Durham University
Undergraduate Modules Online
https://apps.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/

These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's core regulations for undergraduate programmes, and the marking and classification conventions for undergraduate programmes.

BA LIBERAL ARTS (LA01)

BA LIBERAL ARTS (WITH YEAR ABROAD) (LA02)

BA LIBERAL ARTS (WITH PLACEMENT YEAR) (LA03)

(For students entering the programme from October 2025)

1. This programme is available at Durham City, in full-time and part-time modes of study.
2. Liberal Arts students may only take either:
   a.) modules with the LIBA, subject-code (which are core Liberal Arts modules)

   or

   b.) modules offered by the following departments/subject-areas, with subject-codes as listed below:

   Arts and Humanities:
   Centre for Foreign Language Study – CFLS
   Classics and Ancient History – CLAS
   English Studies – ENGL
   History – HIST
   Modern Languages and Cultures – ARAB, CHNS, FREN, GERM, ITAL, JPNS, MLAC, RUSS, SPAN, VISU.
   Music – MUSI
   Philosophy – PHIL
   Theology and Religion – THEO

   Social Sciences:
   Anthropology – ANTH
   Archaeology – ARCH
   Education – EDUC
   Geography – GEOG
   Government and International Affairs – SGIA
   Sociology – SOCI

3. In each year of their studies, Liberal Arts (LA) students must take at least 60 credits from departments in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities (as listed above).
4. These modules must be either open or tied to Liberal Arts (LA01, LA02, LA03).
5. In each year of their studies, Liberal Arts students must take modules offered by at least two, and up to three different departments (not counting modules with a LIBA code).
6. In making module selections, students must check the Programme and Module Handbook entries for each module to ensure that pre- and/or co-requisites are met. The modules selected must also be compatible in the timetable.
7. All module selections must be approved by the Director of Liberal Arts or their nominee.

8. The degree certificate issued to successful students will list all of the subjects-areas/prefix-codes in which they have taken at least 60 credits across Levels 2 and 3 of their programme of study.

Level 1 (Certificate)

9. Candidates shall study and be assessed in Level 1 modules to the value of 120 credits.

10. Candidates must study and be assessed in the following module to the value of 20 credits:

		Credit Value
Sources of the Self	LIBA1011	20

11. Candidates must also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 100 credits from at least two, and up to three different subjects.

12. At least 60 credits must be taken in modules from departments in the Faculty of the Arts and Humanities.

13. A maximum of 60 credits may be taken from any one department/subject area.

14. Candidates wishing to study SGIA modules at level 1 must take a minimum of 40 credits and no more than 60 credits.

Level 2 (Diploma)

15. Candidates shall study and be assessed in Level 2 modules to the value of 120 credits. These must be taken from at least two, and up to three subjects.

16. At least 60 credits must be taken in modules from departments in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

17. Candidates wishing to study SGIA modules at Level 2 must take a minimum of 40 credits and no more than 60 credits.

18. A maximum of 80 credits may be taken from any one department/subject area.

19. Appropriate credit-bearing language modules from the University's Centre for Foreign Language Study may be taken during Level 2, but only if the combined total of language modules and Level 1 modules taken does not exceed 30 credits.

Level 3 (Degree)

20. Candidates shall study and be assessed in Level 3 modules to the value of 120 credits. These must be taken from at least two, and up to three different departments.

21. At least 60 credits must be taken in modules from departments in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

22. Candidates wishing to study SGIA modules at Level 3 must take a minimum of 40 credits and no more than 60 credits.

23. A maximum of 80 credits may be taken from any one department/subject area.

24. Students are required to undertake one research project (a dissertation or equivalent module) to the value of 40 credits, in a subject in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities approved by the Director of Liberal Arts or by their nominee.

Year Abroad

25. Students must successfully complete Levels 1 and 2 of the programme and meet the requirements for progressing to Level 3 prior to undertaking a Year Abroad.

Year Abroad (Modern Languages)

26. Students who qualify for the Year Abroad of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures will be transferred to the BA Liberal Arts (with Year Abroad) programme (LA02) at the end of their first year.

27. Full-time students studying one main language spend a period of residence of no less than 7 months in a country or countries in which this language is spoken; students studying two main languages spend a period of residence of no less than 4 months in each country or countries in which these languages are spoken. Part-time students spend at least 4 weeks in each country whose language they intend to study at Level 3. These 4 weeks may be spread over the duration

of the programme.

28. Students who are intending to study Chinese at Level 3 are required to complete a full academic year studying Chinese at an educational institution in China, and to complete all of the assessments associated with their studies.

29. Students who are intending to study Japanese at Level 3 are required to complete a full academic year studying Japanese at an educational institution in Japan, and to complete all of the assessments associated with their studies.

30. During their time abroad, students will complete a Target Language Research Project in one or two languages, which full-time students must submit before the start of their final year and part-time students must submit before the start of the year in which they are taking the Level 3 core language module or modules. The TLRP is not a credit-bearing module, but it will be graded by percentage on the student's degree transcript. Students who pass the TLRP will proceed to Level 3 of the BA Liberal Arts (with Year Abroad) programme (LA02); students who fail will be transferred to the BA Liberal Arts programme (LA01).

