

# **Undergraduate Programme Specification**

Session	2024/25	Last Modified				
Named Award Title	BA (Hons) English La	nguage				
Award Title for Each	Certificate of Higher Ed	ducation (Cert HE) in Eng	glish Language (L 7)			
Award	Diploma of Higher Edu	cation (Dip HE) in Englis	h Language (L 8)			
	Bachelor of Arts in Eng	lish Language (L 9)				
	Bachelor of Arts with H	Ionours (BA Hons) in Eng	glish Language (L 10)			
Date of Approval	October 2024	October 2024				
Details of Cohort Applies to	September 2025					
Awarding Institution	University of the West of Scotland	Teaching Institution(s)	University of the West of Scotland			
Language of Instruction	on & Examination	English				
Award Accredited by		None				
Maximum Period of Re	egistration	5 years				
Duration of Study						
Full-time	4 years	Part-time	N/A			
Placement (compulsory)	None					
Mode of Study	Full-time					
Mode of Study						
	Part-time					
Campus	Ayr	Lanarkshire	Online / Distance			
	Dumfries	London	Learning			
		□ Paisley	Other (specify)			
School	<b>Education and Social</b>	Sciences				
Divisional	Education					
Programme Board						
Programme Leader	K Highet					

Admissions Criteria	

Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admission requirements of the University of the West of Scotland as specified in Chapter 2 of the University Regulatory Framework together with the following programme requirements:

## **SQA National Qualifications:**

#### Year 1 Entry:

- 1. Passes in the Scottish National Qualifications in five subjects including three at Higher level or other academic, vocational or professional qualifications deemed to be equivalent.
- 2. Meets English Language Entry Requirements

#### Year 2 entry:

- 1. Previous university-level experience leading to the attainment of qualifications/credits at, or equivalent to, a minimum of SCQF Level 7. It is desirable that applicants have previous experience of formal English language study at university level. However, previous experience of studying other subjects will also be taken into consideration, provided the applicant meets the UWS minimum English language requirements.
- 2. Minimum IELTS comparable score of 6.0 or above (with a minimum of 5.5 in each component).

### Year 3 entry:

- 1. Previous university-level experience leading to the attainment of qualifications/credits at, or equivalent to, a minimum of SCQF Level 8. It is desirable that applicants have previous experience of formal English language study at university level. However, previous experience of studying other subjects will also be taken into consideration, provided the applicant meets the UWS minimum English language requirements.
- 2. Minimum IELTS comparable score of 6.0 or above (with a minimum of 5.5 in each component).

# Year 4 entry:

- 1. Previous university-level experience leading to the attainment of qualifications/credits at, or equivalent to SCQF Level 9. Applicants must have previous experience of formal English language study at university level.
- 2. Minimum IELTS comparable score of 6.0 or above (with a minimum of 5.5 in each component)

# Or GCE

# Or SQA National Qualifications / Edexcel Foundation

# Other Required Qualifications/Experience

# Further desirable skills pre-application

- 1. This course is only open to students who do NOT have English as a first language.
- 2. Previous study at University Level must be validated by a Higher Education institution and mapped to relevant UWS RPL standards.

#### **General Overview**

This unique undergraduate programme is designed for students who do not have English as a first language, who wish to enhance their English language skills and develop a keen understanding of the role that language plays in the world around them.

As well as allowing students to become highly proficient communicators, the programme equips students with critical and analytical tools to understand how language shapes society, and how society shapes language. Students explore this through our wide range of core and optional modules that address the social, political, linguistic, cultural and educational aspects of (English) language.

On the programme, students will develop their English Language Skills through a series of incremental core modules designed to meet the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) levels B2-C2. This is complemented by further language skills modules that specialise in Academic English (Academic Study in English 1&2; English for Academic Purposes). In addition, students have the opportunity study a range of sub-areas of English language study: Structure of English; History of English; Genres of English; Intercultural Communication and Citizenship; Cultural Studies for Learners of English; Sociolinguistics; Multilingualism in Society; Analysing Discourse; Theory and Practice of English Language Teaching. In their final year, students draw on the knowledge and skills gained throughout the programme to undertake a research project on a topic related to the English language, in the Language Dissertation module.

The broad and specialised (socio)linguistic knowledge acquired throughout the programme modules provides a holistic perspective on (English) language, allowing students to become more attentive users of English and to critically reflect on their own multilingual practices as well as those of the wider world around them. This enhanced sensibility further supports students in the development of their language skills as well as fostering a nuanced understanding of, and appreciation for, their own linguistic repertoires. Assessments are designed in ways that allow students to creatively draw on their own experiences to demonstrate their learning.

