

# ET324-15 Multilingualism and Culture

**24/25**

**Department**

Applied Linguistics

**Level**

Undergraduate Level 3

**Module leader**

Ellen Smith-Dennis

**Credit value**

15

**Module duration**

10 weeks

**Assessment**

50% coursework, 50% exam

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

Is it an advantage or disadvantage to be brought up bilingual? Is the bilingual or multilingual mind different? How do multilingual individuals draw on culturally shaped understandings of the social world to manage their interactions? In this module you will become familiar with key terms, concepts, theories and research evidence related to linguistic, psychological, and social aspects of bi/multi-lingualism. By the end of the module, you will be able to describe and discuss evidence in bi/multi-lingualism research, analyse the use of language in bi/multi-lingual contexts and evaluate theoretical and empirical research in bi/multi-lingualism.

[Module web page](#)

### Module aims

This module aims to develop understanding of the workings of the bilingual mind, the advantages and disadvantages of being brought up bilingual, and how individuals draw on frames of understanding from diverse languages to construct meaning in social interaction and manage communication with others. You will become familiar with key terms, concepts, theories and research evidence related to linguistic, psychological, and social aspects of bi/multi-lingualism.

### Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Learning multiple languages in childhood  
Sequential multilingualism and the critical period  
Multilingual lexicon and multilingual processing  
Cognitive effects of multilingualism  
Code-switching  
Multilingual societies  
Language shift and endangerment  
Language policy, planning and education

## **Learning outcomes**

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Upon successful completion of this module, you will be able to:
- demonstrate your understanding of key concepts, terminology, research methods and theories related to the linguistic, psychological and social aspects of multilingualism
- demonstrate a critical understanding of issues related to multilingualism and culture
- describe and discuss the use of language by multilinguals and in multilingual contexts
- critically evaluate theoretical and empirical research in multilingualism

## **Indicative reading list**

Bhatia, T. K., & Ritchie, W. C. (Eds.). The handbook of bilingualism and multilingualism (2nd edn) (pp.5-25). Chichester/Malden: Wiley-Blackwell.

Wei, L. (Ed.). The bilingualism reader (pp. 3-25). London/New York: Routledge.

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

## **Interdisciplinary**

This module demonstrates how the study of multilingualism is inherently interdisciplinary. We can study multilingualism from a number of different perspectives including linguistic, psycholinguistic, sociolinguistic and applied linguistics.

## **International**

In an increasingly globalised and mobilised world, speakers of different languages are interacting with one another more and more, perpetuating local and global multilingualism. It is therefore critical to understand how an individual and/or a society becomes multilingual, how multilingual individuals interact, how the multilingual mind works, and how multilingualism can be supported (or not) through policies and education.

## **Subject specific skills**

Describe and discuss theory and evidence in bilingual first language acquisition research  
Demonstrate their understanding of key concepts, terminology, research methods and theories of bilingualism  
Describe and discuss the use of language in bilinguals  
Evaluate theoretical and empirical research in bilingualism  
Be familiar with theory, research findings, research methods related to bilingualism

## **Transferable skills**

Communicate clearly in oral presentation and written work  
Retrieve, evaluate critically and select relevant information to support coherent arguments

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## **Study**

### **Study time**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Required</b>
Lectures	9 sessions of 2 hours (12%)
Seminars	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Other activity	4 hours (3%)
Private study	119 hours (79%)
Total	150 hours

### **Private study description**

Reading subject materials  
Homework tasks  
Assignments  
Revision

### **Other activity description**

Revision sessions

### **Costs**

No further costs have been identified for this module.

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## **Assessment**

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

## Assessment group C3

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
2000 word assignment	50%		Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			

### Assessment component

On campus Examination	50%	No
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- Answerbook Pink (12 page)

Reassessment component is the same

## Feedback on assessment

Written feedback on the assignment will be provided on the Centre's standard feedback sheets, which conform to Faculty regulations. This will include both summary and detailed feedback. Where appropriate, additional feedback may be provided via personal meetings with the tutor.

[Past exam papers for ET324](#)

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## Availability

### Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 3 of UPSA-C802 Undergraduate Psychology with Linguistics

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 3 of UETA-Q1T6 Undergraduate Linguistics with Arabic
- Year 3 of ULNA-R9QB Undergraduate Modern Languages with Linguistics (3 year)
- Year 4 of UPSA-C805 Undergraduate Psychology with Linguistics (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Optional for:

- Year 2 of TCWA-Q3PB Postgraduate Taught Literary Translation Studies
- Year 2 of TENA-Q3PB Postgraduate Taught Literary Translation Studies
- Year 4 of ULNA-R1Q3 Undergraduate French and Linguistics
- Year 3 of UETA-X3Q5 Undergraduate Language, Culture and Communication
- Year 4 of UETA-X3Q8 Undergraduate Language, Culture and Communication (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 4 of UETA-Q1A9 Undergraduate Linguistics with Arabic (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1T1 Undergraduate Linguistics with Chinese
- Year 4 of UETA-Q1A7 Undergraduate Linguistics with Chinese (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R1 Undergraduate Linguistics with French
- UETA-Q1A1 Undergraduate Linguistics with French (with Intercalated Year)
  - Year 3 of Q1A1 Linguistics with French (with Intercalated Year)
  - Year 4 of Q1A1 Linguistics with French (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R2 Undergraduate Linguistics with German
- Year 4 of UETA-Q1A2 Undergraduate Linguistics with German (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1T2 Undergraduate Linguistics with Japanese
- UETA-Q1A8 Undergraduate Linguistics with Japanese (with Intercalated Year)
  - Year 3 of Q1A8 Linguistics with Japanese (with Intercalated Year)
  - Year 4 of Q1A8 Linguistics with Japanese (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R5 Undergraduate Linguistics with Portuguese
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R7 Undergraduate Linguistics with Russian
- Year 4 of UETA-Q1A6 Undergraduate Linguistics with Russian (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R4 Undergraduate Linguistics with Spanish
- UETA-Q1A4 Undergraduate Linguistics with Spanish (with Intercalated Year)
  - Year 3 of Q1A4 Linguistics with Spanish (with Intercalated Year)
  - Year 4 of Q1A4 Linguistics with Spanish (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q310 in English Language and Linguistics
- Year 4 of UETA-Q311 in English Language and Linguistics (with Intercalated year)

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 4 of ULNA-R2Q2 Undergraduate German Studies with Linguistics
- Year 4 of ULNA-R9Q2 Undergraduate Modern Languages with Linguistics

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 4 of ULNA-R9Q1 Undergraduate Modern Languages and Linguistics

This module is Core option list C for:

- Year 4 of ULNA-R1Q2 Undergraduate French Studies with Linguistics
- Year 4 of ULNA-R4Q1 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and Linguistics

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 4 of ULNA-R9Q1 Undergraduate Modern Languages and Linguistics

This module is Option list C for:

- Year 3 of ULNA-R1Q4 Undergraduate French and Linguistics (3 year)

This module is Option list D for:

- Year 4 of ULNA-R2Q3 Undergraduate German and Linguistics