Languages, cultures and societies.
Postgraduate studies in Modern Languages
The University of Southampton is a leading international centre for Modern Languages research, studying language, culture and society in Europe as well as Latin America, Africa and Asia. Our research-active academic staff includes specialists in linguistics, literature, culture, society, politics, history, and anthropology, and there is a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary research, especially in cultural studies, transnational studies, oral history and memory.

Multilingualism and migration are major themes within Modern Languages research. Our researchers are currently investigating the language needs and practices of migrants, including the language biographies of resident immigrants in Berlin; Mexican migrants returning home from the USA; and the social networks of language students during their Year Abroad.

Globalisation and its impact on culture is a further key theme, with researchers studying the cultural impact of redrawn national borders in Europe; the impact of globalisation on French rural life and the concept of “terroir”; German immigration in Namibia; transnational scientific culture in the 19th century; and the contemporary phenomenon of world music.

Our researchers are currently studying the oral history and memory of the Spanish Civil War and related refugee groups. A recent project Languages at War studied military interpreting during the 1990s Bosnia war.

Finally, our researchers in applied linguistics are studying language learning, Global Englishes and the use of English as a lingua franca, with a growing focus on English in Asia. They are also researching varied aspects of English language education, including CLIL, and the application of new technologies in language learning.

Research students enjoy excellent working facilities, and have varied opportunities for research training through the Humanities Graduate School. Plus, they can participate in the activities of one or more of the Modern Languages Research Centres, including visiting speaker programmes, student discussion groups, regular workshops and national and international conferences.

Professor Ros Mitchell | Head of Modern Languages

“I would recommend Modern Languages at Southampton to anyone with a passion for learning and teaching language due to the excellence and quality of the programme. The most meaningful and unforgettable experience was being mentored by Professor Ros Mitchell, a well-known and inspiring academic.”

Visit www.southampton.ac.uk/ml/postgraduate/our_students to see what our other students have to say.

Hajah Nor Azalina Haji Abdullah | MA Applied Linguistics for Language Teaching | English teacher at secondary school
English language use has grown dramatically in the last few decades. As well as mother tongue Englishes spoken in countries such as the UK, US and Australia, and the various Englishes spoken in former British colonies (often known as World Englishes), there has been a substantial increase in English language learning and use in many other parts of the world. These include East Asia - in particular, China, Japan, Korea and Thailand - as well as Latin America and mainland Europe.

For many of these English speakers, English is primarily used as a lingua franca, that is, as the language of choice among people who do not share a first language. This development has led to the identification of the phenomenon known as English as a Lingua Franca, or ELF for short; a kind of English whose use is not owned or determined by native English speakers, but by ELF speakers themselves.

Our research at the Centre for Global Englishes explores ELF in a number of ways: by focusing on the forms and strategies used by ELF speakers (e.g. China ELF forms), the reasons underlying their use, and the ways in which they differ from native Englishes; by looking at the perceptions and attitudes of native and non-native English speakers’ towards such forms; and by investigating how ELF is being adopted - or otherwise - in areas such as higher education, business English settings, and in English language teaching and testing.

You can find out more in the published publications and doctoral theses of our members at www.southampton.ac.uk/cge. We hope you will be inspired to join us in our work.
Modern Languages at Southampton is part of Humanities, one of the country’s leading centres for research and a multidisciplinary grouping of Archaeology Film Studies, English, History, Modern Languages, Music and Philosophy. Together these present our postgraduate students with a wealth of opportunities for interdisciplinary study.

Every year, we receive applications from students with a wide range of motivations and interests. Some have recently graduated and seek intellectual stimulation to complement their job, while others are looking to change career direction or wish to explore a new area of knowledge after a career. Whatever your situation, you will find postgraduate study an enriching experience.

Many postgraduate students study on a part-time basis so they can successfully balance home life with study, and continue in employment.

We offer a number of alternative study routes at masters level through a portfolio of taught programmes including Master of Arts (MA) and Master of Research (MRes).

For doctoral candidates in any area of Modern Languages, we offer a traditional MPhil or PhD by research. This may be studied either in Southampton, or through a distance learning programme for international students based in their home country. Typically, you can expect to spend up to four years studying for your PhD on a full-time basis or up to seven years studying part-time. At all times you will be supported by your supervisory team, who will help you develop your personal knowledge and skills, and advise you on the planning and implementation of your research project. As you progress, you will begin to make an independent contribution to knowledge. After two years full-time study you will usually have completed the requirements for the MPhil and you will make the transfer to your PhD.

