

Degree Structure – Modern Languages

**WORLD
CHANGERS
WELCOME**

This presentation describes the structure of undergraduate Modern Languages degrees at the University of Glasgow.



University
of Glasgow

College of Arts

Archaeology
Celtic Studies
Classics / Greek / Latin
Comparative Literature
English Lit / Lang
Gaelic
History
History of Art
Music
Philosophy

Modern Languages

French / German /
Italian / Portuguese
Russian / Spanish



Modern Languages subjects are part of the College of Arts at Glasgow, but they have a slightly different degree structure as they incorporate an obligatory year abroad.

Students will study one or two Arts subjects, alongside a Modern Language in years one and two. All of our languages are available at beginners level and French, German, Italian and Spanish are also available to people who've studied them before.

Modern Languages degrees

- MA
- Five year honours
- 4 single, 100+ joint options

- Study three subjects in Year 1
- Study three subjects in Year 2

All of our Modern Languages degrees are studied as a 5 year Master of Arts Honours degree or MA. Although it is called a Master of Arts, it is the equivalent of an undergraduate bachelors degree.

In Year 1, all Modern Languages students will study three subjects, with equal weighting given to each subject.

Similarly, students complete three subjects in Year 2. Occasionally, these can be the same three subjects as Year 1, but most students will choose to study one new subject in Year 2. We will now look at how this works in practice.

Example MA(Hons) Degree Single Honours

Year 5

Year 4

Year 3

Year 2

Year 1

Spanish
Level 1

German
Level 1

Comp Lit
Level 1

Shown is an example degree structure of a student studying Spanish at the University of Glasgow. Alongside Spanish two other subjects are studied. These are most commonly Arts subjects but there may be the opportunity to choose one Social Sciences or Science subject. In this example the student has chosen German and Comparative Literature as their second and third subjects.

In years one and two, time is split equally between all three subjects. Applicants can apply to a single honours or joint honours degree. Most applicants will choose their other subjects when they register to begin University.

A student's timetable will then be approved during their initial meeting with their Adviser of Studies. Their Adviser continues to assist with, and approve, subject choices throughout the degree.

Example MA(Hons) Degree Single Honours

Year 5

Year 4

Year 3

Year 2

Spanish
Level 2

German
Level 2

Portuguese
Level 1

Year 1

Spanish
Level 1

German
Level 1

Comp Lit
Level 1

In year 2, students take two subjects to level 2 and can select a new third subject, in this case Portuguese. Depending on the subject and your degree programme, it may also be possible to continue studying all three subjects that you took in level 1.

Example MA(Hons) Degree Single Honours

Year 5

Year 4

Year 3

Year Abroad

Year 2

Spanish
Level 2

German
Level 2

Portuguese
Level 1

Year 1

Spanish
Level 1

German
Level 1

Comp Lit
Level 1

It is at the end of year 2 students will decide what they would like to study as their final single or joint honours degree.

In this example the student has chosen to continue to Single Honours Spanish.

When a student chooses to study a language subject at Honours level they are asked to do a compulsory year abroad. As this student wishes to study Spanish as a single honours degree they would have to spend their year abroad in Spain or Latin America, either on a study or work placement.

Example MA(Hons) Degree Single Honours

Year 5

Year 4

Spanish
Junior Honours

Year 3

Year Abroad

Year 2

Spanish
Level 2

German
Level 2

Portuguese
Level 1

Year 1

Spanish
Level 1

German
Level 1

Comp Lit
Level 1

On successful completion of their year abroad, students begin their honours study, which involves studying language and culture.

Example MA(Hons) Degree Single Honours

Year 5	Spanish Senior Honours		
Year 4	Spanish Junior Honours		
Year 3	Year Abroad		
Year 2	Spanish Level 2	German Level 2	Portuguese Level 1
Year 1	Spanish Level 1	German Level 1	Comp Lit Level 1

As the year abroad is obligatory, the honours Modern Languages degree will last 5 years in total.

