

Modern Language Entries at SCQF Levels 4 and 5 2009-13*

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*2013 data are pre-appeal

On the following slides we examine the trend of entries for all modern languages at SCQF Levels 4 and 5 since 2009. We have chosen 2009 as the starting date as this is when Chinese languages were made available at those levels. We have chosen to look at SCQF levels because whilst many centres have continued to present candidates at Standard Grade, a significant number moved to offer Intermediate 1 or 2 qualifications instead. It should be noted, however, that these qualifications can be taken at different stages. Once the data become available from SQA we will have a closer look as to what is happening in the different year groups. It is also worth bearing in mind that with the new National 4 and 5 qualifications on offer from next year, using SCQF levels will enable us to continue monitoring trends along the same lines.

Headline Findings:

Amongst the three main languages (French, German and Spanish), German is the only language on an upward trend, in contrast to its decreasing uptake at Higher grade. However, despite a general downward trend, uptake of French is still substantially above that of both German and Spanish.

Amongst the lesser studied languages, uptake for Chinese Languages (mostly Mandarin Simplified) has increased exponentially since its introduction in 2009, already surpassing uptake in Urdu. We believe that this rise is set to continue because of policy makers' emphasis on the link between languages and employability, and the general perception of China as a rising economic power.

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Slide 06: Entries 2009-2013 for Lesser Studied Languages at SCQF 5

On **Slide 3** we examine the trend of entries in **French, German** and **Spanish** at SCQF Level 4.

On **Slide 4** we examine the trend of entries in **French, German** and **Spanish** at SCQF Level 5.

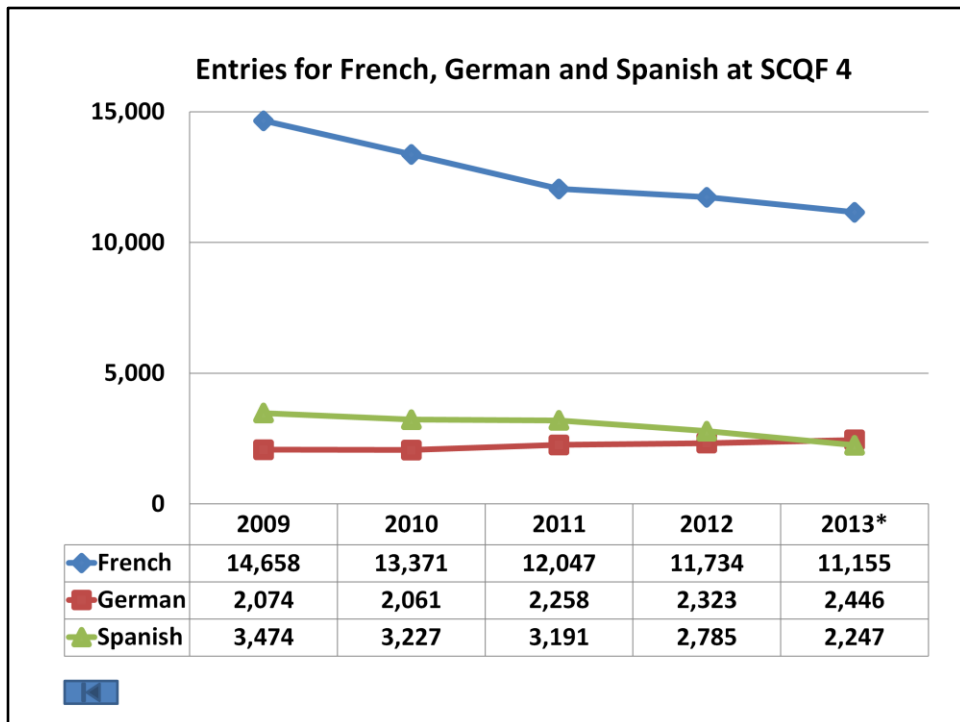
On **Slide 5** we examine the trend of entries in the lesser studied languages (**Italian, Gaelic for Learners, Urdu, Chinese Languages, and Russian**) at SCQF Level 4.

On **Slide 6** we examine the trend of entries in the lesser studied languages at SCQF Level 5.