In addition to our ‘standard’ PhD programme we offer an Integrated PhD (IPhD). This is a four year full time programme, with a coursework component in Year 1, followed by a research thesis.

The Graduate School
When you join us to study Modern Languages you will become a member of the Humanities Graduate School. The Graduate School provides you with additional help and support during the course of your studies. We have a broad focus, providing not only essential skills training and development, but also pastoral support, connections to funding opportunities, student-led activities and a social network.

We are particularly proud of our doctoral training programme. We offer PhD students an opportunity to take part in our Skills Development Training Programme to enhance their research experience, life skills and employability. Now in its sixth year, the programme meets all of the Research Councils’ criteria for training provision, and is delivered face-to-face and online.

You can undertake as many sessions as you like, and concentrate on developing the skills that are important to you. You can learn how to plan your research project; raise funding; give a research paper; organise a conference to present your research; and turn your thesis into a book.

Our Graduate School encompasses a variety of student-led activities including regular social gatherings, a seminar series and a number of reading groups focusing on research areas across our seven disciplines. The highlight of the year for the Graduate School is the student-led annual conference that gives all postgraduates the chance to present their work to peers and staff. We also invite paper and poster submissions from students at other institutions, so you have an opportunity to network with others in your field. The best papers from the conference are published in our peer-reviewed Graduate School journal, Emergence.

Our postgraduate students are invited to attend weekly term-time seminars arranged by our Research Centres, academic disciplines and cross-disciplinary research groups. These events provide an invaluable opportunity to find out about other areas of study within Humanities.

We encourage you to be an active member of our Graduate School making your own contribution to its development. You will be regarded as a researcher in your own right and we expect you to apply for funding to run your own seminars, workshops and conferences; to take research trips whenever possible; and to attend relevant conferences in your area of interest. Your contribution is likely to be featured on our website and be included in our annual Graduate School newsletter which is written, edited and published by our students.

www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/graduate_school

Modern Languages work in Mexico is just one example of how research in the discipline of modern languages is helping to influence and shape the world we live in.
The Parkes Institute for the study of Jewish-non-Jewish Relations

The Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations and the Parkes Library are a community of scholars, curators, librarians and students. The Library is one of the most important collections in Europe, and through research, publications, teaching, and archive conservation, the Institute brings the vision of James Parkes to future generations.

www.southampton.ac.uk/parkes

Centre for Transnational Studies

The Centre for Transnational Studies brings together staff and students to explore an exciting intellectual project with the help of experts from the global research community. The main premise that drives our work is the belief that national frames of reference provide an inadequate account of historical processes, whether in the past or in the present. We further believe that a central aspect of the transnational flow of people and ideas is the practice of working across languages. Our work counters the dominance of English language models of transnational theory and analysis, by exploring models drawn from across Europe, Francophone and Lusophone Africa, Latin America, and Latino culture in the United States.

Our pedagogical centrepiece is the four year taught programme in Transnational Studies. The Centre hosts a speaker series and a range of research projects and conferences. Recent examples include a commemorative symposium for the 75th anniversary of Basque children’s arrival in Southampton, and a research programme on cultural diasporas, music and migration.

www.southampton.ac.uk/tns

Centre for Applied Language Research

CALR forms a vibrant research community which promotes research in a wide range of language related areas including: second language acquisition; English language education; foreign language learning and teaching; language education policy; language planning; and intercultural communication. We also undertake research in more theoretical areas such as syntactic and semantic theory with generative linguistics. We run a series of seminars throughout the year to inform and stimulate topical debate. These attract a wide range of international speakers (eg Lourdes Ortega on SLA and language teaching; Diane Larsen-Freeman on language as a complex dynamic system). Recent conferences and workshops include the BAAL/CUP workshop on Multilingualism in Education; Workshop on Complex Systems in Linguistics; and the Annual Meeting of the British Association for Applied Linguistics.

www.southampton.ac.uk/calr

Centre for Global Englishes

The Centre produces and disseminates research on the linguistic and sociocultural dimensions of global uses and users of English (Global Englishes), and on English as a Lingua Franca (ELF) in particular. Examples of current CGE projects include research into the politics of English language policy in the international university, and online ELF communication. The Centre has a very active postgraduate community that meets regularly and collaborates in ongoing programmes of staff research. The Centre also provides a forum for knowledge-sharing and collaboration with other interested ELF/GE researchers and centres around the world, eg through the annual International Conference of English as a Lingua Franca. The Centre Director Professor Jennifer Jenkins is editor of the new Journal of English as a Lingua Franca.

