



MRes

Modern Languages and Cultures

Study mode

Full-time

Part-time

Duration

12 months

24 months

Apply by: **11 September 2026**

Starts on: **28 September 2026**

About this course

Combine research skills training in modern languages and cultural studies with tailored theoretical and methodological approaches aligned to your proposed research project. Under expert supervision, you'll produce a major piece of independent research that makes an original contribution to knowledge and offers ideal preparation for PhD study.

Introduction

This MRes – as well as the Latin American Studies MRes and the Film studies MRes – provides a personalised and focused introduction to postgraduate research. It will enable you to develop into an independent researcher and produce an original research project, supported by an expert in modern languages and cultures.

Pathways are available in Basque studies, Catalan studies, Chinese studies, French studies, German studies, Hispanic studies, Italian studies, Portuguese studies, sociolinguistics, Spanish studies, and translation studies. Your final award will reflect your choice of pathway.

MRes programmes are also available in **Latin American Studies** and **Film Studies**. Please contact the [programme director](#) for more information.

Whichever pathway you choose, the programme provides intensive preparation for doctoral research and your future career. We'll guide you through the research process, equipping you with transferable skills, including critical thinking, project management, written and verbal communication, and problem solving.

Training in research methodologies will be tailored to modern languages and cultural studies, as well as your specific research proposal, and a rigorous overview of current scholarship in your selected field will be provided. You'll co-design a bespoke reading list and individual assessment tasks in preparation for a substantial piece of research.

Guided by research-active experts in the Department of Languages, Culture and Film, you'll discover how to develop a research proposal, identify relevant evidence and sources, plan and undertake the research, and analyse and present your findings.

What you'll learn

- Theoretical frameworks for research in modern languages and discourse analysis, including text, audio-visual and digital
- How to design a robust research proposal
- How to identify relevant evidence and sources
- How to plan and conduct a major piece of original, independent research
- How to collect, interpret and analyse data and present your findings
- Project management and problem-solving skills
- Contemporary methodologies and key theoretical issues in cultural studies research
- How to prepare a bibliography

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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Semester one

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
INTRODUCTION TO CRITICAL THEORY (MODL503)	30
RESEARCH PROJECT DEVELOPMENT BY DIRECTED STUDY (HLAC503)	30

Optional modules	Credits
HLC RESEARCH MASTERS DISSERTATION (HLAC501)	120
TRANSLATION MASTERS DISSERTATION (MODL501)	120

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Semester two

You'll choose one of the two dissertation modules which run across the length of the programme.

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
HLC RESEARCH MASTERS DISSERTATION (HLAC501)	120
TRANSLATION MASTERS DISSERTATION (MODL501)	120

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Final project

You'll choose one of the two dissertation modules which run across the length of the programme.

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
HLC RESEARCH MASTERS DISSERTATION (HLAC501)	120
TRANSLATION MASTERS DISSERTATION (MODL501)	120

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

The programme involves a combination of seminars, one-to-one tutorials, skills development sessions and independent study.

The course structure enables a student-centred approach with focused supervision and support.

How you're assessed

You'll be assessed through written work assigned by your tutors and an oral presentation. There'll be opportunities to co-design some of these assessments so they're tailored to your intended research.

Assessments might include written essays, feasibility studies, a bibliography or a preliminary literature review.

The main piece of assessed work will be your dissertation.

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

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Careers and employability

The programme will immerse you in research and practical analytical techniques and develop a wide range of transferable skills. You'll demonstrate communication and presentation skills, problem-solving, methodological skills and the ability to work on your own initiative.

You'll graduate ready for further study at postgraduate level, including MPhil or PhD research, and prepared for a variety of career opportunities.

Many MRes graduates continue their studies and progress to doctoral research, studying an MPhil or PhD.

Previous graduates have progressed to a wide variety of careers including:

- Academia
- Journalism
- Law
- Tourism
- Charity work
- Librarianship
- Translation
- Teaching.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

Networking events

Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year – £5,238

Part-time place, per year – £2,619

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £25,350

Part-time place, per year – £12,650

The fees shown are for the academic year 2026/27. The University may administer inflationary rises to international fees in subsequent academic years as you progress through the course.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can [pay your tuition fees in instalments](#).
- All or part of your tuition fees can be [funded by external sponsorship](#).
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to [pay a tuition fee deposit](#).

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,167 to help with course fees and living costs. [**Learn more about paying for your studies**](#).

Additional costs

Please note, this programme may have additional costs associated with it depending on your choice of a lab or computational/fieldwork-based project.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

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Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Postgraduate entry requirements

We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This degree should be in a subject relevant to the proposed field of research.

International qualifications

Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.

If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, a Pre-Master's can help you gain a place. This specialist preparation course for postgraduate study is offered on campus at the [University of Liverpool International College](#), in partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. Although there's no direct Pre-Master's route to this MRes, completing a Pre-Master's pathway can guarantee you a place on many other postgraduate courses at The University of Liverpool.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0

TOEFL iBT

If you took a TOEFL test on or before 20 January 2026, you'll need 88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. If you took a TOEFL test from 21 January 2026 onwards, when a new scoring system was introduced, you'll need 4.5 overall, with 4 or above in all components. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

Duolingo English Test

120 overall, with no component below 105

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 65

PSI Skills for English

B2 Pass with Merit in all bands

INDIA Standard XII

National Curriculum (CBSE/ISC) - 75% and above in English. Accepted State Boards - 80% and above in English.

WAEC

C6 or above

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or [the equivalent score in selected other English language tests](#), to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with writing at 6.0 and no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with writing at 5.5 and no component below 5.0	10 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no more than one component at 5.0	12 weeks	Online
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no more than one component at 4.5	30 weeks	On campus
4.5 overall, with no more than one component at 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to [Pre-sessional English entry requirements](#) for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0, for further details.

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Generated: 19 Feb 2026, 19:44

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