 3000 words (worth 100% of module assessment)

Timetable:
Mon 3-4  
Thurs 10-11  
Block timetable: Block F  
Entrance requirements:

Staff Contact: Dr Tara Hamling: t.j.hamling@bham.ac.uk
Introduction to Modern History 1800-2000 *Limited Space*

Banner code: 09 22821  
School/Dept: History  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 2

Description:  
This module aims to introduce students to aspects of the late-modern world, including its social, economic, military, political, intellectual, religious and cultural history. The course will cover of the period from around 1800 with the onset of industrialisation up to the turn of the twenty-first century with the end of the Cold War and increasing concern with `globalisation'. Though the focus will be weighted somewhat towards Europe (including the British Isles), the wider world will also be explored (e.g. empire, decolonisation, modern nationalism). Students will examine the developments of the period through lectures and directed reading, to gain awareness of key issues involved in the scholarly study of the period.

Assessment:  
One summative essay of 3000 words (worth 100% of module assessment).

Timetable:
- Mon 3-4
- Thurs 10-11
- Block timetable: Block F

Entrance requirements:

Staff contact: Dr Shirley Ye: s.ye@bham.ac.uk

Discovering the Middle Ages: An Introduction *Limited Space*

Banner code: 09 25900  
School/Dept: History  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 1

Description:  
This module aims to introduce students to a broad range of topics from the earlier part of the Middle Ages understood as part of global history, with a focus on staff areas of particular expertise in political, social-economic, religious, cultural history and material culture. The module will include introductions to topics taught as modules in Yr 2 and 3, each framed as a question about some person or concept with which students may be familiar. Students will examine these topics through lectures and analysis of relevant primary and secondary source material, including material culture, online resources and accessible locations, to gain first-hand experience of some of the issues involved in the scholarly study of this period.

Assessment:  
One summative essay of 3,000 words (100%)

Timetable:
- Weds 12-1
- Thurs 12-1
- Block timetable: Block F

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: Dr Arezou Azad: a.azad@bham.ac.uk
Living in the Medieval World: An Introduction *Limited Space

**Banner code:** 09 25901  **School/Dept:** History  **Credits:** 10  **Semester:** 2

**Description:**
This module aims to introduce students to a broad range of topics from the later part of the Middle Ages understood as part of global history, with a focus on staff areas of particular expertise in social-economic, religious, cultural history and material culture. The module will include introductions to topics taught as modules in Yr 2 and 3, each framed as a question about some person or concept with which students may be familiar. Students will examine these topics through lectures and analysis of relevant primary and secondary source material, including material culture, online resources and accessible locations, to gain first-hand experience of some of the issues involved in the scholarly study of this period.

**Assessment:**
One summative essay of 3,000 words (100% of module assessment)

**Timetable:**
- Weds 12-1
- Thurs 12-1
- Block timetable: Block F

**Entrance requirements:** None

**Staff contact:** Dr Miriam Muller: m.muller@bham.ac.uk
Art and its Contexts Part I: Concepts and Categories

**Banner code:** 10 18599  
**School/Dept:** Art History, Film and Visual Studies  
**Credits:** 10  
**Semester:** 1

**Description:**
The module provides a thorough foundation in the historical concepts and categories employed in the analysis of works of art. Examples include: the meaning of style; artistic 'schools'; iconography and symbolism; the meaning of 'genre' and different artistic genres; the distinction between 'fine' and 'applied' art; the figure of the artist.

**Assessment:**
One Essay worth 100%

**Timetable:** Thurs 9-10  
Barber Institute  
Lecture Theatre.

**Entrance requirements:** None

**Staff contact:** t.mann@bham.ac.uk

Art and its Contexts Part II: Methods and Interpretations

**Banner code:** 10 18602  
**School/Dept:** Art History, Film and Visual Studies  
**Credits:** 10  
**Semester:** 2

This module is NOT available as an independent module and must be taken with the semester one module 10 18599 Art and its Contexts Part 1 to make a 20 credit MOMD.

**Description:**
This module provides an introduction to the various approaches and methods used in the interpretation of works of art, with a particular focus on recent methods and the debates that have been prompted by their application. Examples include: formal analysis; semiology; the social history of art; gender studies; studies of patronage and the art market; biography; the art history survey.

**Assessment:**
One Essay worth 100%

**Timetable:** Thurs 9-10  
Barber Institute  
Lecture Theatre.

**Entrance requirements:** Must be taken with Art and its Contexts Part 1 (10 18599)

**Staff contact:** t.mann@bham.ac.uk
Modern Germany: History and its Images *Limited Space*

**Banner code:** 09 14945 & 09 14946  
**School/Dept:** Department of Modern Languages  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**
Semester 1: The module offers an overview of German social and political history from the end of the Second World War up to the present and of the reflection of that history in various media (particularly film).

Semester 2: The module offers an overview of German social and political history from the early nineteenth century up to the end of the Second World War and of the reflection of that history in various media.

**Assessment:**
1 x 2000 word essays (40%); 2 hour written exam (60%)

**Timetable:**  
Tues 1-2. Seminar hours provisionally Wed 10-11 (see below for more information)

**Entrance requirements:** None

**Staff contact:** e.griffiths@bham.ac.uk

NB: If you are nominating this module as either your first or second MOMD choice, please call at the Department of Modern Languages desk (or e-mail e.griffiths@bham.ac.uk) to provide information about your timetable so that the seminar hours can be arranged.
Catalan Language

Description:
Catalan is spoken in Catalonia, Valencia and the Balearic Islands as well as in Andorra, North Catalonia, the eastern part of Aragon and Alghero (Sardinia). This course teaches Beginners Catalan with the opportunity to continue in year 2.

Outcomes - On completion of this module the student will be able to demonstrate above threshold level communication skills in Catalan (as recommended by the CEFLR) and to read, comprehend, interpret and translate cultural texts placing them within the wider context of the language and culture of the Catalan speaking territories. The student will also have the opportunity to achieve an extra qualification by taking the International Catalan Certificate (Basic Level) issued by the Institut Ramon Llull and held at the University of Birmingham.

Assessment:
Exam (50%); oral (10%); aural (10%); coursework and grammar test (30%) (assessed jointly with linked module):

Timetable: Mon 2-4 Tues 1-2

Entrance requirements: No restrictions. Available to all.

