



Programme Specification

English Literature [Frenchay]

Version: 2025-26, v2.0, Validated

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: English Literature [Frenchay]

Highest award: BA (Hons) English Literature

Interim award: BA English Literature

Interim award: DipHE English Literature

Interim award: CertHE English Literature

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: No

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: Yes

Credit recognition: No

School responsible for the programme: CATE School of Arts, College of Arts, Technology and Environment

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies: Not applicable

Modes of delivery: Full-time, Part-time, Sandwich

Entry requirements: For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website.

For implementation from: 01 September 2025

Programme code: Q39B00

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The programme develops and enhances students' understanding of the relationship between literature, culture and society, and develops their skills of critical engagement. This enables students to gain discipline-specific knowledge and practices. In the process, students develop transferable skills in research, argument, and clear and effective communication.

The programme provides students with a dynamic, forward-thinking English Literature degree that combines traditional and innovative approaches to the discipline and challenges students to be creative, critical, curious, collaborative, and world ready. Staff research shapes the curriculum at every stage of the degree as they share current thinking in the relevant fields of study to enrich students' experience.

Features of the programme: The programme delivers a distinctive offer that combines a thorough grounding in key periods from the Renaissance to contemporary literature while continuing to respond to shifts in the discipline and beyond. It offers a core curriculum that emboldens students to consider literature's impact on the world, and engages them in wide-ranging, critical debates about the role of literature in the economy, its impact on politics and law, and its place in existential societal debates about current and future challenges including the climate crisis. In the process, students study a diverse range of primary texts from canonical, non-canonical, and emerging authors.

The assessment package transcends the traditional scope of an English Literature degree. Students gain vital workplace skills by delivering presentations, and writing creatively and critically across a range of innovative and traditional forms. All UWE English Literature graduates are equipped to contribute to society and the economy as responsible and reflective thinkers who question and critique received narratives and accepted norms.

Educational Aims: The educational aims of Programme are to:

Provide a current curriculum which offers depth within and breadth across the subject area based on staff expertise;

Provide students with a thorough knowledge of English literary culture by exposing them to canonical and non-canonical texts from the Renaissance to the twenty-first century;

Develop students' critical practices that stress the crucial balance between close reading and theoretical/contextual models of interpretation;

Extend students' knowledge of the historical and intellectual frames of reference from which literature emerges;

Offer a varied learning and assessment portfolio which encourages the development of analytic skills, creative expression and critical argument;

Provide a supportive and responsive framework for students' academic and personal development;

Develop outward-facing, employable students who are fully conscious of the transferable value of their subject-specific knowledge and skills;

Offer modules that engage and connect with cognate programmes across the faculty, facilitating integrated learning opportunities.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

Programme Learning Outcomes

PO1. Language Analysis: Investigate and analyse literary language, engaging with stylistic, formal and rhetorical properties of texts, learning how these communicate meaning.

- PO2. Literary Interpretation: Critically read, analyse, and interpret a diverse range of literary texts from various genres, periods and/or cultural contexts, exploring stylistic, formal, and rhetorical properties.
- PO3. Cultural and Historical Context: Analyse the social, historical, and cultural contexts of literary texts, considering their impact on meaning and reception, and exploring the relationship between literature and other forms of expression.
- PO4. Theoretical Engagement: Engage with literary and critical theories, applying theoretical frameworks to the analysis of texts and participating in critical debates within the field.
- PO5. Research and Inquiry: Develop research skills to explore literary topics, effectively using scholarly resources and bibliographic tools.
- PO6. Communication and Argumentation: Communicate effectively through written and/or oral forms, constructing persuasive arguments supported by evidence and engaging in critical discussions.
- PO7. Written Skills: Develop critical and/or creative writing skills, exploring diverse genres and experimenting with language, form, and style.
- PO8. Interdisciplinary Connections: Make connections between the study of English and related disciplines, such as communication, media, film studies, and cultural studies, exploring interdisciplinary perspectives and approaches.

