

ENGLISH

The Department of English, Linguistics and Cultural Studies makes the most of our central London location, organising regular public events with institutions such as the British Library and Tate Britain. As a student at the University of Westminster's Regent Campus, you will also benefit from our programme of regular guest lectures by high-profile published writers.

Employers value the communication and critical thinking skills of English graduates, and you could go on to work in a wide range of careers including professional and/or creative writing, teaching, journalism and publishing.

All students in the Department are able to choose to study abroad as part of their course, with our partners including universities in Europe, the United States and Australia. There is also an established and lively research culture in English at Westminster, embracing a range of critical approaches and various periods; research areas include medieval and early modern English, 19th-century literature and culture, Gothic studies, modernism, contemporary writing, and critical and cultural theory.

"The course is excellent, I'm really enjoying it. So many novelists and other people write in London, so it's really interesting being right in the heart of it, right in central London, imagining where some of these people were writing their novels or writing their poems."

ELEANOR STARR
English Literature BA Honours,
second year

>> See also: History p120 • Languages p132 • Linguistics p144



Social space
Regent Campus

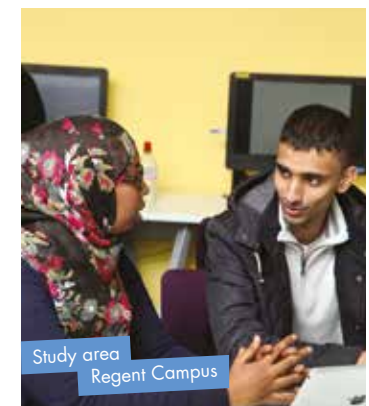


The Foyer
309 Regent Street

92%
of English
Language
and Literature
students said
staff made
the subject
interesting



Social space
Regent Campus



Study area
Regent Campus

Data from Key Information Set (KIS)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND CREATIVE WRITING BA HONOURS

This course combines the opportunity to improve your writing skills with the development of a thorough understanding of the English language. In addition to studying how the language works in its spoken and written forms and the different kinds of English that exist today, the course provides structured support and guidance in the development of writing skills in various genres (the novel, the short story, poetry, drama, and non-fictional writing).

Your knowledge and understanding of English will be enhanced by focusing on its aesthetic possibilities. This particular combination is suitable for those interested in pursuing a career in any field that involves the highly skilled use of language, such as publishing or journalism, professional writing, or teaching. You could also go on to a career that includes teaching related to language or creative writing.

Course content

Depending on whether the course is taken as a joint Honours or a major/minor combination, the balance of the two subject areas varies, but in each year modules deepen your knowledge of the English language and its use, and develop your writing abilities. In Year 3 you will produce either a single substantial work (novel or play) or a portfolio of shorter work (short fiction or poetry). There is a strong focus on future career opportunities, with a programme of visiting speakers from relevant professional areas, and an opportunity to do an internship in Year 3.

Year 1 (Credit Level 4)

Subjects of study include a general introduction to creative writing at Westminster with a particular focus on London as a theme, alongside a detailed examination of the structure and use of the English language.

Year 2 (Credit Level 5)

Subjects of study include the history of the English language and its use in spoken discourse settings, and different varieties of English, in addition to developing your skills in writing poetry, constructing a novel, and writing for radio and screen.

Year 3 (Credit Level 6)

You will be supervised throughout the year by a writer well established in the area that you have chosen to focus on for your Creative Writing Project. You will also be able to develop your writing skills in niche areas such as children's writing, memoir and humorous writing. You will extend your knowledge of the English language by choosing to study how the language varies around the country, how it reflects gender issues, the ways in which it changes over time, and how it is used in oral and written story telling.

Length of course
Three years full-time

UCAS code
QWV38

Campus
Regent (See p24)

Typical offer for September 2015

A Levels – BB/BBC including English; International Baccalaureate – 30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English; Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma – DDM/Diploma DD with A Level English. If your first language is not English you must have an IELTS score of 6.5 overall with 6.5 in each element or equivalent. See also entry requirements on p233.

A portfolio of creative writing is required in addition to these academic qualifications.

To study creative writing you should submit a portfolio of creative writing (maximum 10,000 words) of an individual or mixture of genres that you have written privately (not as part of a taught course). You may include poetry with prose works, but please do not submit solely poetry.

“Out of the five universities I applied to, Westminster was the only one to ask for a sample of my written work. I felt that was a much more rigorous approach to doing things, and because of that I was encouraged about the quality of the teaching, and the quality of the supervision.”