Staff contact: e.mercer@bham.ac.uk
Galician Language and Culture I

Description:
Galician is the language spoken in the north-west of the Iberian Peninsula. It is an official language within the Spanish state together with Catalan, Basque and Spanish.

- Studying Galician is easy: It is approachable for students learning other romance languages, for complete beginners and for those who have not studied a language before but want to give it a go.
- It is useful: did you know that Galician and Portuguese were born as the same language in the same kingdom? Therefore with Galician you can communicate both with Portuguese speakers and with Spanish speakers around the world.
- Doing research on a topic related to Galician language or culture (cinema, theatre, literature, music, food, wine...) can be very good for your CV. There are many areas that have not been studied in England, Wales or Scotland so you could become an expert on one area of your choice.
- You can learn about a fascinating culture: did you know that Galicia is a Celtic nation and has one of the most popular Celtic Festivals in the world? ...we preserve millions of ancient fiestas and festivals and that our traditional food is fantastic ...we have a beautiful landscape and amazing beaches, interesting literature and good musicians. Galician people are said to be very welcoming and funny.

If you want to learn about all this and much more in a relaxed and amusing atmosphere, start learning Galician, you will not regret it.

Assessment:
3hr. written examination 50%, oral examination 15%, aural examination 15%, course work 20%. Languages of assessment: English and Galician.

Timetable: Mon 11-1, Thu 10-11. Entrance requirements: No restrictions. Available to all.

Staff contact: p.serrapio@bham.ac.uk
**Basque 1**

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<tr>
<td>09 26730</td>
<td>Department of Modern Languages</td>
<td>20</td>
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**Description:**
The Basque language, euskara, has been spoken for over 2,000 years on both sides of the Pyrenees, at the bottom right-hand corner of the Bay of Biscay. It is nowadays the language of around 750,000 people divided between Spain and France. Euskara is a one-of-a-kind language, with no known connections to any other language. Why study Basque?

- Basque is a really distinct subject
- Basque is nowadays thriving after a long history of recession, and it has started to offer career opportunities in the fields of education and translation, for example
- Basque is the core of present Basques’ identity, and learning Basque makes you win their heart in a way that does not usually happen with ‘big’ languages

The course deploys the communicative method, reproducing in the classroom communication tasks typical of everyday life. The grammar is mainly introduced through the superb online program BOGA, and contact hours are devoted to practising reading, listening, and speaking skills. Students will thus acquire the A1 level of the CEFR.

**Assessment:**
Oral exam: 30%; Coursework: 30%; 3 hour exam: 40%

**Timetable:**
Tues 12-1, Thurs 10-11, Thurs 12-1.

**Entrance requirements:**
No restrictions. Available to all.

**Staff contact:**
Ira Ortigosa
Italian Advanced Language

Banner code: 09 08695 & 09 08696
School/Dept: Department of Modern Languages
Credits: 10 or 20
Semester: 1 & 2

09 08695 is available as an independent 10 credit MOMD. 09 08696 is NOT available as an independent MOMD and must be taken along with 09 08695 to make a 20 credit MOMD.

Description:
This linked module provides instruction in written, oral and aural elements of the language. Students will also perform a wide range of exercises in spoken and written Italian based on the course book. There are language laboratory classes and use is also made of web-based programmes and material. Classes are mainly conducted in Italian. In semester 1, students will cover the first half of the course book, concentrating on practical language in everyday situations. In semester 2, students will cover the second half of the course book, which develops competence in the use of more abstract and complex registers.

Assessment:
50 minute written text (20%), Aural test (20%), Oral exam (20%), Two-hour written exam (40%)

Timetable: Tues 12-1, Thurs 4-5, Fri 11-1.

Entrance requirements: A2 Level pass or equivalent

Staff contact: Clelia Boscolo, c.boscolo@bham.ac.uk

Introduction to Russian Culture and Civilisation

Banner code: 09 25155
School/Dept: Department of Modern Languages
Credits: 20
Semester: 1 & 2

Description:
This course is aimed at 1st-year students with no prior knowledge of Russian culture. It aims to provide students with a good general knowledge of important cultural texts and their interpretation from throughout Russian history. Texts in translation are taken from historical sources, literature, film, media, popular culture. The course is structured in a broadly chronological way: the first semester covering the period up to 1917, and the second seminar from the Revolution to the present day.

Assessment:
Two 2000 word essays (50% each)

Timetable: One lecture and one seminar per week.

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: Dr Natasha Rulyova – n.e.rulyova@bham.ac.uk
Understanding Italian Society Today

Banner code: 09 26401  School/Dept: Department of Modern Languages  Credits: 20  Semester: 1 & 2

Description: The course aims to develop an understanding of the key issues surrounding contemporary Italian society today. These include: changes to the family and to its economic role in society; the gap north-south; the position of women, the young and the elderly; the role and influence of the Church; the impact of patterns of migration and immigration; the mafia; the role of intellectuals and of different media. Students are encouraged to understand and evaluate a variety of sources, including up-to-date reports and data, to aid their awareness of Italy’s strengths and problems.

Assessment: 1 x 2000 word essay (60%) and 1 x 2000 word group project (40%)

Timetable: Mon 11-12
Mon 4-5

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: Daniele Albertazzi, d.albertazzi@bham.ac.uk

Beginners Portuguese Language (A1-A2)

Banner code: 09 25262  School/Dept: Department of Modern Languages  Credits: 20  Semester: 1 & 2

Description: Portuguese is one of the major languages of the world (the sixth most spoken language worldwide), spoken by about 269 million people in Europe (Portugal), South America (Brazil), Africa (Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Sao Tome and Principe), Oceania (East Timor) and Asia (Macau).

This module will introduce students to the Portuguese language structure through a variety of classroom activities and will expose them to a range of written and spoken registers of Portuguese Language through a combination of textual and visual elements. Students will be able to develop their comprehension skills, grammar knowledge and vocabulary in order to make an active use of the language. Also, it will provide an introduction to the Portuguese speaking-world culture.

Assessment: 3 hour examination: 50%, Oral exam: 10%, Coursework 40%

Timetable: Group A: Mon 1-2 & Thurs 4-6
Group B: Mon 1-2 & Fri 11-1

Entrance requirements: Available to all.

