



Sir John Lawes School
Education for a changing world



Sir John Lawes School

A Level
Modern Foreign Languages at
Sir John Lawes School

Mrs Brown (Head of Languages)



Is the course right for me?

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- someone who is keen to learn to communicate at a higher level in your chosen language.
- someone who is interested in exploring the culture and way of life of the target language countries.
- someone who simply enjoys having in-depth discussions about a variety of intriguing topics.



Why study languages?

- Increases job opportunities
- Good for your CV, university applications
- An opportunity to find out more about different cultures
- Learn to communicate more effectively and accurately
- Bilingualism prevents against dementia!
- Become a better learner
- Become a more resilient learner as making mistakes is a normal part of language learning
- Meet new people

- I could go on...





Some facts

- Of the 342594 AQA entries only 1966 were for German
- This makes you VERY, VERY sought after
- British Chamber of Commerce say that the inability to trade in other languages is damaging the UK's export performance (2012)
- Germany is the most important language in the export market with French in 3rd place (excluding English)
- 49% of companies ranked French as the most important language with German in 2nd place at 45%

(<https://www.britishcouncil.org/organisation/policy-insight-research/languages-future-2017>)

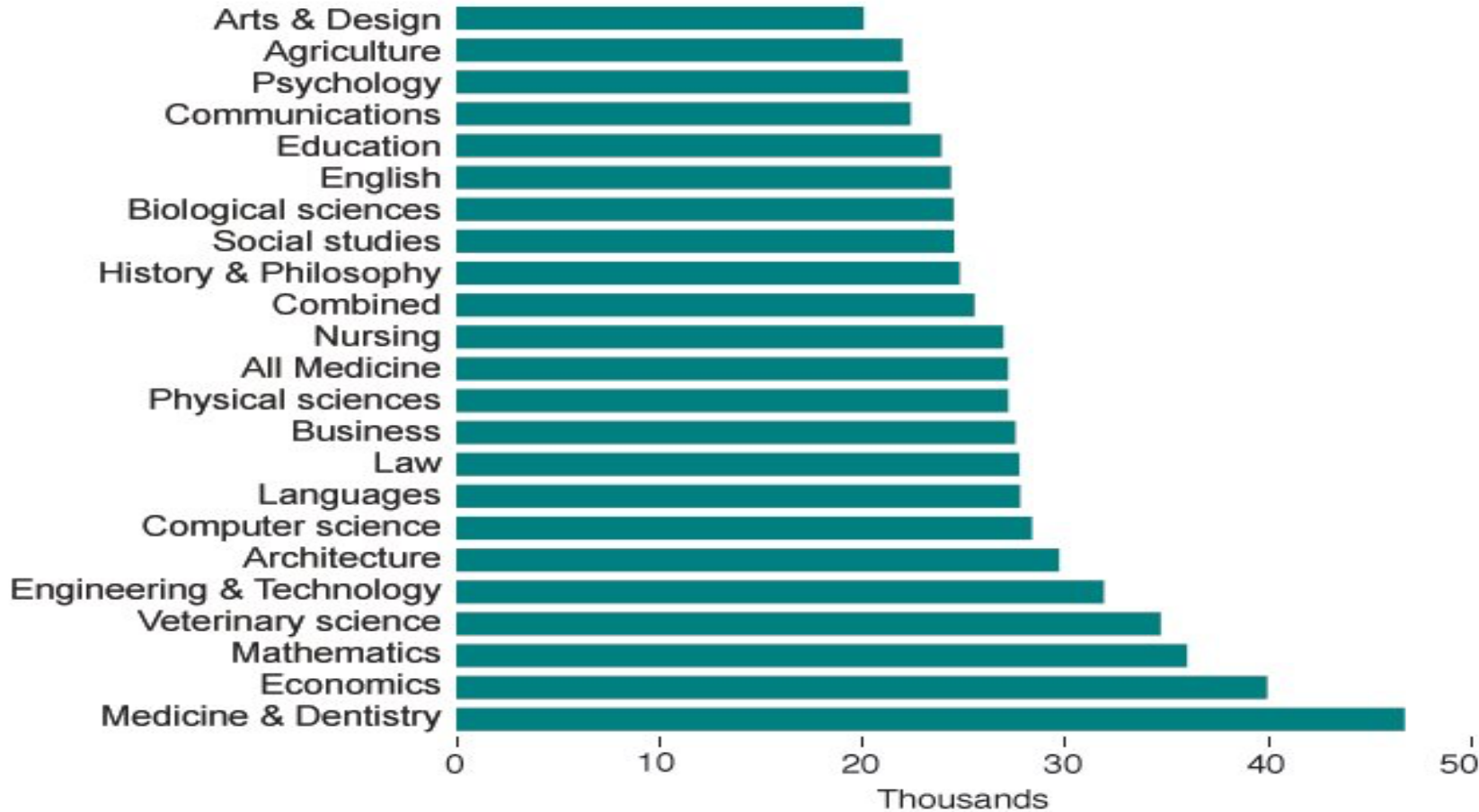




Potential earnings

Which graduates earn the most?

