Durham University

Durham University
Faculty Handbook Online
www.durham.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/

These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's core regulations for undergraduate programmes, and the marking and classification conventions for undergraduate programmes.

BA ENGLISH LITERATURE (Q300)
BA ENGLISH LITERATURE (WITH YEAR ABROAD) (Q302)
BA ENGLISH LITERATURE (WITH PLACEMENT YEAR) (Q303)

1. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.

Level 1 (Certificate)

2. Candidates must study and be assessed in the following modules to the value of 80 credits:

		Credit Value
Introduction to Drama #	ENGL1011	20
Introduction to the Novel #	ENGL1061	20
Introduction to Poetry #	ENGL1071	20
Approaches to Literary Studies #	ENGL1081	20

3. Candidates will also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 40 credits from List A:

List A		**Credit Value**
Epic and the Literature of Legend	ENGL1041	20
Romance and the Literature of Chivalry	ENGL1051	20
Level 1 open modules offered by other Boards of Studies (including appropriate credit bearing language modules to the value of 20 credits offered by the University's Centre for Foreign Language Study)		

Level 2 (Diploma)

4. Candidates must study and be assessed in the following modules to the value of 40 credits:

		Credit value
Theory and Practice of Literary Criticism #	ENGL2011	20
Shakespeare #	ENGL2021	20

5. Candidates will also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 60 credits from List B:

List B		**Credit Value**
Chaucer ϕ	ENGL2121	20
Renaissance Literature Level 2 ϕ	ENGL2041	20
Victorian Literature	ENGL2071	20
Literature of the Modern Period	ENGL2081	20
Old Norse Level 2 ϕ Δ	ENGL2101	20
Medieval French Literature ϕ Δ	ENGL2111	20
American Poetry	ENGL2141	20
Postcolonial World Literatures	ENGL2801	20
Level 2 open modules to the value of 20 credits offered by other Boards of Studies (including appropriate credit-bearing language modules to the value of 20 credits offered by the University's Centre for Foreign Language Study)		20

6. Candidates will also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 20 credits from List C1 - C3:

List C1 (Year-long)		**Credit Value**
Arthurian Literature	ENGL2381	20

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George Eliot: Novelist of Ideas	ENGL2471	20
Writing Women: Gendering Literature, c.800-1600	ENGL2781	20
Hotel Stories	ENGL2821	20
Writing Horrors	ENGL2851	20
Stagecraft and Subversion in the Early English Drama	ENGL2861	20
Ted Hughes	ENGL2871	20
Writing the Sea	ENGL2911	20

List C2 (Michaelmas)

Literature and the Internet	ENGL2831	20
Poetry by the Book	ENGL2881	20
Reading Milton's Paradise Lost	ENGL2901	20

List C3 (Epiphany)

Fin-de-Siecle Fiction	ENGL2291	20

Level 3 (Degree)

7. Candidates must study and be assessed in the following module to the value of 40 credits:

		Credit Value
40-Credit Dissertation ~	ENGL3162	40

8. Candidates will also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 40 credits from List D:

List D		**Credit Value**
Restoration and 18th Century Literature ф	ENGL3051	20
Literature of the Romantic Period	ENGL3061	20
Old Norse Level 3 2 ф ∆	ENGL3101	20
Medieval French Literature ф ∆	ENGL3111	20
American Fiction	ENGL3131	20
Post-War Fiction and Poetry	ENGL3591	20
Medieval Literature ф	ENGL3661	20

9. Candidates will also study and be assessed in the modules to the value of 40 credits from List E:

List E (Special Topics):		**Credit Value**
Writing Prose Fiction	ENGL3171	20
A Society of Equals	ENGL3261	20
Creative Writing Poetry	ENGL3271	20
Keats and Shelley	ENGL3611	20
Mind and Narrative	ENGL3711	20
The Politics of Style	ENGL3741	20
Digital Deformations (STEM - Epiphany)	ENGL3821	20
The Rise of Popular Music	ENGL3851	20
Sexology and the Novel	ENGL3861	20
Life Write Now: Reading Contemporary Autofiction	ENGL3891	20
Literature and the Artinatural 1750-1950	ENGL3911	20
The Domestic Object in Edwardian and Modern Fiction	ENGL3981	20
Legality and Justice in South Asian Literature and Film	ENGL30A1	20
History and Memory in African Women's Writing	ENGL30B1	20
Level 3 open modules to the value of 20 credits offered by other Boards of Studies (including appropriate credit-bearing language modules offered by the University's Centre for Foreign Language Study)		20

Assessment, progression and award

10. Modules marked # must be passed at 40% or above in order to progress to the next level of study.
11. At least one module marked ф must be chosen over Levels 2 and 3.
12. Modules marked ∆ may be taken at either level 2 or level 3, to a total value of 40 credits.

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13. Modules marked ~ must be passed at 40% or above for the award of an honours degree. A mark of 30-39% cannot be compensated.
14. Exceptionally for academic year 2025/26 only, candidates may, with the written permission of the Director of Undergraduate Studies, take 20 credits of programme-specific Level 1 modules during Level 2 study (subject to timetable compatibility).
15. Exceptionally for academic year 2025/26 only, candidates may, with the written permission of the Director of Undergraduate Studies, take 20 credits of programme-specific Level 2 modules during Level 3 study (subject to timetable compatibility).

Year 3 (Year Abroad)

16. Students will undertake an approved placement at a foreign university, taking a course of study chosen in consultation with the programme director and the host institution. Students are particularly encouraged to take literary modules that might be uniquely tied to the regional, national and/or international status of the host institution and/or to take advantage of opportunities to develop/refine foreign language skills if appropriate.
17. Students who the English Studies Board of Examiners deems to have made satisfactory progress on the year abroad, judged by reference to each student's learning agreement, will continue to Level 3 of the BA English Literature (with Year Abroad) (Q302). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the year abroad will not be permitted to continue on the BA English Literature (with Year Abroad) (Q302) programme, but must instead proceed to the final year of the BA English Literature (Q300).

Year 3 (Placement)

18. Students admitted to the BA English Literature (Q300) are able to apply to transfer to the BA English Literature (with Placement Year) programme (Q303). Students taking the BA English Literature (with Placement Year) (Q303) will undertake an approved placement or placements in a UK or overseas organisation consisting of at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience.

    Following the placement year, students will be required to successfully complete a placement assessment as agreed by the Department, to determine whether the programme learning outcomes have been met. Assessment does not contribute to the marks used to determine the award of the degree but successful completion is required to qualify for the BA English Literature (with Placement Year) (Q303). If a student fails, they will transfer to the BA English Literature (Q300) programme.

19. Candidates wishing to transfer to the BA English Literature (with Placement Year) (Q303) must:
    a. have successfully completed Level 1 of the BA English Literature (Q300) and progressed to Level 2 of the programme; and
    b. during their Level 2 study, apply to the Board of Studies in the Department of English to be admitted to the BA English Literature (with Placement) (Q303) and have their application approved by the Chair of the Board of Studies; and
    c. secure a placement / year abroad opportunity or opportunities comprising at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience, agreed with the Departmental Placement Year Convenor and Faculty Placement Officer; and
    d. successfully complete Level 2 of the BA English Literature (Q300) so as to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the BA English Literature (Q300).

20. Students whom the Board of Examiners for the Department of English deem to have fulfilled the programme learning outcomes and who successfully pass the placement assessment will continue to Level 3 of the BA English Literature (with Placement Year) (Q303). Students who fail will not be permitted to continue on the BA English Literature (with Placement Year) (Q303) programme, but must instead proceed to the final year of the BA English Literature programme (Q300).