www.southampton.ac.uk/cge

MEXSU: Centre for Mexico - Southampton Collaboration

MEXSU exists to promote and further the many links between the University of Southampton and the higher education sector in Mexico. The aims of MEXSU are:

– to promote an understanding of Mexican society, culture and language within the University
– to facilitate research and educational collaboration and the exchange of researchers and students between Mexican Higher Education institutions and the University
– to promote cultural events celebrating Mexican culture and society.

www.southampton.ac.uk/mexsu

“...My PhD brought me to Southampton for the first time, and I have been impressed with the quality of research Modern Languages is involved in. There are a lot of groups and initiatives organised by research students that help develop a sense of academic community. There’s a lot going on! The academic staff are very approachable, and make themselves much more available to students than those at other universities I’ve studied at.”

Visit www.southampton.ac.uk/ml/postgraduate/our_students to see what our other students have to say.

Mike Wilcombe | PhD Modern Languages

Humanities has over 1,000 international students from over 100 different countries
The University of Southampton

The University is a member of the prestigious Russell Group of 20 major UK research universities and is a top 15 UK research university with a global reputation for leading-edge research and innovation.

World-class reputation
The University of Southampton was established in 1952, and since then it has continued to grow and flourish. We now have over 22,000 students including more than 5,700 postgraduates and approximately 5,000 international students from 130 countries. Furthermore, we are ranked in the top 75 universities in the world according to the most recent QS World Rankings.

In the latest assessment by the Quality Assurance Agency, which monitors the standards for teaching in the UK, we were awarded the highest level of achievement for the standard of our educational provision.

Outstanding facilities
Modern Languages students have access to some of the best facilities in the country, which over the last four years have received more than £200 million of investment. The Hartley Library on the Highfield Campus is one of the leading research libraries in the UK and recently underwent a £12 million extension and refurbishment. Facilities include a state-of-the-art learning centre with consultation rooms, ‘walk in’ internet access, a language study area, a popular café and a lounge for more relaxed study. Additionally, it houses specialist collections including the Broadland Archives, the papers of the Duke of Wellington, world renowned collections relating to Jewish history and culture, and the Ford Collection of British Parliamentary Publications.

Three of the south of England’s leading arts venues are located on the Highfield Campus: the Nuffield Theatre, Turner Sims Concert Hall and John Hansard Art Gallery. There are also branches of the major high street banks, a bookshop, post office, a choice of cafes and restaurants, a convenience store, travel centre, and a day nursery for children on campus. Postgraduate students also enjoy the facilities of the Staff Social Centre on site.

The £8.5 million Jubilee Sports Centre on the Highfield Campus has swimming, badminton, squash and fitness facilities. In addition, our £4.3 million outdoor sports facilities include tennis courts and synthetic and grass pitches.

The Students’ Union, known as SUSU, is one of the leading students’ unions in the country. Run by students for students, they are vocal on political matters and a number of ex-SUSU presidents have gone on to have political careers, with several of them currently serving as MPs. The recently refurbished Union building offers a range of places to eat great food, listen to live music, see the latest films, and get information and advice.

A few minutes’ walk from Highfield is Avenue Campus, which houses most disciplines within Humanities and the Centre for Language Study. With its welcoming atmosphere, Avenue is a self-contained campus with its own library, lecture theatres, focused postgraduate study spaces and catering amenities.

For more information on our facilities please visit www.southampton.ac.uk/ml/postgraduate/study/facilities

Excellent accommodation
Our 20 halls of residence vary in size, character and facilities, but all provide the same high-quality accommodation in a safe, diverse, inclusive environment. We have accommodation specifically for postgraduates, from standard packages to self-catered studio flats. We can also give you help and advice on securing private rented accommodation. Accommodation in a University hall of residence is guaranteed (subject to terms and conditions) to all international postgraduate students without dependents, outside the EU for the first year of their programme. Please see our website for further details: www.southampton.ac.uk/accommodation
Southampton and the south coast

Southampton is a thriving modern city steeped in history and culture. Just over an hour south of central London, Southampton also has excellent transport links with the rest of the UK and Europe.

A connected city
Situated on the south coast of England in the county of Hampshire, Southampton boasts excellent transport links with the rest of the UK and internationally by road, rail, sea and air. The city is serviced by two mainline train stations with direct trains to London Waterloo and within easy reach of the Eurostar at St Pancras International. An international airport offers regular flights to UK and major European destinations and the University’s own award-winning Uni-link bus service connects all Southampton campuses, halls of residence, the City Centre, airport and both railway stations.

