Programme Specification ARO 034a

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and of the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities provided.

This document is published on the University website and will be a publicly available record of the named programme.

The information contained in this form should be included in the Programme Handbook, either as presented below or in a format determined by the Faculty.

Section 1 Key Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awarding Body</th>
<th>University of Stirling</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partner Institution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programme Name</td>
<td>Spanish &amp; Latin American Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award e.g. BSc (Hons), MA etc.</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>(if both please provide two Degree Programme Tables in the Outline Programme Structure)</td>
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<td>(if more than one entry point please provide a Degree Programme Table for each in the Outline Programme Structure)</td>
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<td>ECTS Credit Value</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Name of accrediting body: Required for programme: Yes/No (delete as appropriate)</td>
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Section 2 Overview

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The Single Honours programme in Spanish and Latin American Studies has been designed, inspired by our research-led teaching approach, to facilitate the development of advanced Spanish language skills (including those who start as complete beginners on year 1) meanwhile providing an in-depth knowledge and comprehension of some of the most relevant aspects of the culture and history of Spain and Latin America.

Key Features of the Programme
Immersion in the language from year 1, embedding language and culture.
Research-led teaching and teaching-led research
Study Abroad Opportunities in Mexico, Argentina, Chile & Spain.
Contemporary culture relevant to the current globalized world.

PROGRAMME AIMS

The aims of this programme are:

1. To ensure that by the end of the programme students are able to demonstrate a high level of proficiency in reading, speaking, understanding and writing Spanish through communicating readily on a personal and professional basis, and to offer courses which develop specific linguistic skills.
2. To offer students, at Honours level a range of courses on the literature, film, culture and history of the Spanish-speaking world, and to encourage students to critically reflect on theories and develop their own ideas and specific areas of interest within that broad field.
3. To promote internationalisation among students, through compulsory Study Semester Abroad and voluntary Work Abroad opportunities, to increase their communicative and intercultural skills.
4. To endorse inclusiveness of different learning and teaching styles by using a variety of approaches to teaching, learning and evaluation.
5. To encourage autonomous and collaborative learning within a supportive and inspiring environment.
6. To provide a foundation of personal transferable skills of relevance to increase employability or further academic study prospects.

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of the Single Honours programme in Spanish, students should be able to:

KNOWLEDGE
1. Demonstrate an extensive proficient knowledge of Spanish language (oral/aural, reading & writing).
2. Critically analyse the cultures and histories of the different areas of the Spanish-speaking world through the academic study of linguistic varieties literature, film, journalism and other cultural artefacts.
3. Have a robust command of a range of linguistic registers and use them according to the context.
4. Demonstrate a critical understanding, both linguistically and culturally, a range of texts in close relationship to their respective historical and social contexts.

INTELLECTUAL, PRACTICAL & TRANSFERABLE SKILLS:
5. Effectively communicate, both orally and in writing, to a range of different audiences in Spanish and English, in various formal and informal contexts and through the use of technologies.
6. Analyse and interpret texts and theories.
7. Handle, acquire and critically analyse/react to complex information.
8. Organise and plan activities in a given time-frame.
9. Write critically and independently.
10. Think critically and with own judgement.
11. Gather, select, and organise material from a variety of sources and to offer a critical evaluation of its significance.
12. Manage time and to organise, plan and execute a project to a predetermined length and deadline.
13. Identify problems and plan strategies for resolving them.
14. Connect learning experiences to use them in the outside world.

VALUES & ATTITUDES
The capacity to value and respect other cultural backgrounds and beliefs by developing an open mind towards different ideas and backgrounds overcoming stereotypes.
Excellence in intercultural communication and critical intercultural views to critically value and assess the outside world.
Demonstrating a professional and ethical attitude towards studying and research.

HOW WILL I LEARN?
You will learn through a variety of approaches:

Language components: the language programme uses a variety of authentic materials in Spanish, to work on the different linguistic skills. The learning and teaching approach is wide and adapts to the context and the year of study, from formal grammar teaching to flipped classes and uses of technology. We always aim to be at the forefront of new trends in language learning.
There are regular oral classes with native language teachers where students work on developing listening comprehension, improvisation and presentational skills, with a clear progression from year 1 to 4.
Technology-enhanced language learning help us both reinforce command of grammatical structures and immerse students in the language and culture.

Cultural components: The culture elements of the course are taught through a variety of methods depending on level, group size and the nature of the topic in question, drawing on literature,
There are regular lectures and seminars, the former requires a higher level of input from the lecturer (although not entirely) whereas the latter will help consolidate or construct knowledge by promoting active discussion and critical thinking, where students will participate in presentations, elaboration of posters and other materials after processing the information.

