

Course record information

Name and level of final award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Arts with Honours - English Literature and History • Bachelor of Arts with Honours - BA English Literature and History with International Experience FT • Bachelor of Arts with Honours - BA History and English Literature with Professional Experience FT <p>The award is Bologna FQ-EHEA first cycle degree or diploma compatible</p>
Name and level of intermediate awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diploma of Higher Education (Dip HE) - English Literature and History • Certificate of Higher Education (CerHE) - English Literature and History
Awarding body/institution	University of Westminster
Teaching institution	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution	Recognised Body
Location of delivery	Primary: Central London
Language of delivery and assessment	English
QAA subject benchmarking group(s)	<p>English (updated 2019)</p> <p>https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-english.pdf?sfvrsn=47e2cb81_4</p> <p>History (updated 2022)</p> <p>https://www.qaa.ac.uk/the-quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements/history</p>
Professional statutory or regulatory body	N/A
Westminster course title, mode of attendance and standard length	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BA English Literature and History FT, Full-time, September start - 3 years standard length with an optional year abroad • BA English Literature and History PT, Part-time day, September start - 6 years standard length with an optional year abroad
Valid for cohorts	From 2023/4

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: <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/how-to-apply>

Recognition of Prior Learning

Applicants with prior certificated or experiential learning at the same level of the qualification for which they wish to apply are advised to visit the following page for further information:

<https://www.westminster.ac.uk/current-students/guides-and-policies/student-matters/recognition-of-prior-learning>

Aims of the programme

The BA English Literature and History course aims to develop graduates who are highly articulate and able to read and interpret in critical and sophisticated fashion a variety of literary and historical texts and media. The course combines rigorous attention to the source material with vigorous debate over questions of interpretation. We aim to train you to be open to the opinions of others, while not being afraid to challenge prevailing assumptions or orthodoxies. Indeed, we encourage you to question everything, to form your own opinions and argue your own case, and to be able to make reasoned arguments on soundly based and professionally sourced evidence.

The degree offers the opportunity to bring together two disciplines that in combination give insight into factors which have helped shape the modern world. The study of literature and history provides you with knowledge and awareness of literary, texts, movements and forms and the social, political, cultural and international contexts in which they have developed.

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 detailed, historical knowledge of the social and cultural importance of particular creative forms ensures that you will develop skills to be an engaged, critical, independent and self-reflective citizen.

Supporting the University of Westminster's Black Lives Matter Commitment Plan as well as the wider Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity agenda, the BA English Literature and History has been developed using an inclusive approach that ensures you will have a learning experience that respects diversity, encourages active participation, considers students' varying needs, encourages and enables you to tailor your learning according to your career and individual aspirations, and equips you with the skills to work in a changing and diverse world.

The course team is fully committed to equality, diversity and inclusivity in the curriculum, in teaching, learning and assessment practices, and in our learning spaces. We aim to eliminate all arbitrary barriers to your learning and to work with you to achieve that aim. Our aims are underpinned by three principles:

- provision of an inclusive learning environment, both physical and digital;
- diversification and inclusivity of the curriculum;
- provision of diverse and inclusive co-and extra-curricular activities.

Practically, you will see our commitment working in the following ways:

Inclusive learning environment: accessible materials are provided across all modules and as far as possible, a choice of readings or types of preparation for individual class sessions are offered (eg reading; listening to a podcast produced by experts; watching documentaries)

A range of assessment modes is employed – for example, policy briefing documents, presentations, analyses of primary sources, exhibition design, book reviews, reflective pieces, data analysis and traditional essays, which take into account different learning styles and student strengths. In a number of these, you are able to choose your own topic focus, texts, or approach, and thus have opportunities to explore what is most important to you within the realm of the module content. In the final year you write a dissertation on a topic of your choice, with opportunities to create your own reading lists, determine your primary source base, and to approach a topic with a suitable methodological framework.

Diversification of the curriculum and approaches: core modules at levels 4 and 5 introduce you to a wide range of topics, events and themes in global history and to the major forms of literature. In studying these and the topics covered in our range of option modules, you will also find different approaches and subdisciplines in both history and literature. In the tutorials and across the whole curriculum, students work on a variety of skills, including critical analysis of primary sources. This allows you to critique sources and texts in terms of as power, identity, Anglo-centricity, exclusion or representation of diverse voices, amongst others, and to think about the ways in which historical records and literary cultures may privilege certain perspectives and underplay or silence others.

Diverse and inclusive co- and extra-curricular activities: the choice of professionals for employability tutorials will prioritise issues of diversity and inclusion across the range of professions and industries relevant to the course; fieldwork and study visit locations will be selected in consultation with students and with the intention of exploring sites and events which speak, variously, to histories of EDI-related issues, to multifaceted approaches to history and literature, and to a range of approaches to learning and developing understanding.

