Programme Specification (Undergraduate) FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2023/24

Date created: 24/08/2021 **Last amended:** 23/04/2026 **Version no.** 4

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

BA English and American Studies

BA English and American Studies with a Year Abroad^

Notes

^ Students may only enter this programme by approved transfer at the end of Year 1

a) HECOS Code

HECOS Code	%
100320	100%
100316	25%

b) UCAS Code (where required)

QT37

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Full-time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

4. Registration periods:

BA English and American Studies

The normal period of registration is 3 years

The maximum period of registration 4 years

BA English and American Studies with a Year Abroad

The normal period of registration is 4 years

The maximum period of registration 6 years

5. Typical entry requirements

AAB-ABB (320 points) at A2 level, including an A level in English Literature or English Language and Literature.

General Studies accepted.

International Baccalaureate: Pass Diploma with 32 points, including 6 in higher level English.

European Baccalaureate: Pass with 77% overall, including 8 in English.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

Accreditation of prior learning will not be accepted for exemptions from individual modules, however may be considered for entry into the second year of the course if the student has completed a first year on another English or English related course at university and if the student has completed modules with content comparable to the first year in topic and level; and has passed at a high level (normally a 2:1 average overall). This is dependent on places being available on the programme.

7. Programme aims

The programme aims to

- to enable students to explore their interest in English literature and American literature, film and history through a syllabus that offers a secure foundation in the subjects and the opportunity for intellectual progression and independent study
- to foster students' independent thinking and judgement
- to provide an intellectually challenging and stimulating curriculum drawing on the research expertise and teaching strengths in the School of Arts, Media and Communication
- to develop students' skills in close reading and literary and cultural analysis
- to develop students' ability to carry out independent research
- to develop students' ability to communicate clearly and effectively
- to deliver lectures, seminars, workshops and individual supervision
- to enable students to develop and demonstrate a range of skills necessary for the study of English and American literature, film and history at undergraduate and postgraduate level
- to enable students to develop transferable skills necessary for successful career development and effective independent learning

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
- 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) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate mastery of an appropriate body of literary, critical and historical knowledge and practice pertaining to English literature and to the study of the USA.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, tutorials, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research, resource-based learning.	Essaysdissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.

ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate skills of a close reader of literary texts.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, tutorials, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research, resource-based learning.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.
Demonstrate a knowledge of and application of a variety of methodological approaches to the study of English.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, tutorials, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research, resource-based learning.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.
Demonstrate an understanding of literary history and literary genre.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, tutorials, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research, resource-based learning.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.
Demonstrate an understanding of the multidisciplinary approach to the study of American culture, film and history.	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, directed reading, independent research, application of IT skills, team work	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.
Demonstrate a variety of critical approaches to the interpretation of American literature, culture, film and history.	Seminars, tutorials independent research, application of IT skills, team work.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.

iii) Critical analysis of key issues

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Analyse literary texts for their formal, thematic and rhetorical significance.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research,	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.
Demonstrate self-consciousness about critical methods.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research,	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate understanding of the history of literature and the historical differences between texts.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research,	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.
Analyse and integrate an understanding of the culture, film and history of the United States.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, teamwork, dissertation.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.
Analyse historical and cultural processes in the formation and development of the United States as a nation.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, teamwork, dissertation.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.
Develop the ability to utilize effectively the critical methods that contribute to the interdisciplinary field of American Studies.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, teamwork, dissertation.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.

iv) Clear and concise presentation of material

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present and develop key ideas and arguments in a variety of written and oral formats.	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, teamwork, dissertation.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.

v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Marshal appropriate evidence in close reading, critical analysis and contextualization of a range of texts, documents and other source material.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, tutorials, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research, teamwork, IT skills, dissertation.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.
Use evidence effectively in the construction of arguments	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, tutorials, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research, teamwork, IT skills, dissertation.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.

vi) Other discipline specific competencies

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate imagination, sensibility and linguistic fluency.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Design, research and present a sustained and independently conceived piece of writing reflecting an understanding of one or more contributing disciplines in American Studies (if opting for an American Studies dissertation) or English (if opting for an English dissertation)	Independent research, long and comparative essays.	Dissertation, final year module essays.