**Study Abroad/Work abroad:** The overall learning experience is enhanced by one (compulsory) or more (voluntary) periods of residence abroad in a Spanish speaking country. These opportunities not only have a positive impact on students’ linguistic and communicative/intercultural competence but also provides a perfect occasion for independent learning and personal development.

**Overall structure of the Programme**

**Semester 1 – 4**

**EITHER:** Spanish for Beginners  
Sem. 1-2: Language classes only (in small seminar groups)  
Sem. 3-4: Language (in small seminar groups) and culture classes (lecture and seminar)  
**OR:** Spanish for Advanced Spanish Speakers  
Sem. 1-4: Language (in small seminar groups) and culture classes (lecture and seminar)  
**AND:** Two other courses to choose  
You can take three different subject areas for the first three semesters and then choose your area of specialisation

**Optional year abroad (if candidate fulfills the British Council criteria)**  
English language assistant (British Council) – paid post in a Spanish-speaking country

**Semester 5**  
Core course Spanish language: writing and oral classes  
Option courses on cultural topics  
Options - examples:  
The Representation of Space in Spanish Cinema; Indigenous Cultures in Latin America; Argentine History and Politics in Film; Basque and Catalan Nationalism

**Semester 6**  
Compulsory Study abroad – Universities in Spain or Latin America

**Semester 7**  
Core course Spanish language: writing and translation, oral classes  
Option courses on cultural topics

**Semester 8**  
Core course Spanish language: writing, oral classes  
Option courses on cultural topics  
For Single Honours students (and as a choice for Combined Honours): dissertation (independent research)

Optional year abroad (if candidate fulfills the British Council criteria)  
English language assistant (British Council) – paid post in a Spanish-speaking country

**WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?**
Language components: Language work at all levels is assessed by a combination of coursework done during the year and written, aural and oral class-tests and exams at the end of each semester. You will be expected to participate in classes as much as possible as well as to complete projects and presentation (both in groups and individually).

Culture components: The literature and culture elements of the Spanish & Latin American programme are assessed by a range of methods across the various levels: Class essays and other projects (i.e. presentations and posters) test skills of organisation, argumentation, understanding, analysis and processing content; Exams test knowledge retention skills in time-limited contexts. Single Honours students are required to write a dissertation which tests skills of organisation, critical thinking, argumentation and research.

Feedback is provided both in classes, in our Feedback & Guidance Sessions and after every assessment completed (either written in the hardcopy or electronically)

Students are assessed through a range of formative and summative evaluation techniques that gradually progress in complexity throughout the programme.

Feedback on Assessment
You will receive feedback on coursework within 3 weeks of completion of the assessment. Feedback is usually provided electronically on formal Culture coursework. Feedback and Guidance sessions with teaching staff are available on all modules. These provide regular opportunities to discuss feedback further. More information about feedback on assessment can be found here; http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/assessment/

Assessment Regulations

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at the University of Stirling, please see the full version of the assessment regulations at:
Undergraduate
The list below shows compulsory and option modules for this programme. Option modules are revised over time and, in some cases, will be dependent upon pre-requisite and/or co-requisites being taken. More information about these requirements can be found in the relevant Module Descriptors. The options available each year can be subject to change due to student demand and availability of teaching staff and therefore only a few recent examples appear here.

- Where an “Option list” is specified, you have a choice of which module to take at this point in the degree programme and these choices are listed below
- For year 1 and 2 where “Any Module” is used it means that you can choose from all modules available to the year group and you can see the full list by following these links:

**Undergraduate**

**Year 1**

Total year 1 credit value = 120  
Compulsory credits = 40  
Option credits = 80

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year I</th>
<th>Year II</th>
<th>Year III</th>
<th>Year IV</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Semester 3</td>
<td>Semester 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 8</td>
<td>Level 8</td>
<td>Level 8</td>
<td>Level 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPAU9A1 OR SPAU9B1 (20 credits)</td>
<td>SPAU9A2 OR SPAU9B2 (20 credits)</td>
<td>SPAU9A3 OR SPAU9B3 (20 credits)</td>
<td>SPAU9A4 (20 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>40 credits on Any Subject</td>
<td>40 credits on Any Subject</td>
<td>40 credits on Any Subject</td>
<td>40 credits on Any Subject</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| | | | | NB: Under exceptional circumstances, students may be allowed not to undertake Semester 6 Abroad and, instead, complete our minimum residence requirement. This requires the approval of the Programme Director and Study Abroad Adviser and minimum residence is completed at student’s own expense, usually during vacation time. Students who are allowed not to take LANUSPA, will remain in Stirling and take 2 Level 10 Spanish modules instead of LANUSPA.