Year Abroad (Study Abroad)

31. Students who wish to undertake a Year Abroad must apply for a study placement during the first two terms of Level 2.

32. Students will undertake an approved study placement in an overseas university taking a course of study in which modules relating to their principal subjects will normally comprise a minimum of 50% of their studies. The arrangements for the placement must be approved by the Director of Liberal Arts or by their nominee. During the Year Abroad, students will be assessed at module level by the host university. The marks awarded to students do not contribute to the classification of their degrees, but successful completion of the modules is required to qualify for the BA Liberal Arts (with Year Abroad).

33. Students who the Board of Examiners for Liberal Arts judge to have made satisfactory progress on the Year Abroad will proceed to Level 3 of the BA Liberal Arts (with Year Abroad) programme (LA02); students who are not judged to have made satisfactory progress will be transferred to the BA Liberal Arts programme (LA01).

Placement Year

34. Students admitted to the BA Liberal Arts (LA01) can apply to transfer to the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) programme (LA03). Students taking the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) (LA03) will undertake an approved placement or placements in a UK or overseas organisation consisting of at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience.

35. Following the placement year, students will be required to successfully complete a placement assessment as agreed by the relevant Department, to determine whether the programme learning outcomes have been met. Assessment does not contribute to the marks used to determine the award of the degree but successful completion is required to qualify for the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) (LA03). If a student fails, they will transfer to the BA Liberal Arts (LA01) programme.

36. Candidates wishing to transfer to the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) (LA03) must:

    a. have successfully completed Level 1 of the BA Liberal Arts (LA01) and progressed to Level 2 of the programme; and

    b. during the first term of Level 2 study, apply to be admitted to the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) programme (LA03); and

    c. secure a placement / year abroad opportunity or opportunities comprising at least 40 weeks (or at least 24 weeks in 2020/21) of professional-level work experience, agreed with the Director of Liberal Arts and the Faculty Placement Officer; and

    d. successfully complete Level 2 of the BA Liberal Arts (LA01) so as to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the BA Liberal Arts (LA01).

37. Students whom the Board of Examiners for Liberal Arts deems to have fulfilled the programme learning outcomes and who successfully pass the placement assessment will continue to Level 3 of the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) (LA03). Students who fail will not be permitted to

continue on the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) (LA03) programme but must instead proceed to the final year of the BA Liberal Arts programme (LA01).

BA LIBERAL ARTS (LA01)

BA LIBERAL ARTS (WITH YEAR ABROAD) (LA02)

BA LIBERAL ARTS (WITH PLACEMENT YEAR) (LA03)

(For students entering the programme prior to October 2025)

1. This programme is available at Durham City, in full-time and part-time modes of study.
2. Students must take at least 180 credits in subjects in the Arts and Humanities.
3. Students may take modules in subjects with the code prefixes listed below. The modules must be either open or tied to Liberal Arts. Not all modules will be available in a given year.

   Arts and Humanities Subjects:

   ARAB, CFLS, CHNS, CLAS, ENGL, FREN, GERM, HIST, ITAL, JPNS, LANG, LIBA, MLAC, MUSI, PHIL, RUSS, SPAN, THEO, VISU.

   Social Sciences Subjects:

   ANTH, ARCH, BUSI, ECON, EDUC, GEOG, SGIA, SOCI, SPRT.
4. In making module selections, students must check the Faculty Handbook entries for each module to ensure that pre- and/or co-requisites are met. The modules selected must also be compatible in the timetable.
5. All module selections must be approved by the Director of Liberal Arts or their nominee.
6. The degree certificate issued to successful students shall list all subjects in which they have taken at least 40 credits over Levels 2 and 3 of their programme of study, excluding modules offered by the University's Centre for Foreign Language Study.

Level 1 (Certificate)

7. Students shall study and be assessed in the following level 1 core module to the values of 20 credits: LIBA 1011 Sources of the Self.
8. In addition, students shall study and be assessed in Level 1 modules to the value of 100 credits from at least two and no more than four subjects. A minimum of 60 credits must be taken in the Arts and Humanities.
9. A maximum of 60 credits may be taken in any one subject and a maximum of 100 credits may be taken from any one department or school. The exception is that a combination of VISU modules and others offered by the School of Modern Languages and Cultures may add up to 120 credits.
10. Students wishing to study SGIA modules must take a minimum of 40 credits and no more than 60 credits in the subject.

Level 2 (Diploma)

11. Students shall study and be assessed in Level 2 modules to the value of 120 credits from at least two and no more than four subjects. A minimum of 60 credits must be taken in the Arts and Humanities.
12. Students wishing to study SGIA modules at Level 2 must take a minimum of 40 credits and no more than 60 credits.
13. A maximum of 80 credits may be taken in any one subject and a maximum of 100 credits may be taken from any one department or school. The exception is that a combination of VISU modules and others offered by the School of Modern Languages and Cultures may add up to 120 credits.
14. Appropriate credit-bearing language modules from the University's Centre for Foreign Language Study may be taken during Level 2, but only if the combined total of language modules and Level 1 modules taken does not exceed 30 credits.

