

LANGUAGE LEARNING FOR STUDY AND WORK ABROAD

Centre for Foreign Language Study – School of Modern Languages & Cultures

mlac.taughtprogrammes@durham.ac.uk www.dur.ac.uk/cfls



UUK International: Benefits of a Year Abroad

6.6% of UK undergraduates study, work or volunteer overseas during their degree (33% are language students).

Compares to USA - 15%, Germany - 25%

If you spend time abroad as a student, you are:

- 19% more likely to get a 1st class degree;
- 20% less likely to be unemployed;
- and will earn 5% more within 6 months of graduation.



GLOBAL CITIZENS

- Global challenges are largely outside the Anglosphere
- The Global economy spans more than the Anglosphere
- Limits the communicative effectiveness of English Mother tongue speakers in international business and international relations

- 77% of pages on the Internet are in a language other than English
- 54% of adults in the European Union use two or more languages at work <u>every day</u>
- 80% of world trade is conducted in a language other than English

[...] it must be a key interest of [...] Universities to form rounded student personalities and to graduate future mediators between cultures in a globalised world. For this purpose each additional language that they speak, or at least understand, will be an asset

"Language Policies at the LERU member institutions" (2019)



'GLOBAL GRADUATE' COMPETENCIES

- An ability to work collaboratively with teams of people from a range of backgrounds and countries
- Excellent communication skills: both speaking and writing
- A high degree of drive and resilience
- An ability to embrace multiple perspectives and challenge thinking
- A capacity to develop new skills and behaviours according to role requirements
- A high degree of self-awareness
- An ability to negotiate and influence clients across the globe from different cultures



IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

- Improve prospects for international mobility and work overseas
- Improve inter-cultural communication and cultural awareness
- Employers recognise the value of a period of study or work abroad



COMMON EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK OF REFERENCE (CEFR)

Level				
A1	Paginnar	Basic communication		
A2	Beginner	Minimum foundation level for social interaction		
B1		Minimum level for work		
B2	Intermediate	Minimum level for teaching		
C1	Advanaad	Full professional competence		
C2	Advanced	Near-native		



COMMON EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK OF REFERENCE (CEFR) INPUT STUDY HOURS

	A2	B1	B2
Romance Languages	300	500	740
Germanic & Scandinavian languages	300	500	750
Russian & Slavonic languages	400	600	900
Arabic	440	800	1,250*
East Asian languages	500	850	1,200

^{*} Includes relevant dialect



Durham University CREDIT-BEARING LANGUAGE COURSES 2025/6

	Beginner-A1-A2		A2-B1	B1-B2		C1
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6
Arabic	CFLS1A11	CFLS1A21	CFLS1A31			
Chinese	CFLS1C11	CFLS1C21	CFLS1C31	CFLS1C41	CFLS1C51	
French	CFLS1F11	CFLS1F21	CFLS1F31	CFLS1F41	CFLS1F51	CFLS1F61*
German	CFLS1G11	CFLS1G21	CFLS1G31	CFLS1G41	CFLS1G51	CFLS1G61
Italian	CFLS1I11	CFLS1I21	CFLS1I31			
Japanese	CFLS1J11	CFLS1J21	CFLS1J31	CFLS1J41	CFLS1J51*	
Korean	CFLS1K11	CFLS1K21	CFLS1K31			
Russian	CFLS1R11					
Spanish	CFLS1S11	CFLS1S21	CFLS1S31	CFLS1S41	CFLS1S51	CFLS1S61*

^{*} Not running in 2025/26



EXTRA-CURRICULAR LANGUAGE COURSES - #1

CHIVETOLEY	Beginner-A1		A1-A2		A2-B1		B1-B2	
	Beginner	Elementary	Lower Intermediate	Intermediate	Higher Intermediate	Advanced	Higher Advanced 1	Higher Advanced 2
Arabic								
Bengali								
Cantonese								
Chinese								\$
Dutch								
French								\$
German								\$
Greek								
Hindi								
Italian						()	(



EXTRA-CURRICULAR LANGUAGE COURSES - #2

	Beginner-A1		A1-A2		A2-B1		B1-B2	
	Beginner	Elementary	Lower Intermediate	Intermediate	Higher Intermediate	Advanced	Higher Advanced 1	Higher Advanced 2
Japanese								
Korean								
Norwegian								
Persian (Farsi)								
Portuguese								
Romanian								
Russian								
Spanish								
Swedish								
Turkish						-5945		



CFLS COURSE SCHEDULE

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Summer
Credit Bearing	20 w	reeks		
Development	9 weeks	9 weeks	9 weeks	9 weeks
Partner programmes (in-country or on-line)				Various*

Scope for semi-intensive courses running in Terms 2 and/or 3 subject to demand *Arqus/ DAAD scholarship – Hochschulsommerkurse...



CENTRE FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDY

Directors of Studies: Laura Lewis (Strategy)

Anna Johnston (delivery)

LFA Lead: tbc

Administrator: Helen Cant (LFA/non-credit)

mlac.taughtprogrammes@durham.ac.uk languages.forall@durham.ac.uk

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