

Programme Specification (UG)

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| Awarding body / institution: | Queen Mary University of London |
| Teaching institution: | Queen Mary University of London |
| Name of final award and programme title: | 1. BA Liberal Arts 2. BA Liberal Arts (with Integrated foundation Year) 3. BA Liberal Arts (with Year Abroad) 4. BA Liberal Arts (with Year in Industry) 5. BA Liberal Arts (with Integrated Foundation Year and Year Abroad) 6. BA Liberal Arts (with Integrated Foundation Year and Year in Industry) |
| Name of interim award(s): | (For 3. and 4.: IFY programme only) Foundation Certificate (FdCert) - exit award only |
| Duration of study / period of registration: | 3 yrs; 4 yrs with Yr Abroad/Industry/IFY; 5 yrs w IFY & Yr Abroad/Ind |
| QMUL programme code / UCAS code(s): | AR-SLLF SLLF-78 / HECoS code: 100065 liberal arts |
| QAA Benchmark Group: | N/A |
| FHEQ Level of Award : | Level 6 |
| Programme accredited by: | N/A |
| Date Programme Specification approved: | |
| Responsible School / Institute: | School of Languages, Linguistics & Film |

Schools / Institutes which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

School of English & Drama

School of History

School of Politics and International Relations

School of Economics and Finance

School of Geography

Collaborative institution(s) / organisation(s) involved in delivering the programme:

N/A

Programme outline

The BA Liberal Arts degree offers you a unique multi-disciplinary education at central London's only campus-based university, situated in one of London's most diverse and dynamic areas. The programme combines an innovative and research-driven curriculum grounded within the distinct, established areas of academic specialisation and excellence found within the constituent schools of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. The programme is organised around Liberal Arts compulsory modules and seminars in the first and second years, and culminates in a unique research project drawing on expert supervision. The programme provides distinct tracks or 'majors' that facilitate greater flexibility in module choice and a broader basis than in degrees in single or joint subjects, alongside the development of an intellectual and disciplinary focus as you progress through your degree. You will benefit from engaging with a range of subjects from different disciplinary perspectives, including the study of a foreign language during your first year (whether as a beginner or building on existing competence). As well as practical language study, covering the productive skills of speaking and writing as well as the receptive skills of listening and reading, you will work on related aspects of literature, culture, history, society and linguistics, both through a compulsory interdisciplinary module which is closely aligned to the language programme and through option modules in any of these areas.

You can choose to pursue a language specialisation through your degree as either a major or minor area, or replace it with a different specialisation from the second year onwards. You can also spend the third year of the four-year version of the degree on an international exchange with one of our partner universities. The four-year option is open to you whether or not you opt in your second year for a modern language in your major or minor area: you can participate in academic, business or industry placements during the third year as part of our long-established Year Abroad scheme, in which QMUL has developed partnerships and exchanges with a range of leading international universities. All languages are available to incoming students up to Native/Heritage speaker level. All incoming students do a language placement 'exercise' prior to the start of the semester. The language convenor will discuss the outcome with students who perform at or near native-speaker level, and ensure that they are placed appropriately.

In your second year, you choose to specialise in a major area and a minor area of study, which will define the focal points of your whole degree. There are three areas: you will sample all of these in your first year, and you will need to select your major and minor during your first year to take effect from your second year onwards. Each area contains many option modules from several disciplines and departments, taught by specialist researchers and teachers in those fields:

1. Language and Culture. This area involves the continued study of a modern language in each year. You will spend your third year abroad, in a country or countries where the language you are studying is spoken. You can study at a university, or take up a work placement -- opportunities vary according to language and country. We give you extensive support and advice for arranging placements, and stay in touch with you while you are abroad. On successful completion of your studies, you will be a proficient user of the language you have studied. If you have pursued the Language and Culture major, you will also have a good understanding of related culture and society.
2. Global Cultures. This area spans comparative cultural and intercultural studies, as well as area studies of specific regions and nations from all over the world, both contemporary and historical.
3. Interactions: Societies and Cities. This area takes in social science and ideological and critical approaches to human activity, together with metropolitan studies including modules in which you can use London as a resource for exploring contemporary issues, from a range of disciplines.

Whichever of these area specialisations you may have chosen, you will have developed an impressively wide range of skills, and you will have covered a wider range of topics and approaches than in a typical single or joint honours degree (where you can only usually take one option in a subject outside your degree area each year). Specialist options in Modern Languages and Cultures (many of which are not limited to students of a particular language), Comparative Literature, Linguistics, Film Studies, English, Drama, History, Geography, Politics and International Relations are integral to Liberal Arts and are available every semester at each level of your studies (subject to availability and timetabling). These options enable you to acquire specialist knowledge of topics in these subject areas and make connections between them. They also improve your abilities to analyse material, present arguments underpinned by evidence, evaluate different views and approaches to a subject, and express yourself effectively both orally and in writing. Additionally, your programme each year includes Discovery modules, which enable you to explore new themes and forms of study beyond your major and minor choices. Among the Discovery options are skills modules which support your academic reading and writing in the disciplines.