All UWS Languages modules are informed by the communicative methodology which focuses on the development of practical language skills. Core language classes focus on receptive and productive skills, together with the development of an understanding of the formal structures of the language studied. Students are encouraged to use the target language exclusively in the classroom. They are exposed to authentic materials in the target language in written and spoken form, including contact with speakers whose first language is English, both directly and through the full range of electronic media. As students progress, they are expected to be increasingly able to identify their own language learning needs and to work on these independently. All four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) are assessed both formatively and summatively in the core language modules. Across all levels, students engage with current socio-cultural, political and historical topics relating to the target cultures, thus enhancing their sense of being global citizens.

Blended learning will encourage greater linguistic and cultural immersion by providing students with increased opportunities to interact outside the classroom, with UWS staff and other speakers of English, and with their peers. Students are strongly encouraged (through directed self-study) to make use of University Library resources (newspapers, magazines, films and documentaries) to develop a broad interest in the cultures and societies where English features prominently. Students are expected to attend all of their classes and to complete all assignments, whether summatively, or formatively, assessed.

The programme is founded on the principle that university education should be a collaborative learning experience, where independent study is key, and where formative feedback is continual, positive, personalised and productive. Personal development is at the heart of this programme, and PDP activities are woven into all of the core modules, including the Aspire modules. At the same time, students have the possibility of selecting optional modules from across the University, including Modern Languages, in order to enhance and personalise their learning experience. For students whose first language is not English, this provides excellent opportunities to interact, in authentic contexts, with speakers whose first language is English. Students can take advantage of further opportunities to tailor the programme to their individual needs and career plans by engaging in work placements (such as Language Assistant Placements at local primary schools, or volunteering with third-sector migrant/community support organisations) or through study abroad opportunities at our Comenius partner institutions across Europe.

Upon graduating from the programme, graduates will have gained excellent communication skills as well as a critical understanding of societal aspects of language use. These skills mean that graduates of BA English Language are prepared to enter a range of careers that directly or indirectly related to English language. Many of our previous graduates continue on to our MEd in TESOL, although many other routes into postgraduate education are possible. Our graduate students have entered careers in translation/interpreting, international business and administration, and education, or have pursued careers in the UK in fields that they had previously qualified for in their home countries.

# **Typical Delivery Method**

On campus

# Any additional costs

# **Graduate Attributes, Employability & Personal Development Planning**

The programme will help students to develop skills that are transferable to other areas of study and professional employment. Students are introduced to personal development planning during their time on the programme and are supported in this process particularly through the ASPIRE module. ASPIRE is a set of modules that help the University to support its students to shape and chart their own unique path, based on their goals and ambitions. Support and activities for PDP are incremental, with opportunities for the student to build skills which will contribute to their employability and ability to participate in lifelong learning. As students progress, activities will be increasingly personalised to enhance autonomy, independence and depth of reflection, and to promote responsibility and ownership of the student's own learning and intellectual development.

The BA English Language curriculum has been designed with the UWS Graduate Attributes in mind, as outlined below:

### Universal

The range of social and cultural topics explored in the modules will help students to develop critical and analytical capacities and to apply this to the world around them, particularly through the use of reflective assessment prompts. Through a focus on the intercultural and multilingual nature of their local and global contexts, students will develop capacities to become culturally aware and socially responsible. This is further enhanced through their collaborative work with a diverse group of peers on the programme. In addition, students are

encouraged to be research-minded through the integrated and progressive academic research tasks included in modules from Level 7 (Academic English Skills) up to Level 10 (Language Dissertation). The personal tutor system will also allow students to gain knowledge and advice from experienced researchers in research methods and methodologies, with a view to commencing the personal development of budding researchers who are interested in progressing to postgraduate study. One suggested route for graduates of this programme would be the UWS MEd in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, although many other routes are possible, depending on the optional module choices of each student.

# Work-Ready

The programme allows students to gain broad and deep knowledge of societal issues related to language as well as hands-on practical skills for the workplace (e.g. Theory and Practice of ELT) that prepare them well for global careers in language and/or migrant support. Through their use of the VLE and a range of other digital media across modules, students are digitally literate. Students are encouraged to be ambitious and motivated in their career planning and will have opportunities to study abroad and engage in local work placements (local Primary Schools and Migrant Support Organisations; work placements abroad e.g. Granada) to work towards these goals. Their development of English language skills will make students effective, multilingual communicators.

