

Programme Specification

Section 1: Basic Data

Awarding institution/body	UWE
Teaching institution	UWE
Faculty responsible for programme	SSH
Programme accredited by	Not Applicable
Highest award title	MA English
Default award title	Not Applicable
Interim award title	Postgraduate Diploma in English; Postgraduate Certificate in English
Modular Scheme title (if different)	Humanities Postgraduate Modular Scheme
UCAS code (or other coding system if relevant)	Q30A12
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s)	English
Valid until	
Valid from (insert date if appropriate)	September 2007
Authorised by...	Date:...
Version Code 4 (29/01/08)	
<i>For coding purposes, a numerical sequence (1, 2, 3 etc.) should be used for successive programme specifications where 2 replaces 1, and where there are no concurrent specifications. A sequential decimal numbering (1.1; 1.2, 2.1; 2.2 etc) should be used where there are different and concurrent programme specifications</i>	

Section 2: Educational aims of the programme

Postgraduate English students may expect the programme:

- To provide an intellectually rigorous, challenging and rewarding curriculum.
- To provide teaching that is informed and enriched by the research of members of the Department of English.
- To provide a supportive environment for students' academic and personal development.
- To allow students to pursue their own literary interests and enthusiasms.
- To prepare students for the variety of career paths which favour self-disciplined, self-motivated postgraduates with good thinking and communication skills.

Section 3: Learning outcomes of the programme

The award route provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas: ...

A Knowledge and understanding

Learning outcomes	Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies
<p>A Knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a wide range of literature in English from the Renaissance to the present. 2. the cultural and historical contexts, which shaped and were shaped by the authors and texts studied; 3. the formal and aesthetic dimensions of the literary genres studied; 4. the key terms and concepts used in the analysis and interpretation of literary ideas; 5. the range and variety of modern approaches to the study of literary texts. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies:</p> <p>Acquisition of skill 1 is through the required reading on modules, through constant encouragement to undertake wider, independent reading in support of the required reading, and through the support given to students to pursue individual interests and enthusiasms in their dissertations.</p> <p>Acquisition of skills 2 - 5 is through a combination of seminars and workshops, as appropriate to each module, with dissertation supervision provided through a mixture of small-group sessions and individual tutorials. On all modules, students are expected to deepen their understanding of topics by immersing themselves in the secondary literature, on which detailed guidance is given in module handbooks.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <p>Assessment is strongly biased towards the continuous assessment of written work, which includes traditional critical essays and extended essays, evaluations of critical sources, bibliographical exercises and oral presentations.</p>

B Intellectual Skills

<p>B Intellectual Skills:</p> <p>On successful completion of this award students will be able to demonstrate the following skills:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 the ability to identify the complexities of some literary genres and other forms of written and oral communication; 2 the ability to analyse the roles, methodologies, ideologies and historical contexts of the chosen literary critical traditions; 3 the ability to write critical essays, which demonstrate an ability to form sophisticated arguments and synthesise critical ideas; 4 an awareness of how literature and language produce and reflect cultural difference; 5 comprehension of the complexities of the discipline and its relationship to other disciplines and forms of language. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies:</p> <p>Intellectual skills are developed for skills 1 and 2 through attending classes and intellectual debate in seminars and reading both primary and critical material. Skills 3 and 4 are acquired by writing critical essays and oral presentations. Skill 5 is achieved through a combination of these and progression through the award from core modules through to more self directed learning on the dissertation module.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <p>The variety of assessment methods employed all place great emphasis (as shown in the subject's assessment criteria) on the learner's ability to demonstrate skills 1 - 5 through short and long essays, dissertations and oral presentations.</p>
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C Subject, Professional and Practical Skills

<p>C Subject/Professional/Practical Skills:</p> <p>On successful completion of this award students will be able to demonstrate the following skills:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 the ability to apply complex techniques of literary criticism to the written interpretation and analysis of texts; 2 the ability to deploy appropriate critical language in written communication in a self-conscious way; 3 the ability to deploy appropriate critical language in oral communication; 4 considerable knowledge of the conventions of literary research and presentation, including citation and referencing; 5. the ability to design and produce a substantial piece of independent research or personal writing. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies:</p> <p>Students receive guidance in the use of appropriate critical terminology via lectures and seminar discussion, one-to-one tutorials, and in feedback on written work. The module handbooks and the compulsory modules offer guidelines on the presentation of literary research. Seminar preparation, participation and more formal presentations offer opportunities for developing competence in oral communication. Writing competencies are tested in a variety of written assignments, including coursework assignments and oral presentations. Guidance on the planning and production of independent work is given through tutorial support in the compulsory dissertation module and guidelines in the appropriate module handbook.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <p>Skills 1, 2 and 4 are assessed through a variety of written assessments. Skill 5 is assessed through the dissertation. Skill 3 is assessed in some modules.</p>
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D Transferable Skills and other attributes