Compulsory Modules – SPAU9B1 is only available to students with no previous qualification in Spanish (Higher, A Level or equivalent).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spanish and Latin American Studies 1</td>
<td>SPAU9A1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introductory Spanish 1</td>
<td>SPAU9B1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spanish and Latin American</td>
<td>SPAU9A2</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>8</td>
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</table>
### Year 2

Total year 2 credit value = 120  
**Compulsory credits = 40**  
**Optional credits = 80**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compulsory Modules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Module Title</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spanish and Latin American Studies 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Spanish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Spanish and Latin American Studies</td>
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### Year 3

Total year 3 credit value = 120  
**Compulsory credits = 80**  
**Optional credits = 40**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Compulsory Modules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Module Title</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honours/General Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages for Employability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory Semester Abroad in Spanish-Speaking Country</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NB:** Students who are given permission by the Programme Director and Study Abroad Advisor not to undertake the Compulsory Semester Abroad in a Spanish-speaking Country (LANUSPA) are required to take 2 Level 10 Spanish option modules in the Spring instead (see details below). They are also required to complete an approved period of minimum residence requirement, at their own expense and usually during vacation period.

### Option Modules – Our option modules change from year to year, depending on staff availability, but there are generally 3 Level 10 Spanish option modules available in the Autumn semester in any given year and 2 in the Spring. Examples of recent modules are as follows. With the exception of LANU9TT, all our option modules are open to both Year 3 and Year 4 students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th><strong>Module Code</strong></th>
<th><strong>Credit</strong></th>
<th><strong>Semester</strong></th>
<th><strong>SCQF Level</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous cultures in Latin America</td>
<td>SPAU9IC</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basque and Catalan Nationalism, History and Culture</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Varies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Translation Theory for Languages Students</td>
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### Year 4

Total year 4 credit value = 120  
**Compulsory credits = 100**
Optional credits = 20

### Compulsory Modules

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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<th>SCQF Level</th>
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<td>Dissertation Preparation</td>
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<td>Honours Language II</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spanish Dissertation</td>
<td>SPAU9D3</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>10</td>
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</table>

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<td>20</td>
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### READING LIST

**Required and Recommended Reading for the Programme**

Each of the modules within the Spanish and Latin American Programme will provide a detailed reading list.

### Section 3 Student Support

#### SUPPORT FOR STUDENT LEARNING

**Induction**

You will receive an induction during the first days of your programme. This includes a range of social events, information sessions and activities to help you orientate yourself at Stirling and access the services available to you. These are opportunities to meet staff and other students from across the university, in the Faculty and on the programme.

In the first few weeks of the Autumn semester, usually from weeks 1 to 3 or 4, the programme of Spanish and Latin American studies organizes a number of induction events for students, some of them are specific for a module while others are social events where students have the opportunity to meet member of the staff and students from other years.

**Study Skills Support**

Student Learning Services (SLS) are committed to providing comprehensive guidance on all aspects of effective and efficient learning. The ultimate aim of the service is to enable you to make the most of your academic studies at the University and for you to become an independent, successful learner during your time at the University of Stirling. This is facilitated through collaborative work with experienced tutors and by offering a variety of courses, workshops and tutorials.
All students, whatever stage of their academic studies, are welcome to use Student Learning Services. However the service may be particularly beneficial:

- In your first two years of study.
- If you are making the transition from college to Higher Education.
- If you have been out of education for some time.

What SLS are able to do:

- Advise you on academic skills relevant to your studies at University.
- Help you consolidate your previous learning and develop new learning strategies.
- Advise on action-plans to potentially improve grades.
- Suggest practical solutions if you feel overwhelmed by assignment work.
- Help you gain confidence in the transition to Higher Education.

More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/student-learning-services/

STEER
STEER is a University-wide peer support scheme linking in returning student "Captains" with new undergraduate or taught post-graduate "Crew" during their first year at Stirling.