More locally, the nearby towns and cities of Bournemouth, Poole, Winchester and Portsmouth offer a wealth of cultural and leisure attractions for any visitor. Bournemouth and Poole’s award-winning Blue Flag beaches are just down the coast, and Winchester, once the country’s capital city is perhaps best known for its 11th century cathedral and the Great Hall, which houses the mysterious Round Table of King Arthur. Portsmouth is 20 miles to the east of Southampton and home to historic ships including Lord Nelson’s flagship HMS Victory, and Henry VIII’s Mary Rose. The Isle of Wight is England’s largest island and is located just off the Hampshire coast. It is easily accessible, and each summer hosts Cowes Week, the world’s largest and most prestigious international sailing regatta.

A historic city
Once the home to the writer Jane Austen, Southampton also has a fascinating maritime and aviation history. It was from here, in 1415 that Henry V set sail for Agincourt, the Pilgrim Fathers began their historic journey to the New World in 1620 and the ill-fated Titanic departed on its maiden voyage in 1912. The Spitfire, the fighter aircraft that won the Battle of Britain, was developed in the region in the 1930s. And it was here in Southampton that British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and US President Eisenhower planned the D-Day landings during World War II. Southampton is also known for having the longest surviving run of medieval walls in England.

Less than half an hour from Southampton is the New Forest National Park, with vast open heathland and beautiful forest. Created by William the Conqueror in 1079 as a royal hunting area, it is now a unique area of historical, ecological and agricultural significance. Today the forest retains many historical rural practices, such as pasteurising of ponies, cattle, pigs and donkeys in the open forest by local inhabitants.

A modern city
Today Southampton is a truly multicultural city and is home to one of Europe’s largest commercial ports, which handles in excess of 42 million tonnes of cargo annually. It is also the cruise capital of northern Europe and is renowned across the world as the home of the giant cruise liners, Queen Mary 2 and Queen Victoria. The city’s coastal location means it offers a vast range of opportunities for sport and leisure, with waterfront marinas and a focus on water sports and sailing.

Southampton is also home to West Quay, one of the south coast’s best shopping centres, as well as a superb array of entertainment venues that cater for all tastes including the ever popular Oxford Street with its seemingly endless choice of good quality restaurants.

The city’s five Grade II listed central parks together with its huge 326 acre common make it the greenest city in the south of England. Throughout the year an abundance of events are arranged for the general public including guided walks, arts in the park, live music and a Thai food festival to name but a few.

Southampton is packed with exciting places to go. So whether you want to see the latest blockbuster film, visit an award-winning art gallery or fancy a night at the theatre, then Southampton is the city for you.

Within a short walk of the waterfront is Southampton’s Old Town, with its historic buildings and museums. It was here, near the Pilgrim Fathers set sail for America in 1620 before their unscheduled stop at Plymouth.

Southampton has a rich maritime heritage so it is unsurprising that today there is growing interest in water sports, sailing and ocean racing. For more information and a short video please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/visitus/cityandregion
How to apply

Entry requirements
We accept recognised qualifications from a wide range of UK and international universities.

Typical entry requirements for our masters programmes are a strong first degree. For further information: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/taught_courses/our_courses

Applicants for our research degrees will be required to demonstrate a previous strong performance on a masters degree. For further information: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/research_degrees/courses

International Students
Our dedicated International Office aims to make the process of joining the University as simple as possible, and is there to help you with any initial queries you may have before you make the decision to apply to Southampton. Staff members travel overseas throughout the year to meet with many of our potential students and are assisted by official University representatives in a wide variety of countries. For more information on the support services available to international students, both before and after arriving at Southampton please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/international

English language
If English is not your first language, you will need to have already achieved a satisfactory standard in an approved test in English, such as IELTS, typically at grade 6.5 or above, by the time you start your course. You may choose to complete one of our pre-sessional English language courses, which provide excellent academic preparation for study at Southampton.

www.southampton.ac.uk/cls

Fees and funding
Tuition fees vary according to the type of programme you choose. Fees charged to full time students include the full cost of tuition, examinations, Students’ Union membership and research support expenses (where applicable). For further information visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/postgraduate/feesandfunding

Up to £1 Million of scholarships and funding available
Humanities offers up to £1 million in awards to postgraduate students every year. Our awards are open to all students intending to study at masters or doctoral level including UK, EU and International applicants. The awards available vary from year to year and range from studentships from £1,000 to full scholarships that cover tuition fees at the UK/EU rate. For up to date information on funding opportunities available for all Humanities disciplines, please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/money_matters

More information
For an up to date list of Modern Languages masters programmes available along with detailed course descriptions please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/taught_courses/our_courses