Assessment strategy: The assessment strategy has been designed to test the programme learning outcomes.

At level 4, we have a combination of portfolios testing skills in the key areas of close reading, essay writing, and creative writing, as well as a broader observation-based field trip report. We also test students' digital literacy in the form of a blog.

At level 5, we have portfolios that develop significantly skills introduced in first year, alongside other options that give students the opportunity to explore different, commensurate briefs. We also begin to test students' presentation skills at this level once they have gained confidence within their cohort.

At level 6, aside from the shared project module, we have portfolios and a viva. The core module assessment takes the form of a twenty-minute viva that tests students'

ability to demonstrate their deep understanding of a range of critical and theoretical ideas in response to selected primary texts on the module, and advanced oral competence, a key transferable skill for the graduate marketplace. The project module enables students to synthesise a wide range of materials in producing an independent, extended piece of work.

Student support: Assessment: Every module has a clear Module Assessment, Feedback Support and Communication Plan to support students at every stage. These plans include assessment briefs, assessment advice sessions, and formative feedback opportunities.

All learning is supported by the VLE, which includes weekly preparation, lecture slides, and recorded lectures.

Pastoral: students receive programme leader, module leader, and Academic Personal Tutor support and guidance, and, where relevant, are guided towards additional university support, for example, library and wellbeing services.

Part B: Programme Structure

Year 1

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1. Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich)

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|-------------|--|--------|
| UPGND6-30-1 | Literature and the Marketplace 2025-26 | 30 |
| UPGB7L-30-1 | Approaches to Literature and Criticism 2025-26 | 30 |

| | | |
|-------------|--|----|
| UPGB7M-30-1 | Literature and Constructions of Childhood 2025-26 | 30 |
| UA1B6R-30-1 | Human Stories 2025-26 | 30 |

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|-------------|--|--------|
| UPGND6-30-1 | Literature and the Marketplace 2025-26 | 30 |
| UA1B6R-30-1 | Human Stories 2025-26 | 30 |

Year 2

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 2.
Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich)

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 90 credits from Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|--------------|---|--------|
| UPGNMCM-30-2 | Literature in the World 2026-27 | 30 |
| UPGPPL-30-2 | Victorian Frictions: Literature and Society, 1837-1901 2026-27 | 30 |
| UA1B6S-30-2 | Human Futures 2026-27 | 30 |

Year 2 Optional Modules (Full-time and Sandwich)

Full-time and Sandwich students must take 30 credits from Optional Modules (Full-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|-------------|---|--------|
| UPGB7N-30-2 | Love and Power in Renaissance Literature 2026-27 | 30 |

| | | |
|-------------|---|----|
| UPGB7P-30-2 | Voices of Dissent: American Literature Across Time 2026-27 | 30 |
|-------------|---|----|

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

Students will take:

Approaches to Literature + Criticism

Literature and Constructions of Childhood

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|-------------|--|--------|
| UPGB7L-30-1 | Approaches to Literature and Criticism 2026-27 | 30 |
| UPGB7M-30-1 | Literature and Constructions of Childhood 2026-27 | 30 |

Year 3

Full-time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Students on the sandwich route must undertake and pass a work placement. During this time students must complete the 30 credit level 3 module, Professional Development on Placement UPGNA5-30-3

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 60 credits from Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

Students will take::

Literature in the World

Humanities Shared L5 Human futures

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--------|
| UPGNM-30-2 | Literature in the World 2027-28 | 30 |
| UA1B6S-30-2 | Human Futures 2027-28 | 30 |

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Full-time)

Full-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| UPGB7Q-30-3 | Literature and Global Futures 2027-28 | 30 |
| UA1B6T-30-3 | Humanities Research Project 2027-28 | 30 |

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 30 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Sandwich).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|-------------|---|--------|
| UPGNA5-30-3 | Professional Development on Placement 2027-28 | 30 |

Year 3 Optional Modules (Full-time)

Full-time students must take 60 credits from Optional Modules (Full-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|-------------|--|--------|
| UPGPTF-30-3 | Contemporary British Fiction 2027-28 | 30 |
| UPGPFS-30-3 | Gothic Literature 2027-28 | 30 |
| UPGPPA-30-3 | Contemporary American Literature 2027-28 | 30 |
| UPGPPR-30-3 | Children's Fiction Since 1900 2027-28 | 30 |

Year 4

Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 4.

