Programme Specification

BA English Language and Linguistics with Foundation **UCAS Code: Q312**

For students entering Foundation year in September 2024 **UFENLGXLSFY**

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	4 years
Accreditation	N/A
QAA Subject Benchmarking Group	Linguistics

Programme information and content
This programme provides students with a thorough understanding of how language works and how people use language in the real world. It also provides them with a range of practical skills (such as analytical skills, written, oral and multimedia communication skills, problem solving skills and skills associated with in groups), which they can apply to a range of different workplaces. The course includes a wealth of opportunities to practice applying the knowledge and skills learned to real world problems in a variety of contexts including education, media, politics, business, digital technology, and everyday life and relationships. The course aims to produce graduates with sound critical understanding of language, and more importantly, graduates with a global perspective, an understanding of different cultures, an awareness of how language impacts issues of equity and social justice, and a range of analytical and communication skills to underpin their life-long personal development and enhance their employability. The range of optional modules allows students the opportunity to specialise in particular aspects of English Language Studies such as sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, language teaching, language and gender, and language and media. Throughout the course, students are also trained to produce a variety of different genres from written reports to digital videos. As language forms the basis for nearly everything we do, graduates are well placed to find employment or pursue further study in a wide range of careers such as language teaching, speech and language therapy, communication and media, writing and content creation, public relations and marketing, management, and public service. This programme begins with a Part 0. This is a Foundation Year that offers modules specifically designed to support students in building the research and study skills needed for undergraduate work. At the end of Part 0, students will have the option to continue their degree in English Language and Applied Linguistics, or you may have the option to move to other programmes available within the School of Literature and Languages.

Because of the particular focus on employability, throughout the course students are given the chance to use what they have learnt in workplace situations through, for example, a year-long placement module in Part 2, opportunities for mini-placements embedded in many optional modules, and the opportunity to choose a semester-long Professional Communication Project. The final year includes compulsory module in Language and Professional Communication designed to prepare students to find a job.	
Foundation year:	Provides a broad, immersive learning experience. In addition to the standard modules, students will be supported by a central skills module and a subject specific skills development module. These modules will provide students with the knowledge, experience and study skills needed to succeed in a BA Programme within the School of Literature and Languages.
Part 1:	Provides a basic grounding in the description and analysis of language as well as a broad overview of the scope of English Language and Linguistics and the role of language in social life. It also equips students with various skills necessary for university level work, for instance effective verbal communication and academic writing, analytical and research skills, time management and digital literacies.
Part 2:	Provides further grounding in the core subjects in linguistics: Grammar and Syntax, Phonetics and Phonology, Discourse Analysis, and Sociolinguistics. As students are studying these subjects, they also learn and practice different methods for conducting research in linguistics. A variety of optional modules allow students to pursue more specialised areas of enquiry from interdisciplinary perspectives, including language teaching, language development, language and the media, and language in society and culture. Modules also encourage the development of transferable skills such as teamwork, giving oral presentations, critical thinking, negotiating and so on. Students are also provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement, as well as the opportunity to study abroad for a semester. Part 2 students also begin the process of identifying their Dissertation topics or identifying companies/organisations with which to pursue their Professional Communication Projects.
Placement/Study abroad year:	**Placement experience year**: students engage in a yearlong work placement in which they apply the skills and theories that they have mastered during the first two years. Work placements can take place either within the UK or abroad. Assistance in securing placements is available from the Department and the University Careers Office, and students are required to report and reflect on their experiences throughout the placement. **Year abroad**: students study at an overseas university for a year, where they pursue in-depth some aspect of English Language or Linguistics study which is taught at that university, as well as taking a range of

	available option modules. Study abroad placements are facilitated by the University, and students are given guidance on module selection and study plans. While they are abroad, they are in constant contact with their academic advisors at Reading.
Part 3:	Gives students the opportunity to conduct supervised, independent research on a specialised topic for the Dissertation or a Professional Communication Project, in which they apply what they have learned to conducting a practical project for a company or organisation. In conducting the Dissertation or Professional Communication Project they receive support and advice from their supervisor on a one-to-one basis. There is also an additional suite of optional modules on more specialised topics taught at a more in-depth and advanced level that enable students to enhance their critical, analytical and transferable skills.

Programme Learning Outcomes - BA English Language and Linguistics with Foundation

During the course of the Programme, you will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills, knowledge and attributes (known as learning outcomes) For this programme, these are:

	Learning outcomes
1	Explain the principles of phonological contrast, the organisation of the sound system of the English, and the principles for the description of English grammar, lexis and discourse
2	Examine the main areas of applied linguistic enquiry, the role of linguistic knowledge in personal, political and social decision making, and a wide range of specialist areas in which linguistic principles are applied
3	Identify ways in which the mind acquires, stores and processes language, drawing on theories from linguistics, psychology, speech science and neuroscience.
4	Apply knowledge and methods from one area of study to others, where appropriate and develop a critical and nuanced appreciation of issues.
5	Critically assess a) theories of language and society and their application in a variety of social contexts, b) contrasting arguments and claims, and c) primary and secondary applied linguistic sources, in addition to challenging received conclusions.
6	Plan, carry out and present an extended independent investigation of a research topic, and develop creative intelligence with? independent interpretation.
7	Write a phonological transcription of an English speech sample, parse English sentences and transcribe stretches of discourse using appropriate discourse analytic conventions.
8	Examine written and spoken discourse including multimodal texts and interpret linguistic information contained in large electronic corpora.
9	Incorporate in-text references in writing and develop reference lists.

