



# CATALAN

*Study Catalan, open up an array of new possibilities...*

## **Catalan on the University Language Scheme:**

A rich history and culture, a modern language of business and communications, Catalan has it all. Whether it be on the terraces of Barcelona FC or in the cafés of Alicante, Catalan is spoken widely and is central to the culture, literature and society in the countries and regions where it is spoken. Also, Catalan is easily accessible to those who have studied French, Portuguese or Spanish, but also to complete beginners to language study.

**ULS 1:** Fancy learning how to communicate in Catalan in a whole range of everyday situations with confidence and accuracy? This course is for you. Whether for work or leisure, ULS 1 Catalan will help you get the most out of your interactions in Spain, Andorra, southern France and western Sardinia.

## **Why study Catalan?**

**Catalan has 6 million native speakers with a further 4 million who speak and understand it.**

*(Òmnium Cultural, 2013)*

**Catalan is used in 45.5% of workplace transactions in Catalonia, on a par with Spanish and English.**

*(Generalitat de Catalunya, 2013)*

**350 jobs requiring Catalan speakers were advertised in the UK in June 2017 alone.**

**The numbers of Catalan speakers is growing, as is linguistic influence in organisations such as the European Union where it is the ninth most widely-spoken language.**

*(Generalitat de Catalunya, 2013)*



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## *Six fast facts...*

- Catalan, a separate language from Spanish, dates from the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> centuries, and originated from communities in the Pyrenees;
- It is the only official language of Andorra, and enjoys co-official status in Catalonia, the Balearic Islands and the Valencian region;
- There are several varieties of Catalan, including Mallorcan and Valencian, however, the differences between them are only the same as British and American English. You will learn the standard variety as spoken in Catalonia;
- Catalan is also used at home by 200,000 people outside of Europe, mostly in the Americas;
- The first texts written in Catalan that we currently know of are parts of the Catalan version of the Forum Iudicum and the sermon book Les Homilies d'Organyà, both from the 12th century;
- Catalan exists against a backdrop of rich identity, reflected in symbols as diverse as sport (Barcelona FC, Catalan Dragons) to the media (TV3, Avui).

**Want to find out more from those around the world who have studied Catalan before?**

Watch these videos:

- Estudiar català? Per què? Les raons dels estudiants de la Columbia University de New York:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ybnKyIG3Sw>

- Llengua i cultura catalanes a les universitats d'arreu del món:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qN7YAgr8TUo>

**Want to know more?**

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