Example MA(Hons) Degree Joint Honours

Year 5

Year 4

Year 3

Year Abroad

Year 2

Spanish
Level 2

German
Level 2

Portuguese
Level 1

Year 1

Spanish
Level 1

German
Level 1

Comp Lit
Level 1

For a joint honours Language degree, where a student chooses to study two languages at honours level – in this example Spanish and German, the structure is the same in year one and year two.

The student then has the choice of spending their year abroad in either a Spanish-speaking or a German-speaking country.

Example MA(Hons) Degree Joint Honours

Year 5

Year 4

Term (minimum 3 months) Abroad

Spanish

German

Year 3

Year Abroad

Year 2

Spanish
Level 2

German
Level 2

Portuguese
Level 1

Year 1

Spanish
Level 1

German
Level 1

Comp Lit
Level 1

In a joint honours degree, on successful completion of the year abroad the student will study junior honours in both languages in Glasgow and will then take a term abroad.

The student spends approximately 3 months at the end of year 4 studying abroad. This structure allows joint honours Languages students to spend time immersed in both languages of study.

Example MA(Hons) Degree Joint Honours

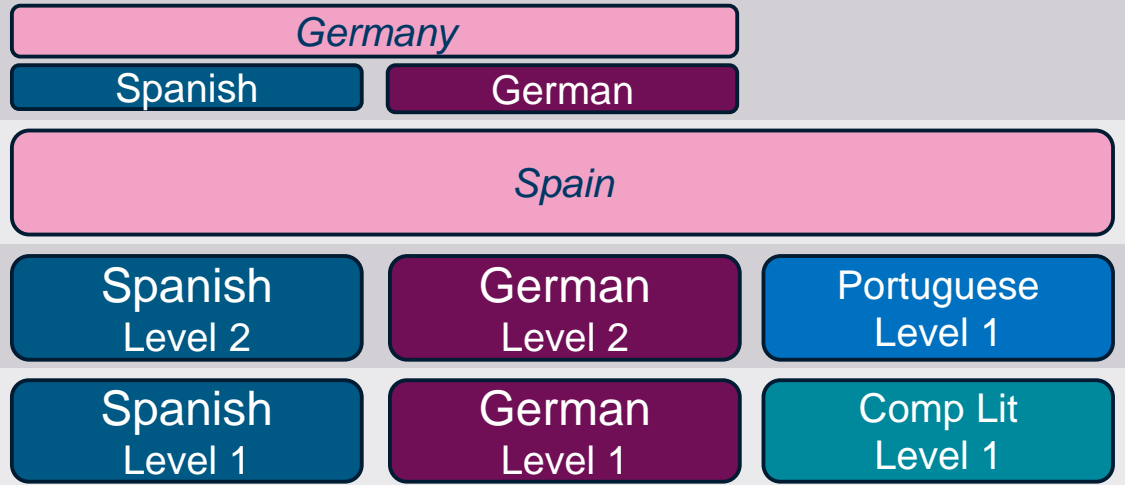
Year 5

Year 4

Year 3

Year 2

Year 1



In this example the student spent their full year abroad in Spain and their 3 months abroad in Germany.

Example MA(Hons) Degree Joint Honours

Year 5	Spanish Senior Honours	German Senior Honours	
Year 4	Term Abroad		
	Spanish	German	
Year 3	Year Abroad		
Year 2	Spanish Level 2	German Level 2	Portuguese Level 1
Year 1	Spanish Level 1	German Level 1	Comp Lit Level 1

Students spend their final honours year back at the University of Glasgow.

In the final year a dissertation is completed for one subject. Joint honours students do not have to write two dissertations.

WORLD CHANGERS WELCOME WHO WILL YOU BECOME?

At Glasgow, you can take French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish as a complete beginner in year 1 and graduate with a degree in those subjects. French, German, Italian and Spanish are also taught at Non-Beginners level in year 1 so you can continue studying them at university if you've already taken them at school.

For further information on the Modern Languages degree structure at the University of Glasgow, please visit our website.

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/undergraduate/choosingyourdegree>