

## Programme specification

### BA (Hons) Language & Communication Studies

<i>School:</i>	School of Languages & Linguistics		
<i>Entry from:</i>	2019/20	<i>in:</i>	September
<i>Awarding institution:</i>	York St John University		
<i>Teaching institution:</i>	York St John University		
<i>Delivery location:</i>	York St John University		
<i>Programme/s accredited by:</i>	Not applicable		
<i>Exit awards:</i>	BA (Ord) Language & Communication Studies Diploma of Higher Education Language & Communication Studies Certificate of Higher Education Language & Communication Studies		
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	QX34		
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	Not applicable		
<i>QAA benchmark group(s):</i>	Languages, Cultures and Societies 2015; Linguistics 2015		
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	<a href="#">Undergraduate periods of study for</a> <sup>1</sup> Full-time for 3 years Part-time for 6 years		
<i>Language of study:</i>	English and one or more of British Sign Language/Japanese/Korean		
<i>Paired with Foundation Year</i>	No		
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	No		
<i>Placement Year opportunity:</i>	Yes		

### Introduction and special features

This three-year degree in Language & Communication Studies is designed to give you insight into different sociocultural language practices, as well as giving you the choice of studying up to two languages – out of British Sign Language, Japanese, or Korean. This degree will give you the intercultural and/or language skills to work in a global or local professional context. You'll consider how language relates to speakers' intentions and purposes in social interaction, social attitudes to language, and the way language choices can express identities and cultural values. This programme is ideal if you prefer the sociocultural aspects of linguistics or if you want to study one or more languages during level 4 and/or level 5, without going abroad.

#### Special features:

- Study up to two languages without going abroad.
- Start British Sign Language or Japanese from beginners or with prior study (Korean is only from beginners). On arrival at York St John University you will be placed at an appropriate level.
- Take the nationally recognised Signature British Sign Language qualifications, or the Japanese Language Proficiency Test, for no extra fee.
- Take part in collaborative staff and student community engagement programmes: Sign Bar, where you can engage with the deaf community and communicate using British Sign Language, and Hearing Dogs for the Deaf where you can organise and participate in fundraising activities and events.
- Take part in extra-curricular activities related to Japanese language and culture: the vibrant student-run Japanese Society, where you can experience Japanese culture and meet home and exchange students, and the staff-led taiko drumming group, where you can learn a new skill and practice intercultural understanding.

<sup>1</sup> The standard period of study will apply unless otherwise stated

- Access specialist spaces for students: a Linguistics Lab, Languages Workshop, Lounge and Study.
- Learn about current research issues and methods from guest lecturers in our Colloquium Series on a variety of topics related to programmes in the School of Language and Linguistics.
- Apply to join the University's Students-as-Researchers scheme or present your dissertation research at ULAB, the Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain conference.

## **Admissions criteria**

You must meet the University's general entry criteria for [undergraduate](#) study.

You do not need to have studied British Sign Language, Japanese or Korean before to enter this programme.

You can enter this programme if any of British Sign Language, Japanese or Korean are your first language or you have studied these languages before. However, if your proficiency is higher than that stated below, you will not be able to take modules in those languages:

- Signature level 2 or above
- C1 level of the Common European Framework for Languages (CEFR) in Japanese
- B1 level of the Common European Framework for Languages (CEFR) in Korean

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see <https://www.yorks.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/>).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of [Accredited Prior \(Experiential\) Learning \(APL/APEL\)](#). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

## **Programme aims**

By the end of the programme, you will have the skills to be an independent and ethical (applied) linguist, able to work for social justice in changing global contexts by drawing on sound evidence from sociocultural linguistic theories and applied linguistics practice. You will also have the skills to work in a global or local professional context with the ability to communicate in up to two languages.

## **Programme learning outcomes**

### **Level 4**

Upon successful completion of this level students will be able to:

- 4.1. Handle, analyse and present data in an ethical way using appropriate digital tools
- 4.2. Recognise and explain the socio-cultural, political or structural aspects of language use
- 4.3. Communicate effectively – orally, signed or in writing – sourcing and interpreting a range of academic literature and adopting appropriate referencing conventions where appropriate

### **Level 5**

Upon successful completion of this level students will be able to:

- 5.1. Investigate, interpret and/or reflect on socio-cultural, political and/or interpersonal contexts of language use, identifying and using appropriate theoretical frameworks where appropriate and presenting any data in an ethical way.
- 5.2. Communicate effectively – orally, signed or in writing –evidencing arguments through correctly referenced, appropriate sources where appropriate
- 5.3. Demonstrate an awareness of professional values

### **Level 6**

Upon successful completion of this level students will be able to:

- 6.1. Design and carry out an independent research study, presenting and critically analysing data in an ethical way
- 6.2. Select and apply appropriate theoretical frameworks
- 6.3. Investigate and critically evaluate socio-cultural and/or political contexts of language use
- 6.4. Appropriately adapt language to communicate professionally with a range of audiences
- 6.5. Construct a convincing argument, evidenced by critical engagement with appropriate sources
- 6.6. Demonstrate professional and transferable skills

## Programme Structure

### Levels 4 and 5

You can choose between no languages, one language or two different languages in each semester.