Staff Contact: Fatima Cande: f.cande@bham.ac.uk
Intermediate Portuguese Language (A2-B1)

Banner code: 09 25266  
School/Dept: Department of Modern Languages  
Credits: 20  
Semester: 1 & 2

Description:
The module aims to enable students to enhance their skills on reading, writing, speaking and aural comprehension acquired in the first year Portuguese course and to develop their ability to communicate and engage in creative self-expression, using the spoken and written language with confidence.
Students will be exposed to the language through a wide range of exercises in spoken and written registers of Portuguese in order to extend their ability to communicate in Portuguese with confidence within a cultural context.

Assessment:
Coursework 10%; Oral exam 20%; Translation 10%; Aural exam 10%; 3 hour written exam 50%

Timetable: TBC  
Entrance requirements: Available to all.

Staff Contact: Fatima Cande: f.cande@bham.ac.uk

Approaches to European Culture: Methods, Theories and Histories *Limited Space

Banner code: 09 23916  
School/Dept: Department of Languages, Cultures, Art History and Music  
Credits: 20  
Semester: 1 & 2

Description:
This module begins with an introduction to studying culture and texts. It considers what research is and how to go about it. In the first semester, students examine the key research methods employed by cultural studies (for example, semiotics, visual analysis, discourse analysis, content analysis, and textual analysis) using brief contemporary examples. In the second semester students will be introduced to significant European themes. They will apply various research methods in order to investigate historical case studies (for instance, European imperialism, European nationalism, European fascism, Post-War Western European consensus, contemporary European identity).

Assessment:
Group work (30%); 2000 word essay (70%) to be written in English

Timetable: Block timetable: F1  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: Semester 1: b.c.sebe@bham.ac.uk  
Semester 2: d.albertazzi@bham.ac.uk  
Module administrator: a.robinson.1@bham.ac.uk
Landmarks in European Film *Limited Space*

Banner code: 09 20754  
School/Dept: Department of Languages, Cultures, Art History and Music  
Credits: 20  
Semester: 1 & 2

Description:
The module will offer students an introduction to the development of European cinema. The first semester will focus on the development of film technology and film style, considering key stages such as silent film, the advent of sound and the role of studios. The second semester will focus more on the relationship between European cinema and social, political and aesthetic developments. Key topics will include gender and the cinema, the auteur, political film and historical cinema. The course topics will be linked to a set of key films, which will be screened and form the subject for seminar discussion.

Assessment:
Two 2000-word essays (one per semester, 50% each)

Timetable: Block timetable: 9-10 (MOMD1) and 10-11 (F1)  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: e.griffiths@bham.ac.uk  
Module administrator: a.robinson.1@bham.ac.uk

Landmarks in European Literature *Limited Space*

Banner code: 09 24353  
School/Dept: Department of Languages, Cultures, Art History and Music  
Credits: 20  
Semester: 1 & 2

Description:
The object of study is four key periods in the evolution of European culture from the Middle Ages to the present. In each period there will be detailed study of a representative text or texts. The texts will be selected from different periods, different cultures (principally French, German, Iberian and Italian) and from various literary genres (such as epic poetry, drama, novel, short fiction). The prescribed texts may vary from year to year. The lectures will be given by staff with relevant expertise in the period, culture and genre. Study will be based on English translations of prescribed texts, and tuition is in English.

Assessment:
Two 2000-word essays (one per semester, 50% each)

Timetable: Block timetable: F1  
Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: r.whittle@bham.ac.uk  
Module administrator: a.robinson.1@bham.ac.uk
Media, Culture and Communication *Limited Space*

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<tr>
<td>09 18505</td>
<td>Department of Languages, Cultures, Art History and Music</td>
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**Description:**
This module begins with an introduction to studying the media. In the first semester, students consider different forms of media, media environment, audiences, influences and effects. Students examine the key theoretical approaches to studying the media (for instance, political economy, semiotics, Marxism, uses and gratifications theory, gender approaches). In the second semester students will investigate media representations focussing on issues of language and identity.

**Assessment:**
Semester 1: 2000 word essay (50%); Semester 2: 2 hour exam (50%) to be written in English

**Timetable:**
Tues 2-4 (it does not fall into a block timetable slot for European Studies)

**Entrance requirements:**
None

**Staff contact:**
d.albertazzi@bham.ac.uk
Module administrator: a.robinson.1@bham.ac.uk
MATHEMATICS

Mathematical Modelling and Problem Solving

Banner code: 06 25662  School/Dept: Mathematics  Credits: 10  Semester: 1 & 2

Description:
The power and applicability of mathematics relies on transforming real world problems into problems stated in the language of mathematics. This process is called mathematical modelling. Only once we have a mathematical model of a problem can we then attempt to solve it by applying the many powerful techniques mathematics affords us. This module aims to develop an ability to approach, model and solve problems, mathematical maturity and confidence, and a logical writing style. By working with both real world and abstract problems expressed in words, students will begin to appreciate the status of proofs, the importance of formulating and using precise definitions, the power of approximation and the applicability of mathematical techniques. Problems from a variety of areas of mathematics will be used. Indeed a strength of this module is the absence of focus on one particular mathematical topic: equivalent outcomes are achieved using parallel problem sets, potentially enabling greater independent work by individuals or small groups. The module will also introduce students to the powerful, free mathematical typesetting programme, LaTeX, and other appropriate technology.

Assessment:
100% assessed work during term-time

Timetable: Semester 1: 1 x 2 hour workshop. Thurs 11-12, Fri 4-6

Entrance requirements: A in Maths A Level or equivalent

Staff Contact: Chris Good: c.good@bham.ac.uk
Statistics, often regarded as a distinct science rather than a branch of mathematics, is the study of data and uncertainty. Statistical techniques allow us to make conclusions, such as whether or not living near electricity pylons is dangerous, from sets of data. Statistics is also used in the design of effective experiments and in determining what data should be collected. For example, statistical techniques might be used to determine the frequency with which aircraft components should be tested for safety. Underlying these techniques is the assumption that these data are samples of a random variable that follows a probability distribution describing their behaviour. This module provides an introduction to probability and statistics. Axiomatic probability theory, including Bayes’ Theorem, is discussed briefly. Key discrete and continuous probability modules (such as the binomial, Poisson and normal distributions) are introduced. Properties of expectation and variance are discussed. The Weak Law of Large Numbers and the Central Limit Theorem are covered before basic statistical ideas, such as statistical inference and hypothesis testing are introduced. Real world data are used to illustrate the theory.

