



MA in Modern Languages

A taught postgraduate programme in Modern Languages

As of September 2012, the School of Languages and Literatures is offering a new MA in Modern Languages, which replaces the existing single-subject MA programmes in the School.

This MA programme builds on the strengths of the School of Languages and Literatures by providing a taught postgraduate programme which will focus on developing the communicative and analytical skills of its students via an intense and critical engagement with the notion of culture as it is embedded in particular linguistic contexts.

The programme arises out of a strategic co-operation between subject areas within the School and seeks to extend the richness and diversity of the existing undergraduate provision in French, German, Italian and Spanish. The MA in Modern Languages will also offer a logical progression from the recently launched BA International Modern Languages degree which aims to foster a comparative approach, training undergraduates to a high degree of proficiency in at least two languages and encouraging them to explore the contacts, disparities and interactions between cultures.

This MA reflects the current need to provide high-quality education in the area of modern foreign languages. Accordingly, the MA in Modern Languages will seek to support students as they deepen their knowledge and proficiency in their chosen language(s), whilst also helping to equip them with sophisticated intercultural and discursive skills which will set them apart as excellent communicators in their chosen fields.

This MA offers a comparative approach to areas of language, literature and culture, allowing students to specialize in one or more specific language areas, for instance French Studies, Italian Studies, German Studies and Spanish Studies. However, students keen to specialize in one language area alone, will have the opportunity to do so, so that the academic equivalent of a single-subject MA will be retained.

Students can register for a 60-credit Graduate Diploma or for the 90-credit MA. Applicants are expected to hold a university degree with Second Class Honours, Grade 1 or equivalent. Applicants must have a good command of both written and spoken English and a proven ability at advanced level (both spoken and written) in at least one of the target languages.

For further information and questions relating to the application procedures please contact Dr. Georg Grote, School of Languages and Literatures, Georg.Grote@ucd.ie .

Why should I study Modern Languages in the School of Languages and Literatures in UCD?

UCD's research and teaching staff are dynamic, open, accessible and dedicated to their subjects and their students. Our tuition focuses on the individual needs of our postgraduate students.

Studying languages in the School of Languages and Literatures in UCD will equip you not only with a high level of language proficiency, but also with new ways of thinking about culture and of negotiating cultural difference.

Our academic activities display a very strong connection between research, publication and teaching. Accordingly, our international up-to-date expertise filters straight into our teaching and supervision.

Our supervision is characterised at once by strong research-driven disciplinary knowledge and by overlapping interdisciplinary interests.

Members of the School display consistent high-quality research output in conference papers and through publications in inter/national journals and monographs. They are involved in a host of international research networks.

Our areas of research range from cultural theory and intellectual movements to translation studies, literature, linguistics and history.

We offer strong connections between the undergraduate and the postgraduate level.

Possessing strong cultural ties with Europe and the Americas, Ireland has a unique perspective on both worlds. Our position in Ireland and our active research links with Europe enable us to compare and contrast developments in our target cultures, and identify European trends more easily.

UCD as a campus university is a very welcoming research environment, favourably situated in the south of the Capital, close to the sea and the mountains.

International students may combine their specific language and cultural studies with the discovery, through the medium of English, of Ireland's rich culture and its people.

Ireland, Dublin and UCD offer a very friendly learning environment for Continental and American students.