If you do not yet have the entrance qualifications for the Liberal Arts programme or for its contributing disciplines, a pathway including an Integrated Foundation Year is open:

The BA Liberal Arts with Integrated Foundation Year combines a three-year degree in Liberal Arts (or a four-year degree including a year abroad) with a bespoke foundation year, providing a pathway for students not currently eligible for entry to a three year

degree programme.

The subject content and teaching methodology employed in the foundation year (Year 0) builds a skills set and provides a platform for successful participation over the remainder of the programme. It will include modules in Study Skills as well as an independent study project; a range of subject-specific foundation modules are also offered in each semester to introduce students to disciplines represented in Liberal Arts, including English and Comparative Literature, Film Studies, History and Human Geography.

After successful completion of the Foundation Year, students will progress onto Level 4 (Year 1) of their degree in Liberal Arts as detailed above.

Aims of the programme

The overall aims of the Liberal Arts programme are:

- To develop your ability to think, communicate and evaluate critically and creatively.
- To develop your application of a range of skills necessary to the effective comparison and communication of ideas and arguments.
- To encourage your engagement with a wide variety of critical and theoretical modes of inquiry, enabling you to develop advanced analytical skills, with attention to genre, period, form and style of both functional and creative source materials.
- To help you meet intellectual and personal challenges, encouraging and supporting you to design your own coherent pathway of study drawing from modules offered by Schools and Departments of QMUL's Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.
- To contribute to your development as a responsible citizen, providing opportunities for you to explore the nature of society in local and global contexts, historical and contemporary.
- To enhance your appreciation of diversity of worldview, offering knowledge and appreciation of a comparative contextual approach to the production and reception of texts, discourses and/or performances via the cross-cultural and transnational exploration of themes, movements and periods.
- To offer you the opportunity to study European, Latin American and other world literature and cinema in English translation/ with English subtitles for those without the language skills to study these in their original languages, but to encourage the reading of literatures and viewing of films in their original language where possible.
- To familiarise you with essential critical and theoretical methodologies for the study of culture and discourses generally, and for the examination of questions of form, genre, history, authorship, reception and social function in particular.
- To problematise the acts of reading, writing and viewing of cultural material so that you can reflect critically upon textual production and reception both in history and in your own practice.
- To equip you to select and undertake independent research tasks, culminating in a research-based dissertation on a topic of your choice, for which you receive individual expert supervision in your final year, -To equip you to pursue thoughtful reflection and entrepreneurial curiosity and to equip you to pursue thoughtful reflection and entrepreneurial curiosity.
- To develop a range of subject-specific skills, including technical skills, and transferable skills appropriate to a wide range of subsequent careers: in particular, to develop your capacity for further learning; to prepare you for further academic study or professional research in a wide range of fields; and to equip you to meet international, national, regional or local civic and employment needs.

Your study of a modern language in the first year of the Liberal Arts programme (and, if you choose to continue to specialise in the Language and Culture major or minor area, throughout the programme) also has the following aims:

- To promote the study of language practically alongside its application to cultural and intercultural studies.
- To impart linguistic knowledge and skills, both productive and receptive, in the studied language, fostering an understanding of the language itself as a rewarding object of study, from the perspectives of linguistics and philology.
- To provide access to a range of material in the foreign language that is worthy of study either as a product of the culture concerned or in a broader cultural and intellectual perspective, or both. This material can be found in different media (written and visual, such as cinema) and different genres (fiction, theatre, poetry, philosophy and so forth). These aims intertwine, since the broader and deeper your knowledge of the language and your skills in using it, the broader and deeper the understanding of the material you can achieve.

What will you be expected to achieve?

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills and other attributes in the areas above. The programme outcomes are referenced to the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (2008), and relate to the typical student. Additionally, the SEEC Credit Level Descriptors for Further and Higher Education 2010 and Queen Mary Statement of Graduate Attributes have been used as a

guiding framework for curriculum design.

Students who successfully complete the programme will be able to:

- synthesise and assess knowledge of key concepts and approaches in Liberal Arts study;
- critically assess qualitative and quantitative information;
- design and complete independent research projects;
- recognise the value of operating in more than one language

Please note that the following information is only applicable to students who commenced their Level 4 studies in 2017/18, or 2018/19

In each year of undergraduate study, students are required to study modules to the value of at least 10 credits, which align to one or more of the following themes:

- networking
- multi- and inter-disciplinarity
- international perspectives
- enterprising perspectives.

