PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

<u>**Course record information**</u>

Name and level of final award	BA (Hons) English Literature
	BA (Hons) English Literature with International Experience
	The BA (Hons) English Literature and the BA (Hons) English Literature with International Experience are BA degrees that are Bologna FQ-EHEA first cycle degree or diploma compatible.
Name and level of intermediate awards	Diploma of Higher Education English Literature with International Experience
	Diploma of Higher Education English Literature with International Experience
	Certificate of Higher Education English Literature with International Experience
	Certificate of Higher Education English Literature
Awarding body/institution	University of Westminster
Teaching Institution	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution	Recognised Body
Location of delivery	Central London
Language of delivery and assessment	English
Mode, length of study and normal starting month	Three or four years full-time (with optional year abroad); Six or eight years part-time (with optional year abroad). September start.
QAA subject benchmarking group(s)	English https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements
Professional statutory or regulatory body	Not applicable
Date of course validation/review	September 2020
Date of programme specification approval	December 2020
Valid for cohorts	2021/2
Course Leader	Lucy Bond
UCAS code and URL	Q300 http://www.westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate

Westminster course code	BAENG07F
HECoS code	Code 100319

Admissions requirements

There are standard minimum entry requirements for all undergraduate courses. Students are advised to check the standard requirements for the most up-to-date information.

For most courses a decision will be made on the basis of your application form alone. However, for some courses the selection process may include an interview to demonstrate your strengths in addition to any formal entry requirements.

More information can be found here: westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/how-to-apply

Aims of the course

The BA (Hons) English Literature course has been designed to develop your understanding and knowledge of English literature to an advanced level. The degree will build your general analytical skills and critical thinking and bring you to a sophisticated level in your use of academic English in both spoken and written contexts. The degree offers an opportunity to examine literary and non-literary works of all periods from Ancient Greece to the present day, taking in a wide range of authors and themes. It gives a detailed and coherent sense of the current priorities and debates in the discipline and offers a full and balanced coverage of dramatic, poetic and prose works, including many from outside the usual literary canon. The degree is particularly distinctive in that students consider the wider cultural, historical and political contexts in which literary works have been produced and received and relate the works both to intellectual history and to work in other arts and media, such as architecture and the visual arts. To this end, the course makes extensive use of London, its galleries, libraries and museums, for its learning environment. The course will also give you the opportunity to consider the theoretical tools of literary analysis in detail. Students on this degree therefore develop advanced skills: first, in reading and interpreting literary texts in their cultural contexts; second, in analysing the specific genres and forms of a variety of significant creative works and, third, in relating their readings to contemporary critical writing and larger cultural currents and controversies. Overall, the course aims to prepare articulate, discerning and critically aware scholars of English literature and its cultural contexts.

What will you be expected to achieve?

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These are threshold statements of achievement and the learning outcomes broadly fall into four categories:

- The overall **knowledge and understanding** you will gain from your course (KU)
- **Graduate attributes** are characteristics that you will have developed during the duration of your course (GA).
- **Professional and personal practice learning outcomes** are specific skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course (PPP)
- **Key transferable skills** that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course (KTS).

Level 4 Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of level 4 you will be able to demonstrate:

L4.1   that you have successfully made the transition from the expectations of the study of

English literature at level 3 to the expectations of the subject at university, including employability (KTS);

L4.2   recognition of the characteristics of different literary forms and genres, and understanding of the significance of these characteristics (KU);

L4.3   confident use of the full range of bibliographic conventions particular to English, including citation practices, the management of source material and scholarly presentation (PPP);

L4.4   emerging competence in discussing literary works in their social and historical contexts and in the context of theoretical debates (GA);

L4.5   clear and confident communication of ideas in a variety of written and oral forms and in an appropriate academic register (GA);

L4.6   developing research skills in locating, selecting and evaluating sources KTS).