Median annual earnings (£) by subject, five years after graduating





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Why study languages at A Level at SJL?

Why study languages at A Level at SJL?



- Small class sizes
- Experienced teachers
- Track record of Oxbridge Entrants (3 for French and 2 for German in the past 5 years)
- Excellent results (100% A-C for the last 5 years in both languages)
- Individual time with the French and German Assistant
- Opportunity to take part in the German Exchange and a trip to Paris



**Is the course right
for me?**



- “It’s too difficult” ???
 - NO: Very accessible course
 - Our GCSE Year 11 classes are more prepared than ever with the new GCSE and we have already done some A Level work!
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The course content

The course content



Core content

- 1. Social issues and trends
- 2. Political and artistic culture
- 3. Grammar
- 4. Literature and Film
- 5. Individual Research Project



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The course content in more detail



Year 12

- Family
 - The digital world
 - Youth culture
 - Art and Architecture
 - Festivals and Traditions
 - The culture of Berlin
 - Film: Das Leben der Anderen (tbc)
-



**The course content
in more detail**



Year 13

- Immigration
 - Integration
 - Racism
 - Politics
 - Germany and the EU
 - German re-unification and its consequences
 - Literature: Der Besuch der alten Dame (Dürrenmatt)(tbc)
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For example

- You might find yourself having an in-depth discussion about:
- Should the death penalty be abolished?
- Is it right to get married and have children at a young age?



You will be challenged to think about imperative issues such as Germany's role within the European Union or Germany's history as a divided country. You will also be researching a topic of interest to present in your speaking examination



Exam structure

We use the AQA Examination Board.

It is a two year course and all students will take the exams at the end of year 13



- Paper 1 (2h30m) 50% of total
Listening, Reading and Writing
 - Paper 2 (2h) 20% of total
Writing about book & film
 - Paper 3 (23m) 30% of total
Speaking exam
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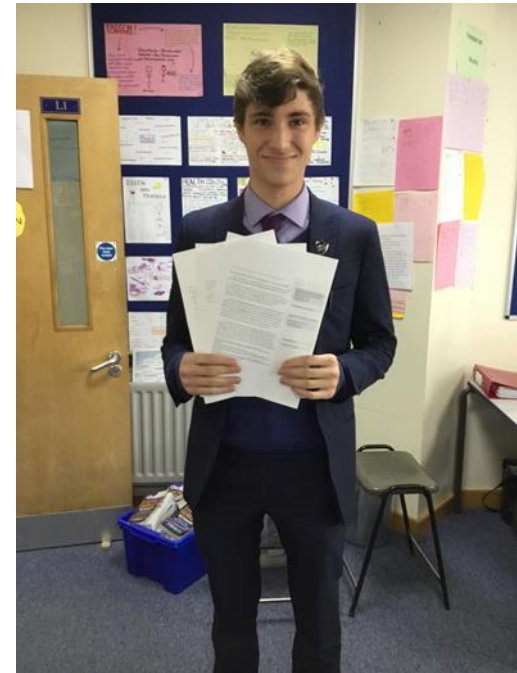


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Recent Success



Y12 German students taking part in the German debating competition



Barney C winning 2nd prize in a national essay competition and currently at Cambridge University studying French and Russian





Quotes from students



- “You learn more relevant and interesting topics in more detail and about Germany itself”.
 - “Changing from GCSE to A Level wasn’t too bad. There is a lot of work to do but there’s a lot of help given”.
 - “Studying a language is always an asset and will help when applying for a job”.
 - “I would recommend German because it is easier than you think and definitely worthwhile”.
 - “It helps you to be open-minded about other cultures”.
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What to do next



- You can speak to your teachers about the course.
- You can ask Y12/13 students

You can contact the department via
email:

lbrown@sjl.herts.sch.uk
