Graduate Study at The Faculty of Modern & Medieval Languages

The Faculty of Modern & Medieval Languages (MML) welcomes applications for postgraduate study, both at the level of MPhil (Masters) and at the level of PhD (Doctorate). The Faculty currently has approximately 70 MPhil students and 120 doctoral students across six departments. The Faculty's mission is to provide education of the highest quality in languages and language-related studies. Leaders in world-class scholarship and teaching, our academic staff are pioneering researchers in a wide range of fields that include the phenomenon of human language itself, individual European languages and language families, and the literatures, art forms, film, history, philosophy and cultures associated with those languages both today and in the past.

MML at Cambridge is a large but closely-knit multi-departmental Faculty, offering teaching and research facilities in French, German & Dutch, Italian, Slavonic Studies, Spanish & Portuguese and Linguistics, among other areas such as comparative literature. MML is also the administrative home for the newly created Centre for Film and Screen Studies. A wide range of expertise is available within the Faculty for supervising research. The MML Faculty Library has a very good collection of literary and critical texts, and the University Library is a research library of international renown.

MPhil Study

There are three research MPhil courses available within the Faculty, which run from October to June.

**MPhil in European, Latin American and Comparative Literatures and Cultures**

The MPhil in European, Latin American and Comparative Literatures and Cultures (ELAC) is a cross-Departmental MPhil. It consists of Core Course lecture classes and mini-seminars in literary/cultural theory, offering the chance to study in depth the workings of theoretical concepts, plus a wide choice of module seminars focusing on advanced research in the literatures and cultures of major language areas. Modules are run by academics from each of the Faculty’s six departments, and some modules are interdisciplinary, treating topics such as ‘The City’ from a variety of perspectives. Students who wish to specialise in subjects related to Medieval and/or Early Modern Studies may decide to choose the Medieval and Early Modern Pathway, which offers tailored training to students working in this field, providing theoretical and practical tools to read, understand and work on pre-modern sources. There is also a Russian and East European Studies Pathway, allowing for focused study of these areas, and a Latin American Studies Pathway, consisting of modules run by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese with the Centre of Latin American Studies. Assessment of the MPhil is by coursework essays and a dissertation.

**MPhil in Film and Screen Studies**

The MPhil in Film and Screen Studies is an interdisciplinary degree that offers a firm grounding in the theoretical discourses that shape the academic study of the moving image, but in an expansive context that privileges freedom and originality of inquiry. In the Michaelmas (autumn) term students follow a two-part core course that offers a series of rigorous and innovative encounters with major theoretical and methodological debates. In the Lent (spring) term students take two optional modules. Across these terms students participate in eight research seminars offered by visiting scholars. In the Easter (summer) term students work closely with supervisors to produce their dissertations. During this term students also enjoy the opportunity to present their research in progress in a professional context. Assessment is by coursework essays and a dissertation.

**MPhil in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics**

The MPhil in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics integrates study of linguistic theory and applied linguistics in a single programme. It provides a great variety and flexibility of content, including subject-specific training and general research skills. Students can explore theoretical and descriptive linguistics (e.g. the syntactic organization, or sound structure and phonetics, of different languages, or the principles that govern the historical development of languages); they can study how linguistics and phonetics can be applied to areas such as language acquisition, language processing, data mining of language corpora, or forensics; and they can choose to look at linguistics from the point of view of a specific language or language family. Those who wish to focus their study in a particular language area can select courses that constitute a ‘Pathway’ in that area, such as Celtic Linguistics or English Linguistics. Students undertake lectures in core subjects, choose seminars in their main areas of interest, and attend a Research Methods course. Assessment is by essays including a research essay, an oral presentation, and a thesis.

**PhD Study**

MML also offers PhD study in each of its Departments: French, German & Dutch, Italian, Slavonic Studies, Spanish & Portuguese and Theoretical & Applied Linguistics. The Centre for Film and Screen Studies also now offers a PhD in Film Studies. The PhD is a professional qualification, which normally involves three years of independent research (or five years part-time). It does not have any taught elements, although students will work with a supervisor who is responsible for overseeing progress and with whom they can discuss approaches to their subject and talk about any problems they are encountering. Applicants must hold a Masters Degree prior to commencing a PhD. Those who do not hold a Masters are recommended to apply for an appropriate MPhil course in the first instance in order to gain a good grounding in research techniques. If you are interested in undertaking a PhD, you should contact the Graduate Representative at the Department where your research interests lie, to discuss plans before making a formal application.
Entrance requirements

Detailed entrance requirements for each particular programme of study can be found on the Course Directory of the central Graduate Admissions website: http://www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses

Applications

Applications should be made via the central Graduate Admissions Office: http://www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/how-do-i-apply

Once you have applied and provided the necessary supporting documents, your application will be considered by the appropriate MPhil Director and/or Head of Department.

Application deadlines

Although the final application deadline is 31 May 2016, deadlines are significantly earlier if you wish to be considered for the University’s central funding competitions and research council funding. Please see the following link for deadlines: http://www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/finance/funding

Further Information

For further information on the graduate courses offered by MML, please visit our website: http://www.mml.cam.ac.uk/graduates/

For further information on the application process, course fees, funding, College information and more, please visit the Central Graduate Admissions website: http://www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk

Contact us

MPhil enquiries:
European, Latin American and Comparative Literatures and Cultures / Film and Screen Studies
Ben Karkiely, Graduate Secretary, MML
mmlgrad@hermes.cam.ac.uk

Theoretical and Applied Linguistics:
Louise Radok, Graduate Secretary, Department of Theoretical & Applied Linguistics, MML.
ljr39@cam.ac.uk

PhD enquiries:
Please direct your enquiry to the relevant Department/Centre of interest:
Centre for Film and Screen:
Dr John David Rhodes: jdr42@cam.ac.uk

Department of French:
Prof Bill Burgwinkle: web25@cam.ac.uk

Department of German & Dutch:
Prof Sarah Colvin: sjc269@cam.ac.uk

Department of Italian:
Dr Abi Brundin: asb17@cam.ac.uk

Department of Slavonic Studies:
Dr Emma Widdis: ekw1000@cam.ac.uk

Department of Spanish & Portuguese:
Dr Rory O’Bryen: rro20@cam.ac.uk

Department of Theoretical & Applied Linguistics:
Dr Anna Korhonen: alk23@cam.ac.uk