

Course record information

Name and level of final award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Arts with Honours - English Literature • Bachelor of Arts with Honours - BA English Literature with International Experience FT • Bachelor of Arts with Honours - English Literature with Professional Experience • Bachelor of Arts with Honours - English Literature with Professional and International Experience <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 • Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) - English Literature
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</p> <p>https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-english.pdf?sfvrsn=47e2cb81_4</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 FT, Full-time, September start - 3 years standard length with an optional year abroad or placement • BA English Literature PT, Part-time day, September start - 6 years standard length with an optional year abroad or placement
Valid for cohorts	From 2025/6

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 (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 many cultural contexts.

International and Professional Opportunities

One of the highlights of our BA English Literature is the opportunity to embark on a transformative international or professional placement, or indeed combine the two! The international and professional opportunities we offer can be tailored to your personal circumstances, meaning you can mix and match semester-long work placements in the UK with semester-long study or work placements overseas, or opt for a full year studying or working abroad or on a work placement here in the UK. You can even choose to study abroad for one semester in the second year, when you'll take equivalent subjects to those of your degree at one of our international partner institutions - organised by Westminster!

When you've successfully completed your second year of study, you'll be eligible for a yearlong sandwich year, which you can shape according to your personal circumstances and interests. You can choose between a year studying at an international partner institution (organised by Westminster) or arrange your own yearlong placement working or volunteering overseas (with support from Westminster). If you'd prefer to do both, then why not combine educational and professional experiences by studying for one semester at an international partner institution and working or volunteering abroad for the other semester? Alternatively, if you'd rather gain professional experience in the UK, you can opt for a UK-based year or semester in industry, with the possibility of spending the second semester working or studying abroad. Whatever combination you choose, this rare range of flexible international and professional opportunities offers an immersive experience in different working and/or learning environments, allowing you to acquire real-world skills, build a network of contacts and get a head start in your career.

For those seeking a shorter international experience, we also offer flexible opportunities in the form of field trips. Our international field trips usually last five days and are open to all students to apply. The destinations and activities change yearly, but past School-run field trips have included places as varied as Morocco, Marseille and Montreal. The field trips are organised in-house and led by academic staff members with cultural and linguistic knowledge of the destination. And the best bit? The trips are fully funded, so there's no need to worry about the cost!

As you embark on your BA English Literature journey, rest assured that your international or professional experience, coupled with advanced linguistic and cultural competence, will set you apart in the eyes of employers. Graduates who have developed a global perspective are highly sought-after in today's interconnected world. Join us in our commitment to producing articulate, resourceful, creative, and critically aware graduates. We aspire to prepare you for success in diverse intercultural and professional environments, equipping you with the necessary tools to thrive in your chosen field. We look forward to welcoming you to our vibrant community, where cultures and opportunities converge to shape your future.

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 aligns with 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 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.

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 the study of English literature at level 3 to the expectations of the subject at university, including employability (KTS)
- L4.2 Demonstrate that you have 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 particular to English, including citation practices, the management of source material and scholarly presentation (PPP)
- L4.4 Demonstrate emerging competence in discussing literary works in their social and historical contexts and in the context both of theoretical debates and in public-facing situations. (GA)
- L4.5 Demonstrate clear and confident communication of ideas in a variety of written and oral forms and in an appropriate academic register (GA)
- L4.6 Demonstrate developing research skills in locating, selecting and evaluating 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 (GA)

- L5.2 Demonstrate an ability to use materials and concepts critically across modules (KU)
- L5.3 Demonstrate 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 Demonstrate an ability to use approaches that go beyond classroom discussion and set texts, and argue for the place of literature in the context of public debates on social and environmental justice. (GA)
- L5.5 Demonstrate 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 Demonstrate enhanced study skills, including written and oral expression, use of scholarly conventions and handling of sources (KTS)

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

- L5.7 Demonstrate enhanced capacity to work and/or study independently in another linguistic, cultural, and/or professional environment. (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 subject (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 and systematic knowledge and understanding of current critical debates in the study of English literature (KU)
- L6.4 Recognise, utilise and apply literary studies in both theoretical debates and in the context of public debates on social and environmental justice, and the role of the humanities. (KU GA)
- 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 confidence in self-presentation professionally presented evidence of work-related learning and preparedness for work or further study (PPP)
- 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 (KU KTS)

How will you learn?

Learning methods

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 (c. 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.

Teaching methods

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

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.

Graduate Attribute	Evident in Course Outcomes
Critical and creative thinker	L4.1, L4.4, L5.1, L5.2, L5.4, L6.2, L6.3, L6.4
Literate and effective communicator	L4.1, L4.4, L4.5, L5.1, L5.2, L5.4, L6.2, L6.4
Entrepreneurial	L4.4, L5.4, L5.7, L6.4
Global in outlook and engaged in communities	L4.4, L5.4, L5.7, L6.4
Socially, ethically and environmentally aware	L4.1, L4.4, L5.4, L6.4

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 must take **at least one** of the 'core option' modules - *Children's Literature* and/or *Reading for Pleasure* - to make up a minimum of 100 Core credits in English Literature. They may take both modules, or one of them plus one further Option module, but may also swap an Option module for an Elective.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	PT Year (where applicable)	UK credit	ECTS
4ELIT001W	English Literature Tutorial 1: What is Literature?	Core		20	10
4ELIT004W	Keywords for Literary Studies	Core	Various	20	10

