



**UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH**

COURSE SPECIFICATION

BA (Hons) English Language and Linguistics

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	BA (Hons) English Language and Linguistics BA (Hons) English Language and Linguistics with Foundation year
Final Award	BA
Exit Awards	CertHE, DipHE, Ordinary
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	U2742PYC / QQ31 U3829PYC / QQ32
Mode of study	Full time
Mode of delivery	Campus, Sandwich (Optional)
Normal length of course	3 years, 4 years with placement, 4 years with foundation year, 5 years with foundation year and placement
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	From September 2025 intake onwards
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
School/Department/Subject Group	School of Education, Languages and Linguistics
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	School of Education, Languages & Linguistics University of Portsmouth
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/ba-hons-english-language-and-linguistics
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	Students have the option, following a selection process, to gain an externally accredited qualification in the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language (Awarding body: Trinity College London).
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	Level 4, 5, 6

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the [Course and Module Catalogue](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the Course

- With Foundation Year - To prepare students to an appropriate standard for entry into the course at Level 4.
- To provide an understanding of the basic concepts, modes of analysis and theoretical approaches which contribute to the study of the English language.
- To enable students to understand and apply a range of concepts from the discipline of linguistics to study a range of texts.
- To provide an opportunity to study diverse modes of communication (oral, written and multimodal) and their distinctive levels of phonology, morphology, lexis, syntax, semantics, pragmatics and discourse.
- To provide knowledge of the structure, levels and discourse functions of the English language.
- To develop understanding of the role of language in society, its nature as a cognitive domain, how it is acquired, how it changes, and its role in a range of media for communication.
- To introduce students to a range of empirical linguistic phenomena and the relevant descriptive terminology, thereby enabling a practical understanding of what the English language is and how it works.
- To compare the English language with other languages, as appropriate.
- To enable students to develop a high standard of literacy, communication skills, and skills of critical argument.
- In the case of students taking the TESOL units, to provide the opportunity to gain an externally accredited entry-level qualification in the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language (modules recognised by Trinity College London).
- To prepare students for further research in language or linguistics-related areas.
- To provide a challenging and stimulating study environment.
- To equip graduates with the necessary transferable skills for lifelong learning, employability and flexibility in the context of globally changing labour markets.
- To provide students with the skills, knowledge and global mind-set required to maximise career and postgraduate study opportunities.
- To provide a framework for students to follow a flexible, coherent programme of study, allowing them to develop specialist interests and knowledge in their main subject and in a minor subject via a Pathway. This course offers a subject Pathway in English Literature. A student who satisfies the Pathway requirements will qualify for the following named award:

BA (Hons) English Language and Linguistics with English Literature

Pathways provide flexibility in the course by offering an academically coherent combination of modules in another subject area for a student to undertake alongside their main degree subject. All students apply for the Single Honours degree and follow a common curriculum of core modules at level 4. All participating Single Honours degrees include 20 credit bridging modules for each Pathway. These modules cover essential material on the Single Honours, and also introduce students to the subject Pathways offered at Levels 5 and 6 through their interdisciplinary flavour. The literature options are only available for students who have opted for the *BA English Language and Linguistics with English Literature* Pathway.

A student chooses whether to continue on the Single Honours programme or join a Pathway when making their options choices for Level 5. In order to satisfy the requirements for the recommendation of the Pathway award a student must have been awarded 40 credits at level 5 and 40 credits in level 6 in subject Pathway modules. A student who joins a Pathway at Level 5 but decides that they do not wish to remain on it, can return to the Single Honours Programme at Level 6, with the exception of those programmes subject to professional accreditation requirements.