The course takes advantage of its location in central London and uses this great city as a teaching resource via fieldwork and visits to cultural institutions. You will have the opportunity to either take a work-placement module in one of London's hundreds of archives, museums, galleries, libraries and other repositories. The BA English Literature and History cultivates a global outlook and aims to develop advanced Employability skills. The optional year abroad allows you to complete an employment or study placement overseas and the course also offers the possibility of shorter periods of international experience ranging from a few days to one semester. The optional year placement provides extended work experience in the UK. Employability workshops are run across the degree as an integral part of the tutorial system and dissertation training. You will reflect critically on the skills and experience you will need in your chosen graduate career by working directly with employers and industry professionals to strengthen your CV.

You will build upon and deploy the skills you have acquired in a self-selected and self-directed final-year dissertation. This is the culmination of your three years' study and the final demonstration that you are ready to graduate as a well-trained, self-confident and accomplished autonomous scholar and practitioner.

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 a 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. As well as the optional year out in a placement, an internship module is also offered during your final year.

The BA (Hons) English Literature and History degree aims to produce highly employable graduates who are, in addition, equipped with a wide variety of employability attributes, including:

- the ability to work as a part of a team;
- the ability to work alone;
- numeracy and digital skills;
- evaluative and analytical skills;
- problem-solving skills;
- assimilative skills;
- research skills;
- high-level written and oral communication skills;
- the ability to present yourself and to present an argument.

As a University of Westminster graduate in English Literature and History, you will be well placed to take advantage of employment opportunities in the 'knowledge economy'. Many of our graduates are currently pursuing successful careers in teaching, in the civil service, professional research and policy areas, in the museums and galleries sector, in public relations and marketing, in higher education administration and in all sectors of industry. Many of our graduates go on to further study and a number are now pursuing successful academic careers of their own.

The optional year abroad helps you develop cultural and intercultural awareness of the country you visit and gives you an opportunity to gain experience in a different setting. Students are required to undertake either a Study or Work Placement at a partner institution abroad and to reside in the country of the placement for a total of at least 18 weeks. Support is provided throughout the process by experienced staff who will ensure that the Placement is suitable for your academic and personal development.

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 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 course learning outcomes: upon completion of Level 4 you will be able to:

- L4.1 Demonstrate that you have successfully made the transition from the expectations of study at level 3 to the expectations of the subject at university, including awareness of employability (GA)
- L4.2 Demonstrate recognition of the characteristics of different literary forms and genres, and understanding of the significance of these characteristics (KU)
- L4.3 Demonstrate confident use of the full range of bibliographic conventions, including citation practices, the management of source material and scholarly presentation (PPP)
- L4.4 Demonstrate an understanding of a body of historical knowledge in London, British, European and world history (KU)
- L4.5 Demonstrate with guidance, an ability to read, analyse and reflect critically and contextually upon secondary evidence, including historical writings and the interpretations of historians (GA)
- L4.6 Demonstrate emerging competence in discussing literary works in their social and historical contexts and in the context of theoretical debates (KU)
- L4.7 Demonstrate clear and confident communication of ideas in a variety of written and verbal forms and in an appropriate academic register (KTS)
- L4.8 Demonstrate developing research skills in an ability to locate, select and evaluate sources (KTS)

Level 5 course learning outcomes: upon completion of Level 5 you will be able to:

- L5.1 Demonstrate increased resourcefulness in relation to your studies that is evident in study choices and selection of assessment (PPP)
- L5.2 Demonstrate an ability to use materials and concepts across modules (KU)
- L5.3 Demonstrate a detailed knowledge of at least one of the principal generic forms and at least one of the major historical periods of literature (KU)
- L5.4 Demonstrate an ability to use a thematic approach that goes beyond classroom discussion and set texts (GA)
- L5.5 Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the varieties of approaches to understanding, constructing and interpreting the past and, where relevant, a knowledge of concepts and theories derived from the humanities and social sciences (KU)
- L5.6 Demonstrate awareness of continuity and change over extended time periods (KU)
- L5.7 Demonstrate active engagement with your own learning through the tutorial system (GA)
- L5.8 Demonstrate enhanced study skills, including written and oral expression, use of scholarly conventions and use of sources (KTS)
- L5.9 Demonstrate well-developed employability skills and a strong awareness of connections between subject knowledge and employment (PPP)

Additional Year course learning outcomes: upon completion of Additional Year you will be able to:

- L.5.11 personal and professional development derived from extended work experience (PPP)
- L5.10 Demonstrate the ability to adapt to unfamiliar situations and to function successfully in different cultural contexts (PPP)

Level 6 course learning outcomes: upon completion of Level 6 you will be able to:

