

Faculty of Arts

Diploma in Languages

1 Background

The Diploma in Languages is a 100-point new generation diploma, normally entered with 50 points advanced standing, to be taken either concurrently with a new generation degree or at the end of a new generation degree.

Students completing the Diploma are trained to a level equivalent to one specialization of the Mathematics and Statistics major as defined for the BA and thereby eligible for post-bachelor programs in mathematics or statistics. Academic Board has approved the course in principle (26 July 2007).

2 Course/Program Objectives

Students undertaking the Diploma of Languages (DL) concurrently with a new-generation undergraduate degree will generally achieve the objectives of the new generation degree, along with completing language study equivalent to a major (with the exception of beginner Japanese and beginner Chinese which require 125 cp for the major).

The following specific outcomes are particular objectives of the Diploma:

- A. Support the graduate attributes, under “academically excellent”:
 - Have a strong sense of intellectual integrity and the ethics of scholarship
 - Reach a high level of achievement in writing, generic research activities, problem-solving and communication
 - Be critical and creative thinkers, with an aptitude for continued self-directed learning
 - Be adept at learning in a range of ways, including through information and communication technologies.
- B. Support the graduate attributes, under “knowledgeable across disciplines”:
 - Expand their analytical and cognitive skills through learning experiences in diverse subjects
 - Have the capacity to participate fully in collaborative learning and to confront unfamiliar problems
 - Have a set of flexible and transferable skills for different types of employment.
- C. Support the graduate attributes, under “Attuned in Cultural Diversity”:
 - Value different cultures and cultural diversity
 - Be well-informed citizens able to contribute to their communities wherever they choose to live and work
 - Have an understanding of the social and cultural diversity in our community
- D. Support the graduate attributes, under “Active Global Citizens”:
 - Accept social and civic responsibilities
 - Have a broad, global understanding, with a high regard for human rights, equity and ethics
 - Have enhanced possibility of including an international exchange experience as part of their Melbourne Experience
- E. Provide students, who would otherwise not have had the opportunity, with access to the study of languages and entry to postgraduate pathways with language requirements, while still keeping fully open the pathways associated with the major chosen within the core of their new-generation undergraduate degree.

3 Entry Requirements

Recommended separately by Academic Board.

4 Course/Program Structure

The following course outlines describe the requirements of the concurrent new generation degree as well as the DML. The structure for BA students is different to that for students enrolled in other new generation undergraduate degrees.

Details of the program

Students who undertake the Diploma in Languages together with a new generation undergraduate degree will complete a 350-point total program. Fifty points of the program are attributed to the Diploma, and these consist only of Year Three languages subjects from the list of subjects approved for the new generation Bachelor of Arts. The student is required to select subjects in the new generation degree and Diploma to ensure that all requirements of the undergraduate degree are met, and in addition, that the student meets, through the Diploma, the specific requirements for the award of any one specialization of the major in the chosen language, defined for the new generation Bachelor of Arts. Please note: as a major sequence in both Japanese and Chinese require 125 points of study when commencing at Beginners level, it may not be possible to achieve through the Diploma of Languages.

The program is available either in sequential mode (complete Bachelor degree and the Diploma including subjects required for 50 points advanced standing over seven or eight semesters) or in fast-track mode (350 points completed in three years). The Diploma can be taken in any language commencing at at any level that currently offers a 100 point major sequence through the Bachelor of Arts.

Students who have completed a first year of language study may apply for the NG Diploma at the end of that year. Student completing the Degree and Diploma over 7 or 8 semesters need to ensure that they complete a first, second and third year sequence of language study, plus two elective subjects in the language at the appropriate level.

For the fast track mode, strong performance is required at first year level since structure requires that students will overload by one 12.5 point subject per semester throughout their second and third years. Following the model proposed by Barry Hughes, students whose performance merits selection into the NG Diploma will be offered a conditional enrolment commencing in their third year, and be permitted to over load by 12.5 points per semester in their second year. In this way, students have completed 225 points of their 300 point NG Degree by the end of second year. Provided their marks are adequate, the student will obtain a confirmed place in the NG Diploma and in third year complete the 75 points required for their NG degree, together with an additional 50 points of language study to complete their NG Diploma.

Fast Track Program for New Generation Bachelor of Arts students

Year One

- 25 points of language acquisition subjects*
 - 25 points of discipline-based subjects *or* 25 points of a second language*
 - 25 points of core interdisciplinary subjects*
 - 25 points of breadth subjects
- * as part of the core BA program

Year Two

- 25 points of language acquisition subjects*
- 75 points of discipline-based subjects*
- 25 points of breadth subjects

* as part of the core BA program

Year Three

Enrolment within the BA:

- 50 points of discipline-based subjects
- 25 points of breadth subjects

Enrolment within the DML:

- 25 points of language acquisition subjects
- 25 points of language cultural subjects

Structure and progression for non-Bachelor of Arts students in New Generation degrees

Year One

- 75 points of core program subjects
- 25 points of language subjects as breadth

Year Two

- High-achieving students are permitted to overload in preparation for DML entry at Year Three
- 100 points of core program
- 25 points of language subjects as breadth

Year Three

Enrolment within the core program:

- 75 points of core program

Enrolment within the DML:

- 25 points of language acquisition subjects as breadth
- 25 points of language cultural subjects as breadth

Note 1: as a major sequence in both Japanese and Chinese require 125 points of study when commencing at Beginners level, this may not be possible to achieve through the Diploma of Languages.

All prospective Diploma students will need to take two first year level language subjects, from the schedule of subjects approved for the Bachelor of Arts, in their first year, appropriate to their school background and language proficiency level. The sequential nature of language study means that the student will need to take a first, second and third year sequence of language during the three years, together with two elective language subjects at third year. The Diploma may be completed in any language commencing at any level in which it currently possible to complete a 100-point major.

5 Availability of Course

The first intake will be in 2010. The course will be available to part-time and full-time CSP and full-fee paying Australian and international students.