



# DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES POSTGRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES

[birmingham.ac.uk/modernlanguages](http://birmingham.ac.uk/modernlanguages)

## Modern Languages at Birmingham

The Department of Modern Languages is home to internationally renowned researchers in the national cultures of Europe, with expertise in French Studies, German Studies, Hispanic Studies, Italian Studies, Russian Studies and Translation Studies.

We have world-leading research in each of these Languages and a really vibrant research environment: new and innovative research projects are constantly developed by staff and postgraduates, and there is regular

programme of research seminars. We support you not only in your studies, but in planning your future career.

Our flagship programme is the Translation Studies MA, which will enable you to improve your translation skills, learn about a range of translation technologies and become familiar with the professional contexts in which translators work, working with one or two language pairs. Available to study either on campus or by distance learning, the programme also provides excellent preparation for PhD-level study.

We also host public lectures and seminar programmes on a regular basis, so you can benefit from expert knowledge and innovative collaborations that help you make the most of your postgraduate education.

The Department also contributes to interdisciplinary programmes in Holocaust and Genocide, co-taught with colleagues in History and Theology, as well as an MA in Comparative Literature and Critical Theories, co-taught with colleagues in English Literature. We also carry out interdisciplinary research in Sexuality and Gender Studies with colleagues from across the University and offer MRes, MA by Research and PhD programmes in this area.



## Programmes

- English-Chinese Interpreting with Translation MA
- Holocaust and Genocide MA/Diploma/Certificate
- Translation Studies MA
- Translation Studies MA (Distance Learning)
- Comparative Literature and Critical Theories MA
- Sexuality and Gender Studies MRes
- French Studies PhD/MA by Research (On-Campus or by Distance Learning)
- German Studies PhD/MA by Research (On-Campus or by Distance Learning)
- Hispanic Studies PhD/MA by Research (On-Campus or by Distance Learning)
- Italian Studies PhD/MA by Research (On-Campus or by Distance Learning)
- Russian and East European Studies PhD/MPhil
- Russian Studies PhD/MA by Research (On-Campus or by Distance Learning)
- Sexuality and Gender Studies PhD/MA by Research (On-Campus or by Distance Learning)
- Translation Studies PhD/MA by Research (On-Campus or by Distance Learning)





## STUDENT PROFILE

'I have learnt so much! Not only have useful theoretical modules been covered which will help me look for resources and justify my decisions to future clients, but there was also a strong focus on practical skills including different specialisms, translation software, term base construction and more. As well as the course, career talks from relevant industry professionals and ITI West Midlands meet-ups mean I feel far more prepared to enter the translation industry and have a deeper appreciation for the job and its challenges.'

'The highlight of my course has been getting to know the other students and being a part of such a multicultural environment. This year we had students from all over the world (France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Greece, China, Saudi Arabia and more) meaning our lectures and seminars were melting pots of opinions, approaches and ideas. Moreover, for us as language students, this was ideal as you could almost guarantee you could find a native speaker to practice with and pick their brains over translation challenges.'

**HANNAH HUTCHINSON,**  
MA Translation Studies



### Your career prospects

Our postgraduates develop excellent cultural awareness and foreign language skills, as well as a range of transferable skills, including the ability to gather and interpret information and work well with others – all highly sought after by employers at home or abroad.

They go on to a variety of interesting careers, from working for major language service providers, to running their own companies or pursuing doctoral research.

### Scholarships

Each year, the College of Arts and Law offer a number of funding opportunities for Modern Languages students.

For more information, please visit [www.birmingham.ac.uk/cal/funding](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/cal/funding)

### Your learning

All of our students are offered the opportunity to work in small groups with tutors and to receive training in the use of state-of-the-art translation technology.

Students will also have access to specialist software including translation memory tools (Wordfast and SDL Trados), the Sketch Engine corpus manager and text analysis tool, desk-top publishing software and post-editing tools. We embed this training across several of our taught modules to maximise your training opportunities.

The Department hosts a series of talks on 'The Translation Profession' with a range of speakers from the translation industry –

employers, freelancers, publishers, representatives of national and international organisations – where students can gain a further insight into the profession.

We also make extensive use of Canvas, the University's virtual learning environment, and this is where you can find all material related to your studies and also contribute to online discussions.

**Find us on social media by searching for 'artsatbham'**



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This leaflet was written several months in advance of the start of the academic year. It is intended to provide prospective students with a general picture of the programmes and courses offered by the School. Please note that not all programmes or all courses are offered every year. Also, because our research is constantly exploring new areas and directions of study some courses may be discontinued and new ones offered in their place.

Please note the information in this brochure is correct at time of publication but may be subject to change (November 2019).