#### Successful

From Level 7 students are encouraged to identify their own areas of self-improvement, particularly through the use of portfolios, thereby enhancing their sense of autonomy. Creativity is fostered through innovative assessments, such as public dissemination tasks (Sociolinguistics) that encourage students to reflect on how their learning can contribute to local and global societal transformation.

# **Work Based Learning/Placement Details**

The programme offers students various opportunities for work and study abroad placements: Language Assistant placements in local primary schools; volunteering placements in migrant/community support organisations, study abroad opportunities at our Comenius partner institutions across Europe, and work abroad opportunities in countries such as Spain.

# **Attendance and Engagement**

In line with the <u>Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure</u>, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this programme, academic engagement equates to the following:

All fulltime students are required to attend all scheduled classes and participate with all delivered elements of the module as part of their engagement with their programme of study. Consideration will be given to students who have protection under the appropriate equality law. Please refer to UWS Regulations, Chapter 1, 1.64 – 1.67

#### **Equality and Diversity**

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: <u>UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code.</u>

Aligned with the overall commitment to equality and diversity, this programme supports equality of opportunity for students from all backgrounds and with different learning needs. Using the VLE, learning materials will be presented electronically in formats that allow flexible access and manipulation of content. All modules comply with University regulations and

guidance on inclusive learning and teaching practice. Specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. In line with university policy, the programme does not tolerate any discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marital/civil partnership status, pregnancy, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation

As a programme that offers routes into education for students who do not have English as a First Language, we are committed to offering high quality and inclusive education for students from a range of diverse backgrounds. Equality and diversity are key areas of exploration across many of the core and optional modules included in the programme.

# Programme structures and requirements, SCQF level, term, module name and code, credits and awards (Chapter 1, Regulatory Framework)

# **Learning Outcomes**

	SCQF LEVEL 7
	Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge and Understanding
A1	Demonstrate an understanding of grammatical, lexical and phonological features of English
A2	Reflect on and describe the structural and linguistic elements of English
А3	Demonstrate an understanding of the use of English in specific genres
A4	
<b>A5</b>	
	Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding
B1	Demonstrate competence in receptive and productive skills in English approaching the B2 Effective Operational Proficiency level of the CEFR
B2	Participate in discussion on topics studied in English
В3	Be able to make use of English language skills for academic study
B4	
B5	
	Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills
C1	Use the library and electronic media for language learning purposes
C2	Make formal, comprehensible oral presentations in English in accordance with a rubric
C3	Use numerically presented information as a research resource
C4	
C5	
	Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation
D1	Identify key information from written and spoken texts in English
D2	Demonstrate capacity for analysis of structural features of English
D3	Consider language use from a linguistic perspective
D4	
D5	
	Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others
E1	Demonstrate ability to identify areas of language improvement under supervision
E2	Work cooperatively and accountably with other students, inside and outside the class,
Fa	to develop language skills and complete projects
E3	Meet deadlines and demonstrate ability to organise work
E4	
E5	

# Level 7 Modules

# CORE

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes	
Level	Code			1	2	3		
7	ENGL07007	Academic Study in English 1	20	$\boxtimes$				
7	ENGL07008	Academic Study in English 2	20		$\boxtimes$			
7	APPD07001	Aspire	20					
7	LING07006	Structure of English	20		$\boxtimes$			
Footno	Footnotes for Core Modules							

# Level 7 Modules

# **OPTION**

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Terr	n		Footnotes
Level	Code			1	2	3	
7	ENGL07009	English Language Skills 7.1	20				
7	ENGL07010	English Language Skills 7.2	20		$\boxtimes$		

Footnotes for Option Modules

In Term 2, students may undertake a different module from elsewhere in the university's module catalogue as an alternative to the named option, with the agreement of the Programme Leader

# Level 7

# **Criteria for Progression and Award**

Please refer to <u>UWS Regulatory Framework</u> for related regulations

Progression may be permitted to Level 8 as long as 80 credits have been achieved and all other criteria of regulation 3.13 are met.

Students exiting at this point may be eligible for Certificate of Higher Education. CertHE requires 120 credit points at SCQF level 7 or above, including all core modules.

Links: UWS Regulatory Framework; and Student Experience Policy Statement.