Max Watson

English Language and Creative Writing BA Honours, graduated in 2013

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH LITERATURE BA HONOURS

The combination of English language and English literature will appeal if you are interested in the reciprocity between language study and the reading of literary texts. It is a course that prepares you for detailed textual reading from both an analytical and aesthetic point of view, and is particularly suitable for those considering a career in editing, teaching English, or in any field in which writing style or the presentation of text is central.

The course will provide you with a strong understanding of stylistic and grammatical issues, and of the principles of textual analysis, as well as developing your key transferable skills in communication.

Course content

Depending on whether the course is taken as a joint Honours or a major/minor combination, the balance of the two subject areas varies. You will be able to study literature from Shakespeare to the present day, including texts from outside the usual 'literary canon', while developing your understanding of the English language, the way it works and the way it may vary between different texts.

You will have the opportunity to consider the tools of both literary analysis and language research in some detail. You will also consider the wider context in which literary works have been produced by focusing on the broader context of Western history and thought, and art and culture more generally.

There is a wide range of additional topics available that you may choose to focus on, such as American literature, contemporary writing, Gothic, narrative theory, post-colonial writing, Romanticism, the language of specific authors, the way in which the English language has changed over time, theatre studies, travel writing, and writing/language and gender. There is also the opportunity to take two modules in English language teaching.

Through these modules you will develop a rich understanding of the language, society and literature's place within it by investigating the codes and conventions that have emerged in a variety of social and historical contexts, and the ways in which these have guided both literary and non-literary representation. In Year 3 you can complete a dissertation in English language or English literature.

Length of course
Three years full-time

UCAS code
Q301

Campus
Regent (See p24)

Typical offer for September 2015

A Levels – BB/BBC including English; International Baccalaureate – 30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English; Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma – DDM/Diploma DD with A Level English. If your first language is not English you must have an IELTS score of 6.5 overall with 6.5 in each element or equivalent. See also entry requirements on p233.



Study area, Regent Campus

“The English degree is really flexible, and includes subjects from a lot of different fields. For example, I studied Modernism and Art in my second year, and Psychology in my final year, and it's given me a lot more career options.”

Juanita Peters

English Literature BA Honours, graduated in 2013

ENGLISH LITERATURE BA HONOURS

This course considers English literary texts against their background in the history of ideas, the other arts and British culture. It aims to make the most of our central London location – in the midst of galleries, museums, cinemas and theatres, and the urban landscape – as a resource for studying the social and theoretical issues relating to literature. If you take The Victorians module, for example, you visit Tate Britain as part of your study to see the collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings, one of the most important art movements of the period.

The course is of interest to those whose first language is English and who have some prior experience of literature, as well as international students wishing to take or complete a degree in the UK. You could go on to a career in professional and/or creative writing, teaching, journalism or publishing; employers across a range of professions and businesses value the cultural knowledge, communication and critical thinking skills of English graduates.

Course content

You can choose from a large number of modules in literature from Shakespeare to the present day, including texts outside the more familiar areas. In the first year you will gain a strong grounding in literary studies through modules that cover major movements and authors, and you can choose from options that include contemporary writing, theatre studies and poetry.

Our individual tutorial system gives you the opportunity to develop your own understanding and skills through working closely with your tutor.

In the second and third years you will extend and deepen your critical skills and your knowledge of the forms, history and context of literature. A wide range of topics is offered, such as American literature, contemporary writing, fantasy, Gothic, post-colonial writing, Romanticism, theatre studies, tragedy, travel writing, and writing and gender.



Book Fair, Southbank, London

Through these studies you will develop a thorough understanding of British society and literature's place within it. You will also be able to relate the study of English literature to the broader context of Western history and thought.

In the final year you have the opportunity to write an extended essay or dissertation on a subject of your own choice. You can undertake an internship where you can apply the knowledge that you have gained.

FACTS & FIGURES

97% of English Literature BA Honours students agreed that staff were good at explaining things.



Length of course
Three years full-time

UCAS code
Q300

Campus
Regent (See p24)

Typical offer for September 2015
A Levels – BB/BBC including English; International Baccalaureate – 30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English; Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma – DDM/Diploma DD with A Level English. If your first language is not English you must have an IELTS score of 6.5 overall with 6.5 in each element or equivalent. See also entry requirements on p233.