- L6.1 Demonstrate the development of your own specialised interests within the subjects of English Literature and History (KU)
- L6.2 Demonstrate ability to construct complex and sophisticated arguments across extended length with fluency, clarity and confidence (GA)
- L6.3 Demonstrate advanced independence of thought and critical judgement (GA)

- L6.4 Demonstrate thorough knowledge and systematic understanding of current critical debates in the study of English and of History (KU)
- L6.5 Demonstrate advanced reflexivity as students, on the evidence of the ability to make the fullest use of feedback and guidance (KTS)
- L6.6 Demonstrate an ability to address problems in depth, to formulate your own questions and the critical use of contemporary sources and advanced secondary literature (GA)
- L6.7 Demonstrate a command of comparative perspectives, including the ability to compare the histories and literatures of different countries, societies and cultures (KU)
- L6.8 Demonstrate confidence in self-presentation and evidence of preparedness for work or further study (PPP)

How will you learn?

Learning methods

Central to success in your studies are the weekly tutorials. These are very small group classes, of five or six students, in which you receive detailed support in developing the skills and topics that are essential to your progress. The tutorials will also focus on employability skills and help you integrate your studies across the modules. Your modules are generally made up of weekly seminars. These allow informal student-led discussion, supported by a member of staff, of the themes of a module, provide opportunities for supervised group work (such as presentations), and are used to allow practice in the key skills of interpretation and analysis of primary historical sources and literary texts. This type of student-centred interactivity helps boost your self-confidence, oral communication and debating skills and a critical approach to literary and historical discussion. Some history modules are supported by interactive lectures that capture your interest and excite your curiosity. They introduce and enable students to query key themes, debates and interpretations. In your final year, you will receive individual supervision and support for your dissertation.

Teaching methods

Life at university is less about teaching than about learning, and the great majority of your time will be spent working independently, reading, thinking and writing. 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.

Assessment methods

There are many different forms of assessment for our modules: coursework essays, critical analyses of primary/literary texts, reviews, examinations, presentations, briefing papers, learning journals, exhibition pitches and portfolios. They are designed to be integral to your learning on each module and to allow you the opportunity to showcase your learning and understanding in innovative ways. All assessments are intended to develop your critical thinking, research and analytical skills and to foster the kinds of skills you will need as a graduate in the workplace.

The variety of assessment is designed to help as well as to measure your academic development. It aims to enhance your learning, not merely to test it, and helps you to demonstrate what you have learned in particular modules and across the range of your degree. The assessments help you build up your knowledge and skills, linking issues and knowledge within and between modules, while also developing and reinforcing your independent study. You will receive detailed, written feedback on each summative assessment you submit explaining the grade, the strengths and weaknesses of the work, and offering clear advice on how you can improve your grades in the future. Summative assessments are those where the grade 'counts' in your degree. You will also be given formative assessments, which do not receive marks. Formative assessment may take place in seminars or be given as independent study, and you will receive feedback to help you towards the module assessments that count.

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.

Course Structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Undergraduate students study 120 credits per year. Course structures can be subject to change each academic year following feedback from a variety of sources.

Modules are described as:

- **Core** modules are compulsory and must be undertaken by all students on the course.
- **Option** modules give you a choice of modules and are normally related to your subject area.
- **Electives:** are modules from across the either the whole University or your College. Such modules allow you to broaden your academic experience. For example, where electives are indicated you may choose to commence the study of a foreign language alongside your course modules (and take this through to the final year), thereby adding further value to your degree.
- Additional information may also be included above each level for example where you must choose one of two specific modules.

Modules

Level 4

Award of Certificate of Higher Education available. At Level 4, students take one optional module or one elective.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
4ELIT002W	English Literature and History Tutorial 1	Core	20	10
4HIST001W	The Making of the Modern World: Global Perspectives on the Long Nineteenth Century	Core	40	20
4ELIT003W	What Is Literature?	Core	40	20
4ELIT004W	Keywords for Literary Studies	Option	20	10
4ELIT006W	Poetry and Politics	Option	20	10
4HIST016W	Protests: From Bread Riots to Extinction Rebellion	Option	20	10
4ELIT005W	Shakespeare and Performance	Option	20	10
4HIST018W	This Imperial Island, 1760-1867	Option	20	10
		Elective	20	10

Level 5

Award of Diploma of Higher Education available. At Level 5, students take two optional modules, or one option and one elective module.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5HIST001W	Age of Extremes, 1914-1991	Core	40	20
5ELIT013W	English Literature and History Tutorial 2	Core	20	10
5HIST005W	For Freedom and Equality: Race, Politics, and Activism in the USA, 1850-1970	Option	20	10
5ELIT007W	Making Memory: Culture History and Representation	Option	20	10
5ELIT008W	Monsters	Option	20	10
5HIST004W	Murder, Media and Morality in Late Victorian London	Option	20	10
5HIST002W	New Liberals to New Labour: British Politics since 1906	Option	20	10
5ELIT009W	Romanticisms	Option	20	10

