

**PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION**

**Course record information**

Name and level of final award	BA (Hons) English Literature and Language BA (Hons). English Literature and Language with international experience  The BA (Hons) English Literature and Language and the BA (Hons) English Literature and Language 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 and Language with international experience Diploma of Higher Education English Literature and Language Certificate of Higher Education English Literature and Language with international experience Certificate of Higher Education English Literature and Language
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 <a href="https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements">https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements</a>
Professional statutory or regulatory body	Not applicable
Date of course validation/review	September 2020
Date of programme specification approval	TBC
Valid for cohorts	2021/2
Course Leader	Andrew Caink
UCAS code and URL	Q301 <a href="http://www.westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate">http://www.westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate</a>

Westminster course code	BAENG02F (FT) BAENG02P (PT)
HECoS code	Code 100320

### 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](http://westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/how-to-apply)

### Aims of the course

The BA English Literature and Language develops your understanding and knowledge of the English language and its literature to an advanced and sophisticated level, whilst developing your communication skills in both spoken and written English. On this course you study a range of literature from Old English to the present day, including artistic and cultural artefacts from outside the traditional literary canon such as film, architecture and public monuments. You consider the wider context in which literary and non-literary works are produced by focusing on the broader context of history and thought, and the nature of art and culture. You develop your understanding of the English language in terms of the way it is structured, how it has changed over time, how it varies around the globe, and the ways in which it is used in different kinds of texts, by different users and in different contexts. You examine the ways in which language reflects and contributes to wider meanings in society. You will learn to evaluate and employ theoretical tools for both literary and linguistic research. As a result, students on this degree develop advanced critical skills in reading and interpreting texts of all kinds with a particular focus on the medium of the language. The course prepares critically aware graduates who have a range of key much-sought-after transferable skills in terms of social and textual perception and communication.

### 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 completion of level 4 you will:

L4.1 having successfully made the transition from the demands and expectations of both English language and literature at level 3 to the demands and expectations at university level, including awareness of employability (PPP);

L4.2 use of the full range of bibliographic conventions particular to both English and Language,

- including citation practices, and effectively manage source material and scholarly presentation (PPP);
- L4.3 recognition of the characteristics of different literary and non-literary forms and genres and understand the significance of these characteristics (KU);
  - L4.4 knowledge of and ability to use theoretical descriptions of the basic components of language structure and its use in spoken and written forms, including the accurate use of terminology (KU);
  - L4.5 competence in discussing literary and non-literary texts in their social and historical context and in the context of theoretical debates (KU);
  - L4.6 communication of ideas confidently and clearly in a variety of both written and verbal forms in an appropriate register (GA);
  - L4.7 developing research skills in your ability to collect data, and locate, select and evaluate sources (KTS).

### **Level 5 Learning Outcomes**

**Upon completion of level 5 you will be able to demonstrate:**

- L5.1 an increased sense of resourcefulness in relation to your studies, evident in study choices and selection of assessment choices (PPP);
- L5.2 an ability to use materials and concepts across modules and both disciplines (GA);
- L5.3 a detailed knowledge of at least one of the principal generic literary forms and the features of its language (KU);
- L5.4 a detailed knowledge of the features of English at different stages of its history (KU);
- L5.5 an ability to utilise literary and linguistic theory in the analysis of various genres of literary and non-literary texts from different periods (KTS);
- L5.6 research skills in the collection and analysis of relevant language data and texts, and the ability to present their analysis in written and spoken formats of a suitably academic register (KTS);
- L5.7 the ability to use a thematic approach and linguistic analysis beyond classroom discussion and set texts (GA);
- L5.8 an active engagement with the development of your own learning and workplace skills through the tutorial system (PPP);
- L5.9 enhanced study skills, including written and oral expression, and the use of scholarly conventions and handling of sources (KTS).