Level 5 Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of level 5 you will be able to demonstrate:

L5.1   increased resourcefulness in relation to your studies that is evident in study choices and selection of assessment (GA);

L5.2   an ability to use materials and concepts critically across modules (KU);

L5.3   a detailed critical knowledge of at least one of the principal generic forms and at least one of the major historical periods of literature (KU);

L5.4   an ability to use a thematic approach that goes beyond classroom discussion and set texts (GA);

L5.5   active engagement with your own learning and work-readiness through the tutorial system and evolving strategies to reflect upon strengths and address weaknesses (PPP);

L5.6   enhanced study skills, including written and oral expression, use of scholarly conventions and handling of sources (KTS);

Optional International year (*with International Experience only*)
L5.7   enhanced capacity to work and/or study independently in another linguistic and/or cultural environment (PPP).

Level 6 Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of level 6 you will be able to demonstrate:

L6.1   the development of your own specialised interests within the subject (KU);

L6.2   ability to construct complex and sophisticated arguments across extended length with fluency, clarity and confidence (GA);

L6.3   advanced independence of thought and critical judgement (GA);

L6.4   thorough and systematic knowledge and understanding of current critical debates in the study of English literature (KU);

L6.5   advanced reflexivity as students, on the evidence of the ability to make the fullest use of feedback and guidance (KTS);

L6.6   confidence in self-presentation professionally presented evidence of work-related learning and preparedness for work or further study (PPP).

How will you learn?

Learning on the course takes place in a variety of contexts throughout the three levels, depending on the nature of the module: there are small group tutorials (5-8 students), seminars and workshops (15–25 students), traditional lectures in university lecture halls, and, at level 6, individual supervision. All activities are augmented by digital engagement.

Typical learning activities are small problem-solving and analytic exercises (both in groups and individually), small research projects, presentations and discussions that help to develop content presented via explicit teaching. A great deal of the learning takes place beyond the scheduled classroom time in the well-resourced and recently refurbished library, at home, and via digital engagement. Contact time is designed to introduce new concepts, new information, foster analytic skills, and supervise small research projects as a springboard for the student's own, increasingly independent academic and intellectual development. Written feedback is central to learning on the course; it is provided for all summative assessment, ensuring students understand the quality of their performance and providing guidance for improvement.

All modules have been designed on the basis of 200 hours of study time for each 20-credit module (or 400 hours for 40-credit modules). Those hours include reading time, formative assessment, preparation of summative assessments and time for directed digital engagement activities as well as scheduled classroom time. As each module has been designed with different activities you will find varying amounts of scheduled 'contact' time between modules. At the beginning of each module your lecturer will share with you the detailed outline with indicative timing for each activity. This enables you to plan your work across modules and to personalise your study by adapting timings to your own learning style.

How will you be assessed?

The course offers a wide variety of assessment to students, which aims to both assess and nurture your intellectual and academic development. Different modules include small written reports, individual and group presentations, essays and exams as well as other forms appropriate to the module. The pattern of assessment is designed at course level to be progressive and developmental. All assessment is designed to give you an opportunity to develop your analytic and critical skills and demonstrate your understanding of the topic, and to practise in forms that may be unfamiliar to you. All summative assessments are given written feedback explaining the grade, the strengths of the work, and ways in which you will be able to improve your work in future. Formative assessment may receive written or oral feedback.

The variety of assessment means that you will find different word limits for written assessments, or time limits for presentations, between modules and across your degree. Each piece of assessment has been designed as appropriate to the module and its other learning activities, and to the course overall, in order to balance the study time that you dedicate to the module. All assessments have a full brief with guidance and marking criteria

that will be shared with you at the start of each module so that you can be clear what is expected and how the assessment is contributing to your learning.

Employment and further study opportunities

University of Westminster graduates will be able to demonstrate the following five Graduate Attributes:

- Critical and creative thinkers
- Literate and effective communicator
- Entrepreneurial
- Global in outlook and engaged in communities
- Social, ethically and environmentally aware

University of Westminster courses capitalise on the benefits that London as a global city and as a major creative, intellectual and technology hub has to offer for the learning environment and experience of our students.

