

## Programme Specification

### BA English Language

For students entering Part 1 in September 2016

UCAS Code: Q310

UFENLG

UFENLGPE

UFENLGSY

**This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	3 years
Length of Programme with placement/year abroad	BA English Language (with Placement Experience Abroad) - 4 years (internal transfer only) BA English Language with Study Year Abroad - 4 years (internal transfer only)
Accreditation	

### Programme information and content

The programme aims to provide you with a thorough degree-level education in English Language, with special emphasis upon the use of the English language in its social context, and upon the application of knowledge about language to problem solving in the contemporary world. It is distinctive in situating theories and descriptions developed in linguistics within an interdisciplinary and applied perspective. It also aims to produce graduates who are competent communicators in English, who have a sound critical understanding of English language and English-speaking culture, and who have acquired a range of skills to underpin their life-long development and enhance their employability. The programme aims to enable students to achieve well-balanced understanding of the language, culture and society of a foreign country either through study at an overseas university or through a work placement.

Part 1:	Provides the basic resources for the description of the sounds, grammar and semantics of English. It also provides a broad overview of the scope of English Language and introduces a sociolinguistic and psycholinguistic perspective to the study of language. It also equips students with various skills necessary for university level work, for instance effective verbal communication and academic writing, analytical and research skills, information handling, time management and IT.
Part 2:	Provides further grounding in core skills in analysing language, and adds to this theory and practice in sociolinguistics and training in research methods. A variety of optional modules allow students to pursue more specialised areas of enquiry from interdisciplinary perspectives and include language teaching, language development, language and the media, literacy, and language in society and culture. Modules also encourage the development of transferable skills such as

	team working, giving oral presentations, critical thinking, negotiating and so on. Students may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of their Programme, with our innovative Part 2 school-wide optional placement modules. Part 2 students are also encouraged to begin the process of identifying a dissertation topic.
Part 3:	Gives you the opportunity to conduct supervised, independent research on a specialised topic for the Dissertation and will receive support and advice from their supervisor on a one-to-one basis. There is again a suite of optional modules on more specialised topics at a more in-depth and advanced level that enable students to enhance their critical, analytical and transferable skills.

<b>Module information</b>			
Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.			
<b>Part 1 Modules:</b>			
<b>Module</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Level</b>
LS1ELS	English Language and Society	20	4
LS1SG	Sounds, Grammar and Meaning	20	4
LS1TAL	Techniques and Skills for Applied Linguistics	20	4
Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in the Department of English Language and Applied Linguistics, the Department of English Literature or from modules available elsewhere in the University.			
<b>Part 2 Modules:</b>			
<b>Module</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Level</b>
LS2AEL	Applying English Language Studies	20	5
LS2EG	English Grammar	10	5
LS2EP	English Phonology	10	5
LS2SLG	Sociolinguistics	20	5
Students must select a minimum of 20 credits of optional modules from the Department of English Language and Applied Linguistics.			
Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from a list available from the Department of English Language and Applied Linguistics, which includes modules from other Schools and Departments. Modules taken in other departments will be subject to availability of places.			
Students intending to take up the optional year abroad in a country which is not English-speaking, will normally be expected to take one 20 credit IWLP module in a relevant			

language. This requirement may be waived if a student has an A level in a relevant language.

Students may replace 20 credits of optional modules with modules available across the University with the permission of the Programme Director.

If you are permitted to undertake a semester abroad you will be required to take 60 credits in optional modules in English Language and Applied Linguistics at the host university.

**Modules during a placement year or study year (if applicable):**

Students on one of the 4 year programmes will take one 120 credit module in either Work Experience or Study Abroad.

Students may be permitted to undertake a placement year or a study abroad year between Part 2 and Part 3 of the programme. In such cases students will transfer to a 4-year programme. The placement or study abroad year should not normally be shorter than nine months full-time.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

**Part 3 Modules:**

Module	Name	Credits	Level
LS3DI	Dissertation	40	6

Students must select a minimum of 40 credits of optional modules from the Department of English Language and Applied Linguistics.

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from a list available from the Department of English Language and Applied Linguistics, which includes modules from other Schools and Departments. Only one 20-credit module can be taken in any external subject area, with the exception of Clinical Language Studies, in which two 20-credit modules can be taken.

Students may replace 20 credits of optional modules with modules available across the University with the permission of the Programme Director.

**Additional costs of the programme**

During your programme of study you will incur some additional costs.

For textbooks and similar learning resources, we recommend that you budget between £100 to £200 a year. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs. A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks and electronic resources,

are available through the library. Reading lists and module specific costs are listed on the individual module descriptions.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost of £0.05 per page.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2016.

### **Optional modules:**

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of optional modules for each part, including any Additional Costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

### **Placement opportunities**

#### **Placements:**

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of your Programme. This will form all or part of an optional module. You will be required to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University.

#### **Study Abroad:**

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a Study Abroad placement during your Programme. This is subject to you meeting academic conditions detailed in the Programme Handbook, including obtaining the relevant permissions from your School, and the availability of a suitable Study Abroad placement. If you undertake a Study Abroad placement, further arrangements will be discussed and agreed with you.

### **Teaching and learning delivery:**

You will be taught through lectures, seminars, and (in some instances) workshops.

Total study hours for each Part of your programme will be 1200 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is Part 1 - 240 hours, Part 2 - 156 hours, Part 3 - 96 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is

indicated in the relevant module description.

### **Assessment**

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations including class tests, coursework, oral examinations, practical examinations.

### **Progression**

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows

#### *Part 1*

- (i) Obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1; and
- (ii) Obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 100 credits taken in Part 1.

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance; and

- (iii) Obtain a mark of at least 40% in 40 credits of specified compulsory modules in English Language at Part 1;

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

#### *Part 2*

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:

- (i) obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2; and
- (ii) obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits; and
- (iii) obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits, except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3 in the **3 year programme**, a student must achieve a threshold performance

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3 in the **4 year programme**, a student must achieve a threshold performance and obtain a pass in the professional/work placement or study abroad year. Students who fail the professional/placement year transfer to the non-placement year version of the programme.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

### **Classification**

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark	Interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

*Three year programmes:*

Part 2: one-third

Part 3: two-thirds

*Four year programmes, including professional/work placement or study abroad:*

Part 2: one-third

Placement/Study Abroad Year abroad not included in the classification

Part 3: two-thirds

**For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

BA English Language for students entering Part 1 in session 2016/17

19 October 2016

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