For detailed information on Modern Languages research degrees please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/research_degrees/courses

If you have any questions regarding the application process please feel free to contact us:
Email: pgsapply.fhi@southampton.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 23 8059 8062
www.southampton.ac.uk/ml

“Some way into the MA, outstanding critical thinkers and researchers at Modern Languages such as Professor Stevenson and the late Professor Brumfit inspired me in pursuing a PhD by research. There is the endless help of academic staff even at a personal level and the caring administrative staff. There also is a very strong research base in Modern Languages which makes a student feel that they are always involved with pioneering work and research.”
Visit www.southampton.ac.uk/ml/alumni/our_alumni to see what our other alumni have to say

Dr Saman Jamshidifard | MA and PhD Modern Languages | Head of English language department at Azad University in Oxford

Relevant web links are shown throughout the Humanities Postgraduate Prospectus. Please also consult www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities online for further details and/or any changes which have appeared since first publication of the Humanities Postgraduate Prospectus.

Disclaimer
The University of Southampton will use all reasonable efforts to deliver advertised programmes and other services and facilities in accordance with the descriptions set out in its prospectuses, student handbooks, welcome guides and website. It will provide students with the tuition, learning support, services and facilities so described with reasonable care and skill.

The University, therefore, reserves the right if it considers it to be necessary to alter the timetable, location, content or method of delivery of events provided such alterations are reasonable.

Financial or other losses
The University will not be held liable for any direct or indirect financial or other losses or damage arising from changes made to the event timetable, location, content or method of delivery of various services and facilities set out herein.

Force majeure
The University will not be held liable for any loss, damage or expense resulting from any delay, variation or failure in the provision of services and facilities set out herein, arising from circumstances beyond the University’s reasonable control, including (but not limited to) war or threat of war, riot, civil strife, terrorist activity, industrial dispute, natural or nuclear disaster, adverse weather conditions, interruption in power supplies or other services for any reason, fire, boycott and telecommunications failure.

In the event that such circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the University arise, it will use all reasonable endeavours to minimise disruption as far as it is practical to do so.

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This information can be made available, on request, in alternative formats such as electronic, large print, Braille or audiotape, and in some cases, other languages. Please call +44 (0)23 8059 7726 to request an alternative format.

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Modern Languages masters programmes

Our masters courses are a product of the broad and contemporary interests of our academic research community. The subjects you will study reflect developments in current thinking and will expose you to research outputs and achievements influencing thought across the academic world.

The programmes are designed to allow you to pursue a single subject in depth or to opt for a more interdisciplinary approach. In addition to our MA and MRes courses, we also offer an online postgraduate certificate which can provide direct entry into the second semester of the MA in English Language Teaching.

- MA Transnational Studies
- MA Applied Linguistics for Language Teaching
- MA Applied Linguistics (Research Methodology)
- MA English Language Teaching
- MA English Language Teaching: Online
- MRes Linguistics (Language Acquisition)
- MRes Linguistics (Syntax and Semantics)
- MRes Modern Languages (French/German/ Spanish/Portuguese)

Further information

For more detailed information on our Modern Languages masters programmes please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/taught_courses

Modern Languages research interests

Our postgraduate research programmes include a Modern Languages MPhil/PhD, an MPhil/PhD or Integrated PhD in Applied Linguistics/English Language Teaching and an MPhil/PhD in Transnational Studies: Society, Culture, Language.

The thrust of our research is focused on, though not limited to:

Linguistics
Our theoretical research in linguistics deals with syntax and the Minimalist Program. Our applied linguistics research deals with global Englishes, with second language acquisition, with TESOL, and varied aspects of language education. Sociolinguistic work in French, German, Spanish and English is well established and research on language ideologies and policies, and on language and identity is ongoing.

Social, cultural and historical studies
Our research in social, cultural and historical studies spans a broad range of language areas. Our staff have chosen to group their research in a number of thematic clusters, the most prominent of which are cultural memory, life histories, migration, diaspora and identity.

Study of literature and culture
Our work on literature and culture is focused on the four principal languages of French, German, Spanish and Portuguese. Our main research focus is on how national cultures position themselves in wider transnational/global frameworks.

You will be supervised by one of our research active scholars and work in a broad and rewarding academic community attached to one of our research centres, allowing you to develop your skills, knowledge and capabilities as an active researcher.

Further information

For detailed information on our Modern Languages MPhil or PhD programmes please visit: www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/research_degrees
UK and EU enquiries:
pgapply.fh@southampton.ac.uk
+44 (0) 23 8059 8062

International (non-EU) enquiries:
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