Assessment:
1.5 hour examination (80%), assessed work during term-time (20%)

Timetable: Semester 2: 2 x 1 hour lectures. Entrance requirements: A in Maths A Level or equivalent
Mon 11-12, Tues 1-2

Staff Contact: Chris Good: c.good@bham.ac.uk
Good Brain, Bad Brain *Limited Space*

Banner code: 02 13939 & 02 13941
School/Dept: Medicine
Credits: 10 or 20
Semester: 1 & 2

The first semester of this module (13939) is available as an independent 10 credit module. The second semester (13941) is NOT available as an independent module and must be taken with the semester one module to make a 20 credit MOMD.

Description:
Semester 1: This is the first of two separate modules introducing the non-specialist to that most enigmatic of organs, the brain. The course will begin with introductory lectures, and will be accessible to all students with a GCSE or higher in a biological or general science subject. Students will learn how the brain is organised, from the molecular through to the cellular and anatomical levels; how cells communicate and how drugs can interact with this. How do we study brain function, both in the clinic and in the laboratory? Finally, an overview of various neurological and psychiatric disease states will be given. What treatment options are available, from drugs to surgery to counselling?

Semester 2: Building on the knowledge gained in the first module, the second module will consider individual neurological and psychiatric disorders in greater depth. These will include epilepsy, stroke, movement disorders such as Parkinson's Disease and Huntington's Disease, dementia including Alzheimer's Disease, Creuzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD), multiple sclerosis, motor neurone disease, mood disorders, schizophrenia and addiction. Students will also consider how the brain learns and remembers, and whether it is possible to produce drugs that make us smarter. Mechanisms involved in the perception of pain will be discussed, and whether it is always a useful sensation.

Assessment:
1 hour multiple choice examination; 1500 word project essay (relating to Semester 1)
1 hour multiple choice examination; 1500 word project essay (relating to Semester 2)

Timetable: Wednesday 9-11

Entrance requirements: Student must have passed O Level or GCSE (or higher) in a biological or general science subject

Staff contact: Dr Andy Powell
gbb@contacts.bham.ac.uk
Baroque and Classical Music: History and Analysis *Limited Space*

Banner code: School/Dept: Credits: Semester:
10 25157 Music 10 2

Description:
The module will consist of two units, dealing with the Baroque and Classical periods respectively, each taught by five two-hour year-group lectures and a number of 90-minute seminars delivered to smaller groups. There will be one ‘set work’ for each unit, which will be taught from a technical angle in the seminars and will provide a focus for historical discussion in the lectures.

Music of the seventeenth and early eighteenth century will be placed in its social, economic and cultural contexts, in part by examining the patrons, audience, musicians, and composers through issues of social status and gender. Specific themes will include reception, dissemination, aesthetics, the conception of the early modern body, the relationship between secular and sacred, the changing valuation of vocal and instrumental music, the blurring of the ‘traditional’ roles of composer and musician, the relationship between the composed ‘work’ and performances, and the changing role that patrons and the audience played in performance and composition. These themes and issues will be illustrated by two set works, one from the earlier seventeenth century and one from the early eighteenth century, which will also be analysed in terms of style, form, harmony and modality/tonality.

Music of the late eighteenth century, especially that of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven, will be placed in its social, economic and cultural contexts, with a focus on the emerging music publishing industry, middle-class patronage, the institution of the public concert, the political ideals of the French Revolution and the possibilities for entrepreneurship in musical composition. These themes will be illustrated by the set work, which will also be analysed from technical perspectives in terms of form, harmony and tonality.

Assessment:
35% Essay (1750-2250 words); 30% Listening Test; 35% Exam

Timetable: Monday 11 – 1 (Lecture); seminar times flexible.

Entrance requirements: Grade A or B in A Level Music or equivalent

Staff contact: p.j.rodmell@bham.ac.uk
**Medieval and Renaissance Music: History and Analysis *Limited Space***

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<th>School/Dept:</th>
<th>Credits:</th>
<th>Semester:</th>
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<tr>
<td>10 25158</td>
<td>Music</td>
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**Description:**
The module will consist of two units, dealing with music of the Medieval and Renaissance periods respectively, each taught by five two-hour year-group lectures and a number of 90-minute seminars delivered to smaller groups. There will be several ‘set works’ for each unit, which will be taught from a technical angle in the seminars and will provide a focus for historical discussion in the lectures.

The module builds out from close analysis of the pieces themselves to a wide-ranging consideration of the reasons they took the forms they did: what—and whose—needs they served, and what roles they played in society's larger view of itself.

**Assessment:**
35% Essay (1750-2250 words); 30% Listening Test; 35% Exam

**Timetable:**
Monday 11 – 1
(Lecture); seminar times flexible

**Entrance requirements:**
Grade A or B in A Level Music or equivalent

**Staff contact:** [p.j.rodmell@bham.ac.uk](mailto:p.j.rodmell@bham.ac.uk)
Popular and World Musics: History and Analysis *Limited Space*

**Banner code:** 10 25159  
**School/Dept:** Music  
**Credits:** 10  
**Semester:** 1

**Description:**
As Britain's multicultural profile becomes ever-more pronounced, and as the history of popular music of the twentieth century and beyond gains ever-deeper historical perspective, it is increasingly incumbent on music departments to extend their remit beyond the confines of Western art music. Our aim at Birmingham is to give students a broad perspective on the range of musics in today's world, and, while no-one can hope to cover 'everything', this first-year module is designed to give a taster of a range of popular and non-Western musics, in order to encourage a more rounded perspective than has been traditional, to engender a broader perspective on Western art music, and to stimulate a broader range of potential study at postgraduate level.

**Assessment:**
35% Essay (1750-2250 words); 30% Listening Test; 35% Exam

**Timetable:**
Friday 11 – 1
(Lecture); seminar times flexible

**Entrance requirements:**
Grade A or B in A Level Music or equivalent

**Staff contact:** p.j.rodmell@bham.ac.uk

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Romantic and Twentieth Century Music: History and Analysis  
*Limited Space*

**Banner code:** 10 25160  
**School/Dept:** Music  
**Credits:** 10  
**Semester:** 2

**Description:**
The module will consist of two units, dealing with the nineteenth and twentieth centuries respectively, each taught by five two-hour year-group lectures and a number of 90-minute seminars delivered to smaller groups. There will be one ‘set work’ for each unit, which will be taught from a technical angle in the seminars and will provide a focus for historical discussion in the lectures.

