



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

School of Histories,
Languages and Cultures



Languages, Cultures and Film
YEAR ONE
Module Catalogue
2023/24

Guidance Notes

This catalogue provides key details of optional modules available in the Department of Languages, Cultures and Film in 2023/24 to help inform your choices. In many programmes within the School it is possible for students take modules from other subject areas. Students are strongly encouraged to consider the full range of optional modules available to them, and not just those that are 'hosted' by their own department. Taking modules from other subject areas will help to broaden your knowledge and develop your academic skills in different ways. You will interact with a wider range of students studying other, often complementary, disciplines.

In all cases, **please check your programme structure carefully to ensure you are only choosing modules which are available to the programme you are registered on, or will be registered on, in 2023/24.** All students must register for 120 credits of modules in each year of study - 60 credits in each semester.

For further information on individual modules, please contact the module convenor directly.

Note this catalogue does **not include information on mandatory or required (non-compensary) language modules. For further information on these modules, please check the module specification or contact the module convenor directly.*

Languages, Cultures and Film



Year One

Module Title:

Introduction to Chinese Studies I



Module Convenor:

Dr Angela Becher (Angela.Becher@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This multi-disciplinary course will provide students with a general introduction to the field of Chinese Studies, including basic knowledge in key areas including Chinese history, Chinese society, politics, economics, culture and philosophy. Part I of this year-long course will focus on imperial times up until the mid-20th century, and will include topics such as Confucianism, the New Culture Movement and the Communist revolution. Students will gain knowledge about subject-specific study skills, key relevant terminologies in Chinese language and improve their critical analysis and independent thinking skills. This introductory course serves as key foundational module to build upon in Years 2 and 4 in Chinese Studies and it will also serve as essential preparation for the Year Abroad in China.

Module code:

CHIN120

Employability skills:

Research skills; written and oral communication skills

Credit value:

15

Semester:

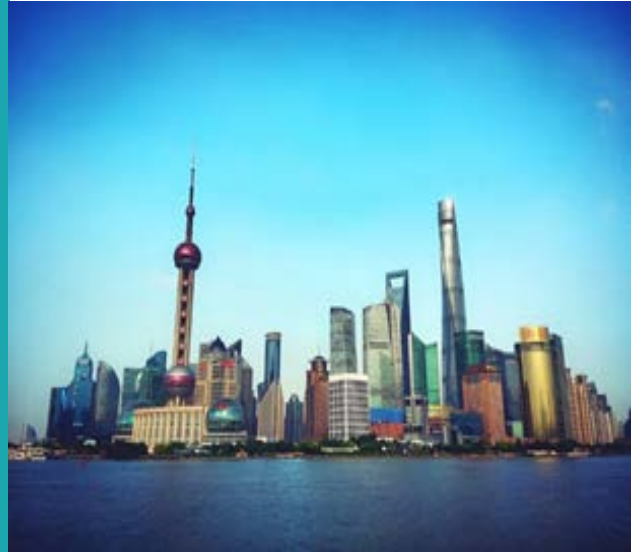
One

Balance of assessment:

60% Coursework 40% Coursework

Module Title:

Introduction to Chinese Studies II



Module Convenor:

Dr Penny Ding (Penny.Ding@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This multi-disciplinary course shall provide students with a general introduction to the field of Chinese Studies, including basic knowledge about China, the Greater China region and its relation to the Sinophone world. Students will also gain knowledge about subject-specific study skills, key relevant terminologies in Chinese language and will improve their critical analysis and independent thinking skills. This introductory course serves as key foundational module to build upon in year 2 and 3 in Chinese Studies and it will additionally serve as essential preparation for students deciding to do a Year Abroad in China. It will address key areas of Chinese studies, including Chinese history, Chinese contemporary society, politics, economics, culture and philosophy. Given the team-taught nature of the module, students will benefit from the expertise and teaching styles of a range of lecturers from across different disciplines. Introduction to Chinese Studies (Part II) will address these fields chronologically from the mid-20th century to the present day.