<p>D Transferable skills and other attributes:</p> <p>On successful completion of this award students will be able to demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1 produce highly effective written communication;2 marshal their ideas in a limited time;3 study effectively;4 manage their time efficiently;5 locate and evaluate literary sources and extract relevant information;6 use a computer for word processing, obtaining information, and presenting data;7 take responsibility for their own learning and research;8 communicate effectively orally;9 work efficiently as members of a team;10 produce complex and sophisticated literary scholarship.	<p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies:</p> <p>Students learn writing skills not only through formal assignments, examinations and tests but also through written exercises in seminars and workshops (skill 1). Some of these have time limits set on them (skill 2). Students learn to study effectively by attending the faculty's study skills workshops or tutorials, or by consulting study skills books or computer packages as well as by receiving feedback from staff in tutorials. Some of them form self-help study groups (skill 3). They learn to manage their time by dealing with the time constraints of deadlines and balancing the demands of different modules; they can also attend time management tutorials (skill 4). They are introduced to library and IT skills in induction; they can follow this up by attending IT training courses (skills 5 and 6). They are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning in a variety of ways; for example, by formulating their own essay titles, making choices about their learning, following up their own interests, and in particular studying for their dissertation (skill 8). They practice their oral communication in seminars on all modules, and in some modules they are expected to give a presentation or lead a session (skill 8). Many modules specifically encourage team work by, for example, requiring groups of students to give a presentation(skill 9). The supervision of the dissertation allows the student to pursue his or her own area of research interest (skill 10).</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <p>All modules in English are assessed by at least two pieces of writing (skill 1). These pieces include essays, bibliographical exercises and presentation notes. With the exception of project modules, one piece of assessment per module is assessed under controlled conditions (skill 2). This element often takes the form of oral presentation (skill 8). In order to be successful in all assessments, students need study skills (skill 3) and time management skills (skill 4). For their coursework they also need to be able to access information (skill 5) and are required to present their work in word-processed form (skill 6). In all modules, they are expected to take at least some responsibility for their own learning (skill 7); this is particularly true for the dissertation (skill 10). Teamwork (skill 9) is not formally assessed.</p>
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Section 4: Programme structure

The following is a structural chart of the programme showing:

- Level and credit requirements
- Interim award requirements
- Module diet, including compulsory/core/optional modules

MA English - Full Time

ENTRY
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Autumn Semester	Compulsory modules	Optional modules	Interim Awards: Credit requirements
	Core modules		
Winter Semester	Compulsory modules	Optional modules	Interim Awards: Credit requirements
	Core modules		
Year out	<i>Use this space to describe optional/compulsory year abroad/placement/clinical placement</i> NOT APPLICABLE FOR THIS AWARD		
Summer Semester and up to September	Compulsory modules	Optional modules	Prerequisite requirements
	Core modules		Awards:
			Credit requirements -

→ GRADUATION

MA English - Part Time - Year 1

ENTRY
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Autumn Semester	Compulsory modules UPGP4D-30-M Foundations of Literary Scholarship	Optional modules There are no optional modules at this stage of this award.	Interim Awards: There are no interim awards at this stage of this award.
	Core modules There are no core modules at this stage of this award.		
Winter Semester	Compulsory modules There are no compulsory modules at this stage of this award.	Optional modules Students may take one module from the wider faculty provision of level M or level 3 modules which have been put forward for this purpose by the PG Programme Leaders for each academic year. This is subject to any formal prerequisites and the advice of the programme and module leaders.	Interim Awards: Credit requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 credits: Postgraduate Certificate • Other requirements: None
	Core modules There are no core modules at this stage of this award.		
Year out	<i>Use this space to describe optional/compulsory year abroad/placement/clinical placement</i> NOT APPLICABLE FOR THIS AWARD		
Summer Semester	No work is carried out during this semester for this award.		

MA English - Part Time - Year 2

ENTRY
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Autumn Semester	Compulsory modules UPGP4Y-30-M Reading Modernities	Optional modules Students may take one module from the wider faculty provision of level M or level 3 modules which have been put forward for this purpose by the PG Programme Leaders for each academic year. This is subject to any formal prerequisites and the advice of the programme and module leaders.	Interim Awards: There are no interim awards at this stage of this award.
	Core modules There are no core modules at this stage of this award.		
Winter Semester	Compulsory modules There are no compulsory modules at this stage of this award.	Optional modules Students may take one module from the wider faculty provision of level M or level 3 modules which have been put forward for this purpose by the PG Programme Leaders for each academic year. This is subject to any formal prerequisites and the advice of the programme and module leaders.	Interim Awards: Credit requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 120 credits Postgraduate Diploma • Other requirements: None
	Core modules There are no core modules at this stage of this award.		
Year out	<i>Use this space to describe optional/compulsory year abroad/placement/clinical placement</i> NOT APPLICABLE FOR THIS AWARD		
Summer Semester and up to January	Compulsory modules UPGP4Q-60-M MA English Dissertation	Optional modules There are no optional modules at this stage of this award.	Prerequisite requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum credit / module requirements 120 credits • Other None
	Core modules There are no core modules at this stage of this award.		Awards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target/highest – MA History • Default title None Credit requirements - 180

→ GRADUATION

Section 5: Entry requirements

Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admissions requirements of the University of the West of England with specific requirements as detailed below:

BA(Hons) Degree

- Normally at 2.1 or above.
- Preference given to English, Literary Studies or a related discipline.

Equivalent to BA(Hons) from a recognised overseas university centre as certified by the National Academic Recognition Centre.

For non-native speakers of English, evidence of proficiency in English, normally IELTS 6.5 or TOEFL 650.

Section 6: Assessment Regulations

- a) **Wholly in accordance with MAR** ✓
- b) **Approved MAR variant (insert variant)**
- c) **Non MAR**

Section 7: Student learning: distinctive features and support

- Induction meeting for orientation.
- Extensive library and other learning resources and facilities.
- Dedicated office hours for all staff, student email system, trained counsellors for both pastoral and academic support.
- A wide range of teaching and learning strategies and an equally varied range of assessment modes across the award.
- Strong emphasis on the skills of the independent learner and researcher.

Section 8 Reference points/benchmarks

The following reference points and considerations were used in designing the programme:

- University teaching and learning policies.
- Staff research projects.
- QAA Subject Benchmark statements.

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of individual modules can be found in module specifications. These are available on the University Intranet.

Programme monitoring and review may lead to changes to approved programmes. There may be a time lag between approval of such changes/modifications and their incorporation into an authorised programme specification. Enquiries about any recent changes to the programme made since this specification was authorised should be made to the relevant Faculty Administrator.