The MPhil in European, Latin American and Comparative Literatures and Cultures (ELAC) is the premier Master’s in modern European languages and cultures in the UK.

The course is taught by leading specialists in the literature and cultures of Europe and Latin America. Because it is research-led, the MPhil will equip you with the tools you need to develop your methodological and theoretical approaches.

Three features make our MPhil special. The first is its focus on cultural theory, which is unique in the field. Through a series of lectures and seminars in literary and cultural theory during the first term, the core course enables in-depth study of methodological and theoretical concepts, helping students see the historical relationships between languages and culture.

Second, our MPhil offers students enormous choice. In the second term, you select modules from both within and outside the Faculty, enabling you to tailor the course to your interests.

Third, alongside this wide variety of options, the MPhil has three dedicated pathways if you are particularly interested in Medieval and/or Early Modern Studies, Russian and East European Studies, and Latin American Studies – allowing you to focus in detail on the literature and culture of one or two language areas over a wide range of periods from the medieval to the contemporary.

Assessment is via written essays, one in the first and two in the second term, for which students receive individual supervision. In the third term, students complete a piece of original research for a 15,000-word dissertation. Students are given four hours of individual supervision on this by a specialist in the broad area of their research.

At Cambridge, you will find a Faculty with a dynamic and diverse community of graduate students from around the world, as well as world-class libraries and facilities.

The MPhil offers students an intense and intellectually demanding experience that is an excellent preparation for further PhD research, either in Cambridge or elsewhere, or as a stepping stone to careers in journalism, non-governmental organisations and management roles in businesses where the combination of intelligence and a second language is always in demand.

Luis Castellvi Laukamp
MPHil and PhD (Cambridge), Hispanic Studies José Amor y Vázquez Fellow, John Carter Brown Library

“I had studied Law for my undergraduate in Spain and was working in a British law firm in Barcelona for 3 years specialising in intellectual property. The MPhil was intense but well designed. My supervisor was a successful scholar, but he was also very approachable and responsive. What do you need to study properly? A good library, intellectual freedom, an inspiring supervisor and funding. Cambridge offered me all of it.”

www.mml.cam.ac.uk