Languages for All (LFA) at University of York
Practical information for choosing the right level from 2026/27

At the University of York our LFA courses can be taken for credit, i.e. as part of your studies if you are a UoY student, or as a non-credit option, open to all. Here is an overview of our strands:

Study a language from September to May: 22-week LFA courses

1. **LFA for-credit for UoY students:** 20-credit modules taught over 2 semesters (2 weekly hours, 22 weeks) prior approval by your home department. These were known as YLEs or York Language Electives until 2025/26, are covered by your university fees and UoY students can take the module at the level of proficiency that suits you at any stage, depending on your prior knowledge.

   When to apply?

   - Continuing students (UG Year 2 and beyond): apply through e:vision, ideally in Window 1 for option module choices (February/March) or in Window 2 (summer).
   - New students (UG Year 1 and PGT students): select an LFA module for credit as your elective in August/September, if you have room in your programme, alongside your other modules. Check with your department or supervisor for more information on whether you can take electives in Year 1/your PGT course.

2. **LFA non-credit open to all:** fee-paying language classes open to all: UoY students, staff and members of the public, to take alongside your studies, work or other commitments. Taught over 22 weeks, 2 weekly hours. Students can opt in to take the assessments to receive a certificate of attainment.

   When to apply?

   - Registration opens in August and closes in late September.

Depending on your other commitments and programme requirements, for 22-week courses, students can move from the LFA credit to the LFA non-credit strand to continue to the next level on your language learning journey.

Study a language as a non-credit option: LFA short courses

LFA short courses: fee-paying language classes open to all, typically available from February to May (8 weeks, 2 weekly hours). English language short courses are also available from September to December.

When to apply?

- Registration opens 5-7 weeks before the start of the course and closes on Sunday a week before classes begin, at 23:59. Check our website for more information.

Levels, entry requirements and strands per language

The tables below provide an overview of strands (elective/for-credit, evening course/non-credit, degree module) and levels per set of languages:

Arabic, Chinese, Japanese and Korean - slower progression

Level	CEFR level	Prerequisite	Can be taken as:
Beginners 1	A1	• Little or no knowledge	• **A 20-credit 22-week LFA module** available to UoY students, including visiting students, as a language elective. • **A non-credit LFA long evening course** open to all: UoY students, staff and members of the public.
Beginners 2	A1+	• Basic knowledge • UoY LFA Beginners 1 • UoY LfA/YLE Beginner (pre 2026/27) • or equivalent	
Post-Beginners (no Korean)	A2	• GCSE (lower grade) • UoY LFA Beginners 2 • UoY LfA/YLE Elementary (pre 2026/27) • or equivalent	
Pre-Intermediate (no Korean)	A2+	• GCSE (high grade) • UoY LFA Post-Beginners • UoY LfA/YLE Lower Intermediate (pre 2026/27) • or equivalent	

Classical Latin and Medieval Latin

Level	CEFR level	Prerequisite	Can be taken as:
Beginners	A1	• Little or no knowledge	• **A 20-credit 22-week LFA module** available to UoY students, including visiting students, as a language elective. • **A non-credit LFA long evening course** open to all: UoY students, staff and members of the public.
Pre-Intermediate	A1-A2	• GCSE • UoY LFA Beginners • UoY LfA/YLE Beginner or Elementary (low grade), pre 2026/27 • or equivalent	
Intermediate	A2-B1	• AS-Level • UoY LFA Pre-Intermediate • UoY LfA/YLE Elementary (high grade) or Lower Intermediate (pre 2026/27) • or equivalent	