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5HIST007W	Sites of Conflict	Option	20	10
5ELIT011W	The Novel	Option	20	10
5ELIT010W	The Victorian World	Option	20	10
5ELIT005W	Writing Revolutions	Option	20	10
		Elective	20	10

Additional Year

The following modules must be passed for the award 'with International Experience':

5ENGL006W Humanities Year Abroad Placement Semester 1 (60 credits)

5ENGL007W Humanities Year Abroad Placement Semester 2 (60 credits)

The following modules must be passed for the award 'with Professional Experience':

5HUMS001W Humanities Internship Semester 1 (60 credits)

5HUMS002W Humanities Internship Semester 2 (60 credits)

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5HUMS001W	Humanities Internship (Semester 1)	Option	60	30
5HUMS002W	Humanities Internship (Semester 2)	Option	60	30
5ENGL006W	Humanities Year Abroad Placement (Semester 1)	Option	60	30
5ENGL007W	Humanities Year Abroad Placement (Semester 2)	Option	60	30

Level 6

Award of BA available. Award of BA (Hons) available. At Level 6, students choose 100 credits in total, with at least 40 credits in English. One 20-credit module may be an elective. Students may take either 6ENGL004W or 6HIST015W, but not both.

Students who have taken 5ENG006W, 5ENGL007W, 5HUMS001W or 5HUMS002W may not take 6ENGL004W or 6HIST015W.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
6ELIT008W	English Literature and History Dissertation	Core	20	10
6HIST017W	Special Subjects in History (20-credit CORE)	Core	20	10
6HIST015W	Archives and Museums Internship	Option	20	10
6ELIT004W	Fiction After 1950	Option	20	10
6ELIT005W	Issues in Culture	Option	20	10
6ELIT011W	Reading the Present	Option	20	10
6HIST018W	Special Subjects in History (20-credit Option)	Option	20	10
6ELIT007W	Special Topic	Option	20	10
6HIST002W	The End of History? Crisis and Conflict since the Cold War	Option	20	10
6ELIT009W	The Modernist World	Option	20	10
6ELIT003W	Tragedy: Ancient to Modern	Option	20	10
6ENGL004W	Work Placement for Humanities	Option	20	10
		Elective	20	10

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. In addition, timetabling and limited spaces may mean you cannot register for your first choice of option modules.

Professional body accreditation or other external references

N/A

Course management

Each module that you take has a module leader who is responsible for the management and the quality of the teaching and learning on that module, including the co-ordination of all staff who teach on it. The module leader's name is on the module outline, on SRSWeb and on Blackboard.

The modules belong to courses and each course has a course leader who is responsible for the day-to-day running of your course and she reports to the Head of School. The Head of School is responsible for all the courses in the School of Humanities.

Academic regulations

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at [westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations](https://www.westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations).

Course specific regulations apply to some courses.

Academic Support

Upon arrival, an induction programme will introduce you to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which you will be studying, the Library and IT facilities, additional support available and to your Campus Registry. You will be provided with the Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course. Each course has a course leader or Director of Studies. All students enrolled on a full-time course and part time students registered for more than 60 credits a year have a personal tutor, who provides advice and guidance on academic matters. 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 <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/current-students/studies/your-student-journey/when-you-arrive/blackboard>

The Academic Learning Development Centre 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. Further information on the Academic Learning Development Centre can be found at [westminster.ac.uk/academic-learning-development](https://www.westminster.ac.uk/academic-learning-development).

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 study, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. They can also choose from several computer rooms at each campus where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the courses taught in their College. Students can also securely connect their own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

Support Services

The University of Westminster Student and Academic Services department provide advice and guidance on accommodation, financial and legal matters, personal counselling, health and disability issues, careers, specialist advice for international students and the chaplaincy providing multi-faith guidance. Further information on the advice available to students can be found at <https://www.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 <https://www.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. University Panels normally include internal peers from the University, academic(s) from another university, a representative from industry and a Student Advisor.

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 and make changes where necessary.

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. Course 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 course representatives.
- There are also School Representatives appointed jointly by the University and the Students' Union who meet with senior School staff to discuss wider issues affecting student experience 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.

This programme specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate, if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. This specification is supplemented by the Course Handbook, Module proforma and Module Handbooks provided to students. Copyright in this document belongs to the University of Westminster. All rights are reserved. This document is for personal use only and may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose, either in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the University of Westminster. All copies of this document must incorporate this Copyright Notice – 2022©