ENGLISH LITERATURE AND CREATIVE WRITING BA HONOURS

This course combines the study of literary and non-literary texts in English with the development of your own creative writing skills. The study of texts and their background in the history of ideas informs your progress as a writer, while your experience of writing in a variety of genres (the novel, the short story, poetry and drama) enhances your appreciation of literature. The course takes full advantage of our central London location through visits and the opportunity for internships as part of your study.

This course will be of particular interest to those who wish to write or develop their reading with the experience that comes from writing literary texts. You will gain the knowledge and understanding necessary to go on to a career in freelance writing, publishing, theatre, or teaching literature and creative writing.

Course content

At each credit level, you will focus on both writing in particular genres and forms, and studying literature of different periods, authors or genres, alongside being able to examine the tools of literary enquiry in your study of literary theories and the history of ideas. Your work in creative writing will move in tandem with your study in English literature, particularly in Year 3 (Credit Level 6), when you will produce either a single substantial work (novel, play) or a portfolio of shorter work (short fiction, poetry) while studying related literature modules.

There is a strong focus on future career opportunities, with creative writing being taught largely by freelance writers who have expertise in the particular genre being taught. You will have an opportunity to do an internship in publishing and theatre in Year 3. You will be able to study literature from Shakespeare to the present day, including non-fiction as well as prose, poetry and drama.

The options from which you choose additional study will include opportunities to focus on contemporary writing, theatre studies, writing and gender, travel writing, American literature, Gothic, Romanticism, and post-colonial writing.



Regent Campus

As a result of this course, you will develop a deep understanding of British society and literature's place within it by investigating the codes and conventions that have emerged in a variety of social and historical contexts, and the ways in which these have guided both literary and non-literary representation. You will also be able to relate the study of English literature and your own writing to the broader context of Western history and thought.

To study creative writing you should submit a portfolio of creative writing (maximum 10,000 words) of an individual or mixture of genres.

FACTS & FIGURES

The latest national assessment of academic research, found that 80% of the research by the University's English Department was recognised as 'internationally excellent' or 'world leading'.

(REF, 2014)



Length of course
Three years full-time

UCAS code
QW3V

Campus
Regent (See p24)

Typical offer for September 2015
A Levels – BB/BBC including English; International Baccalaureate – 30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English; Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma – DDM/Diploma DD with A Level English. If your first language is not English you must have an IELTS score of 6.5 overall with 6.5 in each element or equivalent. See also entry requirements on p233.

ENGLISH LITERATURE AND HISTORY BA HONOURS

This course allows you to combine the study of literary texts with the study of history. It enables you to gain a command of the social and political circumstances in which the writing of literature has taken place, as well as of the texts themselves.

It will also give you the skills and knowledge to enter careers with a significant element of research, such as in broadcasting, journalism, teaching or publishing.

Course content

Depending on whether the course is taken as a joint Honours or a major/minor combination, the balance of the two subject areas varies. In Year 3 you can complete a dissertation in English literature or history.

FACTS & FIGURES

English Literature and History BA Honours academic staff are 'enthusiastic about the subject' and 'good at explaining things', according to **94%** of their students.

English Literature

You will be able to study literature from a wide range of periods and genres from Shakespeare to the present day, including non-fiction texts as well as novels, poetry and drama. There are also modules in literary theory and the history of ideas, ranging from classical philosophy to contemporary debates.

In the first year you will develop your skills, knowledge and confidence in literary studies in the context of our small group tutorial system. In the second and third years a wide range of option topics is offered such as American literature, contemporary literature, Gothic, Romanticism, theatre studies, tragedy, travel writing, and writing and gender.

Through these studies you will develop a deep understanding of literature and its place in British culture, and you will also be able to relate the study of English literature to the broader context of Western history and thought.

Length of course
Three years full-time

UCAS code
QV31

Campus
Regent (See p24)

Typical offer for September 2015
A Levels – BB/BBC including English; International Baccalaureate – 30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English; Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma – DDM/Diploma DD with A Level English. If your first language is not English you must have an IELTS score of 6.5 overall with 6.5 in each element or equivalent. See also entry requirements on p233.