*(with International Experience only)*

- L5.10 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 in literature and the study of the English language (KU);
- L6.2 an ability to construct and sustain complex and sophisticated arguments in an appropriate

academic register across extended written work with fluency, clarity and confidence (KTS);

L6.3 a preparation for work or further study in terms of effective time-management, personal organisation and planning (PPP);

L6.4 advanced independence of thought and critical judgment (GA);

L6.5 a systematic knowledge and understanding of the most current critical debates in English language and literature and the relation between different theories (KU);

L6.6 a thorough understanding of how texts operate stylistically and the ways in which linguistic choices interact with genre and meaning in literary texts (KU);

L6.7 an advanced reflexivity in relation to academic and workplace skills as evidenced by the ability to understand and use feedback and guidance (KTS);

L6.8 an ability to plan and execute a small research project with minimal supervision, involving the collection and analysis of suitable data in compliance with ethical requirements (KTS).

### **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: small group tutorials (5-8 students), seminars and workshops (15–25 students), traditional lectures in university lecture halls, and, at level 6, individual supervision.

Learning on the degree takes place in the classroom through 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 contact time in the well-resourced and recently refurbished library, at home, and via the on-line learning provision. 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 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 variety of assessment to students, which aims to both assess and nurture your intellectual and academic development. Assessment varies between small analytic exercises of language data at levels 4 and 5 through to the preparation and execution of your own research project for the level 6 dissertation. Different modules include small written reports, individual and group presentations, essays and exams. All assessment is designed to give you an opportunity to develop your analytic and critical skills and demonstrate your understanding of the topic. 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. Synoptic assessments link work on more than one module, and so they encourage you to demonstrate your deeper understanding of the subject as a whole.

The variety of assessment means that you will find different word limits for written work, 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 and Language aims to create graduates who are highly articulate in their use of the English language with an ability to critically read and interpret a variety of linguistic and non-linguistic cultural texts. Graduates of this degree thus have an array of important transferable skills that include the sophisticated use of the language, the ability to critically evaluate and use theory, the accurate and precise use of analytic skills, and strong skills of organisation and planning. Knowledge and sensitivity to the existence of English as a global language and awareness of how language and texts reflect and create ideological structures in society ensure that graduates of this degree are engaged and aware citizens of their communities and of the world. Engagement in small research projects and the associated ethical issues ensures that students of this degree have experience of considering and complying with ethical requirements.

## **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 in the second part of this section.

<b>Credit Level 4</b>				
<b>Code</b>	<b>Module title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>UK</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
4ENGL005W	English Literature and Language Tutorial 1	Core	20	10
4ELIT003W	What is Literature?	Core	40	20
4ENGL002W	Introducing English language	Core	20	10
4ENGL003W	Language and Text	Core	20	10
4ELIT004W	Keywords for Literary Studies	Option	20	10
4ENGL007W	World Varieties of English	Option	20	10
4ELIT005W	Shakespeare and Performance	Option	20	10
4ELIT006W	Poetry and Politics	Option	20	10
	Elective	Elective	20	10
<b>Award of Certificate</b>				

<b>Credit Level 5</b>				
<b>Code</b>	<b>Module title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>UK</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
5ENGL008W	English Literature and Language Tutorial 2	Core	20	10
5ELIT011W	The Novel	Core Option	20	10
5ELIT009W	Romanticisms	Core Option	20	10
5ELIT010W	The Victorian World	Core Option	20	10
5ENGL002W	Discourse across Time	Core	40	20
5ENGL004W	Language and Literary Style	Core	20	10
5LING003W	Child Language Acquisition	Option	20	10
5ELIT005W	Writing Revolutions	Option	20	10
5ELIT007W	Making Memory: Culture History and Representation	Option	20	10
5ELIT008W	Monsters	Option	20	10
	Elective	Elective	20	10
<b>Award of Diploma of Higher Education available</b>				

<i>* Core for students on the BA English Language &amp; Linguistics with international experience</i>				
5ENGL006W	Humanities Year Abroad Placement (SEM1)	Core*	60	30
5ENGL007W	Humanities Year Abroad Placement (SEM2)	Core*	60	30

