

# MFL Secondary PGCE

*Useful information to build your subject knowledge before starting the course*



Welcome to the MFL PGCE at Roehampton!

## A. Subject knowledge

Use your own subject audit (completed prior to interview) to help you identify your key gaps in knowledge and get ready for the course. Here are some suggestions:

1. Watch some MFL lessons on the Oak National Academy website:  
<https://www.thenational.academy/>
2. Brush up your grammar in your second foreign language (and maybe also your first!) by working through a good grammar revision guide, such as Hodder's 'Action Grammaire/ Acción Gramática/ Aktion Grammatik/ Azione Grammatica'.
3. Familiarise yourself with the latest MFL GCSE and A level exam board 'specifications' and past exam papers:  
AQA GCSE and A level - <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages> (scroll to the bottom for language / level)  
Edexcel GCSE - <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcse/modern-languages-2016.html>  
Edexcel A level - <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/modern-languages-2016.html>
4. Visit the Association for Language Learners website for news, resources and links to the language teaching community at [www.all-languages.org.uk](http://www.all-languages.org.uk)
5. Build your listening skills by accessing a European radio station at [www.listenlive.eu](http://www.listenlive.eu)
6. Familiarise yourself with the A level set texts in your first foreign language (see exam board specifications). For example, you might like to look at:  
**French** – L'étranger (Camus), Boule de Suif (Maupassant), Les Choristes (film), Au revoir les enfants (film)  
**German** – Der Vorleser (Schlink), Die Verwandlung (Kafka), Goodbye, Lenin (film), Lola rennt (film)  
**Spanish** – El coronel no tiene quien le escriba (García Márquez), Como agua para chocolate (Esquivel), Volver (film), El laberinto del fauno (film)  
**Italian** – Sei personaggi in cerca d'autore (Pirandello), Io non ho paura (Ammaniti), Il postino (film), La grande Bellezza (film)
7. Brush up your vocabulary and conversation skills using BBC Bitesize – [www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels](http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels) or phone apps such as [www.memrise.com](http://www.memrise.com) or [www.duolingo.com](http://www.duolingo.com)
8. Build your awareness of language and current affairs by reading online newspapers, such as those at [www.onlinenewspapers.com](http://www.onlinenewspapers.com)

## B. Essential reading for MFL Subject Studies

The following works will be central to the MFL PGCE. (But don't worry if you can't access them before you enrol!)

The two works in bold are particularly useful for the first part of the course.

- Buck, J. and C. Wightwick (2012) *Teaching and learning languages: a practical guide to learning by doing*. London: Routledge
- **Driscoll P., E. Macaro and A. Swarbrick (eds) (2014) *Debates in modern languages education*. Oxford: Routledge**
- Pachler, N., M. Evans, A. Redondo and L. Fisher (2014) *Learning to teach modern foreign languages in the secondary school*. (4<sup>th</sup> ed.) London: Routledge
- Pachler, N. and A. Redondo (2014) *A practical guide to teaching modern foreign languages in the secondary school*. (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) London: Routledge
- Smith, S. (2018) *Becoming an outstanding languages teacher*. London: Routledge
- **Smith, S. and Conti, G. (2016) *The Language Teacher Toolkit*. Lightning Source: Milton Keynes**
- Swarbrick, A. (ed.) (2002) *Teaching modern foreign languages in secondary schools*. London: Routledge Falmer

A wider reading list will be provided once the course begins. All these works are available in the library at Roehampton. There will be a library orientation tour towards the start of the course to familiarise you with the facilities and services available.