These modules will be identified through the Module Directory, and / or by your School or Institute as your studies progress.

| Academic Content: | |
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| A 1 | Ability to make theoretically informed connections between material studied from different periods, cultural traditions and approaches, as well as from different academic disciplines, different modes of presentation or performance and different political ideologies. |
| A 2 | Knowledge and understanding of the diverse forms of representation of human experience. |
| A 3 | Ability to identify the historical and cultural contexts which inform the production and reception of an individual cultural product or discourse. |
| A 4 | Knowledge and understanding of the role and significance of culture (its forms and reception) in human activity. |
| A 5 | Knowledge and understanding of the role and significance of language in human activity. |
| A 6 | Knowledge and understanding of the role and significance of change as a central process in human activity. |
| A 7 | Develop sensitivity to, and awareness of, the similarities and dissimilarities between cultures, societies and discourses (your own and those of others); and develop an attitude of curiosity and openness towards other cultures. |
| A 8 | Ability to demonstrate knowledge of the core linguistic concepts in the study of the chosen language. For the Language and Culture Major Area, in addition, ability to demonstrate knowledge of core literary and cultural concepts in the study of the chosen language, to evaluate different theoretical perspectives on these concepts, and to illustrate and apply the core analytical ideas relevant to these concepts. |
| A 9 | For the Language and Culture Major Area: Ability to identify the character of cultural products in the chosen language (influence of genre, history and function). In addition, to critically evaluate the character of such cultural products. |

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| A 10 | For the Global Cultures Major and Minor Area: Gain knowledge of the place of literature in relation to the other arts and to popular culture. |
| A 11 | For the Year in Industry: gain knowledge of and critically evaluate the subject matter of the industry. |
| A 12 | For the Year Abroad: understanding of language and culture of the relevant geographic location. |

| Disciplinary Skills - able to: | |
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| B 1 | Apply subject knowledge and contextual understanding, selecting and using established techniques and a range of sources to critically evaluate source materials, issues and problems in the fields of study. |
| B 2 | Demonstrate and deploy a range of key transferable skills appropriate to analytical investigation and independent critical thinking. |
| B 3 | Construct cogent and sophisticated critical essays on a range of topics, including comparatively, with evidence of independent study and initiative. |
| B 4 | Formulate theoretically informed arguments and express these clearly and effectively in presentations, whether oral, audio-visual or written. |
| B 5 | Bring critical skills to bear on the analysis of texts, discourses and other cultural products. |
| B 6 | Apply bibliographic skills relevant to humanities studies and, where relevant, social science studies, consistently in all written work, including accurate citation of sources and consistent use of scholarly conventions. |
| B 7 | Demonstrate the ability to work independently on projects in different subject areas and to manage time effectively within each project and by balancing workload demands from coinciding learning activities in different areas of the programme. |
| B 8 | Demonstrate research skills including the identification and design of a viable and original research project and the gathering of relevant research materials. In addition, demonstrate awareness of the significance of this research within the chosen subject area(s) and at an interdisciplinary level, and to evaluate the significance of research undertaken. |
| B 9 | For the Language and Culture Major and Minor Area: Develop advanced oral, written and comprehension skills in the chosen language, becoming a fluent and accurate user of the language in a wide range of domains and registers. |
| B 10 | For the Language and Culture Major Area and Minor Area: Understand the social contexts of cultural and linguistic aspects of the chosen language. In addition, for the Major Area, to understand the socio-historical contexts of these aspects as well as literary aspects of the chosen language, and to engage with theoretical models of such contexts. |
| B 11 | For the Year in Industry: demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the subject matter of the industry. |
| B 12 | For the Year Abroad: demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the relevant language and culture. |

| Attributes: | |
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| C 1 | Demonstration of clear and effective spoken and written communication skills, using IT competently, and adapting communication appropriately according to the social, professional or cultural setting. |
| C 2 | Ability to evaluate information critically from a variety of sources to extend understanding of a subject or situation, and apply this knowledge confidently, constructively and engagingly. |
| C 3 | Demonstration of the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development in a changing world and to extend understanding of a subject or situation. |

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| C4 | Rounded intellectual development and performance as a global citizen (good judgement; curiosity and openness to change; initiative and resilience in meeting challenges; respect for the opinions of others and a readiness to act inclusively; the ability to reflect upon and assess your own progress; transferable key skills to help meet career goals and life-long learning, whether in or beyond postgraduate education). |
| C5 | Information expertise (ability to identify information needs appropriate to different situations; use technologies to access and interpret information effectively; critically evaluate the reliability of different sources of information; use information for evidence-based decision-making and creative thinking). |
| C6 | Ability to participate effectively in group discussions and group tasks. In addition, ability to respond creatively to varieties of opinion and approach within a group. |
| C7 | Develop a global perspective and reflect on how this can be adapted to local contexts. |
| C8 | Appreciate the need to identify continuity and change; and apply ability to analyse elements of continuity and change. |
| C9 | Reflect critically on the issues of diversity and difference that emerge from studying and engaging with different forms, cultures and values. |

How will you learn?

The programme is taught in accordance with the Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategy of the School. Teaching will be led by research-oriented staff who are specialists in the fields of study contributing to the programme, and/or by qualified language teachers as appropriate. These strategies aim to:

- Foster a sense of community amongst students and staff in the pursuit of teaching and learning;
- Promote the relationship between staff research, teaching and student learning;
- Expose students to a diverse set of approaches to the study of their subject area;
- Encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning and progress and to develop qualities of self-discipline and self-direction;
- Inspire intellectual independence in students;
- Employ a variety of assessment methods;
- Prepare graduates for training and/or employment, or further academic study through the acquisition of transferable skills.

