

ROYAL HOLLOWAY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

MODERN LANGUAGES

Undergraduate Studies

Welcome



Welcome to Modern Languages. Our degree courses offer flexible options in French, German, Italian and Hispanic Studies. You can choose one or more languages, at advanced or beginners' levels, and explore combinations with History of Art and Visual Culture, Comparative Literature and Culture, English and more.

In studying a language you develop excellent communication, leadership, analytical and research skills alongside a sophisticated awareness of different cultures, marking you out in an increasingly globalised world. You can also benefit from a year working or studying abroad. If you are determined to gain a competitive advantage and are passionate about culture and language, join us!

We are proud of our international research reputation and of the vibrant interdisciplinary intellectual culture that informs and shapes our teaching. Our staff are experts in their fields and are passionately committed to languages and to sharing our professional expertise with you. We look forward to welcoming you into our thriving and friendly community.

Dr Vicky Greenaway
Head of Department

Cover image of Parisian café, and most images included in this brochure, taken by Royal Holloway students on their year abroad.



Cádiz

Top 10

in the UK for research quality in French, German, Italian and Hispanic Studies

(Complete University Guide, 2027)

Contact details

Course enquiries

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Connect with us

LLC_RHUL

royalholloway.ac.uk/languages

Languages at Royal Holloway

Why study Modern Languages at Royal Holloway?

A friendly and tailor-made experience

We attract students from all over the UK, Europe and beyond. We are a friendly, diverse, and close-knit community which values each individual. You'll have your own Personal Tutor to guide you through your studies and help you to make the most of your potential. We employ a range of teaching and assessment methods to suit different learning styles.

A wide choice of courses

With Modern Languages degrees, you'll develop critical and communication skills, as well as fluency in one or more foreign languages. We offer a range of modules that include theories and practices of translation, and that span literature, film and art, from the medieval period to the present day. We also offer courses in Comparative Literature and Culture (CLC), Liberal Arts and History of Art and Visual Culture. Please see **royalholloway.ac.uk/coursefinder** for more information on these courses.



Seville

Prize-winning, research-led teaching

You will work with world-renowned specialists who share their expertise in an approachable way. Everyone you'll study with is passionate about languages and culture: we're proud to have been awarded an exceptional number of teaching prizes for innovation and excellence.

A competitive edge: your integrated year abroad

This unique experience is one of the most exciting elements of many of our degree courses: a year spent working or studying in one or two different countries.

An inspiring working environment

We are located in the International Building, at the heart of Royal Holloway's beautiful campus. Many of our students live on campus or close by, enjoying its vibrant cultural life and participating in a wide range of events, sports and societies.



"It is great to be taught by experts whose lecture content owes a lot to their ever-evolving research and I have always found course options which interested me. In my second year I chose to focus on medieval and Renaissance literature and art, whilst in my final year I have explored more contemporary and avant-garde interests. The campus is just a wonderful place to live and study and it is the ideal environment to grow intellectually and socially; I have never had any regrets about choosing Royal Holloway."

Bethany
BA English and Italian

Choosing your degree

Choice and flexibility are at the core of our degree programmes, allowing you to follow your own path, and giving you a great start in your future career. Whether you want to take a single or joint honours degree and specialise in one language or achieve fluency in two or three languages, we offer a number of course options.

Modern Languages

Depending on your degree, you can study one, two or even three languages. French, German, Italian and Spanish are all taught at advanced or beginners' levels. Alongside core language modules to develop your skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing in the relevant language(s), throughout your degree you can choose from a wide range of options, including modules on translation and translation studies, literature, culture, film and the visual arts. In your third year you are able to enjoy the fantastic benefit of a year abroad and in your final year you can choose to write a research dissertation on a topic of your choice.

Year abroad

Your year abroad is one of the most exciting elements of your degree course: an academic year spent in one or two countries, either working or studying. We are unusual in letting you choose between studying at a university, applying to work as a British Council English Language Assistant or arranging your own work placement in, for example, business or industry. This horizon-expanding year is designed to help you cultivate the impressive language proficiency and intellectual maturity which set our graduates apart.

Our experienced team helps you make the right choice and supports you throughout your time abroad. We have a varied and exciting range of placements, with links to exceptional universities in France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Spain, Latin America and Italy. Throughout your year abroad, you will find your language skills flourishing and your confidence growing as you experience the richness and vitality of different cultures.



Paris

DEGREES	UCAS code
BA Modern Languages	R900
MODERN LANGUAGES AS A MAJOR SUBJECT	
BA Modern Languages with History of Art and Visual Culture	R9W6
BA Modern Languages with International Relations	R9L2
MODERN LANGUAGES JOINT DEGREES	
BA Modern Languages and Comparative Literature and Culture	RQ92
BA Modern Languages and Drama	RW94
BA Modern Languages and English	RQ93
BA Modern Languages and History	RV91
BA Modern Languages and History of Art and Visual Culture	RW96
BA Modern Languages and Music	RW93
BA Politics, International Relations and Modern Languages (French)	LR21
BA Politics, International Relations and Modern Languages (German)	LR22
BA Politics, International Relations and Modern Languages (Italian)	LR23
BA Politics, International Relations and Modern Languages (Spanish)	LR24

You can also study French, German, Italian or Spanish as a minor option with Law or Music.



Bolivia

Student life

The Students' Union at Royal Holloway has a huge variety of sports clubs and societies to join, and our students are active in all areas of campus life.

Naturally many students within Modern Languages are members of French, German, Italian and Spanish societies. These societies maintain a close connection to the courses and organise a great range of activities such as film nights, performances of plays, parties, study trips and short breaks to European destinations.

If all the activity on campus is still not enough for you, then, of course, the many attractions and multicultural life of central London are close at hand whilst our proximity to Heathrow Airport and Waterloo and St Pancras stations makes trips to Europe, and beyond, extremely easy.



Cassis



Medina Azahara, Córdoba

Your future career

Modern Languages graduates from Royal Holloway are extremely well-placed to take full advantage of the global job market. Languages represent an increasingly vital component of the portfolio of skills sought by today's employers; equipped with such a splendid 'passport', the world is truly open to you.

A Modern Languages degree will give you:

- in-depth and practical experience of other cultures and societies
- fluent communication skills in one or more target languages
- a high level of competence in the analysis and communication of information
- experience in the art of debate and in the critical evaluation of a wide variety of cultural forms
- an impressive range of other key skills much sought after by employers, including flexibility, self-reliance, resilience, time-management and organisational skills, independent thinking and the confidence and ability to develop arguments and express complex ideas.



"Over the four years I spent studying Modern Languages I was supported by a team of inspirational staff who empowered me to develop the communication, analytical and research skills necessary to work in my area of global telecommunications. Through studying languages I developed an empathetic understanding of different attitudes and cultures, and most critically the ability to share my thoughts with a range of people, and have the self-belief to do so! This has enabled me to have a fantastic start in an already very fulfilling career."

Bryony Grimes
Technology Strategy Analyst at Telefónica
BA French and German (2018)



Venice

This brochure was produced in November 2026 and information was correct at that time. Please make sure you check our website or contact us directly for the very latest information if you are considering an application.



ROYAL HOLLOWAY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

- Learn from world-leading experts
- Highly ranked for student satisfaction
- Beautiful campus in a safe location
- Vibrant and active community
- Award-winning careers service

Visit us to find out more

Our Open Days are a great way to get a feel for life at Royal Holloway. Look around the campus, meet our students and staff, and find out more about studying and living here.

Find out more and register to attend at **Royalholloway.ac.uk/opendays**

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