10	Utilize IT (including word processing, internet search and communication and database analysis) and library resources.
11	Manage time and work as part of a team.
12	Critically evaluate language and society in effective communication in a range of career and professional contexts

You will be expected to engage in learning activities to achieve these Programme learning outcomes. Assessment of your modules will reflect these learning outcomes and test how far you have met the requirements for your degree.

To pass the Programme, you will be required to meet the progression or accreditation and award criteria set out below.

In addition to the learning outcomes stated above if you are on a placement or study abroad programme you will have the opportunity to develop the following learning outcome:

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Foundation modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
EN0GID	Global Identities	20	0
EN0SFS	Study for Success	20	0
IF0RAS	Foundation in Academic Skills	20	0

Students must select an additional 60 credits from a list provided by the School of Humanities.

International Students take IF0ACA (Academic Skills), in place of IF0RAS (Foundation in Academic Skills), as IF0ACA is specifically targeted to the needs of international students.

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
LS1ELS	English Language and Society	20	4
LS1GL	Globalization and Language	20	4
LS1SG	Sounds, Grammar and Meaning	20	4
LS1TAL	Techniques and Skills for Applied Linguistics	20	4

Remaining credits will be made up of modules from an approved list.

Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
LS2DAN	Discourse Analysis	20	5
LS2EGP	English Grammar and Phonology	20	5

LS2SLG	Sociolinguistics	20	5

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in the Department of English Language and Applied Linguistics or modules from an approved list.

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

Students can take a Semester Abroad, in which case, they are required to finish first the compulsory modules. The Semester Abroad will take place in the second semester.

Students on one of the 4-year programmes will take one 120 credit module in either Year Abroad or Placement Experience. 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 Experience or Year Abroad 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
LS3LPC	Language in Professional Communication	20	6

Students take either LS3DI Dissertation (40 credits) or LS3PCP Professional Communication Project (20 credits). The remaining credits will be made up of optional modules available in the School of Literature and Languages or modules from an approved list.

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

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your programme can be found online in the Course Catalogue. 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.

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will be taught primarily through a mixture of lectures, seminars, tutorials and practical classes depending on the modules you choose. Some modules may include group work and fieldwork.

Elements of your programme will be delivered via digital technology.

The scheduled teaching and learning activity hours and amount of technology enhanced learning activity for your programme will depend upon your module combination. In addition, you will undertake some self-scheduled teaching and learning activities, designed by and/or involving staff, which give some flexibility for you to choose when to complete them. You will also be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module study hours including 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.

Accreditation details

N/A

Assessment

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations, coursework (including class tests) and oral examinations. Additionally, you will be asked to produce mini research projects,designing or evaluating materials,portfolios,reflective journals, blogs,project outputs.

Further information is contained in the individual module descriptions.

Progression

Foundation Year

The University-wide rules relating to ‘threshold performance’ as follows

(i) an overall average of at least 40% over all modules taken in Part 0;

(ii) no more than 40 credits of these modules with a mark below 35%;

(iii) at least 40% in the Academic Skills module

BA English Language and Linguistics with Foundation Specific Progression Requirements above Threshold.

In order to progress from Part 0 to Part 1 and be eligible for transfer to BA English Language and Linguistics, a student must achieve a threshold performance; and

(i) at least 40% in all modules

The achievement of a threshold performance at Foundation Year qualifies a student for a Certificate of Completion if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Part 1
To achieve a threshold performance at Part 1, a student will normally be required to:
(i) Obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1;
(ii) Obtain a mark of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits taken in Part 1; and
(iii) Obtain marks of at least 30% in modules amounting to 120 credits.

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

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.

Transferring from a Joint Honours to a Single Honours programme

Students are able to transfer from a Joint Honours to a Single Honours programme in one of their joint subject areas at the end of Part 1, subject to fulfilling the Part 1 University Threshold Standard, achieving marks of at least 40% in at least 40 credits of modules in the subject to which they wish to transfer, and fulfilling any programme-specific progression rules for the Part 1 Single Honours Programme to which they wish to transfer.

Students who transfer from a Joint Honours to a Single Honours programme may not have taken all of the Part 1 modules listed in the Single Honours Programme Specification. The modules which they have taken will be shown on their Diploma Supplement.

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

(i) Obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2; and
(ii) Obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits taken in Part 2; 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, a student must achieve a threshold performance.

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.

Professional/placement year

Students are required to pass the professional placement year/study abroad year in order to progress on the programme which incorporates the professional placement year/study abroad year. Students who fail the professional placement year/study abroad year transfer to the non-placement year version of the programme.

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 study abroad
Part 2: one-third
Study abroad: Year abroad not included in the classification
Part 3: two-thirds

Four-year programmes, including Placement Experience
Part 2: one-third
Placement Experience: Year abroad not included in the classification
Part 3: two-thirds

The classification method is given in detail in: Section 17.

Additional costs of the programme

Additional costs on textbooks £121 (approx.)

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. Estimates were calculated in 2023.

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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 and Linguistics with Foundation for students entering Foundation year in session 2024/25
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