Romantic music in its historical, social and cultural context, along with its specific technical features, will be introduced through the set work, elucidating the fundamental aesthetic issues pertaining to Romantic music, including the so-called ‘war of the Romantics’, concepts of ‘absolute’ and ‘programme’ music, concepts of the ‘conservative’ and ‘avant-garde’, and evolving treatment of harmony and tonality. Twentieth-century music in its historical, social and cultural context, will be introduced through a series of five lectures on a single broad topic (such as the Avant-Garde, Neoclassicism, Music and the Second World War, Expressionism, Music and the Cold War, Postmodernism etc.). Technical features of twentieth-century music will be explored in classes dealing with a single large-scale set work closely related to the lecture series.
Assessment:
35% Essay (1750-2250 words); 30% Listening Test; 35% Exam

Timetable: Friday 11 – 1
(Lecture); seminar times flexible

Entrance requirements: Grade A or B in A Level Music or equivalent

Staff contact: p.j.rodmell@bham.ac.uk
Problems of Philosophy

**Banner code:** 08 26778  
**School/Dept:** Philosophy  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**
This is a 20-credit module running across both semesters, introducing a range of key philosophical problems most of which practically everyone with a philosophical temperament has puzzled over before. Philosophy students will grapple with many of these again later in their degree, and throughout their degree, module convenors will presuppose at least some familiarity with these topics.

For MOMD students looking for a taste of what philosophy has to offer, the module is an ideal primer.

The topics covered are the following:

- Scepticism (how can I know anything at all about the world?)
- Free will (how can I think and act freely, if all my thoughts and actions are determined by the laws that govern the Universe?)
- The existence of God (does S/He exist?)
- Realism vs antirealism (to what extent is reality distinct from how it appears?)
- The mind/body problem (is the mind just the brain?)
- Personal identity (what is it about you that makes you the same person as you were years ago?)
- Utilitarianism vs. Deontology (are actions morally right and wrong ‘in themselves’, or are they so just because of the effects they have on people’s happiness, etc.?)
- Ethical obligation (how much should we help people much worse-off than ourselves?)
- Moral relativism (are moral values absolute or do they vary from one culture/person to others?)
- The requirements of justice (Who should have what?)

**Assessment:**
Two 1500 word essays (each contributing 25%); one 90 minute exam (50%)

**Timetable:**
TBC. Weekly one-hour lecture, fortnightly one-hour seminar

**Entrance requirements:**
None

**Staff contact:**
Dr Nikk Effingham: n.effingham@bham.ac.uk
Description:
Science has shaped every aspect of the modern world, through technological innovation and through an increased understanding of ourselves and of our environment. This course, suitable both for philosophy students and for science students, is an introduction to the philosophical issues surrounding science. The questions to be considered include:

- What is science, and what distinguishes it from non-science and from pseudo-science?
- Are the results of science especially certain or especially objective?
- Is there a special method common to all sciences?
- Is there scientific progress?
- Are there any questions science can't answer?
- Are the claims of science more secure than those of religion, or are our scientific beliefs ultimately based on faith?
- Can science be socially and politically neutral?
- What responsibilities do scientists have? - to animals, to human subjects, and to society?
- Should ethical limits be placed on the scope of scientific research?

The module will introduce the main philosophical theories of the nature of science including logical positivism, falsificationism, relativism, and scientific realism. It will address the main ethical and epistemological difficulties science raises in contemporary society. Students enrolled on the module will develop the ability to critically evaluate the arguments of others, as well as developing their own argumentative and interpretive skills.

Assessment:
One 1500 word essay (50%) and one class test or take home exam (50%)
### Reasoning

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<td>08 26779</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
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**Description:**
Modern life bombards us with information meant to convince. Unfortunately a great deal of it is what the philosopher Harry Frankfurt calls ‘bullshit’. To a rough first approximation, bullshit is information meant to sway both opinion and action which is put forward independently of its relation to reality or evidence. This module investigates the nature of bullshit. And the aim is two-fold: to increase your capacity to spot bullshit and its propagators, but to develop intellectual tools useful in counteracting bullshit: avoiding it in your own work, and identifying it in the arguments of others. The end of the module will move to looking at some formal methods related to this, which will enable students to make an informed choice about whether to choose Formal Logic or Informal Logic as their second semester module.

**Assessment:**
Semester-long multiple choice test using in-class “clicker” technology

**Timetable:**
TBC. Weekly one-hour lecture, fortnightly one-hour seminar

**Entrance requirements:**
None

**Staff contact:**
Professor Scott Sturgeon: s.sturgeon@bham.ac.uk
Description:
This module is an introductory course on moral philosophy. It will introduce some of the most important views and debates in moral philosophy, focusing on normative ethics and ethical theories. The module addresses the basic questions of moral philosophy, for example:

- How should we live?
- Which actions are right and wrong?
- What makes actions good or bad?
- What is a good life?
- What kind of a person should I be?

In the first part of the module, we will use these questions to address the basic methods of moral philosophy. The rest of the module focuses on ethical theories as attempts to answer these and related questions. We will first learn about the utilitarian tradition of ethical thinking. Utilitarians begin from the simple thought that it is always right to do whatever makes things go best. They then argue that the more happiness an outcome contains the better it is. This means that we should all aim at bringing about as much happiness as possible. We will look at the details of this view and the main arguments for it, and then consider cases in which making people happy seem intuitively wrong: you shouldn’t kill a child for body-parts even if this would save dozens of lives. The problems of utilitarianism will then be used to motivate the introduction of alternative deontic ethical principles and ethical theories. The second half of the module explores non-utilitarian ethical principles such as the distinction between doing and allowing and the doctrine of double effect. These principles have important consequences when we consider ethical questions related to, for example, war and abortion. Finally, the module will introduce the main deontic ethical theories: Kantian ethics, W.D. Ross’s intuitionism and Aristotelian virtue ethics. The aim of the module is to show by using concrete examples that all these views can tell us something important about how we are to live.

Assessment:
Two 1500 word essays (50% each)

Timetable:
TBC. Weekly one-hour lecture, fortnightly one-hour seminar

Entrance requirements:
None

Staff contact:
Epistemology: What and How do we know?

Banner code: 08 26769  
School/Dept: Philosophy  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 1

Description:
Epistemology is the philosophical study of knowledge. Topics to be covered include: the definition of knowledge; scepticism; internalism vs. externalism and justification; coherentism vs. foundationalism and justification; perception; the problem of induction.