Teaching is organised in modules, of which most have weekly course elements and in some this will require collaborative group work. Teaching takes a number of forms, which may include:

- Lectures;
- Seminars, including regular, active participation both individually and in a variety of group work;
- Small group tutorials;
- Workshops;
- Lab work using multi-media resources;
- Writing intensive courses;
- Field trips;
- Independent work by students, including research, presentations and peer review;
- Individual supervision of projects and dissertations;
- Individual and group feedback on written work and other completed tasks.

Students will be encouraged to build interdisciplinarity in their knowledge and understanding by selecting options from both a Major and Minor interdisciplinary subject area within the programme, as well as options from a third area and/or Discovery options.

How will you be assessed?

Assessment is varied and will take a number of forms within the programme. The nature of the assessment is closely connected to the desired learning outcomes and the mode of teaching within each module, as well as to the different subject areas of the arts, humanities and social sciences covered within the programme.

Assessment is typically by a combination of examination and coursework, or of different kinds of coursework, or of a final examination. The kinds of examination or coursework will vary with the content of each module.

Examinations may take the form of essay questions, analysis or exercises. Language examinations may also include oral and aural assessments.

Coursework may consist of essays, longer research projects including the Liberal Arts compulsory research project module at Level 6, reports on original or established research, textual commentaries, critical reviews, practical exercises, diaries of your own research or reflection on your learning, audio-visual or poster presentations. Oral presentations, suitably monitored, or in-class quizzes may also be used.

Proportions of formative and summative assessment vary between modules: the balance between types and patterns of assessment in a Liberal Arts student's diet will be taken into consideration when options are selected for each year of study.

How is the programme structured?

Please specify the structure of the programme diets for all variants of the programme (e.g. full-time, part-time - if applicable). The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS:

Students will take 120 credits in each year of study, including the Foundation Year and the Year Abroad where these are an integral part of the degree programme. The programme requirements for the 3 year variant (Years 1, 2 and Final) are exactly the same as for the 4 year or 5 year programme but without the Foundation Year (Year 0) and / or Year Abroad (Year 3) requirements.

- Usually 60 credits per semester: the number and range of options available, and the balance of compulsory courses across the two semesters facilitate this arrangement.
- It is anticipated that all credits each year will be at the same level of study (i.e. none for lower-level modules), given the range and number of options on offer within each major and minor area. The possibility of 15 credits per year being for modules at a different level will be considered in exceptional circumstances.
- Compulsory modern language in first year (30 credits).
- Compulsory Liberal Arts compulsory modules in each year (30 credits in year 1, 2 x 15 credits in year 2 and 30 credits in final year).
- At least 105 credits overall in Major area (choice selected for Levels 5 and 6 of EITHER Language and Culture OR Global Cultures OR Interactions: Societies and Cities).
- 75-105 credits overall in Minor area (choice selected for Levels 5 and 6 of EITHER Language and Culture OR Global Cultures OR Interactions: Societies and Cities; minimum 90 credits overall for Language and Culture Minor, as the compulsory language module for this area at each level bears 30 credits).
- 15 credits 'Discovery' module at Level 4 (further 'Discovery' options/credits will be available at Levels 5 and 6)
- 15 credits in third area or a Discovery module at level 5 and level 6, to ensure all Liberal Arts students' diets are in at least three subjects throughout the degree

DIETS:

For programme diets in each year of study, students will choose elective options from lists in Major and Minor area of the programme.

The key point at which a Liberal Arts student would decide which Major and which Minor area to concentrate on would usually be when selecting option modules for Level 5. If the selection for Level 5 contains a 30-credit language module, students would have to take the Language and Culture pathway as either their Major or Minor. The Language and Culture pathway (as either a major or a minor) is a 4-year programme which includes a compulsory Year Abroad spent studying or working in the country where the language that they are studying is spoken.

For students registered initially for the four-year programme starting at Level 4, but who decide against taking the Year Abroad, the decision on specialisation could be taken during the second year, if a programme change from the four year version to the three year version of BA Liberal Arts is approved during the first year, or – depending on the modules they have chosen for Level 5 – during the second year.

Students not taking the Language and Culture pathway as either a major or a minor have the option of a 4-year degree programme with the third year spent either on studying on an international exchange programme (BA Liberal Arts with a Year Abroad) or undertaking an approved work placement (BA Liberal Arts with a Year in Industry). The programme BA Liberal Arts with a Year in Industry is not available to student taking Language and Culture as a major or a minor, however students are still able to undertake a work placement if they choose to as part of their Year Abroad placement.

The proposed structure ensures flexibility. A student starting with at least 30 credits assigned to Language and Culture within

Programme Title: BA Liberal Arts

Liberal Arts has the flexibility to decide whether to keep going with the language or to prioritise another Major subject area. All Major areas offer content which complements both the compulsory language teaching at Level 4 and the compulsory Liberal Arts courses taught in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures at Levels 4 and 5, which themselves are also integral to programmes across Modern Languages and in Comparative Literature, the department which leads (and is one of the most substantial contributors to) the Global Cultures area of Liberal Arts.