<b>Credit Level 6</b>				
<b>Code</b>	<b>Module title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>UK</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
6ENGL005W	English Literature and Language Dissertation	Core	20	10
6LING001W	Language Contact and Change	Option	20	10
6ENGL002W	Studies in Literary Language	Option	20	10
6ENGL003W	Language and Power	Option	20	10
6LING002W	Language Form	Option	20	10
6LING003W	Applied Language Studies	Option	20	10
6ELIT009W	The Modernist World	Option	20	20
6ELIT003W	Tragedy: Ancient to Modern	Option	20	10
6ELIT004W	Fiction after 1950	Option	20	10
6ELIT005W	Issues in Culture	Option	20	10
6ELIT010W	Sexualities in Literature and Culture	Option	20	10
6ELIT007W	Special Topic	Option	20	10
6ELIT011W	Reading the Present	Option	20	10
	Elective	Elective	20	10
<b>Award of BA available, Award of BA Honours available</b>				

## English Literature and Language

Level 4	
Semester 1	Semester 2
<b>Core modules</b>	
4ENGL005W English Literature and Language Tutorial 1 (20)	
4ENGL002W Introducing English Language (20)	
4ELIT003W What is Literature? (40)	
4ENGL003W Language and Text (20)	
<b>Options: choose one</b>	
4ELIT005W Shakespeare and Performance (20)	4ELIT006W Poetry and Politics (20)
4ELIT004W Key Words for Literary Studies (20)	
	4ENGL007W World Varieties of English (20)
<i>One elective may be chosen instead of one of these options</i>	

Level 5	
Semester 1	Semester 2
<b>Core modules</b>	
5ENGL008W English Literature and Language Tutorial 2 (20)	
5ENGL002W Discourse across Time (40)	
5ELIT011W The Novel (20) <b>OR</b> 5ELIT009W Romanticisms (20) <b>OR</b> 5ELIT010W The Victorian World (20)	
5ENGL004W Language and Literary Style (20)	
<b>Options: choose one</b> <i>One elective may be chosen instead</i>	
5ELIT005W Writing Revolutions (20)	5LING003W Child Language Acquisition (20)
5ELIT007W Making Memory (20)	5ELIT008W Monsters (20)
<i>For students on the BA (Hons) English Language and Linguistics with International Experience:</i>	
5ENGL006W.1 Humanities Year Abroad Placement (Semester 1) (60)	5ENGL007W.2 Humanities Year Abroad Placement (Semester 2) (60)

Level 6	
Semester 1	Semester 2
<b>Core module</b>	
6ENGL005W English Literature and Language Dissertation (20)	
<b>Literature options: choose a minimum of 2 module (40 credits)</b>	
6ELIT009W The Modernist World (20)	6ELIT003W Tragedy: Ancient to Modern (20)
6ELIT005W Issues in Culture (20)	6ELIT004W Fiction after 1950 (20)
6ELIT010W Sexualities in Literature and Culture (20)	
6ELIT007W Special Topic (20) <i>(single semester but runs in both semesters; topics vary each year)</i>	
6ELIT011W Reading the Present (20)	
<b>Language options: choose a minimum of 2 module (40 credits)</b>	
6ENGL002W Studies in Literary Language (20)	
6LING001W Language Contact and Change (20)	
6ENGL003W Language and Power (20)	
6LING002W Language Form (20)	
6LING003W Applied Language Studies (20)	
	6ENGL003 Language and Power (20)

*One elective may be chosen instead*

## **Academic regulations**

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

### **Academic Support**

Upon arrival, an orientation 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. Your Course Handbook online will provide 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](http://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](http://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](http://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.

**Please note:** 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 s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. This specification should be read in conjunction with the Course Handbook provided to students and Module Handbooks, which provide more detailed information on the specific learning outcomes, content, teaching, learning and assessment methods for each module.

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