	SCQF LEVEL 8
	Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge and Understanding
A1	Demonstrate a discerning understanding of grammatical, lexical and phonological features of English
A2	Show an understanding of cultural elements of English
А3	Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of English language use
A4	
<b>A5</b>	
	Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding
B1	Demonstrate competence in receptive and productive skills in English approaching the B2/C1 Effective Operational Proficiency level of the CEFR
B2	Participate in discussion and debate on topics studied in English
В3	Be able to make effective use of English language skills across a range of genres
B4	
B5	
	Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills
C1	Confidently use the library and electronic media for language learning purposes
C2	Make accurate formal presentations in English in accordance with a rubric
C3	Discerningly use numerically presented information as a research resource
C4	
C5	
	Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation
D1	Identify key information from complex written and spoken texts in English
D2	Demonstrate capacity for analysis of social and contextual factors of language use
D3	Consider language use from a functional & historical perspective
D4	
D5	
	Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others
E1	Demonstrate ability to identify areas of language improvement under guidance
E2	Demonstrate responsibility and accountability in working cooperatively with other students, with an awareness of multilingual and multicultural issues
E3	Meet deadlines and demonstrate ability to organise work effectively
E4	
<b>E</b> 5	

# Level 8 Modules

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
Level	Code			1	2	3	
8	ENGL08004	English Language Skills 8.1	20				
8	ENGL08005	English Language Skills 8.2	20		$\boxtimes$		
8	LING08004	Genres of English	20				
8		Aspire	20				
Footno	tes for Core M	odules					

# Level 8 Modules

# **OPTION**

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
Level	Code			1	2	3	
8	LING08006	Intercultural Communication and Citizenship	20				
8	LING08005	History of English	20				
Footno	tes for Option	Modules					

Students may undertake a different module from elsewhere in the university's module catalogue as an alternative to the named option, with the agreement of the Programme Leader

# Level 8

# **Criteria for Progression and Award**

Please refer to <u>UWS Regulatory Framework</u> for related regulations

Progression may be permitted to Level 9 as long as 80 credits have been achieved at Level 8 and all other criteria of regulation 3.13 are met.

Students exiting at this point may be eligible for Diploma of Higher Education. DipHE requires 240 credit points of which a minimum of 90 are at SCQF level 8 or above, including all core modules.

Links: UWS Regulatory Framework; and Student Experience Policy Statement.

	SCQF LEVEL 9
	Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)
	Knowledge and Understanding
A1	Demonstrate a detailed understanding of grammatical, lexical and phonological features of English
A2	Show a critical understanding of cultural elements of English from a global perspective
A3	Demonstrate a detailed understanding of language variation, change and use across social contexts
A4	
<b>A5</b>	
	Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding
B1	Demonstrate competence in receptive and productive skills in English approaching the C1 Effective Operational Proficiency level of the CEFR
B2	Participate in discussion and debate on topics studied in English, showing ability to respond quickly and resourcefully
В3	Be able to make use of English language skills across contexts, and apply theory to understand its contextual use
B4	
B5	
	Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills
C1	Use the library and electronic media for research and language learning purposes
C2	Make confident and accurate formal oral presentations in English in accordance with a rubric, in order to construct arguments
СЗ	Retrieve and interpret numerically presented information as a research source
C4	
C5	
	Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation
D1	Extract and analyse information from complex written texts in English
D2	Demonstrate critical reflection and analysis of social and political factors of language use
D3	Consider language use from a sociolinguistic perspective
D4	
D5	
	Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others
E1	Demonstrate effectiveness in improving own language skills autonomously
E2	Demonstrate responsibility and accountability in working cooperatively with other students, with an awareness of multilingual and multicultural issues
E3	Work autonomously on mini-research projects and demonstrate academic integrity
E4	
<b>E</b> 5	

#### Level 9 Modules

#### CORE

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes	
Level	Code			1	2	3		
9	ENGL09019	English Language Skills 9.1	20					
9	ENGL09020	English Language Skills 9.2	20		$\boxtimes$			
9	LING09014	Sociolinguistics	20					
9	LING09015	Multilingualism in Society	20					
Footno	Footnotes for Core Modules							

# Level 9 Modules

## **OPTION**

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Terr	n		Footnotes
Level	Code			1	2	3	
9	LING09020	Cultural Studies for Learners of English 1	20				
9	LING09019	Cultural Studies for Learners of English 2	20				
9	ENGL09021	English for Academic Purposes	20	$\boxtimes$	$\boxtimes$		
Footno	tes for Option	Modules	•	•			•

## Footnotes for Option Modules

Students may undertake a different module from elsewhere in the university's module catalogue as an alternative to the named option, with the agreement of the Programme Leader.

# Level 9

# **Criteria for Progression and Award**

# Please refer to <u>UWS Regulatory Framework</u> for related regulations

Those students who achieve 120 credits shall be eligible to progress to Level 10, or to exit the programme and be awarded an Ordinary Degree. Progression may be permitted to Level 10 with up to 20 credits deficit, in line with regulation 3.14

In line with the Regulatory Framework, for the award of Ordinary Degree, at least 120 credit points must be achieved of which a minimum of 90 are at SCQF Level 9, including all core modules.