YEAR 1

- 30 credit compulsory module SML4006 Culture and Language
- 30 credits compulsory Language module: Student may select any ONE of the L1 or L2 Level 4 Modern Language modules offered in MLC (current choice is between French, Russian, German, Spanish, Portuguese and Chinese).
- 15 credits at Level 4 from the Global Cultures area of the programme chosen from list of electives
- 15 credits at Level 4 from the Interactions: Societies and Cities area of the programme chosen from list of electives
- 15 credits at Level 4 from the Language and Culture area of the programme chosen from list of electives
- 15 credits at Level 4 which is classified within the Liberal Arts programme as a Discovery module chosen from list of electives

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS TO YEAR 2:

To successfully progress from Year 1 to Year 2, students must meet the overall credit requirements for progression under the Academic Regulations which apply to them.

YEAR 2

Students across all pathways will take 30 credits of Liberal Arts compulsory modules:

LIB5202 Thinking, Writing and Research across Disciplines (Level 5 15 credits)

LIB5203 Digital Culture and Society OR LIB5054 Cultural Encounters in Theory and Practice (Level 5 15 credits each)

Language and Culture Major / Global Cultures Minor

45 credits in Major area (30 credits Language module and 15 credits option)

30 credits option from Minor area

15 credit option from Discovery module

Language and Culture Major / Interactions: Societies and Cities Minor

45 credits in Major area (30 credits Language module and 15 credits option)

30 credits option(s) from Minor area

15 credit option from Discovery module

Global Cultures Major / Language and Culture Minor

45 credits Major area option modules

30 credits Minor (30 credits Language module)

15 credit option from Discovery module

Global Cultures Major/ Interactions: Societies and Cities Minor

45 credits from Major area

30 credits from Minor area

15 credit option from Discovery module

Interactions: Society and the Cities Major / Language and Culture Minor

45 credits Major area option modules

30 credits Minor (30 credits Language module)

15 credit option from third area or Discovery module

Interactions: Society and Cities Major / Global Cultures Minor

45 credits from Major area

30 credits from Minor area

15 credit option from third area or Discovery module

All elective modules are at Level 5.

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS FROM YEAR 2:

Programme Title: BA Liberal Arts

BA Liberal Arts 3-year version without Year Abroad]

To progress to the Final Year students must pass a minimum 195 credits across years one and two, achieve a minimum weighted average mark of 40.0 or higher using the two mean average year marks in a 1:3 weighting (year one counting for 25 per cent and year two for 75 per cent of the mark) and fail (after resit) no more than 30 credits in any one developmental year.

BA Liberal Arts with a Year Abroad - Language and Culture pathway and BA Liberal Arts with a Year in Industry

To progress to the Year Abroad / Year in Industry students must pass a minimum 195 credits across years one and two, achieve a minimum weighted average mark of 40.0 or higher using the two mean average year marks in a 1:3 weighting (year one counting for 25 per cent and year two for 75 per cent of the mark) and fail (after resit) no more than 30 credits in any one developmental year.

BA Liberal Arts with a Year Abroad (Global Cultures/Societies and Cities major/minor pathways)

To successfully progress to the Year Abroad students must achieve an average of 2:1 in their second year, with no failed modules (after resit as appropriate), and meet the overall credit requirements for progression under the Academic Regulations which apply to them. Students who do not meet the progression requirement (after resit as appropriate) for the 4-year programme, will be transferred to the 3-year programme.

YEAR ABROAD/YEAR IN INDUSTRY

120 credits compulsory Year Abroad/Year in Industry Module.

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS FROM YEAR ABROAD / YEAR IN INDUSTRY TO FINAL YEAR

BA Liberal Arts with a Year Abroad (all pathways) and BA Liberal Arts Year in Industry

To pass the Year Abroad/Year in Industry, a student must take 120 credits and pass a minimum 90 credits (following the pass/fail standards of the host institution, for a compulsory year abroad). Failure to pass will result in transfer to the version of the programme without a Year Abroad/Year in Industry. While studying for a year abroad, a student is subject to the regulations and policies of the host institution. This includes reassessment; some institutions do not offer resits, and in those cases a student will have only one attempt to pass each module.

FINAL YEAR:

Students across all pathways will take the 30 credit compulsory LIB6TBC Liberal Arts Research Project module.

Global Cultures Major/ Interactions: Societies and Cities Minor

30 credits compulsory Research Project

45 credits options from Major area

30 credits from Minor area

15 credits options in third area OR Discovery OR other employability module (LIB5203 Digital Culture and Society OR LIB5054 Cultural Encounters in Theory and Practice) not taken at Level 5

Interactions: Society and Cities Major / Global Cultures Minor

30 credits compulsory Research Project

45 credits options from Major area

30 credits from Minor area

15 credits options in third area OR Discovery OR other employability module (LIB5203 Digital Culture and Society OR LIB5054 Cultural Encounters in Theory and Practice) not taken at Level 5

Language and Culture Major / Global Cultures Minor

30 credits compulsory Research Project.