Module code:

CHIN121

Employability skills:

Confidence; digital fluency; global citizenship

Credit value:

15

Semester:

Two

Balance of assessment:

50% Exam; 40% Coursework; 10% Practical

Module Title:

Media Industries and Institutions B

Module Convenor:

Dr Lyndon Way (Lyndon.Way@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This is an introduction to issues and concepts surrounding media and communication industries and institutions. The module gives students exposure to core and current debates and issues such as the political economy of media, relations with power and regulation, and processes of globalisation, digitalisation and conglomeration. Students will learn about creative roles and the practices and lived experiences of professional media workers, including the process of conceiving and developing media texts. Successful students will be able to critically consider media and communication studies with an emphasis on its industries and institutions.

Module code:

COMM110

Employability skills:

Research skills; critical thinking; communication skills

Credit value:

15

Semester:

One

Balance of assessment:

100% Coursework

Module Title:

Communication, Culture and Media Analysis B

Module Convenor:

Dr Antal Wozniak (A.Wozniak@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This module will give students foundational knowledge about ways that communication, media, and culture can be systematically and critically analysed: students will learn about key concepts and theories from the field of media and communication studies and about how these are applied as tools for analysis. The module offers examples of the craft of social scientific and anthropological research, as well as cultural studies. These will be analytical approaches that students can subsequently use in the course of their studies.

Module code:

COMM112

Employability skills:

Academic writing; textual analysis; report writing

Credit value:

15

Semester:

Two

Balance of assessment:

100% Coursework

Module Title: Introduction to Film Language



Module Convenor:

Dr Alison Smith (Alismith@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

The aim of the course is to give you grounding in analytical skills, an appreciation of the significance of film as a medium, and an ability to write about film in an accessible and well informed way for different audiences and different purposes.

Furthermore, the course will introduce you to the basic components of the audiovisual 'language' which film uses to communicate with its audience, and to the methods that you should use when analysing how any one film uses this language. We will look at a wide variety of films selected for their particularly innovative or influential treatment of different aspects of this 'language'.

Module code:

FILM101

Employability skills:

Critical thinking; listening skills; problem solving

Credit value:

15

Semester:

One

Balance of assessment:

60% Coursework; 35% Coursework; 5% Coursework

Module Title:

Approaches to Film



Module Convenor:

Dr Alison Smith (Alismith@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

The aim of this course is to introduce you to key theoretical and conceptual debates within Film Studies. It will develop your ability to apply these concepts to close readings of film texts and, in doing so, enhance your skills of critical analysis and independent thinking.

Module code:

FILM102

Employability skills:

Critical thinking; global citizenship; independence

Credit value:

15

Semester:

Two

Balance of assessment:

70% Coursework; 30% Coursework

Module Title: Screen Cultures



Module Convenor:

Dr Luis Freijo Escudero (L.Freijo-Escudero@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This module explores the ways in which films circulate and make meaning (in sites beyond Hollywood and outside the mainstream distribution channels associated with European and US films). It responds to the ways in which we understand film today and explores theories and histories that reflect the ways in which films inform, represent and participate in cultures.

Module code:

FILM105

Employability skills:

Project management; media analysis; film writing

Credit value:

30

Semester:

One

Balance of assessment:

65% Coursework; 35% Coursework

Module Title:

Introduction to Film Research

Module convenor:

Dr Niamh Thornton (N.Thornton@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This module introduces students to basic research skills in film through an individual project on a named film, which will exercise students' understanding of the methods and concepts taught in the core modules on the course.

Module code:

FILM106

Employability skills:

Critical reading; research skills; communication skills

Credit value:

15

Semester:

Two

Balance of assessment:

70% Coursework 30% Coursework

Module Title:

Introduction to French Studies I

Module Convenor:

Dr Rebecca Dixon (Rebecca.Dixon@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This module aims to provide students with skills appropriate to a range of areas in French Studies, introducing them to the historical periods and cultural contexts with which they will engage in future years, and to assist them in developing generic study skills, including research skills, referencing and bibliographic skills, numeracy and data handling, and close reading and commentary writing.

Module code:

FREN114

Employability skills:

Critical thinking; communication skills; problem solving

Credit value:

15

Semester:

One

Balance of assessment:

35% Coursework; 35% Coursework; 15% Coursework; 15% Coursework

Module Title:

Introduction to French Studies II

Module Convenor:

Dr Molly Crozier (Molly.Crozier@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This module introduces students to key content and skills. The module focuses specifically on language issues, texts of various types, and film. The first part of the module covers language awareness, linguistics, the languages spoken in France and the French language as spoken outside France. The second part of the module covers issues of literary, visual, media, and film theory and draws on relevant movements and theoretical paradigms. The module introduces students to key skills in: reading and analysing primary and secondary sources critically; essay writing; and presenting to different audiences.