Assessment:
Two 1500 word essays (50% each)

Timetable: TBC. Weekly one-hour lecture, fortnightly one-hour seminar

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: Professor Scott Sturgeon: s.sturgeon@bham.ac.uk

Philosophical Traditions

Banner code: 08 26774  
School/Dept: Philosophy  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 1

Description:
Departments of Philosophy within Britain tend to fall within the ‘analytic tradition’, exclusively examining the views of Western philosophers. This module breaks with tradition and gives an introduction to alternative views (which we continue to examine in later years) and giving students a chance to get a taste for different – sometimes less conventional – approaches. As the module is research-led the exact content will vary depending upon the module convenor. Example traditions examined include Eastern philosophy (examining, e.g., the philosophy of change and harmony; Confucianism; Buddhist questions about the nature of the self and the value of desire) and the Continental tradition (examining, e.g., existentialism, nihilism, and phenomenology, and getting an introduction to philosophers such as Nietzsche, Sartre, and Kierkegaard).

The module will mainly consist of close reading of selected primary sources, with a close eye as to how the material studied may connect with other issues/themes raised on the module. Students will get an introduction to some of the basics of the tradition(s) as well as an insight as to how they connect with the more traditional analytic practices.

Assessment:
One 1500 word essay (50%) and one class test or take-home exam (50%)

Timetable: TBC. Weekly one-hour lecture, fortnightly one-hour seminar

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: Dr Iain Law: i.law@bham.ac.uk
Formal Logic

Banner code: 08 26771  School/Dept: Philosophy  Credits: 10  Semester: 2

Description:
Logic is concerned with the evaluation of arguments, and thus with the very foundations of philosophy. In formal logic this project is pursued using special abstract languages known as ‘propositional logic’ and ‘quantified logic’. In this module, students learn to translate English sentences into formulas of logical symbolism, and to assess the validity of arguments couched in those formal terms. Some applications of the formal machinery to standard philosophical problems will be considered along the way.

Assessment:
Two coursework problem sets (25% each) and one 60 minute exam (50%)

Timetable: TBC. Weekly one-hour lecture, fortnightly one-hour seminar

Staff contact: Dr Darragh Byrne: d.byrne@bham.ac.uk

Informal Logic

Banner code: 08 26772  School/Dept: Philosophy  Credits: 10  Semester: 2

Description:
Logic is concerned with the evaluation of arguments, and thus with the very foundations of philosophy, and so whatever kinds of philosophy you are most interested in, you require a working knowledge of logical concepts. In the formal logic module, students acquire this competence by learning a special abstract language (featuring formulas you may have encountered before) and learning how to construct proofs couched in that language.

However this approach is not for everybody – while some students enjoy formal symbolism and the puzzle-solving which proof-construction involves, others recoil from symbols and find the puzzles a little dry. So in this module we offer an alternative informal route into competence with logical concepts. Topics include logical consequence, consistency and inconsistency, deductive and inductive inference, truth-functionality, logical scope, quantification, and identity.

Assessment:
Two coursework problem sets (25% each) and one 60 minute exam (50%)

Timetable: TBC. Weekly one-hour lecture, fortnightly one-hour seminar

Staff contact: Professor Scott Sturgeon: s.sturgeon@bham.ac.uk
The Philosophy of Religion

Banner code: 08 26775  
School/Dept: Philosophy  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 2

Description:
Philosophy of religion is the rigorous philosophical study of religious beliefs, doctrines and arguments. In this module we will discuss such central questions in the field as:

- Are there successful arguments for the existence of God?
- Are there successful arguments against the existence of God?
- What attributes does/should God have?
- Is it rational to believe in God without evidence?
- Are religious doctrines coherent?
- Is there life after death?
- Is religion compatible with science?
- Can there be miracles?

Through discussion of such questions, we will cover a range of philosophical positions in the philosophy of religion and evaluate such positions critically. The module will develop the ability to argue philosophically, analyze and evaluate the arguments of others, and interpret philosophical literature.

Assessment:
One 1500 word essay (50%) and one 60 minute exam (50%)

Timetable: TBC. Weekly one-hour lecture, fortnightly one-hour seminar

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: Dr Elizabeth Miller

Political Philosophy: Can Power be Legitimate?

Banner code: 08 26777  
School/Dept: Philosophy  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 2

Description:
This module introduces some of the fundamental issues of Western Political Philosophy. In particular, it will discuss the nature of political authority and obligation, the role and function of the state, and the purposes and justification of government. This will pave the way for a discussion of what is arguably the central question of political philosophy: "Why should I obey the state?" The module will be taught through an examination of four of the key texts of Western political thought.

Assessment:
One 1500 word essay (50%) and one 60 minute exam (50%)

Timetable: TBC. Weekly one-hour lecture, fortnightly one-hour seminar

Entrance requirements: None

Staff contact: Dr Iain Law: i.law@bham.ac.uk
Moral Problems: An Introduction to Applied Ethics

**Banner code:** 08 26773  
**School/Dept:** Philosophy  
**Credits:** 10  
**Semester:** 2

**Description:**  
Fundamental ethical disagreements in our society just do not seem to go away. These disagreements often concern matters of life and death and in many cases they lead to intense and emotional debates and sometimes even to violence.

This module is an introduction to applied ethics. It explores whether philosophy can offer us tools to make progress in debates about some of the most interesting ethical questions today. The topics covered include terrorism, treatment of animals, euthanasia, immigration and affirmative action.

Each topic is introduced via two readings that defend philosophically opposing views about the ethical controversy in question. These readings will be both high quality, and accessible to students at this level. Two weeks will be spent on each of the five topics. The two lectures will be used for introducing the main arguments from the readings on both sides of the debate. During seminars students will prepare in groups for a debate which will be held at the end of the seminar.

The module offers you an opportunity to learn some of the most interesting work recently done in applied ethics and practice the skill of evaluating philosophical and ethical arguments. You will also be able to explore your own views on the covered ethical questions and to defend them both in discussions and in writing.

**Assessment:**  
One 1500 word essay (50%) and one 60 minute exam (50%)

**Timetable:**  
TBC. Weekly one-hour lecture, fortnightly one-hour seminar

**Entrance requirements:** None

**Staff contact:**
PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

The Cosmic Connection *Limited Space*

Banner code: 03 00680  
School/Dept: Physics and Astronomy  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 1

Description:
Although we no longer find our way from the pattern of stars in the sky, we still wonder about our place in the Universe. Modern science provides explanations for much of what we see: we believe nuclear fusion powers the Sun and that the sky is dark at night because the Universe is expanding and has a finite age. The course will chart the life and death of stars and the Universe itself and will emphasise how it is possible to test theories about, for example, the initial fireball of the Universe.

