Aston University

SUBJECT SPECIFICATION
2013-2014

Subject Title	SPANISH Half Degree Programme
UCAS/JACS Code	French and Spanish RR1K German and Spanish RR2K Sociology and Spanish LR34 Spanish and English Language QR34
School/Subject Area	Languages and Social Sciences
Mode(s) of Study	Full-time or Part-Time
Total Credits	300 (including 120 credits for Stage 3)
Programme Accredited By	N/A
Dates Subject Specification Written and Revised	06.02.2004; 8 April 2008; 5 September 2009; February 2012; February 2013, format change August 2013

Educational Aims of the Subject	A degree in Spanish provides graduates with an ideal basis for a career in business, public services, education or media. The programme focuses on achieving the following aims: • sophisticated command of written Spanish language • fluency in all aspects of oral communication in Spanish • knowledge of the culture, history, society, economy and contemporary affairs in the Spanish-speaking countries. Students will be able to compare this knowledge with their own language and culture • a concept of research methodology • knowledge of key methods and concepts of literary, historical, social-science and linguistic analysis • ability to apply these key methods and concepts in independent research • ability to conduct independent research in English and Spanish • academic writing skills in both English and Spanish To ensure these aims the Spanish section within the School of Languages and Social Sciences applies the following principles: • through **teaching in the target language** for all Spanish modules, the programme follows an integrated approach where language- and subject-teaching/learning are inter-linked and reinforce one another. • at every level modules in Spanish language, literature, history, linguistics and contemporary affairs ensure a broad repertoire of knowledge • through the **year abroad** (work placement, teaching assistantship or exchange university) participants in the programme will gain first-hand experience by living in a Spanish-speaking country. • **transferable skills** are practised in every module at all levels.
Relevant Subject Benchmark Statements and other External and Internal Reference Points used to inform subject outcomes	• QAA Benchmark Statement for Area Studies (2008) ISBN 978 1 84482 795 4 • QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Languages and related studies (2007) (ISBN 978 1 84482 774 9) • QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education Chapter A1 (2011) • European Framework of Reference for Languages • University Learning and Teaching Strategy • Staff Expertise • External examiners

STAGE 1

Subject Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits

Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Option	Condonable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
Spanish Language Skills I	20	4	LS1001	CORE	N	N
Introduction to Spain	20	4	LS1015	CORE	Y	N
Introduction to Latin America	20	4	LS1019	CORE	Y	N
TOTAL	60					

STAGE 2

Subject Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits

Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Option	Condonable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
Spanish Language Skills II	20	5	LS2001	CORE	N	Y
Contemporary Spain	10	5	LS2016	CORE	Y	N
Contemporary Latin America	10	5	LS2017	CORE	Y	N
Spanish in the World	10	5	LS2018	CORE	Y	N
Spanish Media	10	5	LS2019	CORE	Y	N
TOTAL	60					

STAGE 3

Subject Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits

Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Option	Condonable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
Spanish Year Abroad — Work Placement, Assistantship (full year)	120	P	LSP001	Core	Y	N
OR						
Spanish Year Abroad — 2 Exchange University Placements (each half year)	120	P	LSP002	Core	Y	N
OR						
Spanish Year Abroad —Work Placement and Exchange University Placement (each half year)	120	P	LSP003	Core	Y	N
OR						
Spanish Year Abroad — Exchange University Placement (full year)	120	P	LSP004	Core	Y	N
OR						
Spanish Year Abroad — 2 Work Placements (each half year)	120	P	LSP005	Core	Y	N
TOTAL	120					

STAGE F

Subject Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits

Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Option	Condonable Y/N	Pre-requisite(s) Y/N
Spanish Language Skills I & II	20	6	LS3001	CORE	Y	N
Spanish Research Dissertation	20	6	LS3004	CORE	Y	N
Hispanic Film	10	6	LS3006	CORE	Y	N
Major Hispanic Authors	10	6	LS3009	CORE	Y	N
TOTAL	60					

Subject Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies			
A. <u>Knowledge and Understanding</u>			
	Subject Outcomes	Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
	On successful completion of the subject component of their programme students are expected to have knowledge and understanding of:	Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	a sophisticated range of syntactic structure, to be used in a coherent manner, with a native-speaker, performing at the level of a near-native speaker, in a wide range of both written and oral communication situations	• lectures, • interactive seminars • guided independent study • individual research and consultation	• written examination • oral examination • essay • research project • continuous assessment • presentation • guided text production • translation
2	key features for each type of communication in the process of understanding and production		
3	the context of production (social, cultural, economic, political) which will enhance understanding and help to target the message more effectively in the process of understanding and production		
4	the basic concepts of language function		
5	the Spanish socio-political and cultural environment		

B. <u>Intellectual Skills</u>			
	Subject Outcomes	Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies to enable outcome to be achieved and demonstrated	
	On successful completion of the subject component of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	use their understanding and knowledge of different genres and text types / oral communication events, as studied and practised in language and language-related seminars to produce designated text types or oral communications according to contextual and situational demands	• lectures • interactive seminars • guided independent study • individual research and consultation • guided text production • linguistic analysis • thematic analysis placement year experience in: • exchange university • work placement • teaching assistant	• written examination • oral examination • essay • research project • continuous assessment, • presentation • guided text production • translation • exchange university examinations • year abroad essay and/or exchange university examinations • work placement report • year abroad essay and viva
2	understand, select and use in a differentiated manner any one of a range of registers of the target language, according to the situation, the participants and the type of communication.		
3	understand the basic concepts of language function and be able to explain these, using appropriate metalanguage, in order to monitor their own use of language		
4	demonstrate some degree of specialist knowledge in a specific domain of related study		

C. **Professional Skills**			
	Subject Outcomes	Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies to enable outcome to be achieved and demonstrated	
	On successful completion of the subject component of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	demonstrate near-native competence in written and oral presentation skills in Spanish	• seminars • guided study • individual research • lectures • group work • tutorial work	• continuous assessment • oral examination / viva • extended research dissertation
2	demonstrate competence in using critical methodologies		
3	articulate relationships between content and form		
4	demonstrate advanced research skills		

D. **Transferable Skills**			
	Subject Outcomes	Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies to enable outcome to be achieved and demonstrated	
	On successful completion of the subject component of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	communicate information, ideas and arguments cogently and coherently both orally and in writing with due regard to the target audience	• interactive seminars • oral seminars • guided text production • translation • independent research	• text production • examinations • research dissertation and oral defence • subject-specific essays • presentation
2	gather, process and evaluate critically information from a variety of paper, audio- visual and electronic sources;		
3	use information effectively both as a means of communication and as an aid to learning		
4	act as an effective and self- aware independent learner.		

Entry Requirements	In addition to satisfying the general entry requirements, candidates must satisfy any specific entry requirements for each programme as approved by the School Learning and Teaching Committee. These may include an interview and a diagnostic test.
Programme Regulations	Please see LSS Joint Honours Programme Specification

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the threshold learning outcomes that a student might normally be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. **The individual modules included in the programme may differ from those included in this programme specification as our programmes are subject to continuous review.** Information on admissions requirements and career opportunities is available in the relevant prospectus. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the appropriate module guides and programme handbook(s) which are available to students on enrolment.