#### From Level 4 semester 2 onwards:

Each language module is available to those who took the previous proficiency level module in the prior semester. The exception to this is British Sign Language Beginners 1, which is available in semester 2 of level 4 for students who did not take it in semester 1

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Status of Module*
1LL302	4	1	Language and Society	20	C
1LLBS1	4	1	British Sign Language Beginners 1	20	O <sup>1</sup>
1LLBS3	4	1	British Sign Language Intermediate 1	20	O <sup>1</sup>
1LLJA1	4	1	Accelerated Japanese 1	20	O <sup>1</sup>
1LLJA3	4	1	Japanese Communication 1	20	O <sup>1</sup>
1LLKO1	4	1	Accelerated Korean 1	20	O <sup>1</sup>
1LL315	4	1	Deaf History	20	O
1LL306	4	1	Key Concepts for Language Learning and Teaching	20	O
1LL305	4	2	Multilingualism	20	C
1LLBS1	4	2	British Sign Language Beginners 1	20	O <sup>2</sup>
1LLBS2	4	2	British Sign Language Beginners 2	20	O <sup>2</sup>
1LLBS4	4	2	British Sign Language Intermediate 2	20	O <sup>2</sup>
1LLJA2	4	2	Accelerated Japanese 2	20	O <sup>2</sup>
1LLJA4	4	2	Japanese Communication 2	20	O <sup>2</sup>
1LLKO2	4	2	Accelerated Korean 2	20	O <sup>2</sup>
1LL316	4	2	Deaf Cultures	20	O
1LL303	4	2	Descriptive Grammar of English	20	O
2LL305	5	1	Analysing Texts	20	O
2LLBS2	5	1	British Sign Language Beginners 2	20	O <sup>3</sup>
2LLBS3	5	1	British Sign Language Intermediate 1	20	O <sup>3</sup>
2LLBS5	5	1	British Sign Language Intermediate 3	20	O <sup>3</sup>
2LLJA5	5	1	Japanese Language and Society 1	20	O <sup>3</sup>
2LLKO5	5	1	Korean Language and Society 1	20	O <sup>3</sup>
2LL302	5	1	World Englishes	20	O
2LL304	5	1	Language, Gender and Sexuality	20	O
2LL315	5	1	Sociolinguistics of British Sign Language	20	O
2LL306	5	2	Language at Work	20	C
2LLBS3	5	2	British Sign Language Intermediate 1	20	O <sup>4</sup>
2LLBS4	5	2	British Sign Language Intermediate 2	20	O <sup>4</sup>
2LLBS6	5	2	British Sign Language Advanced 1	20	O <sup>4</sup>
2LLJA6	5	2	Japanese Language and Society 2	20	O <sup>4</sup>
2LLKO6	5	2	Korean Language and Society 2	20	O <sup>4</sup>
2LL311	5	2	Forensic Linguistics	20	O
2LL307	5	2	Language and Literacy	20	O
2LL309	5	2	Sociolinguistics	20	O
3LL302	6	1	Attitudes to Language	20	C
3LL303	6	1	Language, Identities and Cultures	20	C
3LL306	6	1	Speech and Language Pathology	20	C
3LL308	6	2	Reflections in Linguistics	20	C
3LL310	6	2	Dissertation	40	C

\***C**: Compulsory, **CA**: Compulsory for award, **O**: option or **E**: elective.

Please note that not all options will be available every year as they depend on student demand and staff availability.

### **Level 4, Semester 1**

<sup>1</sup> You can choose between no languages, one language or two different languages in this semester. For British Sign Language, if you already have Signature level 1 or 2, you will start at British Sign Language Intermediate 1. For Japanese, your Japanese level will be tested on arrival and the appropriate module selected.

### **Level 4, Semester 2**

<sup>2</sup> You can choose between no languages, one language or two different languages in this semester. British Sign Language Beginners 1 is available if you have not taken British Sign Language in semester 1. The remaining language modules are available to those who took the previous level in semester 1: British Sign Language Beginners 2 follows British Sign Language Beginners 1; British Sign Language Intermediate 2 follows British Sign Language Intermediate 1; Accelerated Japanese 2 follows Accelerated Japanese 1; Japanese Communication 2 follows Japanese Communication 1; Accelerated Korean 2 follows Accelerated Korean 1.

### **Level 5, Semester 1**

<sup>3</sup> You can choose between no languages, one language or two different languages in this semester. Each language module is available to those who took the previous level in semester 2, Level 4:

<sup>3</sup> British Sign Language Beginners 2 follows British Sign Language Beginners 1; British Sign Language Intermediate 1 follows British Sign Language Beginners 2; British Sign Language Intermediate 2 follows British Sign Language Intermediate 1; British Sign Language Intermediate 3 follows British Sign Language Intermediate 2; Japanese Language and Society 1 follows either Accelerated Japanese 2 or Japanese Communication 2; Korean Language and Society 1 follows Accelerated Korean 1.