b) Transferable skills

i) Oral communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present arguments orally pertaining to English Literature and American Studies in a range of registers and to audiences with different needs.	Seminars, workshops, presentation of team work projects.	Oral presentations.
Participate effectively in-group discussion.	Seminars, workshops, presentation of team work projects.	Oral presentations.
Make appropriate use of visual aids and supporting material.	Seminars, workshops, presentation of team work projects.	Oral presentations.

ii) Written communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present written arguments of varying lengths and levels of formality.	Lectures, seminars, workshops, supervisions, tutorials.	Essays, dissertation, contribution to seminar discussion.
Demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in written expression.	Lectures, seminars, workshops, supervisions, tutorials.	Essays, dissertation, contribution to seminar discussion.

iii) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Use word-processing, internet, email, Blackboard, effectively, including use of IT for bibliographic and archive searches, data analysis and written/visual presentation of evidence and interpretation.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research. Induction programme, computer practical classes, data analysis.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations. Computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises.

iv) Team working

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Solve problems collaboratively by participating in-group projects on EN1002 and in ALGs (Autonomous Learning Groups) on EN1070.	Group work for projects, seminars, formative and summative group work projects, workshops.	Group projects and reports. Group seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, contribution to teamwork exercises.
Reflect on the value and challenges of group working.	Group work for projects, seminars, formative and summative group work projects, workshops.	Group projects and reports. Group seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, contribution to teamwork exercises.
Collaboratively identify methodologies, manage the distribution of effort and collectively arrive at conclusions.	Group work for projects, seminars, formative and summative group work projects, workshops.	Group projects and reports. Group seminar presentations, contribution to discussions, contribution to teamwork exercises.

v) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Solve literary critical, literary theoretical, literary historical and historical problems.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research, teamwork.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion, computer-based exercises.
Design a research methodology.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research, teamwork.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion, computer-based exercises.
Make analytic links between cognate disciplines in American Studies	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research, teamwork.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, seminar discussion, computer-based exercises.

vi) Information handling

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Identify, retrieve and manipulate textual, literary, historical and critical sources and information.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research, computer practical classes, teamwork.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, group projects, seminar discussion, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises.
Transform the significance of this information in the construction of arguments.	Seminars, lectures, supervisions, workshops, directed reading, written assignments, independent research, computer practical classes, teamwork.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, group projects, seminar discussion, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises.

vii) Skills for lifelong learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate intellectual independence.	PDP including tutorials with personal tutor. Seminars, career development programmes. Dissertation, independent research.	PDP record, dissertation, seminar exercises, team-work projects, curriculum vitae
Reflect on your own learning, achievements and plans for personal, educational and career development.	PDP including tutorials with personal tutor. Seminars, career development programmes. Dissertation, independent research.	PDP record, dissertation, seminar exercises, team-work projects, curriculum vitae
Manage the time and resources available to you.	PDP including tutorials with personal tutor. Seminars, career development programmes. Dissertation, independent research.	PDP record, dissertation, seminar exercises, team-work projects, curriculum vitae

10. Progression points

This programme follows the standard Scheme of Progression set out in Senate Regulations – see the version of Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes relevant to the year of entry.

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In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course

a) Course transfers

11. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of undergraduate award and classification set out in Senate Regulations – see the version of *Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes* relevant to the year of entry.

12. Special features

Students are eligible to apply to transfer to a 4-year Joint English and American Studies degree, with a year abroad. For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the GCSA Year Abroad please see https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad.

An array of research-driven Special Subjects are offered in the second and third years of the degree. The programme, as a whole, offers choice at every level of the degree and the ability to complete a self-selected piece of research in the dissertation.

13. Indications of programme quality

14. External Examiner(s) 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 exam-papers [log-in required]

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

Updates to the programme

Academic year affected	Module Code(s)	Update
2026/27	EN3004 Adolescence in American Fiction and Film	Option module withdrawn
2026/27	EN3035 Weird Fiction/Weird Film	Option module withdrawn
2026/27	EN3041 Literature and Decolonisation	Option module withdrawn
2026/27	EN3200 Twenty-First Century Global Literature	Option module added
2026/27	EN3130 The Other in American Fiction and Film*	Option module added
2026/7	HA3489 Watching the Detectives	Option module added
2026/7	EN3204 Writing for Laughs	Option module added

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.