Assessment:
1.5 hour examination (80%); test (20%)

Timetable: Wed 9-11am, Room ARTS-Main LT (120)  
Entrance: Not available to non-Science students

Staff contact:
Contact for Module information: wjc@bison.ph.bham.ac.uk  
Contact for Timetabling Information: physics-tso@adf.bham.ac.uk

Quarks and Leptons *Limited Space*

Banner code: 03 01326  
School/Dept: Physics and Astronomy  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 2

Description:
Recent discoveries and precision measurements of the smallest particles have transformed our understanding of these particles and the fundamental forces that govern their interactions. These high energy experiments recreate conditions similar to those of the very early universe and allow searches for new effects and massive particles beyond the reach of earlier experiments. We will review our current understanding of these topics and describe in simple terms some of the crucial experimental measurements and theoretical ideas that underlie the current model of particle physics and searches for new phenomena.

Assessment:
1.5 hour examination (80%); test (20%)

Timetable: Wednesdays 9-11am Room Poynting-Large LT (S02)  
Entrance: Not available to non-Science students

Staff contact:
Contact for Module information: j.a.wilson@bham.ac.uk  
Contact for Timetabling Information: physics-tso@adf.bham.ac.uk
Classical Political Thought *Limited Space*

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<tr>
<td>08 20889</td>
<td>Political Science &amp; International Studies</td>
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**Description:**
The course is an introduction to the development of Western political philosophy from Plato to Rousseau. It is concerned with an examination of the most important ideas and theories concerning the relationship between man, state and society in the political thought of the Ancient Greeks, the early Christians, the later Middle Ages and the early modern state. The course is text based. It is expected that students will become familiar with the key texts of political thought.

The course is text based. It is expected that students will become familiar with the key texts of political thought. Topics covered will be selected from the following: the nature of political society and of political activity; the relationship between moral, religious and political ideas; the nature of the state, government and authority; justice, liberty and equality; human nature and politics; law and politics; political argument and political deliberation.

**Assessment:**
**Term One:**
1 essay x 2,000 word assessed work (30%)

**Term Two:**
1 essays x 2,000 word assessed work (30%)

**Term Three:**
2 hour examination (40%)

**Timetable:**
Lecture: TBC.
Seminar: various

**Entrance requirements:**

**Staff contact:**
Dr. Christopher Finlay, c.j.finlay@bham.ac.uk
Introduction to International Relations *Limited Space*

**Banner code:** 08 20890  
**School/Dept:** Political Science & International Studies  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**
In this module, you are introduced to the study of international politics and the main approaches, theories and debates in the discipline of International Relations. The main aims of this module are both to introduce you to some of the main issues of international politics, such as war and peace, development, regional integration and security, and to make you familiar with different ways to conceptualise and analyse these issues. This means that a substantial part of this module is devoted to the introduction of the main traditional theories of International Relations and the concepts they use. While I am aware that not everyone’s interest in studying international politics is theoretical, one of my central messages throughout the course is that different theoretical approaches generate different images of the world that build on particular assumptions. Therefore, while you may think you know what the current problems of international politics are and how to solve them, one of the aims of this course is to alert you to other ways of seeing things. This should allow you to make a more confident decision about your own stance towards particular issues and to analyse these issues more thoroughly, but it should also make you question both your own as well as others’ representations of the world.

**Assessment:**
TBC

**Timetable:** TBC  
**Entrance requirements:**

**Staff contact:** Dr. Marco Vieira, m.a.viera@bham.ac.uk

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Introduction to Political Economy *Limited Space*

**Banner code:** 08 20891  
**School/Dept:** Political Science & International Studies  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**
Introduction to Political Economy enables students to become acquainted with the style of analysis and the subject matter of the classical political economists. Such work is set within the context of a general introduction to the discipline.  
Semester 2 enables students to understand the challenge to classical political economy of neoclassical economics, while also studying twentieth century dissenters to neoclassical orthodoxy. This broadens the students’ knowledge of the language and concepts of political economy, set within the context of contemporary political and policy debates.

**Assessment:**
2,000 word assessed essay (50%), presentation (10%), 2 hour examination (40%)

**Timetable:** Lectures: TBC  
Seminar: various  
**Entrance requirements:**

**Staff contact:** Hardeep Basra, dr.h.basra@gmail.com
Sociology of the Self and Everyday Life *Limited Space*

**Banner code:** 08 26073  
**School/Dept:** Political Science & International Studies  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**
This module introduces students to traditions in sociology which seek to understand the development of individual subjectivity and everyday experience in a sociological context. The module explores what is distinctive about sociological accounts of individual experience. It identifies and draws on key concepts from the micro-sociological tradition (eg roles, rules, norms) in analysing how individuals come to make sense of and negotiate everyday settings. The question of agency – the extent to which individuals are the active creators of their identity and worldview – is a crucial issue in such debates. Having introduced these analytical concepts, the module pursues them through a series of in-depth substantive case studies focusing on different elements of individual experience. These will be drawn from areas such as the experience of the self in the city, the relationship of the individual to an imagined political community, and the construction of ‘happiness’ in ordered societies.

**Assessment:**
1 x 2000 word essay 50%; 1 x 3hr written exam 50%

**Timetable:** TBC  
**Entrance requirements:** None

**Staff contact:** Ross Abbinnett, r.abbinnett@bham.ac.uk

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Introduction to the European Union: History, Politics and Institutions

**Banner code:** 08 19190  
**School/Dept:** Political Science & International Studies  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**
The module is designed to introduce students to post-war European history, placed in an international context; and to study the economic, social, political and legal aspects of European integration in historical, institutional and theoretical terms. The module is divided into five parts. Part 1 introduces Europe and European integration. Part 2 examines the role and function of key EU institutions. Part 3 focuses on the process of European integration from the Second World War onwards with a particular focus on the most recent developments. Part 4 focuses on Member States and their role in the EU system. Part 5 assesses the causes and consequences of the various waves of enlargement and assesses the arguments for and against further enlargement.