Distinction will be awarded in line with University Regulations and no imported credit can be used. (Regulations 3.35 & 3.26)

Links: UWS Regulatory Framework; and Student Experience Policy Statement.

SCQF LEVEL 10	

	SCQF LEVEL 10				
	Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)				
Knowledge and Understanding					
A1	Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of grammatical, lexical and phonological systems of English				
A2	Show detailed, comprehensive and critical knowledge of societal and/or cultural and/or educational aspects of English				
А3	Demonstrate a critical understanding of applied linguistics principles in the context of the English language, across a range of contexts				
<b>A4</b>					
<b>A5</b>					
	Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding				
B1	Demonstrate high level competence in receptive and productive skills in English at the C1/C2 Effective Operational Proficiency level of the CEFR				
B2	Participate in discussion and debate on topics studied in English, showing ability to articulate complex ideas and respond quickly and resourcefully				
В3	Be able to make use of English language skills in professional contexts, and apply theory to support this				
B4					
B5					
	Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills				
C1	Make skilled use of library and electronic media for research and language learning purposes				
C2	Make confident and accurate extended oral presentations in English in accordance with a rubric, in order to construct arguments				
С3	Retrieve, interpret and critically analyse numerically presented information as a research source				
C4					
C5					
	Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation				
D1	Extract and synthesise information from spoken and written texts, using English- language sources				
D2	Demonstrate capacity for critical reflection and analysis in the light of evidence and argument, engaging in some cases with resources at the forefront of the subject				
D3	Instrumentalise various perspectives to evaluate and analyse a particular language phenomenon, showing critical understanding of the uncertainty and limits of knowledge				

D4							
D5							
	Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others						
E1	Be an independent language learner, making creative use of resources						
E2	Demonstrate responsibility, accountability and professionalism in working cooperatively with other students and staff						
E3	Show capacity to plan and write a dissertation, making effective use of support, working autonomously and demonstrating academic integrity						
E4							
<b>E</b> 5							

# **Level 10 Modules**

# **CORE**

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Term			Footnotes
Level	Code			1	2	3	
10	ENGL10005	English Language Skills 10.1	20	$\boxtimes$			
10	ENGL10006	English Language Skills 10.2	20				
10	LING10006	Language Dissertation	40	$\boxtimes$	$\boxtimes$		
Footno	tes for Core M	odules					

# Level 10 Modules

# **OPTION**

Leader

SCQF	Module	Module Title	Credit	Term		Footnotes	
Level	Code			1	2	3	
10	LING10007	Analysing Discourse	20				
10	LING10008	Theory and Practice of English Language Teaching	20				
9	ENGL09021	English for Academic Purposes	20	$\boxtimes$	$\boxtimes$		
Footno	tes for Option	Modules	•	•	•	•	
Studen	ts may underta	ake a different module from elsewh	ere in the	unive	rsity'	s mod	dule

catalogue as an alternative to the named option, with the agreement of the Programme

# Level 10 **Criteria for Award** Please refer to <u>UWS Regulatory Framework</u> for related regulations In line with the Regulatory Framework, for the award of Honours Degree, at least 120 credit

points must be achieved of which a minimum of 90 are at SCQF Level 10, and at least 80 of these credits must be in English Language, or related subjects, including all core modules.

No Distinction is awarded at Honours level (Regulation 3.25).

Links: UWS Regulatory Framework; and Student Experience Policy Statement.

# **Regulations of Assessment**

Candidates will be bound by the general assessment regulations of the University as specified in the University Regulatory Framework.

An overview of the assessment details is provided in the Student Handbook and the assessment criteria for each module is provided in the module descriptor which forms part of the module pack issued to students. For further details on assessment please refer to Chapter 3 of the Regulatory Framework.

To qualify for an award of the University, students must complete all the programme requirements and must meet the credit minima detailed in Chapter 1 of the Regulatory Framework.

## **Combined Studies**

There may be instances where a student has been unsuccessful in meeting the award criteria for the named award and for other more generic named awards existing within the School. Provided that they have met the credit requirements in line with the SCQF credit minima (please see Regulation 1.21), they will be eligible for a Combined Studies award (please see Regulation 1.61).

For students studying BA, BAcc, or BD awards the award will be BA Combined Studies.

For students studying BEng or BSc awards, the award will be BSc Combined Studies.

# Version no: 1

Change/Version Control

What	When	Who	