Cornerstone modules
INTRODUCING CORNERSTONE MODULES

Cornerstone modules for joint honours students

If one or both subject areas of your joint honours course are taught by the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies, you will be parented by the School throughout your course. Most students must take a cornerstone module at level 1 to draw a connection between the two subject areas of their course. All the cornerstone modules have an intercultural dimension, and draw on the breadth of cultural expertise of tutors across the School and beyond. All modules are taught in English and use materials available in English.

Your cornerstone options will be determined by the course you choose to study. In some cases, you will be required to take a specific cornerstone that relates directly to both subjects, in others you will choose from a set of options. A small number of courses do not require you to take a cornerstone module. The latest key information on courses can be found at www.leeds.ac.uk/courses.

Taking a cornerstone module as a discovery module

Although compulsory for language joint honours students, we encourage other students to take the cornerstone modules as discovery modules. You do not need to have a background in modern languages and all modules are taught in English and use materials available in English.

For more information see www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

Important information

Information provided by the University such as in presentations, University brochures and the University website, is accurate at the time of first disclosure. However, courses, University services and content of publications remain subject to change. Changes may be necessary to comply with the requirements of accrediting bodies or to keep courses contemporary through updating practices or areas of study. Circumstances may arise outside the reasonable control of the University, leading to required changes. Such circumstances include: industrial action, unexpected student numbers, significant staff illness (where a course is reliant upon a person’s expertise), unexpected lack of funding, severe weather, fire, civil disorder, political unrest, government restrictions and serious concern with regard to the transmission of serious illness making a course unsafe to deliver. After a student has taken up a place with the University, the University will look to give early notification of any changes and try to minimise their impact, offering suitable alternative arrangements or forms of compensation where it believes there is a fair case to do so. Offers of a place to study at the University will provide up to date information on courses. The latest key information on courses, entry requirements and fees can be found at www.leeds.ac.uk/courses. Please check this website before making any decisions.
Currently available as compulsory, optional or discovery modules:

**Introduction to Audio-Visual Cultures**
Are images perceived similarly in different cultures around the globe? How do sound cultures vary depending on the historical contexts in which they were produced? This module provides a framework for thinking about audio-visual culture. It is structured according to the key theoretical concepts – object, space, flow, and platform – that define the production and consumption of audiovisual artefacts, and it covers a wide range of media, including film, television, net art, video games, networked social media, etc., drawn from various national cultures.

**World Histories**
If the past is a foreign country, how foreign is the past of a foreign country? What are the implications of this question for “our” histories, and for “theirs”? How does the complexity and diversity of human attitudes to the past influence the writing and uses of history? What cultural assumptions do we bring to our study of the past, and how does a critical awareness of these (and alternative) assumptions enhance our ability to analyse the artefacts, questions and histories we study? This module introduces some key concepts and theories, then uses them to explore a range of historical questions drawn from different cultural contexts.

**Language: Structure and Sound**
This module covers core concepts in linguistics and phonetics. It will familiarise you with the general aims of linguistic theory and analysis; with the structured way morphemes combine into words and words combine into sentences; and with the way in which speech sounds are produced and function as part of the sound systems of languages. You will learn toanalyse structural aspects of language and understand related grammatical terminology, and to analyse speech sounds and think analytically about aspects of pronunciation.

**Worlds of Literature**
Making use of examples drawn from the wide range of cultures taught in the School, this module will challenge you to think critically about your own perceptions of literary cultures, raise your awareness of the intellectual, cultural and ethical questions in the study of literature, and introduce you to some of the concepts and approaches that will help you to negotiate the reciprocities and complexities of the interactions between literary traditions. Texts studied during the year will typically include short stories, drama, poetry and a novel.

**Discourse, Culture and Identity**
This module introduces students to the notions of discourse, culture and identity, which are fundamental to the study of modern foreign languages and cultures. We start with the study of discourse and consider how it functions in relations of power, in ideology, in constituting social identities and in social relations. We then focus on the concepts of culture and identity, starting with definitions and theoretical approaches before applying them to case studies drawn from students’ own areas of interest. In the final part of the module we reflect on the processes of globalisation supposedly blurring the boundaries between the languages and cultures we study, and reflect on how globalisation shapes contemporary understandings of discourse, culture and identity.

**Intercultural Competence: Theory and Application**
What is intercultural competence and why do you need it to succeed in modern leadership roles? What cultural assumptions do you bring to your working relationships, and why do you need to be self-aware? This module will introduce and address these questions with particular reference to the context of international business and management.

**Politics, Culture and Society**
What are the key debates that shape the practice of politics at an international level? How can theory help us better understand and analyse the practice of politics in the world today? How can awareness of differing cultural and intercultural perspectives help us better understand contemporary international politics? This module will explore these themes in relation to a range of issues drawn from around the world.
CORNERSTONE GUIDANCE. IF YOU ARE STUDYING:

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<tr>
<th>Language/Area Studies +</th>
<th>another ML/AS*</th>
<th>Linguistics**</th>
<th>Area Pacific Studies, Russian Civilization or Geography</th>
<th>Cultural Studies or Music</th>
<th>Philosophy, Theology &amp; Religious Studies</th>
<th>History &amp; Philosophy</th>
<th>Sociology or Social Policy</th>
<th>English or Classical Literature</th>
<th>History</th>
<th>Economics, International Business or Management</th>
<th>Politics, International Development or Relations, or European Studies</th>
<th>History of Art, Film Studies or Theatre and Performance</th>
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LEVEL 1 CORNERSTONE MODULES
ML = (any) Modern Language; AS = Area Studies; O = choose one cornerstone from the options; C = compulsory for this combination

*Some ML+ML combinations (e.g. BA Arabic and Chinese) have 60 compulsory credits in each language, and therefore have no space for cornerstones. Visit www.leeds.ac.uk/courses for more information.

**As Language, Structure and Sound is a core module in Linguistics, ML/AS+Linguistics students must also take one of the remaining cornerstone options.