### **Level 5, Semester 2**

<sup>4</sup> You can choose between no languages, one language or two different languages in this semester. Each language module is available to those who took the previous level in semester 1: British Sign Language Intermediate 1 follows British Sign Language Beginners 2; British Sign Language Intermediate 2 follows British Sign Language Intermediate 1; British Sign Language Advanced 1 follows British Sign Language Intermediate 2; Japanese Language and Society 2 follows Japanese Language and Society 1; Korean Language and Society 2 follows Korean Language and Society 1.

## **Learning, teaching and assessment**

### **British Sign Language (if taken)**

On arrival at York St John University you will be placed at an appropriate level, either British Sign Language beginners or intermediate 1. If you continue to study British Sign Language at level 5, topics will broaden from routine and familiar matters at level 4 to describing experiences/events and giving reasons at level 5. British Sign Language modules are assessed with a combination of practical exam and videos. In addition, if you wish you can elect to take the nationally recognised Signature British Sign Language qualifications for no additional fee: Signature Level 1 at the end of Beginners 2 and Signature level 2 at the end of Intermediate 3. These are valuable if you wish to continue working with deaf people upon graduation. By the end of level 4, students who have taken and passed British Sign Language module(s) will be able to communicate in British Sign Language using simple and direct exchange of information on routine and familiar matters. Students who go on to take and pass British Sign Language module(s) at level 5 will be able to describe experiences and events in British Sign Language and give reasons and explanations for opinions.

## **Japanese (if taken)**

On arrival at York St John University your Japanese level will be tested and you will be placed at an appropriate level, either Accelerated Japanese 1 or Japanese Communication 1. We use a communicative Japanese teaching style at level 4, teaching speaking and listening through tasks such as pair-work and group work. Reading and writing input includes focus on independent learning strategies. If you continue into level 5 you will be taught Japanese via content-and-language integrated learning – you will study aspects of Japanese cultures, communities and societies through the medium of Japanese. You will learn through giving and listening to presentations, reading and discussing news articles. There will be discussion of independent learning strategies, weekly tests and formative feedback on writing. Japanese modules are assessed with a combination of oral exam, videos, class tests and written work which varies according to the module. By the end of level 4, students who have taken and passed Japanese module(s) will be able to effectively communicate in Japanese, both orally and in writing, on routine and familiar matters; read and write hiragana and katakana characters, and recognise sufficient kanji characters to understand text on predictable everyday matters. Students who go on to take and pass Japanese module(s) at level 5 will be able to effectively describe experiences and events in Japanese, both orally and in writing, and give reasons and explanations for opinions; as well as demonstrating a critical understanding of aspects of Japanese cultures, communities and societies.

## **Korean (if taken)**

We use a communicative Korean teaching style at level 4, teaching speaking and listening through tasks such as pair-work and group work. Reading and writing input includes focus on independent learning strategies. If you continue into level 5 you will be taught Korean via content-and-language integrated learning – you will study aspects of Korean cultures, communities and societies through the medium of Korean. You will learn through giving and listening to presentations, reading and discussing news articles. There will be discussion of independent learning strategies, weekly tests and formative feedback on writing. Korean modules are assessed with a combination of oral exam, videos, class tests and written work. By the end of level 4, students who have taken and passed Korean module(s) will be able to effectively communicate in Korean, both orally and in writing, on routine and familiar matters, and read and write hangul characters, understanding text on predictable everyday matters. Students who go on to take and pass Korean module(s) at level 5 will be able to effectively describe experiences and events in Korean, both orally and in writing, and give reasons and explanations for opinions; as well as demonstrating a critical understanding of aspects of Korean cultures, communities and societies.

## **Communication Studies**

Communication Studies modules are delivered using a mixture of lectures, workshops and seminars. Academic and research skills are embedded in modules, for example, academic writing and referencing, peer review, use of web based resources for document sharing, and the use of wikis and blogs. The assessment varies from module to module. Assessment methods include essays, presentations, data analysis, peer reviews, blog posts and research proposals and reports.

## **Level 6**

Level 6 modules challenge you to investigate and critically evaluate socio-cultural and/or political contexts of language use through independent study. You learn research and academic literacy skills in your modules, enabling you to construct a convincing argument, evidenced by critical engagement with appropriate sources, both orally and in writing. In the 40-credit dissertation module you conduct an independent research study of relevance to your programme, drawing on the research skills you have learned throughout the programme, and supported by additional skills sessions and up to six hours of one-on-one supervision. In addition, you take the module 3LL308 Reflections in Linguistics you carry out an independent

reflective portfolio, drawing on tutorial support to enable you to make connections between aspects of your undergraduate programme, including your study of British Sign Language, Japanese and/or Korean where taken.

### **Progression and graduation requirements**

The University's [general regulations for](#) undergraduate awards apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section.

### **Internal and external reference points**

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University Mission Statement](#) [see page two]
- [Strategic Plan 2015-20](#) [see page four]
- [QAA subject benchmark statement](#)
- [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)

FOR REGISTRY USE:

Exceptions to the modules in this programme are detailed in the Design Narrative.

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*Date written / revised:*