**Assessment:**
2000 word assessed essay (50%) plus 2 hour examination (50%)

**Timetable:** Lectures: TBC  
Classes: TBC  
**Entrance requirements:** None

**Staff contact:** Tim Haughton, t.j.haughton@bham.ac.uk
Twentieth Century Russian Politics

Description:
The turbulent history of Russia in the twentieth century is the history of world-changing events – from the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 and the creation of the Soviet state to the collapse of communism and the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991. From being one of two great superpowers to fifteen separate states, struggling for identity and survival – the rise and fall of the Soviet Union provides a unique case study touching on many aspects of global political affairs in the twentieth century.

The course covers both semesters. The first part deals with the Communists’ rise to power, the development of the Soviet state and the establishment of the Soviet Union as a world superpower. The second part covers the government and ideology of the Soviet Union and examines the factors leading to its collapse.

The module is taught by weekly one-hour lectures and one-hour seminars. Seminar groups will be small enough to allow for participation and questions and will explore in greater depth the themes emerging from the lectures.

Twentieth Century Russian Politics is brought to you by the Centre for Russian and East European Studies but is open to everybody! In previous years, students majoring in Politics, History, English, European Studies, Modern Languages, Geography, Economics and many other subjects have chosen Twentieth Century Russian Politics as a Level One module.

Assessment:
3 hour examination (50%); 2 x 2500 word assessed essays (25% each)

Staff contact: David White, D.J.White.1@bham.ac.uk
Defining Jews, Jewishness and Judaism(s)

Banner code: 09 25865  School/Dept: Theology and Religion  Credits: 10  Semester: 1

**Description:**
This module introduces and explores a number of different and competing narratives (or accounts/explanations) of ‘who is a Jew?’, Jewishness, and the nature of Judaism(s), how they have developed over time and how they relate to each other. Considerable attention is paid throughout the module to questions of definition and methodology, paying particular attention to key moments in Jewish history, such as Second Temple Judaism, Haskalah (the Jewish Enlightenment) and the contemporary period.

In particular we will (a) identify and analyse key points in Jewish history which impacted on Jewish self-understanding (b) explore a number of key themes and preoccupations within historical and contemporary Judaism(s), for example, the meaning and centrality of ‘torah’ and ‘halakhah’, what constitutes a Jewish sacred text and how such texts are interpreted, or the role of women in Judaism, etc.

**Assessment:**
One essay of 2,500 words

**Timetable:**
Tues 2-4pm

**Staff contact:** Dr Isabel Wollaston, i.l.wollaston@bham.ac.uk

Introduction to Biblical Studies

Banner code: 09 24035  School/Dept: Theology and Religion  Credits: 20  Semester: 2

**Description:**
This module aims to give students an introduction to the Hebrew Bible and New Testament from the perspective of academic Biblical Studies. Topics covered may include (but are not restricted to) issues such as the historical background to these texts; questions of authorship, dating, and original audience; literary relationships between biblical books; the historicity of the biblical narratives; different theological interpretations of the events the Bible describes; and to the relationship between academic and confessional approaches.

**Assessment:**
Two essays of 2,500 words each

**Timetable:**
Wednesdays 9-11am

**Staff contact:** Karen Wenell: k.j.wenell@bham.ac.uk
Introduction to Islam

**Banner code:** 10 24034  
**School/Dept:** Theology and Religion  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**
The module examines Islam both as a religious tradition and also as a political and social reality. In semester 1, the main topics surveyed include: Islamic history in the early and classical period, the Prophet Muhammad and the first Islamic community, the Qur’an, the Prophet’s Hadith, early religious and political developments, Sunni and Shi’i Islam. In semester 2, the main topics surveyed include: Islamic history in the early modern and modern period, Islamic spirituality, women in Islam, Islam in the modern world, radical and militant Islam.

**Assessment:**
Two essays of 2,500 words each

**Timetable:**
Mon 11am-1pm  
**Entrance requirements:** None  

**Staff contact:**
Professor David Thomas, d.r.thomas.1@bham.ac.uk

Introduction to the History of Christianity

**Banner code:** 09 24044  
**School/Dept:** Theology and Religion  
**Credits:** 20  
**Semester:** 1 & 2

**Description:**
This module introduces students to the history of Christianity from the early church to the present, with particular focus on schisms and denominational histories, including Orthodoxy, Roman Catholicism, the early and later Protestant Reformation, non-conformist churches, and the Pentecostal and Charismatic movement of the twentieth century. Attention will be given to global Christianity, and the relationship between church and state and Christianity and society.

**Assessment:**
One essay of 3,000 words (50%) and one portfolio of 3,000 words or equivalent (50%)

**Timetable:**
Tues 10am-12pm  
**Entrance requirements:** None  

**Staff contact:**
Professor Allan Anderson, a.h.anderson@bham.ac.uk
Introduction to the Study of the Holocaust

Banner code: 09 24786  
School/Dept: Theology and Religion  
Credits: 10  
Semester: 2

Description:
This module explores a range of different approaches to, and controversies in, the study of the Holocaust. We will consider contemporary debates about how to define, describe and account for the genocide; ‘dating’ the Holocaust, the nature of non-Jewish victimhood and whether or not this should be understood as part of ‘the Holocaust’; how the Holocaust was understood differently from the perspective of victims and perpetrators, both at the time and with the benefit of hindsight, and the complexities of interpreting such texts. Specific topics explored may include anti-Jewish legislation and the emergence of the ‘racial state’, the establishment and function of ghettos in German-established ghettos, controversies over the role of the Judenräte (Jewish councils), the activities of the Einsatzgruppen in the occupied Soviet Union, and the function and evolution of concentration camps and death camps.

Assessment:
One essay of 3,000 words

Timetable:
Tues 2-4pm

Staff contact: Dr Isabel Wollaston, i.l.wollaston@bham.ac.uk

Themes in Christian Theology

Banner code: 09 25879  
School/Dept: Theology and Religion  
Credits: 20  
Semester: 1

Description:
This module will consider some major doctrinal and/or thematic aspects of Christian theology. Such doctrines/themes may include Creation, the Human Person, Word of God, Sin, Trinity, Ecclesiology, Christology, Soteriology, Eschatology to mention a few. In critically reviewing such themes, students will study different theological perspectives and viewpoints offered by figures selected from Christian history (and from different regions).

Assessment:
Two essay of 2,000 words (50% each)

Timetable:
Monday 2-4pm AND Thursday 9-11am

Staff contact: Dr Mark Cartledge, m.j.cartledge@bham.ac.uk
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