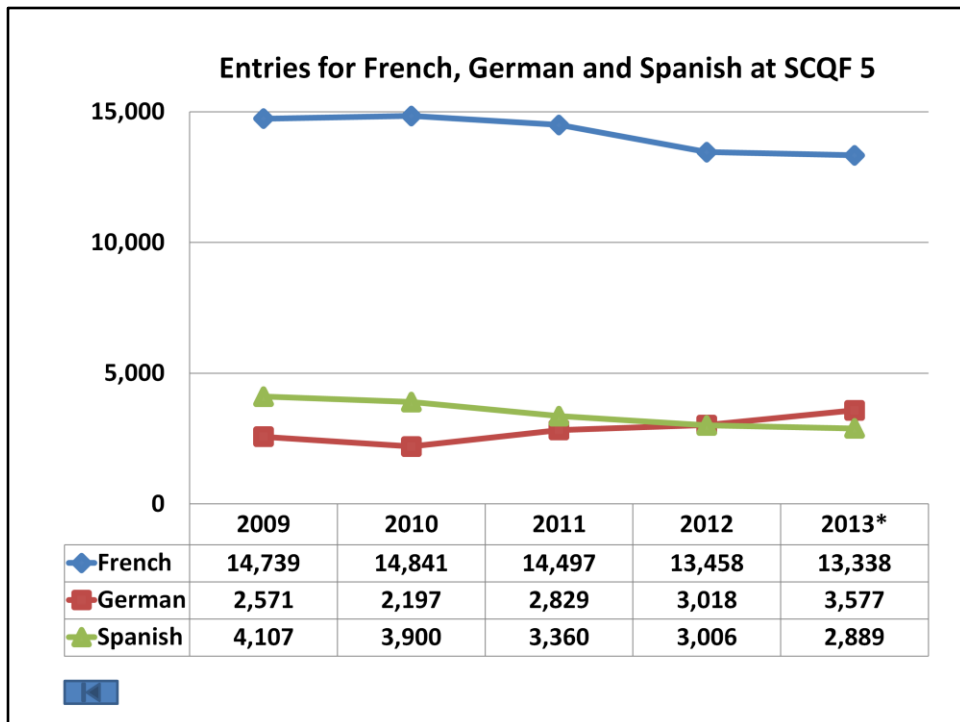
NB

SCQF Level 4 = total of entries that achieved either a Pass 3 or 4 at Standard Grade or a Pass (Grade A-C) at Intermediate Level 1.

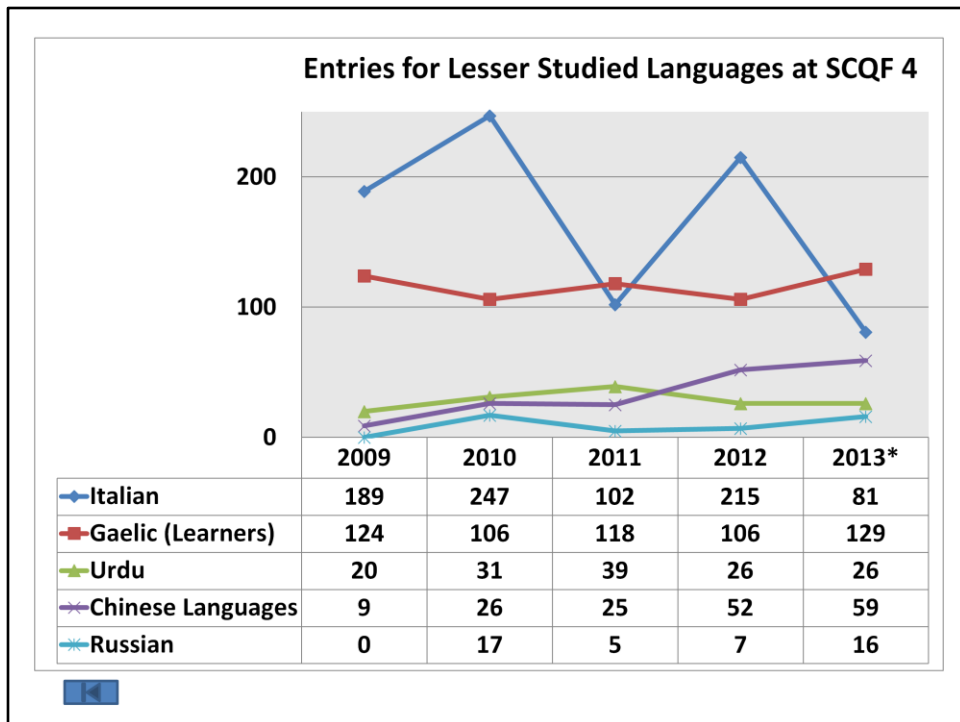
SCQF Level 5 = total of entries that achieved either a Pass 1 or 2 at Standard Grade or a Pass (Grade A-C) at Intermediate Level 2.