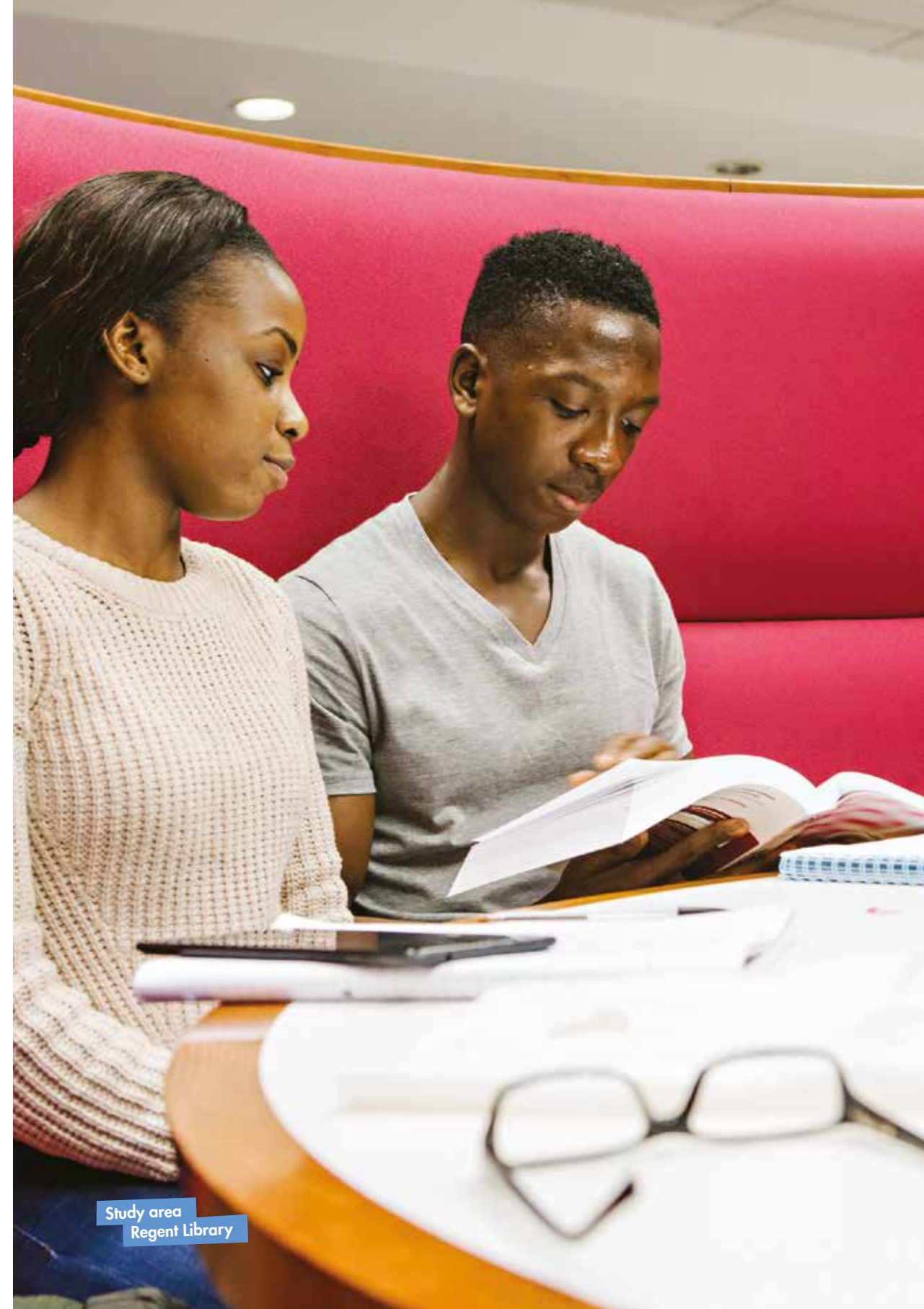


History

You will have access to a wide variety of interesting modules, many of them unique to Westminster. Our focus is explicitly modern, but within a very broad geographical sweep. There are core modules in modern British and European history and we provide advanced research training to prepare you for your dissertation.

We offer options on the fascinating history of London in peace and at war, and other options include: America and the Vietnam War; British Foreign and Defence Policy; British Social History; Cultural History of World War II; Decolonisation, Race and Politics in the USA; Fascism; History of the EU; Jack the Ripper; London and its Museums; Modern Ireland; the American Wild West; the Cinema as a Source for Historians; the Cold War; the Russian Revolution; the Spanish Civil War; the Study of Imperialism; the Troubles; and Women's History.

You can also take a credit-bearing internship in a museum, library or archive in London.



Study area
Regent Library