Module code:

FREN116

Employability skills:

Critical thinking; presentation skills; cultural awareness

Credit value:

15

Semester:

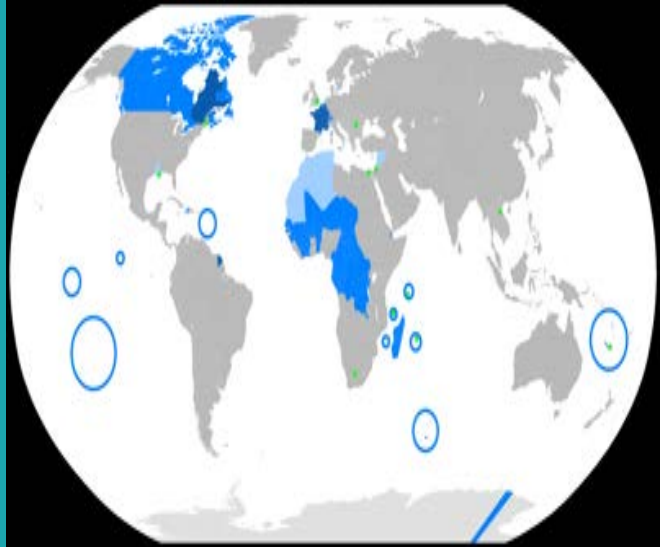
Two

Balance of assessment:

60% Coursework; 20% Coursework; 10% Coursework; 10% Practical

Module Title:

Introduction to the Francosphere: language, culture, empire, francophonie



Module Convenor:

Professor Charles Forsdick (C.Forsdick@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

The module opens with an introduction to French colonial history, allowing students to explore the ways in which French has become a global language and France a global power. After an overview of this context, the module uses a combination of lectures and guided reading in seminars to provide a comprehensive understanding of the presence of France and French across five continents. A dossier of texts and other material will be read both individually and from a comparative and transhistorical perspective. The module will conclude with a consideration of the organs of French neo-colonialism and soft power, such as La Francophonie, and allow students to explore Global France in the twenty first century.

Module code:

FREN125

Employability skills:

Critical thinking; time management; global citizenship

Credit value:

15

Semester:

Two

Balance of assessment:

60% Coursework; 20% Coursework; 20% Practical

Module Title:

Introduction to German Studies I

Module Convenor:

Dr Ulrike Bavendiek (U.Bavendiek@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

The module aims to provide students with an introduction to central issues in German Studies.

Module code:

GRMN127

Employability skills:

Critical thinking; source analysis; academic writing

Credit value:

15

Semester:

One

Balance of assessment:

40% Coursework; 30% Coursework; 30% Coursework

Module Title:

Introduction to German Studies II

Module Convenor:

Dr Lyn Marven (L.Marven@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

The module introduces first year students to the study of German literature (short stories and prose) and the study of German film.

Module code:

GRMN128

Employability skills:

Critical thinking; communication skills; academic writing

Credit value:

15

Semester:

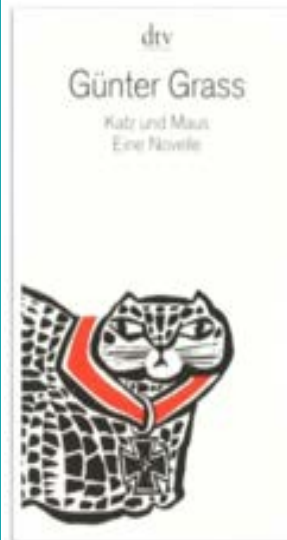
Two

Balance of assessment:

60% Coursework; 40% Coursework

Module Title:

Texts and Context in German



Module Convenor:

Dr Lyn Marven (L.Marven@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This module offers students of German the opportunity to develop their reading knowledge of a German text (chosen from a short list) and their research and study skills, under the guidance of an academic supervisor. Students will produce a portfolio of work based on their chosen text, including: an academic bibliography, a comprehension exercise based on secondary literature, a commentary and an essay of 2000 words. These assessments guide students through the process of researching around a topic, and will allow them to receive feedback on each aspect of research. Students will work under the guidance of an academic supervisor, meeting them at regular intervals to agree a plan of reading, to discuss progress and to prepare their assessed work. Students will submit a plan of their essay to their supervisor for feedback before completing the assignment. The module is required for students German as a major or single subject, and can be taken by students studying German ab initio, for whom the commentary exercise will compare the English-language translation of the text and the German original. Together with the module GRMN230, this forms part of a research pathway designed to develop research skills in preparation for the MODL307 dissertation in final year.

Module code:

GRMN125

Employability skills:

Critical thinking; information skills; problem solving

Credit value:

15

Semester:

Two

Balance of assessment:

60% Coursework; 25% Coursework; 10% Coursework; 5% Coursework

Module Title:

Women in Iberian and Latin American Literature and Culture



Module Convenor:

Dr Sizen Yiacoup (Sizen.Yiacoup@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This module will introduce students to a range of literary and cultural forms which give prominence to women's roles in cultural and social change. Students will engage with a number of key texts and gender related concepts and will consider the ways in which representations of women, whether produced by women or, indeed, by men, have both influenced and been influenced by important social and cultural movements in Spain, Portugal and Latin America from the early modern to the modern eras.

Module code:

HISP112

Employability skills:

Critical analysis; writing skills; group work

Credit value:

15

Semester:

Two

Balance of assessment:

70% Coursework; 30% Coursework

Module Title:

Introduction to Iberian and Latin American Studies I

Module Convenor:

Professor Claire Taylor (C.L.Taylor@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

The module provides students with a basic introduction to Luso-Hispanic history, culture and society. It focuses on key topics such as colonialism and decolonisation, race and ethnicity, and sub-state and national identities. Along with Introduction to Iberian and Latin American Studies II (HISP121) in Semester 2, this module will serve as the foundation upon which you build your knowledge and understanding of Luso-Hispanic history and culture throughout your degree.

Module code:

HISP120

Employability skills:

Critical thinking; research skills; organisation skills

Credit value:

15

Semester:

One

Balance of assessment:

45% Coursework; 30% Coursework; 25% Coursework

Module Title:

Introduction to Iberian and Latin American Studies II

Module Convenor:

Dr Niamh Thornton (n.thornton@@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This module provides students with a basic introduction to Luso-Hispanic history, culture and society. It also covers core skills necessary for undergraduate studies, familiarising you with a range of information sources. This module is thus also aimed at developing confidence and ability in research and academic writing. Along with Introduction to Iberian and Latin American Studies I (HISP120), this module will serve as the foundation upon which you will build your knowledge and understanding of Luso-Hispanic history and culture throughout your degree.

Module code:

HISP121

Employability skills:

Critical thinking; research skills; organisation skills

Credit value:

15

Semester:

Two

Balance of assessment:

50% Coursework; 45% Coursework; 5% Practical

Module Title: Introduction to Italian Studies I



Module Convenor:

Dr Stefania Tufi (Stefania.Tufi@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

The module introduces students to issues relating to post-unification and fascist Italy and to past and current debates surrounding multilingual, multicultural and multi-ethnic Italy.

Module code:

ITAL120

Employability skills:

Information skills; oral and written communication skills

Credit value:

15

Semester:

One

Balance of assessment:

70% Coursework; 30% Coursework

Module Title:

Introduction to Italian Studies II



Module Convenor:

Dr Barbara Spadaro (B.Spadaro@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This module provides students with skills appropriate to a range of areas in Italian Studies and to assist them in developing generic study skills so that they are prepared for year two modules within the Italian curriculum. The module introduces students to issues surrounding past and current debates on changing values, conflicts and dissension within Italian society. Students will access and work on a range of historical, literary, journalistic and cinematic texts which deal with the relevant issues.