45 credits in Major area (30 credits Language module and 15 credits option)

30 credits options in Minor area

15 credits options in third area OR Discovery other employability module (LIB5203 Digital Culture and Society OR LIB5054 Cultural Encounters in Theory and Practice) not taken at Level 5

Language and Culture Major / Interactions: Societies and Cities Minor

30 credits compulsory Research Project.

45 credits in Major area (30 credits Language module and 15 credits option)

30 credits options in Minor area

15 credits options in third area OR Discovery OR other employability module (LIB5203 Digital Culture and Society OR LIB5054

Programme Title: BA Liberal Arts

Cultural Encounters in Theory and Practice) not taken at Level 5

Global Cultures Major / Language and Culture Minor

30 credits compulsory Research Project

30 credits Language module

45 credits options in Major area

15 credits options in third area OR Discovery OR other employability module (LIB5203 Digital Culture and Society OR LIB5054

Cultural Encounters in Theory and Practice) not taken at Level 5

Interactions: Society and the City Major / Language and Culture Minor

30 credits compulsory Research Project

30 credits Language module

45 credits options in Major area

15 credits options in third area OR Discovery OR other employability module (LIB5203 Digital Culture and Society OR LIB5054

Cultural Encounters in Theory and Practice) not taken at Level 5

All elective modules (with the exception of LIB5203/LIB5054) are at level 6.

REQUIREMENTS FOR BA AWARD:

Students must meet the overall credit requirements for award under the Academic Regulations which apply to them. Credits related to the Year Abroad assessment (as applicable) do not count towards the overall credit requirements for award.

RELATIONSHIP OF LIBERAL ARTS TEACHING TO TEACHING IN EXISTING PROGRAMMES:

Liberal Arts compulsory modules at Level 4, at Level 5 for Semester 2, and at Level 6 (Research Project) are already running within BA programmes in Modern Languages; as are all compulsory language modules at Level 4, year abroad and semester abroad modules, and all compulsory language modules at Levels 5 and 6 for the Language and Culture major/minor area of Liberal Arts. The remaining compulsory module, at Level 5 for Semester 1, will be proposed by the host department, Modern Languages and Cultures, for 2023, and a Liberal Arts version of the final year research project will be designed. Elective and Discovery modules are subject to availability, and may change from year to year.

BA LIBERAL ARTS WITH INTEGRATED FOUNDATION YEAR:

BA Liberal Arts with Integrated Foundation Year is a four year degree or a five year degree including a Year Abroad in total, taught within the University's modular system. Students take 120 credits per academic year.

The Foundation Year (year zero) is structured as follows:

15 credit compulsory module IFP3000 English Language and Study Skills

15 credit compulsory module IFP3020 Independent Study Project

90 credits of option modules chosen from the following list of 15 or 30 credit modules. Students may be advised to select options in subject areas they intend to pursue within the BA and/or for which their entrance qualifications are below the usual standard for the discipline:

IFP3003 Introduction to Politics (prerequisite for IFP3004)

IFP3004 Introduction to International Relations

IFP3005 Introduction to Human Geography (prerequisite for IFP3006)

IFP3006 The Human Geography of London

IFP3007 Introduction to English Literature (prerequisite for IFP3008)

IFP3008 Introduction to American Literature

IFP3009 Introduction to Film Studies (prerequisite for IFP3010)

IFP3010 European and American Art Cinema

IFP3023 The History of the UK from 1900 to 1955 (prerequisite for IFP3024)

IFP3024 The History of the UK since 1956

IFP4011 French Language and Culture I (a)

LAN4012 French Language and Culture II (a)

IFP4021 Spanish Language and Culture I (a)

LAN4022 Spanish Language and Culture I (b)

Programme Title: BA Liberal Arts

IFP4001 German Language and Culture 1 (a)
LAN4002 German Language and Culture 1 (b)

Progression Requirements from Year zero to Year 1:

Pass the foundation year with an average of 60 across semester two modules and achieve a mark of at least 60 % in IFP3020 Independent Study Project. Students must pass 105/120 credits. Resits cannot be carried forward to level 4.

After successful completion of the Foundation Year, students will progress onto Level 4 (Year 1) of their BA Liberal Arts degree, structured as above.

