LINGUISTICS

The University of Westminster has a 40-year tradition of linguistics teaching and research into the study of language. As a linguistics student you will be based in the heart of a vibrant, multicultural city where more than 300 languages are spoken. This diversity offers amazing opportunities for the study of language and you will be able to take advantage of our central London location, with easy access to all its rich resources of libraries and archives. Our expert and enthusiastic staff create an exciting and fulfilling space in which to learn and share our fascination with language. At Westminster, we have a particularly strong international reputation in historical linguistics, Creole linguistics and language contact, in addition to issues in language and gender. You will have the chance to study abroad for part of your degree with our partners in Europe, North America, Canada and Australia or to take shorter work or study visits to other countries.

Teaching and learning
Our student-centred approach is designed to foster confidence in language and communication, promote the ability to analyse and critically evaluate diverse information, and encourage an interdisciplinary ethos to cross-cultural practices. The main learning mode is seminars, which combine an interactive and engaging mix of different activities within each session. Seminars are supported by lectures, and by our programme of individualised tutorials. Independent learning is guided by academic advisors and enabled by extensive digital resources.

Employability
Employers value the strong communication abilities and the precise analytic and research skills of linguistics graduates. All students have the chance to undertake a work placement as part of their course. Our recent graduates have entered a wide variety of careers, including employment as teachers, translators, speech therapists, interpreters, and in various sectors such as law, marketing, journalism, the Civil Service, administration, international business and financial services.

Foundation pathway
We offer Foundations as a route onto some of our undergraduate programmes. For module information and any further details, please visit: westminster.ac.uk/foundation-courses

See also: English p92 • Languages p114
Our degree courses with Foundation year offer the opportunity to prepare you for advanced study before you progress onto a full honours degree at the University of Westminster. Whether you do not feel ready for degree-level study, don’t have the right qualifications, want to change your subject specialism or return to study after an absence from education, we aim to encourage a broad range of students to undertake our Foundation year in order to progress onto their full honours degree with us.

The Foundation year is designed to give you the opportunity to explore new ideas, opening up new perspectives on the key debates within your chosen field. Core modules accelerate your academic and professional development, bringing together like-minded students to think about the ‘big ideas’ within your discipline. You will also take modules from areas closely related to your chosen field, giving you the chance to develop a cross-disciplinary perspective on your course.

On successful completion of the Foundation year, you will be able to move on to the first year of the English Language and Linguistics BA Honours degree.

For module information and further details, please visit westminster.ac.uk/linguistics

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS
BA Honours

Length of course: Three years full-time
UCAS code: Q140
Campus: Central London (see map p206)
Entry requirements: A levels – BCC/ABB to include an English or Humanities subject; International Baccalaureate – 27 points including 5 Higher Level English A/ 6 HL English B or a Humanities subject; BTEC Extended Diploma – DMM/DDM Humanities subject; BTEC Diploma – D*D/D*D* plus A level in a Humanities Subject. Overseas students require IELTS of 6.0 overall, with 5.5 in each component. See also p198.

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: westminster.ac.uk/linguistics

On this course you will study one of the key aspects of being human: our ability to use language. You will examine how languages differ and what elements they share, as well as developing your knowledge of the historical and cultural aspects of the English Language in particular. The course provides a rare opportunity to combine both in-depth formal linguistic study with a consideration of the ways in which the use of English language reflects its social context.

The course includes practical and theoretical modules that are invaluable for students interested in teaching English, speech therapy, editing, journalism, or advertising, but helps to prepare you for any career that requires an advanced, sophisticated use of language.

For information on Linguistics joint honours degrees please see English p92 and Languages p114.

“I have had a very enriching and inspiring time at Westminster. I’ve grown and developed a lot and I’m very proud of the final result. Moving abroad when I was only 18 and having my dissertation nominated for an award three years later is one of the best directions this path could have taken me.”

Jonne Kramer
English Language and Linguistics BA Honours, graduate