Module code:

ITAL121

Employability skills:

Critical analysis; academic writing; teamwork

Credit value:

15

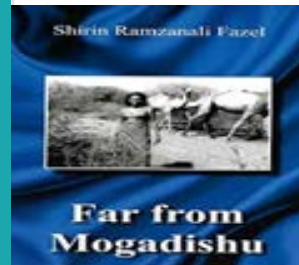
Semester:

Two

Balance of assessment:

60% Coursework; 20% Coursework; 20% Coursework

Module Title: Texts and Contexts in Italian



Module Convenor:

Dr Marco Paoli (M.Paoli@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This module offers students of Italian the opportunity to develop their knowledge of an Italian text or film (chosen from a short list) and their research and study skills, under the guidance of an academic supervisor. Students will produce a portfolio of work based on their chosen text and / or film, including: an academic bibliography, a comprehension exercise based on secondary literature, a commentary and an essay of 2000 words. These assessments guide students through the process of researching around a topic, and will allow them to receive feedback on each aspect of research. Students will work under the guidance of an academic supervisor, meeting them at regular intervals to agree a plan of reading, to discuss progress and to prepare their assessed work. Students will submit a plan of their essay to their supervisor for feedback before completing the assignment. The module is required for students of 75 (and 100) per cent Italian, and can be taken by students studying Italian ab initio. Together with the module ITAL210, this forms part of a research pathway designed to develop research skills in preparation for the MODL307 dissertation in final year.

Module code:

ITAL125

Employability skills:

Research skills; academic writing; organisation skills

Credit value:

15

Semester:

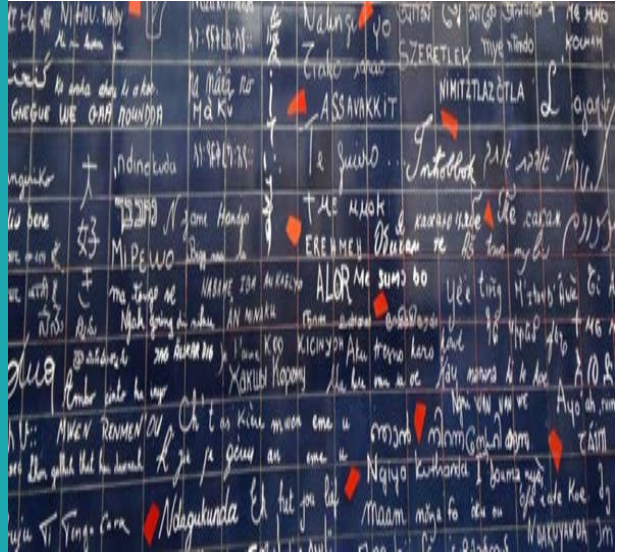
Two

Balance of assessment:

70% Coursework; 30% Coursework

Module Title:

Language Awareness



Module Convenor:

Dr Ulrike Bavendiek (U.Bavendiek@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

The module is an introduction to linguistics, focusing on issues in theoretical and applied linguistics which are relevant for language learners. It aims to equip students with a better awareness of and explicit knowledge about language and language learning. The meta-awareness thus gained will assist in hypothesis testing and rule formation essential to the learning of language.

Module code:

MODL105

Employability skills:

Critical reflection; communication skills; group work

Credit value:

15

Semester:

One

Balance of assessment:

60% Coursework; 40% Coursework

Module Title:

Introduction to Sound and Music in Audio Visual Media

Module convenor:

Dr Amy Skjerseth (A.Skjerseth@liverpool.ac.uk)

Broad description of module content:

This module introduces students to the use and role of music in a range of audio-visual media. It focuses specifically on the sound and music of mainstream narrative cinema, as the lead expression in contemporary audio-visual media and one that has shaped this aspect of other artforms, such as television and videogames. From the relationship between music and early moving pictures, to the importance of re-using popular musics to score gender or sexuality in the modern Hollywood blockbuster, the module considers both the historical practicalities of sound and music in cinema and some of the key critical ideologies that have been shaped by and shaped the soundtracks of film. Through a focus on key case studies and fundamental theories, students will acquire a firm grounding in the history, nature, and critical discussion of the function of sound and music in film specifically, and audio-visual media more generally. The module is delivered in a manner designed to be equally accessible to students from a non-Music background.

Module code:

MUSI170

Employability skills:

Oral and written communication skills; critical thinking

Credit value:

15

Semester:

Two

Balance of assessment:

50% Exam; 50% Coursework