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education \(QAA\)](#) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	Regional and global varieties of English	Workshops, lectures, seminars, group work, on-line and blended learning activities	Examinations, essays, reflective diaries and group presentations
A2	The history, structure, levels and discourse functions of the English language	Lectures, seminars, group work, on-line and blended learning activities	Essays and textual analysis
A3	The basic concepts, modes of analysis and theoretical approaches in phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, discourse and lexis	Seminars, lectures, workshops, group work, on-line and blended learning activities	Short-answer questions, essays, coursework and textual analysis
A4	Perspectives on language and society, the nature of language as a cognitive domain, language acquisition, language change and the communicative role and function of language	Seminars, group work, lectures, group work, on-line and blended learning activities	Blogs, portfolios, examinations, coursework, reports, group presentations and individual presentations
A5	Techniques for collecting data; ethical and technical issues in data collection; techniques for the presentation, analysis and evaluation of data	Workshops, seminars, lectures, one-on-one tutorials, group work, on-line and blended learning activities	coursework, reports, individual presentations and group presentations

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:			
LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Abstract and synthesise information	Group work, seminars, workshops, directed study outside of class, on-line and blended learning activities	Essays, coursework, examinations, blogs, websites, reports, individual presentations and group presentations
B2	Show an appreciation of the need for a systematic approach to the understanding of linguistic phenomena and the role of theory in organising understanding	Group work, seminars, workshops, directed study outside of class, lectures, on-line and blended learning activities	Essays, coursework, individual presentations and group presentations
B3	Read closely and critically	Lectures, seminars, workshops and directed study outside of class	Essays, coursework, group presentations, individual presentations, websites, blogs, reports and textual analysis
B4	Analyse texts and discourses and respond to the affective power of language, using appropriate approaches and terminology	Lectures, seminars, workshops, group work, on-line and blended learning activities	Essays and coursework
B5	Write clearly, accurately and effectively, applying scholarly bibliographical skills appropriate to the subject	Lectures, seminars and workshops	Essays, coursework, textual analysis, blogs and formative assessments

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:			
LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Abstract and synthesise information	Workshops, seminars, lectures, directed study outside of class, group work, on-line and blended learning activities	Essays, coursework, textual analysis, formative assessments and examinations
C2	Construct and manage an argument	Workshops, seminars and lectures	Essays, coursework, textual analysis and examinations
C3	Think critically and evaluate evidence independently	Seminars, workshops, directed study outside of class, lectures, on-line and blended learning activities	Textual analysis, essays, coursework, reports, group presentations and individual presentations
C4	Collect, analyse, manipulate and present data in a suitable form	Seminars, workshops, one-on-one tutorials, lectures, group work, on-line and blended learning activities	Reports, formative assessments, essays, textual analysis, portfolios, group presentations and individual presentations
C5	Write essays and research reports, using the appropriate style and register and with proper referencing	Lectures, seminars, one-on-one tutorials, on-line and blended learning activities	Essays and reports

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:			
LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Articulate their own and other people's ideas concisely, accurately and persuasively, both orally and in writing	Seminars, workshops, lectures, group work, on-line and blended learning activities	Group presentations, individual presentations, coursework, essays, websites and blogs
D2	Present a discussion based on information collected from various sources and synthesised into a coherent whole with appropriate acknowledgements and lists of sources	lectures, seminars, workshops	Essays, coursework, presentations and reports
D3	Develop working relationships with others, especially through constructive dialogue (for example, by listening, asking and responding to questions)	Group work, seminars, workshops, on-line and blended learning activities	Group projects (including websites) and group presentations
D4	<i>Demonstrate time-management, self-directed learning and organisational skills, including the ability to plan and work to clear goals and objectives</i>	<i>Directed study outside of class, seminars and one-on-one tutorials</i>	<i>Group presentations, individual presentations, coursework, essays, websites, blogs, formative assessments and examinations</i>
D5	<i>Under supervision, plan, design and execute a piece of research or enquiry, either independently or as a member of a group</i>	<i>Lectures, seminars, workshops, group work, one-on-one tutorials and directed study outside of class</i>	<i>Group presentations, individual presentations, coursework, essays and websites</i>
			Opportunities for formative assessment are offered at all levels

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations: Examination & Assessment Regulations](#) will apply to this course. Approved course exemptions can be found [here](#)

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the [MyPort](#) student portal.

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our [Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice](#) where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Vision](#)
- [Office for Students Conditions of Registration](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#) for English
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#) for Linguistics
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: Trinity College London
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff

Changes to your course/modules

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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