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 1

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|--|----------------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| This section is for BA Liberal Arts with Integrated Foundation Year. The 'Academic Year of Study' for programmes with an IFY is known as 'Year Zero'. The year numbers for the sections below should be adjusted accordingly for this version of Liberal Arts. | | | | | | |
| English Language and Study Skills | IFP3000 | 15 | 3 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Independent Study Project | IFP3020 | 15 | 3 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 2 |
| 90 credits of option modules chosen from a list of 15 credit Foundation modules offered within the Language Centre (see indicative list in section above) | Various IFP/ LANxxxx | | 3 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 or 2 |

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 1

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|----------------------|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Culture and Language | SML4006 | 30 | 4 | Compulsory | 1 | Semesters 1 & 2 |

Programme Title: BA Liberal Arts

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|--|--|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| 30 credits compulsory Language module: Student may select any ONE of the L1 or L2 entry-level Modern Language modules offered in MLC (current choice is between French, Russian, German, Spanish, Portuguese and Chinese. Any other languages to be taught in future to Honours level within MLC will also be offered). Each of these languages can be taken ab initio (with a GCSE in any language) or post A-level. Post-GCSE and native/heritage speaker pathways are also available. | Various: FRE4xxx GER4xxx POR4xxx RUS4xxx HSP4xxx CHI4xxx | 30 | 4 | Compulsory | 1 | Semesters 1 & 2 |
| Minimum 15 credits/Maximum 30 credits at Level 4 from the Global Cultures area of the programme (see module list) | Various | 15 | 4 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 or 2 |
| Minimum 15 credits/Maximum 30 credits at Level 4 from the Interactions: Societies and Cities area of the programme (see module list) | Various | 15 | 4 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 or 2 |
| Minimum 0 credits/Maximum 15 credits at Level 4 from the Language and Culture area of the programme (see module list) | Various | 15 | 4 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 or 2 |
| 15 credits at Level 4 which is classified within the Liberal Arts programme as a Discovery module (see module list) | Various | 15 | 4 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 or 2 |

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 2

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|---|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Thinking, Writing and Research across Disciplines | LIB5202 | 15 | 5 | Compulsory | 2 | Semester 1 |
| Digital Culture and Society | LIB5203 | 15 | 5 | Compulsory | 2 | Semester 1 or 2 |
| Option modules in Major area (see module list) | Various | 45 | 5 | Elective | 2 | Semester 1 or 2 |
| Option modules in Minor area (see module list) | Various | 30 | 5 | Elective | 2 | Semester 1 or 2 |
| Option module in third area or Discovery module (see module list) | Various | 15 | 5 | Elective | 2 | Semester 1 or 2 |

Programme Title: BA Liberal Arts

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|--|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Cultural Encounters in Theory and Practice | LIB5054 | 15 | 5 | Compulsory | 5 | Semester 1 or 2 |

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 3

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|---|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Year Abroad/Study Abroad/Year in Industry - pass/fail | SMLtbc | 120 | 5 | Compulsory | 3 | Semesters 1 & 2 |

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 3

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|--|----------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| This section should be labelled 'FT-Year 4' and the Academic Year of Study numbered '4' for students who take a version of the programme including a Year Abroad after Year 2: | | | | | | |
| Liberal Arts Research Project [additional name to be given from 2024 to the overlapping module named 'Modern Languages Research Project' and 'Comparative Literature Research Project'] | SML005/COM6201 | 30 | 6 | Compulsory | 3 | Semesters 1 & 2 |
| Option modules in Major area (see module list) | Various | 45 | 6 | Elective | 3 | Semester 1 or 2 |
| Option modules in Minor area (see module list) | Various | 30 | 6 | Elective | 3 | Semester 1 or 2 |
| Option module in third area or Discovery module (see module list) | Various | 15 | 6 | Elective | 3 | Semester 1 or 2 |

What are the entry requirements?

The entry requirements for BA Liberal Arts are the same as those stated in the Queen Mary prospectus for current entry for BA Modern Languages, and on the Queen Mary website for BA Modern Languages: <http://www.qmul.ac.uk/undergraduate/coursefinder/index.html>.

The entry requirements for BA Liberal Arts with Integrated Foundation Year are as stated in the Queen Mary prospectus for current entry for Integrated Foundation Programmes, and on the Queen Mary website for those programmes: <http://www.qmul.ac.uk/undergraduate/coursefinder/index.html>.

How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to and act on your feedback?

Each School/Institute operates a Learning and Teaching Committee, or equivalent (Education Committee in SLLF), which advises the School/Institute Director of Education on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at School level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys. The Education Committee of the School of Languages, Linguistics and Film will have oversight in these ways for the Liberal Arts programme and its compulsory modules.

All Schools/Institutes operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Taught Programmes Action Plan (TPAP) which is the summary of the School/Institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the NSS and module evaluations.

External examiners have the opportunity to comment both on each individual module's content and assessment and on the provision within a broader field of study. They are asked to monitor fairness and consistency in assessment procedures and to scrutinise the effectiveness and appropriateness of assessments.

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools and their students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school together with appropriate representation from staff within the school. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Staff-Student Liaison Committees meet regularly throughout the year. There will be a dedicated Liberal Arts SSLC for all Liberal Arts students, chaired by the Programme Co-ordinator.

Students are given the opportunity to provide feedback through the Module Evaluation system, and through Queen Mary and national surveys.

What academic support is available?

All students beginning to study on the programme participate in a series of Welcome Week activities, which involve introductions to the programme and specific inductions in the use of the online learning environment. These events also include opportunities for social interaction, and scheduled small group and individual meetings with the Programme Convenor for Liberal Arts and Advisors.

