



Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2024/25

Date created: 01/12/2020

Last amended: 03/05/2023

Version no. 1

1. Programme title(s) and code(s)

MA in English Literature

Postgraduate Diploma in English Literature*

Postgraduate Certificate in English Literature*

* An award marked with an asterisk is only available as an exit award and is not available for students to register onto.

a) [HECOS Code](#)

HECOS Code	%
100320	100%

2. Awarding body or institution

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Full-time or part-time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

4. Registration periods

The normal period of registration for the full-time MA in English Literature is 12 months. The maximum period of registration for the full-time MA in English Literature is 24 months.

The normal period of registration for the part-time MA in English Literature is 24 months. The maximum period of registration for the part-time MA in English Literature is 48 months

5. Typical entry requirements

Normally an upper second-class honours or equivalent degree in English. Those without such qualifications are either required to satisfy the Chair and Admissions Tutor in a qualifying exam (usually an essay) or are required to satisfy the University that previous training and experience provides sufficient qualification. Applicants whose first language is not English must meet the University's requirement in their IELTS (or equivalent) score of 6.5

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

No accreditation of prior learning is currently recognised on this programme.

7. Programme aims

The programme aims:

- to enable students to pursue their particular interests within English literary studies, from the medieval period to the present day, by offering a range of specialist taught option modules and individual supervision for dissertations;

- to equip students with advanced research skills in order to enable them to carry out independent research to postgraduate standard;
- to facilitate independent scholarly enquiry, thinking and judgement;
- to prepare student for future careers or further postgraduate work by enhancing transferable skills including: accessing, retrieving and evaluating information from a range of sources; presenting material clearly and effectively in both oral and written formats; managing and organising time.

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- [University Education Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#) [Login required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate detailed knowledge of specific periods and types of literature, and of associated critical discourse.	Seminars, private study and dissertation supervision.	Essays, presentations, and dissertation: e.g. EN7241 Authorship and Authority; Option module specifications; EN7227/8 Dissertations.
Demonstrate an understanding of research methods appropriate to these periods or topics.		

ii) Concepts

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate an understanding of the editorial and contextual issues affecting interpretation, the processes surrounding the production, transmission, and reception of texts at different periods, and an ability to carry out formal and thematic analysis of literary representations of different kinds.	Seminars, private study and dissertation supervision.	Essays (notably ILOs for EN7723 Editing and Textual Cultures), presentations (including EN7227/8 dissertation presentations), and dissertation writing.

iii) Techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate skills in practice textual analysis, editing and contextualisation, and compiling bibliographies.	10-week Research Methods and Writing Skills module, comprising of seminars, workshops, and lectures.	Essays, presentations, and dissertation. Notably, ILOs featured on EN7001 'Research Methods', EN7223 'Editing'

iv) Critical analysis

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Analyse and evaluate a range of primary and secondary sources, and incorporate relevant material into written work and oral presentations.	Seminars, private study, and dissertation supervision.	Essays, presentations, and dissertation. See, for example, ILOs for all literature Options, EN7223 'Editing', and EN7227/8 Dissertations.

v) Presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present information clearly and effectively, both orally and in written form, to a high-quality graduate standard.	Seminars, private study and dissertation supervision.	Essays, presentations and dissertation. ILOs for all modules.

vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Discriminate between competing critical sources in different media.	Seminars and private study.	Essays, presentations and dissertation. Notably ILOs for EN7223 (involving reflection on interpretation of critical editions in electronic and print media).

b) Transferable skills

i) Research skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Locate and retrieve information relevant to the task in hand, analyse and marshal complex ideas, and report on findings.	Research Methods and Writing Skills module, assessed and unassessed dissertation presentation sessions, seminars.	EN7227/8 presentations and dissertation; presentation EN7001'Research Methods'; Essays on modules such as EN7223 'Editing', EN7241 'Authorship and Authority', Options.

ii) Communication skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present ideas with clarity and in an appropriate register, both orally and in written form.	Presentation for Research Methods and Writing Skills module, assessed and unassessed dissertation presentation sessions.	Essays; EN7001 'Research Methods' presentation; EN7227/8 assessed and unassessed dissertation presentations and dissertation.

iii) Data presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate familiarity with means of data presentation appropriate to different kinds of material	Research Methods and Writing Skills module, assessed and unassessed dissertation presentation, seminars.	Essays across modules, notably EN7223 'Editing,' requiring reflection on critical editions; EN7001 'Research Methods' presentation; EN7227/8 assessed and unassessed dissertation presentations.

iv) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to present research clearly and effectively using appropriate IT skills. Locate and critically assess relevant research materials in electronic databases and the internet.	Research Methods and Writing Skills module; seminars; supervised research; presentation sessions.	Essays, oral presentations, dissertation, pre-dissertation proposal presentation.

v) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to locate, organise and marshal evidence, report on findings; understanding and analysis of complex ideas. Respond clearly and confidently in group work and seminar presentations, as well as assessment	Research Methods and Writing Skills module; seminars; supervised research; presentation sessions.	Essays, oral presentations, group work, dissertation.

vi) Working relationships

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Participate in large and small group discussions and give constructive feedback on formal and informal presentations by others students.	Seminars and presentation sessions.	seminar participation; EN7227/8 dissertation modules, requiring participation in practice sessions for assessed and formative presentations.

vii) Managing learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Balance preparation and assessment demands of concurrent modules.	Seminar and meetings with personal tutor.	Seminar participation and prompt submission of written work.

viii) Career management

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Consideration of career plans; self-reflection in terms of intellectual and personal strengths and weaknesses; awareness of career options	Personal Tutor system; Career Development Service.	self-reflection in the context of Personal Tutor meetings and on modules (e.g. EN7223 seminar featuring editorial job roles)

10. Special features

This programme will give students the option of choosing to take either a 15,000 word or 25,000 word dissertation, depending on other modules chosen. The programme will therefore provide a solid foundation for further postgraduate study and will also appeal to those intending to pursue careers in other areas.