Your course participates in the Employing Humanities programme, which has been designed to focus on highlighting the special skills and abilities that graduates in Humanities subjects possess and to extend your awareness of the wide range of their applicability to work. It is a staged and integrated programme that begins in Arrivals Week and builds through to graduation and beyond. The programme is tailored to the levels of your study and is anchored in your tutorial modules where you will be supported in planning your engagement and personalising your ambitions. Employing Humanities is underpinned by the Engage platform through which you can access training, one-to-one careers advice, notice of events and job opportunities, and create your individual career profile, but our programme also offers a planned schedule of work-based and work-related learning delivered by employers of Humanities graduates.

The BA English Literature course aims to create graduates who are highly articulate in formal, academic English and who are able to read and interpret in critical and sophisticated fashion a variety of literary and non-literary texts and media. Graduates of this degree therefore have an array of important transferable skills: a sophisticated use of written and spoken English; an advanced critical ability in the use of theoretical perspectives; facility and precision in the use of analytical tools; and strong skills and initiative in collecting and organising complex materials and writing up clear, well-presented reports or fluent critical arguments on their basis. The student's detailed, historical knowledge of the social and cultural importance of particular creative forms ensures that she or he is an engaged, critical, independent and self-reflective citizen.

Course structure

This section lists the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Undergraduate students study 120 credits per year. Diagrams showing the pattern of modules across the academic year are given in the second part of this section.

Credit Level 4				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
4ELIT001W	Literature Tutorial 1	Core	20	10
4ELIT003W	What is Literature?	Core	40	20
4ELIT004W	Key Words for Literary Studies	Core	20	10
4ELIT005W	Shakespeare and Performance	Option	20	10
4ELIT006W	Poetry and Politics	Option	20	10
	Elective	Elective	20	10
Award of Certificate of Higher Education available				

Credit Level 5				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5ELIT012W	English Literature Tutorial 2	Core	20	10
5ELIT011W	The Novel	Core	20	10
5ELIT009W	Romanticisms	Core	20	10
5ELIT010W	The Victorian World	Core	20	10
5ELIT005W	Writing Revolutions	Option	20	10
5ELIT007W	Making Memory: Culture History and	Option	20	10
5ELIT008W	Monsters	Option	20	10
	Elective	Elective	20	10
Award of Diploma of Higher Education or Foundation Degree available				
Optional International year. Modules core for the award of "with International Experience"				
5ENGL006W	Humanities Year Abroad Placement (Semester 1)	Core	60	30
5ENGL007W	Humanities Year Abroad Placement (Semester 2)	Core	60	30

Credit Level 6				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
6ELIT001W	Dissertation	Core	20	10
6ELIT011W	Reading the Present	Core	20	10
6ELIT003W	Tragedy: Ancient to Modern	Option	20	10
6ELIT004W	Fiction After 1950	Option	20	10
6ELIT005W	Issues in Culture	Option	20	10
6ELIT007W	Special Topic	Option	20	10
6ELIT009W	The Modernist World	Option	20	10
6ELIT010W	Sexualities in Literature and Culture	Option	20	10
6ENGL004W	Work Placement for the Humanities	Elective	20	10
	Elective	Elective	20	10
Award of BA available				

Course diagram

Level 4	
Semester 1	**Semester 2**
Core modules	
4ELIT001W Literature Tutorial 1 (20)	
4ELIT003W What is Literature? (40)	
4ELIT004W Keywords in Literary Studies (20)	
Option modules	
4ELIT005W Shakespeare and Performance (20)	4ELIT006W Poetry and Politics (20)

One elective may be chosen instead of 4ELIT005W or 4ELIT006W (20)

Level 5	
Semester 1	**Semester 2**
Core modules	
5ELIT012W Literature Tutorial 2 (20)	
5ELIT011W The Novel (20)	
5ELIT009W Romanticisms (20)	5ELIT010W The Victorian World (20)
OR	
Options: choose two	
5ELIT005W Writing Revolutions (20)	5ELIT008W Monsters (20)
5ELIT007W Making Memory (20)	