Each student's academic progress and personal welfare is monitored by an Advisor in the host department of Modern Languages and Cultures with whom regular meetings are scheduled. Advisors are the designated members of staff with whom students can raise issues and problems and from whom they can seek advice and guidance. During the year abroad, QM Advisors (who, for programmes involving language study are the co-ordinators for that language) will communicate with students on a regular basis (typically via email/Skype/Teams/phone). Furthermore, the host university for study abroad placements will allocate each student an academic Advisor / research contact.

All teaching staff hold regular office hours in which students are actively encouraged to discuss their work and their progress. There is a dedicated Senior Tutor in the School who works with academic staff to assist students in need of support. Both the Senior Tutor and all advisers are able to refer students, where appropriate to the relevant professional service departments in the College, including Disability and Dyslexia, Welfare, and Counselling. There is a dedicated Student Support Officer in the School of Languages, Linguistics and Film, who works with academic staff to assist students in need of support. In addition there is the Interdisciplinary Programme Coordinator who will help to oversee this. SLLF and other contributing Schools organise Peer Assisted Study Support (PASS) schemes.

The School of Languages, Linguistics and Film, together with the other Schools and Departments in the HSS Faculty contributing to Liberal Arts, recognises how closely writing is linked to thinking; and how important writing skills are both in the academic and

professional worlds, and collaborates with QMUL's Thinking Writing team which supports students in the development of their writing skills. QMUL also offers a range of services to support you in your learning and help you develop academically and professionally. These include: Academic Study Workshops, Academic English and Study Skills Support and One-to-One Tutorials working with you on your written assignments.

How inclusive is the programme for all students, including those with disabilities?

All members of staff are required to take and pass two modules of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training. Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites. Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one "study skills" tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)
- Mentoring support for students with mental health issues and conditions on the autistic spectrum.

Programme-specific rules and facts

N/A

Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

Graduates from Queen Mary's School of Languages, Linguistics and Film and the wider Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences go on to work in a wide variety of careers. Some apply their degree knowledge directly, entering careers such as education and the arts, whilst others transfer skills gained during study into areas such as public relations. Graduates who have developed specialisations in the wider Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences often find employment in areas such as business, finance, government and the media. Others continue their studies at postgraduate level in any of the contributing disciplines to Liberal Arts, either on QMUL programmes or elsewhere.

Liberal Arts has a reputation as a serious and respected discipline, which develops an understanding of the modern world and valuable research, analytical and communication skills, making Liberal Arts graduates very attractive to employers. Modules including the first-year compulsory course have embedded employability skills and in-curriculum input from the Careers Consultant serving SLLF. For students pursuing a modern language, the language practice modules at Level 5 also contain guidance and tasks in the target language on applying for work and preparing a CV. The Department of Comparative Literature, which will be leading the Global Cultures area of the programme, is piloting skills mapping within its curriculum (including many modules to be offered in Liberal Arts) through data visualisation activities being developed in 2021 with student input, with a view to expanding this provision across the School (thus, to three of the other major contributors to Liberal Arts) from 2022.

A Working Party of the SLLF Education Committee has recently set up a permanent Careers VLE for all students in the School, ensuring instant and regularly updated online access to Careers resources for humanities students (connecting also to substantial discipline-specific provision offered by Film Studies and Linguistics), and containing profiles and recorded advice from alumni, details of forthcoming Careers events, employer presentations and postgraduate opportunities, and recordings of recent events. This site facilitates more direct contact between students, the Careers Service, Academic Careers Leads in each department and recent alumni who are willing to offer advice on early career stages in a range of fields. This project is also informed by liaisons with the Alumni Office and, for academic opportunities abroad beyond the programme's Year Abroad, the Global Opportunities

Programme Title: BA Liberal Arts

office.

Academic staff in departments contributing to Liberal Arts are members of the College-wide Graduate Attributes Workstream, which is currently evaluating best practices to implement from 2021-22 onwards both within and beyond taught curricula to meet the QMUL Strategy 2030 aim of ensuring that all QMUL students 'develop the knowledge, skills, adaptability and resilience to succeed in an ever-changing global job market and become active global citizens'.

Graduates of the programme can expect to have developed:

- communication skills, as students are challenged to express themselves in both speech and writing;
- presentation skills, as students are asked to introduce seminars, make points clearly and effectively, maintain discussion, and field questions;
- critical thinking skills, using a range of approaches to reading and analysing different kinds of source materials, evaluating their underlying agendas and meanings;
- writing abilities, through preparing a range of assignments (including reports, learning journals and research essays);
- research skills, locating, sifting and interpreting a range of sources (from printed books to electronic journals);
- time management skills and the ability to work under pressure, as students organise and fulfil extensive reading commitments and assessment tasks;
- team-working skills, as students participate with peers in seminars and group tasks.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification:

Andrew Smith

Person responsible for management of programme:

Date Programme Specification produced / amended by School / Institute Learning and Teaching Committee:

December 2022

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board: