

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

KEY FACTS

Programme name	English
Award	BA (Hons)
School	School of Communication & Creativity
Department or equivalent	Media, Culture & Creative Industries
UCAS Code	Q300
Programme code	USENGL
Type of study	Undergraduate
Total UK credits	360
Total ECTS	180

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

This programme equips you with an informed and critical understanding of the many forms of literary and professional English, which you may then apply in academic, creative and professional contexts. The core modules will require you to read widely; to analyse and produce writing in various forms, including different media; and to study a range of works from different periods and in diverse forms and genres. You will develop your understanding of literature and the theoretical debates in English studies by learning about the major ideas, the historical contexts, and the formal qualities of literary works in text and authorship. You will gain a sophisticated understanding of the uses of the English language today and through history. The academic approach throughout the programme is to treat literature as something that is alive, active, and current. In your optional modules in Programme Stages 2 and 3 you can begin to specialise in the academic study of English, opt for modules which require and foster English-specific skills, pursue pathways in publishing and other professional contexts (including undertaking a year's Work Placement), or choose to focus on different forms of creative writing. In Programme Stage 3, you will complete at least one 30-credit Major Project which can be a research dissertation, a professional portfolio or a creative writing submission. You will also choose from Year 3 module options across a range of academic and professional contexts.

Aims

The programme aims to provide you with:

- a critical, theoretical and systematic knowledge that will enable you to evaluate and analyse literature and writing in a variety of forms
- knowledge of literature from different historical periods
- a high level of professional English language skills that you can employ in textual production, writing, editing and other professional contexts
- a range of intellectual tools which you will use in creative forms of writing and analysis of literature from different periods and genres
- an understanding of the transnational contexts in which written English is used and disseminated
- analytical skills that you can apply in a range of professional contexts, or which will prepare you for postgraduate study.

Certificate / Programme Stage 1

Following successful completion of Programme Stage 1 *or* the Certificate in English, you will be able to discuss underlying concepts and principles associated with English and interpret these within reference to applied practice.

You will have demonstrated:

- a good general knowledge and understanding of the well-established principles, issues, concepts and theories in English
- the ability to relate underlying concepts and principles to a variety of contexts
- an understanding of the limits of your knowledge.

Typically you will be able to:

- use a limited range of techniques to undertake critical analysis of information
- communicate information using key methodological techniques of the discipline
- have the basic preparation to undertake further training to develop your methodological and subject-specific understanding.

You will have the confidence and transferable skills to prepare yourself for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making.

Diploma / Programme Stage 2

When you have successfully completed Programme Stage 2 *or* the Diploma in English you will have built on your previous knowledge and experience. You will have developed skills of enquiry in your subject and different approaches to problem-solving. You will also be able to identify the limitations of your knowledge.

You will have demonstrated:

- knowledge and critical understanding of established principles of the study of literature, and of the way in which those principles have developed
- the ability to apply underlying concepts and principles outside the context in which they were first studied, including, where appropriate, the application of those principles in an employment context
- knowledge of the main methods of enquiry in English and ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in the field of study
- an understanding of the limits of your knowledge, and how this influences analyses and interpretations based on that knowledge.

Typically, you will be able to:

- use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake critical analysis of information, and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis
- effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences, and deploy key techniques of the discipline effectively
- undertake further training, develop existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable you to assume significant responsibility within organisations.

You will have the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making.

Degree / Programme Stage 3

Following successful completion of Programme Stage 3 *or* the degree you will have a coherent, systematic and detailed knowledge of your discipline. You will be able to develop techniques for practice drawing on research and scholarship demonstrating your role as a reflective practitioner.

Bachelor's Degrees with honours are awarded to students who have demonstrated:

- a systematic understanding of key aspects of English, including acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge, at least some of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of defined aspects of the discipline
- an ability to deploy accurately established techniques of analysis and enquiry within a discipline
- conceptual understanding that enables you:
 - to devise and sustain arguments, and/or to solve problems, using ideas and

- techniques, some of which are at the forefront of the discipline
- to describe and comment upon particular aspects of current research, or equivalent advanced scholarship, in the discipline
- an appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge
- the ability to manage your own learning, and to make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources (for example, refereed research articles and/or original materials appropriate to the discipline).

Typically, holders of the qualification will be able to:

- apply the methods and techniques that you have learned to review, consolidate, extend and apply knowledge and understanding, and to initiate and carry out projects
- critically evaluate arguments, assumptions, abstract concepts and data (which may be incomplete), to make judgements, and to frame appropriate questions to achieve a solution – or identify a range of solutions – to a problem
- communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.

You will have the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring:

- the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility
- decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts
- the learning ability needed to undertake appropriate further training of a professional or equivalent nature.

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:

- Apply theoretical and critical perspectives to the history of literary forms, and be able to analyse, appreciate and evaluate English literature and other forms of writing.
- Evaluate the creative possibilities offered by a variety of literary forms and techniques, and acquire critical tools that can be applied to the process of creating literary and non-literary texts.
- Demonstrate knowledge of a range of literature in English, and the critical capacity to analyse and evaluate language and literature within its cultural context.
- Understand the structures of different literary and narrative forms such as poetry, the novel, drama and film which can be employed in your own creative practice.
- Understand how these structures apply in other contexts and media, including in digital content and for professional purposes.
- Demonstrate knowledge of English in different professional and other applied contexts, and how you might apply that knowledge in the future.

Skills:

- Collate, synthesise and present ideas and information in a range of professional and academic formats.
- Think critically and argue persuasively in academic and professional contexts using evidence from appropriate sources.
- Formulate research or conceptual questions, plan and successfully complete a research or creative project.
- Appreciate, evaluate and explore the roles of creativity and originality in written and other forms of text and media.
- Present your work in forms appropriate for creative, academic and professional purposes, including digital media.

- Reflect on your learning gains and how they inform your personal and professional goals.

Values and attitudes:

- Respect and acknowledge the work of others.
- Acknowledge and value diversity of opinion and ideas.
- Demonstrate self-motivation, commitment and initiative.
- Demonstrate curiosity, an enquiring attitude and willingness to explore the applications of your learning in professional contexts.
- Develop the capacity to identify and question your own assumptions.

This programme has been developed in accordance with the QAA Subject Benchmark for English.

HOW WILL I LEARN?

Through varied forms of teaching and assessment, which will include formative assignments, portfolios, patchworks and projects as well as essays and presentations, you will engage with the rich debates of current literary scholarship while also developing your applied skills in the use of English in creative, professional and digital contexts.

Your modules will be delivered using a combination of lectures, seminars and practical workshops, supported by a personal tutorial system. The lectures will provide commentary and explanation of key content areas, with most modules also offering seminars to develop your understanding by inviting you to participate in debates.

You will be required throughout your studies to undertake extensive reading and independent study in order to understand the topics covered in lectures and classes, and to broaden and deepen your knowledge of the subject. Your self-directed learning will be supported in a variety of ways, including Moodle, group work, external visits, extensive use of online resources, and showcases of creative work.

In the course of the programme you will create professional and creative portfolios related to your taught modules, informed by external visits and internal events, including talks from visiting experts; you will have the option to work in groups to present the findings of analytical and applied projects; and you will read widely across creative and professional genres as well as exploring narratives in other forms of media. You will also generate your own texts and content to reflect different readerships and functions, and using a variety of formats. You will have an option to apply for a Micro-Placement and you will gain professional experience at Level 5. The Major Project modules take the form of a research dissertation, a professional portfolio or a creative writing submission, and with the approval of your personal tutor and the module leader you may opt for a minimum of one or a maximum of two of these.

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessment and Assessment Criteria

The programme will be assessed via a mix of coursework assignments (essays, professional, reflective and creative portfolios and patchworks, reading diaries, and individual and group assignments including projects and presentations) assessing your knowledge of the academic subjects and key concepts. In creative writing and other

projects, you will develop your skills in providing and receiving peer review. Patchwork assessments will encourage you to reflect upon your reading, to experiment with creative forms, and to demonstrate and analyse what you have learned and how you might apply that learning in your future coursework and career. Individual and group project posters and presentations will assess both creative and professional content and your presentation skills. The Year 3 Major Project modules will be completed independently under the guidance of a supervisor.

Feedback on Assessment

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular, you will normally be provided with mid-module feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. For end-of-module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g. an end-of-module project), feedback will normally be provided within four weeks. The timescale for feedback on final year projects or dissertations may be longer. The full policy can be found at:

https://www.city.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/452565/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy...pdf

Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you must complete the assessments from the relevant modules successfully and acquire the required number of credits. You also need to pass each Programme Stage of your Programme in order to progress to the following Programme Stage. The weighting for each Programme Stage of your Programme is given in the table below under *What Award Can I Get?*

The Pass mark for each module is 40%.

If you fail an assessment component or a module, the following will apply:

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1. Compensation: where you fail up to 30 credits or one sixth of the total credits within a Programme Stage, whichever is greater, you may be allowed compensation if:

- Compensation is permitted for the module involved (see the What will I Study section of the programme specification), and
- It can be demonstrated that you have satisfied all the Learning Outcomes of the modules in the Programme Stage, and
- A minimum overall mark of no more than 10% below the module pass mark has been achieved in the module to be compensated, and
- An aggregate mark of 40% has been achieved for the Programme Stage, and
- The total volume of credits compensated over the entire degree does not exceed 45 credits.

Where you are eligible for compensation at the first attempt, this will be applied in the first instance rather than offering a resit opportunity.

If you receive a compensated pass in a module you will be awarded the credit for that module. The original component marks will be retained in the record of marks and your original module mark will be used for the purpose of your Award calculation.

2. Resit: you will normally be offered one resit attempt. However, if you did not participate in the first assessment and have no extenuating circumstances, you may not

be offered a resit. If you do not satisfy your resit by the date specified you will not progress to the next Programme Stage and the Assessment Board shall require that you withdraw from the Programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for a particular Programme Stage, but satisfy the requirements for the previous Programme Stage, then a lower qualification may be awarded as per the table below. If you fail to meet the requirements for a particular Programme Stage and are not eligible for the award of a lower level qualification, the Assessment Board shall require that you withdraw from the Programme.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at:

http://www.city.ac.uk/data/assets/word_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc

WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

Bachelor's Degree with Honours:

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
1	4	120	10	I	70
2	5	120	30	II upper division	60
3	6	120	60	II lower division	50
				III	40

Ordinary Degree:

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
1	4	120	10	With Distinction	70
2	5	120	30	With Merit	60
3	6	60	60	Without classification	40

Diploma of Higher Education:

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
1	4	120	30	With Distinction	70
2	5	120	70	With Merit	60
				Without classification	40

Certificate of Higher Education:

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
1	4	120	100	With Distinction	70
				With Merit	60

					Without classification	40	

WHAT WILL I STUDY?*

Programme Stage 1

In order to pass Programme Stage 1, you must pass all of the core modules detailed below.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Close Reading: Analysis and Interpretation	EN1008	15	Core	Yes	4
Critical Reading: Theory and Practice	EN1009	15	Core	Yes	4
Controversy and Conflict: Literature in Historical Context from the Middle Ages to 1660	EN1010	15	Core	Yes	4
Revolution and Reform: Literature in Historical Context from 1660 to the Present Day	EN1011	15	Core	Yes	4
Storytelling	EN1005	15	Core	Yes	4
Working with Words	EN1012	15	Core	Yes	4
Empire and its Discontents: Race, Nation, Decolonisation	EN1007	15	Core	Yes	4
The Creative World: English in the Twenty-First Century	EN1013	15	Core	Yes	4

Programme Stage 2

In order to complete Programme Stage 2, you must pass the core module (15 credits), at least one core elective (15 credits) and six other 15-credit modules detailed below. You must take both core electives. You may only take one Micro-Placement over the course of your programme (SA2000 or SA3000).

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Shakespeare: Authorship and Dramatic Texts	EN2010	15	Core	Yes	5
Publishing in the Digital Age	EN2012	15	Core Elective	Yes	5
Creative Writing Workshop	EN2003	15	Core Elective	Yes	5

Writing Women	EN2014	15	Elective	Yes	5
Shakespeare: Adaptation, Appropriation, Circulation	EN2011	15	Elective	Yes	5
Romanticism	EN2005	15	Elective	Yes	5
Literary London	EN2006	15	Elective	Yes	5
London After Empire: City and Society	EN2007	15	Elective	Yes	5
Digital Storytelling	EN2008	15	Elective	Yes	5
Concerning Futures: Writing Alternative Worlds	EN2015	15	Elective	Yes	5
Humanitarian Reporting	JO2206	15	Elective	Yes	5
Sports Reporting	JO2207	15	Elective	Yes	5
Visual Journalism	JO2350	15	Elective	Yes	5
Writing about Music	MU2206	15	Elective	Yes	5
Popular Music Now!	MU2116	15	Elective	Yes	5
Micro-Placements†	SA2000	15	Elective	Yes	5

†Completing the Micro-Placements module at Level 5 (SA2000) will preclude you from having the option to take the Micro-Placements module at Level 6 (SA3000).

Programme Stage 3

In order to pass Programme Stage 3, you must pass at least one of the 30-credit Major Project modules, EN3001, EN3002 and EN3003; and, in consultation with your personal tutor and the module leader, you may be approved to complete up to two of them. For the remainder of your 120 module credits for Programme Stage 3, you can choose from the 15-credit module options listed here. However, you may only take one Micro-Placement over the course of your programme (SA2000 or SA3000).

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Major Project: Dissertation	EN3001	30	Core Elective	No	6
Major Project: Professional Portfolio	EN3002	30	Core Elective	No	6
Major Project: Creative Writing	EN3003	30	Core Elective	No	6
Literary Journalism	EN3005	15	Elective	Yes	6
Crossing the Margins: Contemporary Voices in Creative Writing	EN3013	15	Elective	Yes	6
Publishing in the Digital Age	EN3006	15	Elective	Yes	6
Teaching English	EN3007	15	Elective	Yes	6
Writing the Global City	EN3008	15	Elective	Yes	6
Literatures of Conflict	EN3012	15	Elective	Yes	6
Writing Women	EN3010	15	Elective	Yes	6

Place and Space	EN3011	15	Elective	Yes	6
Reporting Conflict	JO3409	15	Elective	Yes	6
Music, Sound, and the Environment	MU3134	15	Elective	Yes	6
Romantic Aesthetics	MU3211	15	Elective	Yes	6
Micro-Placements	SA3000	15	Elective	Yes	6
Industry Projects	SA3100	15	Elective	Yes	6
Integrated Professional Training	SA3300	15	Elective	Yes	6

**Please note that this is an indicative list. These modules are subject to change depending on staff availability, student demand and some are offered on a biennial basis. There is no guarantee that every elective module listed above will run.*

TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?

The transferable skills you will gain in your English BA at City, University of London are developed through a balance of research-informed teaching and modules which relate to current practice in associated literary professions. The projects and teaching on both your core and elective modules relate to these professional practices:

- Journalism
- Publishing and literary agencies
- Library and Information Science
- Digital media companies and agencies
- Charities
- Teaching and mentoring

As a graduate of this programme, you can aspire to future roles in:

- Media organisations
- The Civil Service, and other public and charitable organisations
- Journalism
- Publishing and literary agencies
- Digital content development
- Teaching
- Creative Writing
- Translation
- Library and Information Science

If you would like more information on the Careers support available at City, please go to: <http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates>.

WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?

As an Undergraduate student you can undertake a period of study abroad whilst completing the programme. This is possible through the SASS Exchange Programme, a year of study at one of our European and/or international partner universities via a sandwich year, which is undertaken between completing Programme Stage 2 and entering Programme Stage 3, extending the degree to four years.

The resulting degree title awarded would be: BA English with Study Abroad.

Participation in the SASS Exchange Programme is through an application

process. You are encouraged to investigate the opportunities available to you within your Department in your first year at City.

Information and support for this programme is provided by the SASS Exchanges Team (SASS.Exchanges@city.ac.uk).

WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

As an Undergraduate student you can undertake a one-year work placement whilst completing the programme. This is possible through joining the Integrated Professional Training Programme, which is a sandwich year that is taken between completing Programme Stage 2 and entering Programme Stage 3, extending the degree to four years.

The resulting degree title awarded would be: BA English with Integrated Professional Training.

In identifying relevant placement opportunities you should consider your long-term plans for employment; whether the work placement proposed is relevant to final-year modules; whether it might provide experience on which a project could be based.

Information and support for this programme is provided by the SASS Placements Team (SASS.Placements@city.ac.uk).

- 1) You should discuss your plans with the relevant Department Placement Officer at the earliest opportunity, preferably during the autumn term of your second year.
- 2) The work placement must extend over a minimum of 9 months and a maximum of 12 months (including holidays allowed by the employing body). The Placement should normally run between the 1st September and the 31st August in the following year.
- 3) The placement must be approved by City as providing suitable supervision and training.
- 4) Participant students are required to pay an administrative charge to cover the School's costs associated with the work placement. This will be in the form of a reduced tuition fee for the placement year, which will cover continued enrolment with City and access to all of its facilities.

WILL I GET ANY PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION?

No

HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

Three decent grades at A levels including at least one in English Literature, or Language, or Literature & Language, would normally be expected. A range of equivalent qualifications will also be accepted, including the European Baccalaureate, the International Baccalaureate, the Irish Leaving Certificate and the Scottish Certificate of Higher Education. For students whose first language is not English, an overall score of 7.0 in the English Language Testing System (IELTS) is required, with a minimum of 6.0 in each element.

RPL/RPEL will be considered for applicants with a minimum of one module and a

maximum of 120 credits (direct entry to Year 2). Students who wish to gain direct entry onto Year 2 of the degree must be able to demonstrate that they have passed Year 1 of an equivalent programme at another institution. The weighting of the degree classification will be 1:2 for Programme Stages 2 and 3.

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