Module Code	Module Title	Status	PT Year (where applicable)	UK credit	ECTS
4ELIT006W	Poetry and Politics	Core	Various	20	10
4ELIT005W	Shakespeare and Performance	Core	Various	20	10
4ELIT013W	Children's Literature	Option	2	20	10
4ELIT014W	Reading for Pleasure	Option	Various	20	10
		Elective	Various	20	10

Level 5

Award of Diploma of Higher Education or Foundation Degree available. At Level 5, students must take **at least one** of the 'core option' modules - *Monsters* and/or *Writing Revolutions* - to make up a minimum of 80 Core credits in English Literature. They may take any two of the remaining English Literature Option modules for their remaining 40 credits, but may also swap one Option module for an Elective.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	PT Year (where applicable)	UK credit	ECTS
5ELIT012W	English Literature Tutorial 2: Literature in Public	Core	Various	20	10
5ELIT009W	Romanticisms	Core	Various	20	10
5ELIT010W	The Victorian World	Core	Various	20	10
5ELIT007W	Making Memory: Culture History and Representation	Option	Various	20	10
5ELIT008W	Monsters	Option	Various	20	10
5ELIT014W	Realisms	Option	Various	20	10
5ELIT005W	Writing Revolutions	Option	Various	20	10
		Elective	Various	20	10

Additional Year

The two semester-long 'Humanities Year Abroad Study Placement', OR two semester-long 'Humanities Year Abroad Work Placement', OR one semester-long 'Humanities Year Abroad Study Placement' AND one semester-long 'Humanities Year Abroad Work Placement' module must be passed in order to receive the award title "with International Experience".

The two semester-long 'Humanities UK-based Work Placement' modules below must be passed in order to receive the award title "with Professional Experience".

One two semester-long 'Humanities Year Abroad Study Placement' OR one semester-long 'Humanities Year Abroad Work Placement', AND one semester-long 'Humanities UK-based Work Placement' module must be passed in order to receive the award title "with Professional and International Experience".

Module Code	Module Title	Status	PT Year (where applicable)	UK credit	ECTS
5HUMS001W	Humanities UK-based Work Placement (Semester 1)	Core		60	30
5HUMS002W	Humanities UK-based Work Placement (Semester 2)	Core		60	30

Module Code	Module Title	Status	PT Year (where applicable)	UK credit	ECTS
5ENGL006W	Humanities Year Abroad Study Placement (Semester 1)	Core	Various	60	30
5ENGL007W	Humanities Year Abroad Study Placement (Semester 2)	Core	Various	60	30
	Humanities Year Abroad Work Placement (Semester 1)	Option		60	30
	Humanities Year Abroad Work Placement (Semester 2)	Option		60	30

Level 6

Award of BA available. Award of BA (Hons) available. At Level 6, students must take **at least two** of the 'core option' modules - *Fiction after 1950*, *Issues in Culture*, and/or *Sexualities in Literature and Culture* - to make up a minimum of 80 Core credits. They may take up to four ELIT modules, but may also swap one for (a) an Elective (combined with three ELIT modules); (b) Work Placement for Humanities (combined with three ELIT modules); or (c) take both an Elective and Work Placement for Humanities (with two ELIT modules).

Module Code	Module Title	Status	PT Year (where applicable)	UK credit	ECTS
6ELIT001W	English Literature Dissertation	Core	Various	20	10
6ELIT011W	Reading the Present	Core	Various	20	10
6ENGL004W	Work Placement for Humanities	Option		20	10
6ELIT004W	Fiction After 1950	Option	Various	20	10
6ELIT005W	Issues in Culture	Option	Various	20	10
6ELIT010W	Sexualities in Literature and Culture	Option	Various	20	10
6ELIT007W	Special Topic	Option	Various	20	10
6ELIT009W	The Modernist World	Option	Various	20	10
6ELIT003W	Tragedy: Ancient to Modern	Option	Various	20	10
		Elective	Various	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

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 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©

Additional Details

Additional module information

Level 4

The core modules Keywords, and English Literature Tutorial 1: What is Literature run yearlong (Semester 1 and 2). Other core modules at this level are Shakespeare and Performance (Semester 1) and Poetry and Politics (Semester 2).

Semester 1 options:

Reading for Pleasure

Semester 2 options:

Children's Literature

Electives may replace an optional module (only one can be chosen)

Level 5

The core module English Literature Tutorial 2: Literature in Public runs yearlong (semester 1 and 2). Other core modules at this level are Romanticisms (Semester 1) and The Victorian World (Semester 2).

Semester 1 options

Realisms (18 weeks)

Monsters

Semester 2 options

Making Memory

Writing Revolutions

Electives may replace an optional module (only one can be chosen)

Level 6

The core modules Reading the Present and English Literature Dissertation runs across both semesters.

Options (Four to be chosen)

Semester 1

Issues in Culture

Sexualities in Literature and Culture (18 Weeks)

The Modernist World

Special Topic (Artists' Use of Text)

Semester 2

Special Topic (Semester 2)

Fiction after 1950

One elective may be chosen instead of one option.