English and American Studies

Level 4/Year 1 2023/24

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	60 credits	60 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	EN1070	Writing Matters	15 credits
Sem 1	EN1020	The Novel Around the World	30 credits
Sem 1	EN1002	Classic American Writing	15 credits
Sem 2	EN1010	Reading Poetry	15 credits
Sem 2	EN1005	American Literature in the Twenties and Thirties	15 credits
Sem 2	EN1050	Renaissance Drama: Shakespeare and his Contemporaries	30 credits

Level 5/Year 2 2024/25

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	45 credits	15 credits
Optional	n/a	15 credits	45 credits

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	EN2060	Critical Perspectives 1	15 credits
Sem 1	EN2013	Diversity in Contemporary American Literature	15 credits
Sem 2	EN2360	Critical Perspectives 2	15 credits

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	EN2147	Romantic Literature from Blake to Shelley	30 credits
Semester 1	EN2350	Eighteenth-Century Literature from Restoration to Revolution	30 credits
Semester 2	EN2080	Advanced Creative Writing Skills	15 credits
Semester 2	EN2192	Diversifying Publishing and the Literature Industry	15 credits
Semester 2	EN2025	English and Arts Journalism	15 credits
Semester 2	EN2196	English and Education	15 credits
Semester 2	EN2290	Your Career and Other Stories	15 credits
Semester 2	EN2330	Modern Literature from Conrad to Orwell	30 credits
Semester 2	EN2340	Rewriting Britain from Windrush to Now	30 credits

Notes

Students should choose 1 30-credit option in Semester 1 and 1 15-credit option and 1 30 credit option in Semester 2.

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.

Level 6/Year Final **2025/26**

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	n/a	n/a
Optional	n/a	60 credits	60 credits

120 credits in total

Students must choose ONE of the following:

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1 & 2	EN3010	Dissertation in English	45 credits
Semester 1 & 2	EN3011	Dissertation in Creative Writing	45 credits

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	EN3320	Renaissance Literature from *Utopia* to *Paradise Lost*	30 credits
Semester 1	EN3328	Victorians: from *Oliver Twist* to *The Picture of Dorian Gray*	30 credits
Semester 1	EN3060	Science Fiction: Exploring Space and Time*	15 credits
Semester 1	EN3209	The Living and the Dead in Nineteenth-Century Culture	15 credits
Semester 1	EN3204	Writing for Laughs	15 credits
Semester 2	EN3174	Writing Prose Fiction	15 credits
Semester 1	HA3489	Watching the Detectives: Crime on the Page and Screen	15 credits
Semester 2	EN3021	Literatures of Protest: Reading and Political Action*	15 credits
Semester 2	EN3027	The Latin World: Ancient, Medieval and Modern	15 credits
Semester 2	EN3144	The Thatcher Factor: The 1980s in Literature	15 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	EN3130	The Other in American Fiction and Film*	15 credits
Semester 2	EN3078	Love and Death: The Novel in Nineteenth-Century Russia and France	15 credits
Semester 2	EN3158	Jane Austen: Novels, Contexts, Adaptations	15 credits
Semester 2	EN3194	Tragedy	15 credits
Semester 2	EN3200	Twenty-First Century Global Literature	15 credits
Semester 2	NT3200	Sustainability Enterprise Partnership Project	15 credits

Notes

Students should choose EITHER EN3010 Dissertation in English OR EN3011 Dissertation in Creative Writing. For students taking EN3011 Dissertation in Creative Writing, the pre-requisite is one previous Creative Writing module.

Students should choose 1 30-credit option and 1 15-credit option in Semester 1, and 2 15-credit options in Semester 2. Students whose Dissertation is American-related should choose at least 1 15-credit English option. Students whose Dissertation is not American-related should choose 3 15-credit American-related options. American-related options are marked with an asterisk. Students should work with the Tutor for English and American Studies to ensure that they have the appropriate balance of credits.

The list of 15-credit option modules is indicative only, 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.

Notes

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.

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See undergraduate module specification database [login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).

Appendix 3: Skills matrix