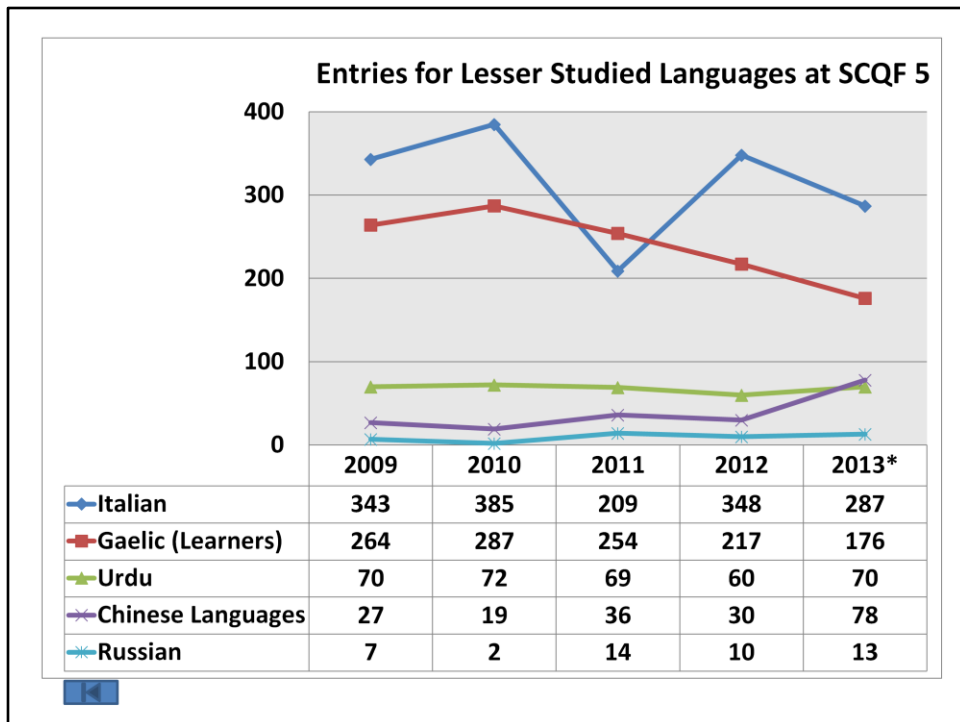
- Entries for French at SCQF Level 4 have been on a downward trend. Entries have declined by 24% since 2009, with a 5% drop over 2012
- Entries for German at SCQF Level 4 have increased by 18% since 2009, with a 5% rise over 2012.
- Entries for Spanish at SCQF Level 4 have decreased by 35% since 2009, with a 19% drop over 2012.



- Entries for French at SCQF Level 5 since 2009 have been on a downward trend. Entries have declined by 10% since 2009, with a drop of 1% over 2012.
- Entries for German at SCQF Level 5 have increased by 39% since 2009 (after a dip in 2010), with a 19% rise over 2012.
- Entries for Spanish at SCQF Level 5 have decreased by 30% since 2009, with a 4% drop over 2012.



- Entries for Italian at SCQF Level 4 since 2009 have experienced a mixed trend. Entries have declined by 57% since 2009, with a 62% drop over 2012
- Entries for Gaelic Learners at SCQF Level 4 have increased by 4% since 2009, with a 22% rise over 2012.
- Entries for Urdu at SCQF Level 4 have remained fairly consistent. There were 20 entries in 2009 and 26 entries in 2012 and 2013 (pre-appeal). However, entries have decreased after a peak of 39 entries in 2011.
- Entries for Chinese Languages at SCQF Level 4 have increased exponentially since 2009, surpassing entries for Urdu in 2012. There has been a further rise in entries since then (7 entries, representing an increase of 14%)
- Entries for Russian at SCQF Level 4 have been consistently low. There were no entries at all in 2009, with the highest entries in 2010 and 2013 (17 and 16 respectively).



- Entries for Italian at SCQF Level 5 since 2009 have experienced a mixed trend, with a low point in 2011 (209 entries) after a high in 2010 (385 entries). Entries have declined by 16% since 2009, with a 18% drop over 2012.
- Entries for Gaelic Learners at SCQF Level 5 have decreased (despite a peak in 2010) by 33% since 2009, with a 19% drop over 2012.
- Entries for Urdu at SCQF Level 5 have remained fairly stable since 2009 (around the 70 mark), although entries in 2012 experienced a dip (60).
- Entries for Chinese Languages at SCQF Level 5 have increased exponentially. They are nearly three times as high as in 2009 (27 and 78 entries respectively), and have more than doubled over 2012 (30 and 78 entries respectively). Pre-appeal entries in 2013 have surpassed those of Urdu.
- Entries for Russian at SCQF Level 5 have been consistently low, although they have reached double figures since 2011.