Level 3 (Degree)

15. Students shall study and be assessed in Level 3 modules to the value of 120 credits from at least two and no more than three subjects. A minimum of 60 credits must be taken in the Arts and Humanities.

16. Students wishing to study SGIA modules at Level 3 must take a minimum of 40 credits and no more than 60 credits.
17. A maximum of 80 credits may be taken in any one subject and a maximum of 100 credits may be taken from any one department or school. The exception is that a combination of VISU modules and others offered by the School of Modern Languages and Cultures may add up to 120 credits.
18. Appropriate credit-bearing language modules from the University's Centre for Foreign Language Study may be taken during Level 3, but only if the combined total of language modules and Level 2 modules taken does not exceed 30 credits.
19. Students are required to undertake one research project (a dissertation or equivalent module) to the value of 40 credits, in a subject in the Arts and Humanities approved by the Director of Liberal Arts or by their nominee.

Year Abroad

20. Students must successfully complete Levels 1 and 2 of the programme and meet the requirements for progressing to Level 3 prior to undertaking a Year Abroad.

Year Abroad (Modern Languages)

21. Students who qualify for the Year Abroad of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures will be transferred to the BA Liberal Arts (with Year Abroad) programme (LA02) at the end of their first year.
22. Full-time students studying one main language spend a period of residence of no less than 7 months in a country or countries in which this language is spoken; students studying two main languages spend a period of residence of no less than 4 months in each country or countries in which these languages are spoken. Part-time students spend at least 4 weeks in each country whose language they intend to study at Level 3. These 4 weeks may be spread over the duration of the programme.
23. Students who are intending to study Chinese at Level 3 are required to complete a full academic year studying Chinese at an educational institution in China, and to complete all of the assessments associated with their studies.
24. Students who are intending to study Japanese at Level 3 are required to complete a full academic year studying Japanese at an educational institution in Japan, and to complete all of the assessments associated with their studies.
25. Students who are intending to study either Russian and/or Arabic at Level 3 are required to complete the relevant Year Abroad Project.
26. During their time abroad, students will complete a Target Language Research Project in one or two languages, which full-time students must submit before the start of their final year and parttime students must submit before the start of the year in which they are taking the Level 3 core language module or modules. The TLRP is not a credit-bearing module, but it will be graded by percentage on the student's degree transcript. Students who pass the TLRP will proceed to Level 3 of the BA Liberal Arts (with Year Abroad) programme (LA02); students who fail will be transferred to the BA Liberal Arts programme (LA01).

Year Abroad (Study Abroad)

27. Students who wish to undertake a Year Abroad must apply for a study placement during the first two terms of Level 2.
28. Students will undertake an approved study placement in an overseas university taking a course of study in which modules relating to their principal subjects will normally comprise a minimum of 50% of their studies. The arrangements for the placement must be approved by the Director of Liberal Arts or by their nominee. During the Year Abroad, students will be assessed at module level by the host university. The marks awarded to students do not contribute to the classification of their degrees, but successful completion of the modules is required to qualify for the BA Liberal Arts (with Year Abroad).
29. Students who the Board of Examiners for Liberal Arts judges to have made satisfactory progress on the Year Abroad will proceed to Level 3 of the BA Liberal Arts (with Year Abroad) programme (LA02); students who are not judged to have made satisfactory progress will be transferred to the BA Liberal Arts programme (LA01).

Placement Year

30. Students admitted to the BA Liberal Arts (LA01) can apply to transfer to the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) programme (LA03). Students taking the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) (LA03) will undertake an approved placement or placements in a UK or overseas organisation consisting of at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience.
31. Following the placement year, students will be required to successfully complete a placement assessment as agreed by the relevant Department, to determine whether the programme learning outcomes have been met. Assessment does not contribute to the marks used to determine the award of the degree but successful completion is required to qualify for the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) (LA03). If a student fails, they will transfer to the BA Liberal Arts (LA01) programme.
32. Candidates wishing to transfer to the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) (LA03) must:
    a. have successfully completed Level 1 of the BA Liberal Arts (LA01) and progressed to Level 2 of the programme; and
    b. during the first term of Level 2 study, apply to be admitted to the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) programme (LA03); and
    c. secure a placement / year abroad opportunity or opportunities comprising at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience, agreed with the Director of Liberal Arts and the Faculty Placement Officer; and
    d. successfully complete Level 2 of the BA Liberal Arts (LA01) so as to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the BA Liberal Arts (LA01).
33. Students whom the Board of Examiners for Liberal Arts deems to have fulfilled the programme learning outcomes and who successfully pass the placement assessment will continue to Level 3 of the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) (LA03). Students who fail will not be permitted to continue on the BA Liberal Arts (with Placement Year) (LA03) programme but must instead proceed to the final year of the BA Liberal Arts programme (LA01).