The scheme aims to help you make the most of your time at the University, help new students - the Crew - settle in and realise the opportunities available to them. You can find out more information here: https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/steer/

Stirling Graduate School
For Research Postgraduate Students the Stirling Graduate School as well as your own faculty will provide support. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/graduateschool/current-pg-students/skills-development/

Academic and Pastoral Support
Adviser of Studies: Advisers have an important role to play in enhancing your academic and personal development and are essential to ensuring you make the most of your time at university. Advisers provide a personalised point of contact for you to discuss academic concerns or queries within the academic community. The general purpose of the role is to provide more in-depth advice on the academic options available to you and on the academic policies and regulations within the University. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/advisers/

Personal Tutor: The role of a personal tutor is to help you feel part of the University community. They are a specific and consistent source of guidance, information and support for you throughout your studies. The tutor should be the your first formal point of contact for general academic guidance and pastoral support. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/tse/personal-tutor/

Support and Wellbeing: At university you may face non-academic issues where you need some expert help or guidance. There are lots of ways we can help you in your day-to-day life at University. Student Support Services provide a range of high-quality services to assist you during the course of your studies, help prepare you for life after graduation. We aim to enhance the student experience and help you to get the most out of your time at University. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/support-and-wellbeing/

Student Union: you can also access support through the Students’ Union, more information can be found here: https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/

Accessibility and Inclusion (A&I)
A&I are committed to offering a service which is welcoming and supportive of the needs of all students. Our service takes into account the full range of needs you may have, in a wide variety of circumstances including physical and mobility difficulties, sensory impairments, specific learning difficulties including dyslexia and autistic spectrum disorder as well as medical conditions and mental health difficulties. A&I can also support you if you have short-term, temporary impairments or other difficulties as a result of an accident, injury, illness or surgery. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/student-support/accessibility-inclusion-service/

Learning Resources
You can find out more about the resources available to support your learning here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/

Section 4 Programme Evaluation and Enhancement

**METHODS FOR EVALUATING AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING**

Module Evaluation
Module evaluations are carried out each year and are an important way of getting student feedback on the modules we teach. We aim to evaluate every module we teach in every semester. You can find out more here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/studentinformation/moduleevaluation/

Programme Review
Programmes are reviewed annually and on a 5 yearly cycle. You can get involved in a variety of different ways; by completing module evaluations, becoming a course representative and attending Student Staff Consultative Committees, or participating in the review process itself. You can find out more here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/review-and-monitoring/

External Examiner(s)
Name of External Examiner & Institution: Dr Sarah Wright, University of London and Dr Adam Sharman, University of Nottingham.

Section 5 My Future

**WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON TO?**
*What career avenues does this qualification open up to the student?*

Language skills are highly sought after by employers and open up a wide range of careers. Graduates have secured jobs, in the UK and abroad, in teaching, both in Spanish and English, translating and interpreting, finance, the civil service, industry and commerce, marketing, administration, charity work, publishing and public relations.

How does this programme facilitate your development of the Graduate Attributes?
Spanish and Latin American Studies at Stirling focuses on Spanish as a global language, coupled with the integral period spent on Study Abroad helps our students to feel actively connected to a global, multilingual and multicultural environment. The Semester Abroad is a transformative experience for our students and their engagement with Spanish and Latin American cultures as developing realities of the
contemporary world which enables our students to acquire not only knowledge but skills that will stay with them for the future (i.e. negotiation across cultures, languages and people).

**WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?**

Compulsory Semester Abroad either in Spain (Erasmus +) or Latin America.

**WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?**

English Language Assistantship Programme with the British Council: Positions available in Spain and Latin America. Informative meetings are organised in early/mid October every year.

**WHAT FURTHER STUDY OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO ME?**

You will be able to apply for any taught and research PG study programme in the UK or abroad. Previous students have gone for Masters/PhD (at the University of Stirling and beyond) on Translation & Interpreting, TESOL, Business and Marketing, etc. but options are not limited to these examples.

**WHAT OTHER INFORMATION DO I NEED TO KNOW?**

The Spanish and Latin American programme is open to both students with previous knowledge of Spanish and to complete beginners. There are two routes: beginners and advanced, but the paths gradually merge in semesters 4 and 5.

Section 6 Admissions

**HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?**

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

**YEAR 1 ENTRY –**

FOUR-YEAR HONOURS

SQA Highers:
ABB – one sitting
AABB – two sittings
GCE A-levels: BBB
IB Diploma: 32
BTEC (Level 3): DDM

Essential subjects:
To apply for a combined degree with Spanish and French, you will require one of these languages at Higher or A-level (or equivalent).

**YEAR 2 ENTRY –**

THREE-YEAR HONOURS

SQA Adv. Highers: ABB
GCE A-levels: ABB
IB Diploma: 35

Essential subjects: To include Spanish.

**OTHER QUALIFICATIONS**

Scottish HNC/HND:
Minimum entry: Bs in graded unit.