Sandwich students must take 90 credits from the modules in Year 4.

Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 30 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|-------------|--------------|--------|
|-------------|--------------|--------|

| | | |
|-------------|---|----|
| UPGPPL-30-2 | Victorian Frictions: Literature and Society, 1837-1901 2028-29 | 30 |
|-------------|---|----|

Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Sandwich).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| UPGB7Q-30-3 | Literature and Global Futures 2028-29 | 30 |
| UA1B6T-30-3 | Humanities Research Project 2028-29 | 30 |

Year 4 Optional Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 30 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|--------------------|---|---------------|
| UPGB7N-30-2 | Love and Power in Renaissance Literature 2028-29 | 30 |
| UPGB7P-30-2 | Voices of Dissent: American Literature Across Time 2028-29 | 30 |

Year 4 Optional Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 30 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Sandwich).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|--------------------|--|---------------|
| UPGPPR-30-3 | Children's Fiction Since 1900 2028-29 | 30 |
| UPGPPA-30-3 | Contemporary American Literature 2028-29 | 30 |
| UPGPTF-30-3 | Contemporary British Fiction 2028-29 | 30 |
| UPGPFS-30-3 | Gothic Literature 2028-29 | 30 |

Year 5

Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 5.

Year 5 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 30 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| UPGB7Q-30-3 | Literature and Global Futures 2029-30 | 30 |

Year 5 Optional Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 30 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|--------------------|--|---------------|
| UPGPPA-30-3 | Contemporary American Literature 2029-30 | 30 |
| UPGPTF-30-3 | Contemporary British Fiction 2029-30 | 30 |
| UPGPPR-30-3 | Children's Fiction Since 1900 2029-30 | 30 |
| UPGPFS-30-3 | Gothic Literature 2029-30 | 30 |

Year 6

Part-time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 6.

Year 6 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 30 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| UA1B6T-30-3 | Humanities Research Project 2030-31 | 30 |

Year 6 Optional Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must select 30 credits from Optional Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|--------------------|--|---------------|
| UPGPPA-30-3 | Contemporary American Literature 2030-31 | 30 |
| UPGPPR-30-3 | Children's Fiction Since 1900 2030-31 | 30 |

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|----|
| UPGPFS-30-3 | Gothic Literature 2030-31 | 30 |
| UPGPTF-30-3 | Contemporary British Fiction 2030-31 | 30 |

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

The programme encourages students to produce academic work of the highest calibre by achieving the stipulated learning outcomes for all of their modules.

Students are advised to engage in extra-curricular activities such as joining the English Society, becoming Student Ambassadors, undergoing the training to be PAL Leaders and Senior PAL leaders, representing their programme/module at staff-student meeting. The Sandwich Option route also offers students a defined option to gain accredited experience of the workplace.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

The Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Subject Benchmark Statement: English, September 2023 has been fundamental to the design of the programme.

As QAA explains, 'The study of English Literature involves the close, analytical reading and interpretation of prose, poetry and drama ... It explores the interconnections between texts, and the interaction of literature with social, historical, theoretical and cultural contexts' (2). On this programme, students undertake contextual analysis of a range of genres from the early modern period to the present day.

In line with QAA, the programme 'develops students' abilities to communicate, collaborate, create and think critically - enabling them to grow as individuals, to undertake a broad range of careers, and contribute effectively to society and the economy' (2). The transferable skills developed on this programme open doors to a wide range of graduate opportunities.

Part E: Regulations

Approved to University Regulations and Procedures.

