

Programme Specification

BA (Hons) Language and Communication Studies

<i>School:</i>	Education, Language and Psychology
<i>Subject area:</i>	Languages & Linguistics
<i>Entry from academic year:</i>	2020-21
<i>in the month(s) of:</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>	Certificate of Higher Education Language and Communication Studies Diploma of Higher Education Language and Communication Studies BA (Ord) Language and Communication Studies
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	QX34
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	Not applicable
<i>QAA subject benchmark statement(s):</i>	Languages, Cultures and Societies 2015; Linguistics 2015
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	Undergraduate periods of study ¹ for full-time / part-time
<i>Language of study:</i>	English and one or more of British Sign Language / Chinese / 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 – one out of Chinese, Japanese or Korean plus Beginners British Sign Language. 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 – one out of Chinese, Japanese or Korean plus British Sign Language.²
- Start Japanese from beginners or with prior study. On arrival at York St John University you will be placed at an appropriate level.

¹ The standard period of study will apply unless otherwise stated

² Please note that Chinese modules will not run in 2020/21

- Study British Sign Language, Chinese or Korean from beginners.
- Take part in extra-curricular activities related to 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.
- 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, Chinese, Japanese or Korean before to enter this programme.³

You can enter this programme if any of British Sign Language, Japanese, Chinese 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 1 in British Sign Language
- B2 level of the Common European Framework for Languages (CEFR) in Japanese
- B1 level of the Common European Framework for Languages (CEFR) in Korean
- B1 level of the Common European Framework for Languages (CEFR) in Chinese

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.yorksj.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.

³ Please note that Chinese modules will not run in 2020/21

Programme aim(s)

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

Upon successful completion of the programme students will be able to:

Level 4

- 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 or in writing (and signed if applicable) – sourcing and interpreting a range of academic literature and adopting appropriate referencing conventions where appropriate

Level 5

- 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 or in writing –evidencing arguments through correctly referenced, appropriate sources where appropriate
- 5.3 Demonstrate an awareness of professional values

Level 6

- 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 semester 1

You can choose between no language or one language out of Chinese, Japanese or Korean.

From Level 4 semester 2 onwards:

Each Chinese/Japanese/Korean module is available to those who took the previous proficiency level module in the prior semester.

The exception to this is British Sign Language, which is available in semester 2 of level 4 only

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module status	
					compulsory or optional to take C or O	non-compensatable or compensatable NC or X
LAL4003M	4	1	Language and Society	20	C	X
LAC4001M	4	1	Accelerated Chinese 1	20	O ¹	X
LAJ4001M	4	1	Accelerated Japanese 1	20	O ¹	X
LAJ4003M	4	1	Japanese Communication 1	20	O ¹	X
LAK4001M	4	1	Accelerated Korean 1	20	O ¹	X
LAK4003M	4	1	Korean Communication 1	20	O ¹	X
LAL4008M	4	1	Deaf History	20	O	X
LAL4007M	4	1	Key Concepts for Language Learning and Teaching	20	O	X
LAL4006M	4	2	Multilingualism	20	C	X
LAB4015M	4	2	British Sign Language	20	O ²	X
LAC4002M	4	2	Accelerated Chinese 2	20	O ²	X
LAJ4002M	4	2	Accelerated Japanese 2	20	O ²	X
LAJ4004M	4	2	Japanese Communication 2	20	O ²	X
LAK4002M	4	2	Accelerated Korean 2	20	O ²	X
LAK4004M	4	2	Korean Communication 2	20	O ²	X
LAL4009M	4	2	Deaf Cultures	20	O	X
LAL4004M	4	2	Descriptive Grammar of English	20	O	X
LAC5001M	5	1	Chinese Language and Society 1	20	O ³	X
LAJ5001M	5	1	Japanese Language and Society 1	20	O ³	X
LAK5001M	5	1	Korean Language and Society 1	20	O ³	X
LAL5006M	5	1	Analysing Texts	20	O	X
LAL5005M	5	1	Language, Gender and Sexuality	20	O	X
LAL5013M	5	1	Sociolinguistics of British Sign Language	20	O	X
LAL5003M	5	1	World Englishes	20	O	X
LAL5007M	5	2	Language at Work	20	C	X
LAC5002M	5	2	Chinese Language and Society 2	20	O ⁴	X
LAJ5002M	5	2	Japanese Language and Society 2	20	O ⁴	X
LAK5002M	5	2	Korean Language and Society 2	20	O ⁴	X
LAL5012M	5	2	Forensic Linguistics	20	O	X
LAL5008M	5	2	Language and Literacy	20	O	X
LAL5010M	5	2	Sociolinguistics	20	O	X
LAL6003M	6	1	Attitudes to Language	20	C	X
LAL6004M	6	1	Language, Identities and Cultures	20	C	X
LAL6006M	6	1	Speech and Language Pathology	20	C	X
LAL6008M	6	2	Reflections in Linguistics	20	C	X
LAL6010M	6	2	Dissertation	40	C	NC

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

Please note that Chinese modules will not run in 2020/21

Level 4, Semester 1

¹ You can choose between no language or one language in this semester. For Japanese and Korean, your level will be tested on arrival and the appropriate module selected.

Level 4, Semester 2

² You can choose between no languages or one language from Chinese, Japanese or Korean this semester. For this semester only, you have the option of also taking British Sign Language. The remaining language modules are available to those who took the previous level in semester 1: Accelerated Chinese 2 follows Accelerated Chinese 1; Accelerated Japanese 2 follows Accelerated Japanese 1; Japanese Communication 2 follows Japanese Communication 1; Accelerated Korean 2 follows Accelerated Korean 1; Korean Communication 2 follows Korean Communication 1.

Level 5, Semester 1

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

³ Chinese Language and Society follows Accelerated Chinese 2; Japanese Language and Society 1 follows either Accelerated Japanese 2 or Japanese Communication 2; Korean Language and Society 1 follows Accelerated Korean 2 or Korean Communication 2.

Level 5, Semester 2

⁴ You can choose between no languages or one language in this semester. Each language module is available to those who took the previous level in semester 1: Chinese Language and Society 2 follows Chinese Language and Society 1; 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

Chinese (if taken)

We use a communicative Chinese 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 Chinese via content-and-language integrated learning – you will study aspects of Chinese cultures, communities and societies through the medium of Chinese. 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. Chinese 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 Chinese module(s) will be able to effectively communicate in Chinese, 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 Chinese module(s) at level 5 will be able to effectively describe experiences and events in Chinese, both orally and in writing, and give reasons and explanations for opinions; as well as demonstrating a critical understanding of aspects of Chinese cultures, communities and societies.

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)

On arrival at York St John University your Korean level will be tested and you will be placed at an appropriate level, either Accelerated Korean 1 or Korean Communication 1. 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.

British Sign Language (if taken)

British Sign Language is offered as a semester 2 option at level 4 on this programme. British Sign Language is assessed with a combination of an exam and a video. This module offers you the chance to learn some basic British Sign Language, deaf awareness and British Sign Language linguistics.

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 LAL6008M *Reflections in Linguistics* where 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, Chinese, 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 as non-compensatable.

Late result modules

Indicate any module codes where the result of the first attempt is not known in time for the June School Assessment Panels (or equivalent level progression point for non-standard entry points).

- LAL5007M Language at Work

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](#)
- Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages/level-descriptions>

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