One elective may be chosen instead of one option (20)

Optional International Experience Year

5ENGL006W Humanities Year Abroad Placement (semester 1) (60)	5ENGL007W Humanities Year Abroad Placement (semester 2) (60)

Level 6	
Semester 1	**Semester 2**
Core modules	
6ELIT001W English Literature Dissertation (20)	
6ELIT011W Reading the Present (20)	
Options: choose four	
6ELIT005W Issues in Culture (20)	6ELIT004W Fiction after 1950 (20)
6ELIT009W The Modernist World (20)	6ELIT003W Tragedy (20)
6ELIT010W Sexualities in Literature and Culture (18 week module) (20)	
6ELIT007W Special Topic A	6ELIT007W Special Topic B (20)

One elective or 6ENGL004W Work Placement for Humanities may be chosen instead of one option (20)

Academic regulations

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at
westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations

How will you be supported in your studies?

Course Management
The degree has a designated Course Leader, whom you will meet during Orientation Week and who is available for consultation during weekly student consultation hours throughout the year or by appointment. During March of the first and second year, you will have the opportunity to choose your option modules for the following year after consultation with academic staff. Individual modules each have a module leader who is responsible for the smooth running of that module. Module leaders are available during term-time during their student consultation hours or by appointment. The degree is part of a suite of BA Hons degrees in the School of Humanities.

Academic Support
Upon arrival, an induction programme will introduce you to the staff responsible for the course, the site on which you will be studying, the Library and IT facilities, to additional support available and to your Registry. You will be provided with the Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course.

At levels 4 and 5 of the course (years 1 and 2), you will have a designated academic tutor to whom you may turn for general academic advice. In the final year, you will be provided with a supervisor on your Dissertation module, with whom you will have individual supervisions. You will also have a personal tutor who can support you with pastoral issues throughout the three years of your degree. The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where students access their course materials, and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students. Further information on Blackboard can be found at westminster.ac.uk/blackboard.

Learning Support
The Academic Learning Development Team supports students in developing the skills required for higher education. As well as online resources in Blackboard, students have the opportunity to attend study skills workshops and one-to-one appointments.

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at that site. Students can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books). Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group work, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. You can also choose from several computer rooms at each site, where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the course. You can also securely connect your own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

Support Services
The University of Westminster Student and Academic Services department provides advice and guidance on accommodation, financial and legal matters, personal counselling, health and disability issues, careers, and specialist advice for international students. The Chaplaincy provides multi-faith guidance. Further information on the advice available to students can be found at westminster.ac.uk/student-advice. The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support students during their time at the University. Further information on UWSU can be found at westminster.ac.uk/students-union.

How do we ensure the quality of our courses and continuous improvement?

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel in 2015. The panel included internal peers from the University, academic(s) from another university, and a representative from industry. This helps to ensure the comparability of the course to those offered in other universities and its continued relevance to employers.

The course is also monitored each year by the College to ensure it is running effectively and that issues which might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed. Staff will consider evidence about the course, including the evidence of student surveys, student progression and achievement and reports from external examiners, in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the course.

A course revalidation takes place periodically to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and that the skills gained on the course continue to be relevant to employers. Students meet with revalidation panels to provide feedback on their experiences. Student feedback from previous years is also part of the evidence used to assess how the course has been running.

How do we act on student feedback?

Student feedback is important to the University and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is gathered in a variety of ways:

- through student-engagement activities at course/module level, students have the opportunity to express their voice in the running of their course. Student representatives are elected to expressly represent the views of their peers. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the student representatives.

- there are also staff-student exchange meetings that enable wider discussions across the School. Student representatives are also represented on key College and University committees;

- all students are invited to complete a questionnaire before the end of each module. The feedback from this will inform the module leader on the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be enhanced;

- final-year undergraduate students will be asked to complete the National Student Survey which helps to inform the national university league tables.