French, German, Italian and Spanish

<table>
<tr><th>Level</th><th>CEFR level</th><th>Prerequisite</th><th>Can be taken as:</th></tr>
<tr><td>Beginners</td><td>A1</td><td colspan="2">• Little or no knowledge</td><td rowspan="3">• A 20-credit 22-week LFA module available to UoY students, including visiting students, as a language elective.
• A non-credit LFA long evening course open to all: UoY students, staff and members of the public.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Pre-Intermediate</td><td>A2</td><td>French/German/Spanish
• GCSE
• UoY LFA Beginners
• UoY LfA/YLE Beginner (high grade) or Elementary (pre 2026/27)
• or equivalent</td><td>Italian
• GCSE
• UoY LFA Beginners
• UoY LfA/YLE Beginner (pre 2026/27)
• or equivalent</td></tr>
<tr><td>Intermediate</td><td>B1</td><td>French/German/Spanish
• AS-Level
• UoY LFA Pre-Intermediate
• UoY LfA/YLE Lower Intermediate (pre 2026/27)
• or equivalent</td><td>Italian
• GCSE
• UoY LFA Pre-Intermediate
• UoY LfA/YLE Elementary (pre 2026/27)
• or equivalent</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Upper Intermediate (post A-level)</td><td rowspan="2">B2</td><td colspan="2">• A-Level
• B1 qualification
• UoY LFA Intermediate
• UoY LfA/YLE Intermediate (pre 2026/27)
• or equivalent</td><td>• A non-credit LFA long evening course open to all: UoY students, staff and members of the public..</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">• A-Level
• B1 qualification
• UoY LFA Intermediate (high grade)
• UoY LfA/YLE Intermediate (high grade), pre 2026/27
• or equivalent</td><td>• A 20-credit semester-long language degree module open as an elective to UoY students (**not available for Italian).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Advanced</td><td>B2+</td><td colspan="2">• UoY degree module at Upper-Intermediate level
• B2 qualification
• UoY LFA Upper Intermediate (prior assessment and approval)
• or equivalent</td><td>• A 20-credit semester-long language degree module open as an elective to UoY students</td></tr>
<tr><td>Proficient</td><td>C1</td><td colspan="2">• UoY degree module at Advanced level
• B2+ qualification
• or equivalent</td><td>• A 20-credit semester-long language degree module open as an elective to UoY students</td></tr>
</table>

Tailor your language learning journey

Over your time at university, students can mix and match the non-credit and credit strands of our LFA courses, moving from one pathway to the other. This allows for progression even when you don't have room for a language elective in your programme in any particular year.

Here are two example routes if you have never studied a language before:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
1	**LFA Italian Beginners (non-credit)** Extracurricular - 22-week course If your department does not allow electives in Y1 as one of your options or you prefer to choose a different elective	**LFA Italian Pre-Intermediate (credit)** 20-credit year-long module If your department allows electives in Y2 as one of your options	**LFA Italian Intermediate (non-credit)** Extracurricular - 22-week course If your department does not allow electives in Y3 as one of your options or you prefer to choose a different elective
2	**LFA Italian Beginners (credit)** 20-credit year-long module If your department allows electives in Y1 as one of your options	**LFA Italian Pre-Intermediate (non-credit)** Extracurricular - 22-week course If your department does not allow electives in Y2 as one of your options or you prefer to choose a different elective	**LFA Italian Intermediate (credit)** 20-credit year-long module If your department allows electives in Y3 as one of your options

Equivalence between the former Languages for All programme (LFA) and the new LFA provision from 2026-2027

For Arabic, Chinese and Japanese	
LFA/YLEs until 2025/26	**LFA from September 2026**
LFA/YLE Beginner	LFA Beginners 1
LFA/YLE Elementary	LFA Beginners 2
LFA/YLE Lower Intermediate	LFA Post-Beginners
LFA/YLE Intermediate	LFA Pre-Intermediate

For French, German and Spanish	
LFA/YLEs until 2025/26	**LFA from September 2026**

LFA/YLE Beginner	LFA Beginner
LFA/YLE Elementary	N/A
LFA/YLE Lower Intermediate	LFA Pre-Intermediate
LFA/YLE Intermediate	LFA Intermediate
LFA/YLE Upper Intermediate	LFA Upper Intermediate

For Italian	
LFA/YLEs until 2025/26	**LFA from September 2026**
LFA/YLE Beginner	LFA Beginner
LFA/YLE Elementary	LFA Pre-Intermediate
LFA/YLE Lower Intermediate	LFA Intermediate
LFA/YLE Intermediate	N/A
LFA/YLE Upper Intermediate	LFA Upper Intermediate