11. Indicators of programme quality

The MA in English Literature offers students the opportunity to work across the wide range of specialisms in English literature covered by staff within the School of Arts. Staff based in English can offer expert teaching and supervision in all periods of English literature from the late medieval to the present. This MA programme is designed to provide a strong grounding in research methods that can be applied to all periods of English literature.

External Examiners have confirmed that the assessment strategy, standard of achievement, design and delivery of the curriculum are effective and of similar standard to other comparable programmes in the sector

12. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of taught postgraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

13. Progression points

As defined in [Senate Regulations](#) - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

A Board of Examiners meeting will convene at the conclusion of the taught part of the course, to assess whether students can proceed to the dissertation stage in line with the requirements set out in regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes. In accordance with Senate Regulation 6, cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course and a recommendation will be made to the Board of Examiners for an intermediate award where appropriate.

14. Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions

As defined in [Senate Regulations](#) - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

15. External Examiners reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at exampapers@Leicester [log-in required]

16. Additional features (e.g. timetable for admissions)

N/A

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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

Updates to the programme

Academic year affected	Module	Update
2024/25	EN7141 Literature and the Environment: Global Eco-Fiction	Semester 2 optional module not offered
2024/25	EN7142 The Stream of Consciousness Novel	Semester 2 optional module added

MA English Literature

Credit breakdown

Status	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period	
Core taught	45 credits	30 credits	n/a	
Optional	15 credits	30 credits	n/a	
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	60 credits	90 credits: students taking the 90-credit dissertation do not take 30-credit core module in semester two.

180 credits in total

Level 7/Year 1 2024/25

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	EN7001	Research Methods and Writing Skills	15 credits
Semester 1	EN7223	Editing and Textual Cultures	30 credits
Semester 2	EN7241	Authorship and Authority	30 credits
Term 3	EN7227	Dissertation	60 credits
Term 3	EN7228	Dissertation	90 credits

Notes

Students may either study EN7241 Authors and Authority, 45 credits of optional modules and a 60-credit (15,000-word) EN7227 Dissertation, OR study 45 credits of optional modules and a 90-credit (25,000-word) EN7228 Dissertation.

Full-time students take one optional module in Semester 1 and two optional modules in Semester 2.

Part-time students choosing the 60-credit Dissertation take 'Research Methods and Writing Skills', 'Editing and Textual Cultures' and 'Authorship and Authority' in year 1, and their Options and Dissertation in year 2. Part-time students choosing the 90-credit Dissertation take 'Research Methods and Writing Skills', 'Editing and Textual Cultures' in semester 1 of the first year, and normally 2 Option modules in semester 2 of the first year; to be followed by their dissertation and 1 Option module in their second year.

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	EN7242	Old Haunts: The Ghost Story in Medieval and Early Modern Culture	15 Credits
Semester 2	EN7246	Roman Remains: Classical Antiquity in the Drama of Shakespeare and his Contemporaries	15 credits
Semester 2	EN7126	Women in Literature, Culture and Society, 1850-1900	15 Credits
Semester 1	EN7133	Poetry Writing and Contemporary Poetry	15 Credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	EN7128	The Brontës	15 Credits
Semester 2	EN7252	Twenty-First Century Fiction	15 Credits
Semester 1	EN7922	North American Indigenous Literatures	15 Credits
Semester 2	EN7140	Charles Dickens: A Writer in Progress	15 Credits
Semester 2	EN7921	Bodies, 1850-1918	15 Credits
Semester 2	EN7124	Evolution and Entropy: Changing Representations of the Sciences in Victorian Literature	15 Credits
Semester 2	EN7142	The Stream of Consciousness Novel	15 Credits
Semester 2	EN7135	Writing Fiction	15 Credits
Semester 2	EN7125	Victorian Lives	15 Credits
Semester 2	EN7254	Abolition and Adventure: Narratives of the Atlantic World	15 Credits
Semester 2	EN7126	Women in Literature, Culture and Society: 1850 -1900	15 Credits

Notes

Students can also select Options from two other MA programmes (see below).

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

The above Option modules are those run under the auspices of the MA in English Literature. IT IS A KEY FEATURE OF THIS PROGRAMME THAT STUDENTS ALSO HAVE ACCESS TO OPTION MODULES ON THE FOLLOWING TWO PROGRAMMES:

MA MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

MA VICTORIAN STUDIES

See the relevant programme specifications for available Option modules. Option modules for these programmes feature on MA English Literature publicity.

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See taught postgraduate [module specification database](#) [Login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).