

## Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	<b>Course Title</b>	MA English Literature
2	<b>Course Code</b>	PT1401
3	<b>Awarding Institution</b>	Birmingham City University
4	<b>Teaching Institution(s)</b> (if different from point 3)	n/a
5	<b>Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation</b> (if applicable)	n/a

6	Course Description
	<p>Our MA in English Literature offers an advanced, thematic exploration of fascinating literary texts and their cultural significances. It is taught by a team of distinguished critics, scholars, and creative writers, all working at the cutting edge of their disciplines, in a forward-thinking learning environment with a reputation for research excellence and student support.</p> <p>You will be taught in small groups, as part of a friendly, diverse academic community in English, where you will hone skills in critical reasoning, applied theory, and adaptive communication to prepare you for meaningful research and career opportunities in contemporary society. As part of the College of English and Media, you will join a thriving intellectual network and benefit from a range of exciting guest seminars and public events hosted by BCU's Institute of Creative and Critical Writing.</p> <p>The course is aimed at graduates who want to take their interest in literature to the next level, as a career development opportunity, or simply for the love of the subject.</p> <p><b>What's covered on the course</b></p> <p>The taught content is bespoke, specifically designed for English Literature students, and avoids generalised cross-Faculty modules. We take a thematic rather than a period-specific approach, which allows an unconstrained investigation into literary history and the current relevance of the subject.</p> <p>At the centre of the course are two thematic modules, 'Literature and Truth' and 'Literature and Place', which canvas texts ranging from the Early Modern period to the current day. The first asks about the role of perspective, narrative, and rhetoric in questioning, but also in creating, reality. The second encourages students to think about how literary writing responds to, but also constitutes, the places we inhabit and move through. Situated in the heart of a culturally diverse and always evolving city, you will be perfectly located to think about how writing intersects with the world it describes.</p> <p>Other modules examine how texts evolve and the role of writing in modern culture. 'Texts in Transition' charts the development and transformation of literary texts through the processes of writing, publishing, editing, adapting and reading. 'Literature in Practice' develops high-level research skills and practical capabilities to pursue opportunities across different media, in collaboration, and in the public sphere. This will prepare you for a final project on a topic of your choice, but also identify the ways in which English Studies interacts with a changing world.</p>

	Building on proven research excellence and meaningful public engagement, our MA English Literature is a valuable route into an increasingly complex professional world.
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<b>7</b>	<b>Course Awards</b>		
<b>7a</b>	<b>Name of Final Award</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credits Awarded</b>
	Master of Arts (English Literature)	L7	180
<b>7b</b>	<b>Exit Awards and Credits Awarded</b>		
	Post Graduate Certificate Post Graduate Diploma	L7	60 credits 120 credits

<b>8</b>	<b>Variation from the University Regulations</b>		
	<i>None sought</i>		

<b>9</b>	<b>Delivery Patterns</b>		
	<b>Mode(s) of Study</b>	<b>Location(s) of Study</b>	<b>Duration of Study</b>
	Full Time	City Centre	12 months
	Part Time	City Centre	24 months
	With Professional Placement	City Centre	18 months
			<b>Code(s)</b>
			PT1401
			PT1821
			PT1454

<b>10</b>	<b>Entry Requirements</b>		
	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at <a href="https://www.bcu.ac.uk">https://www.bcu.ac.uk</a> , or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.		

<b>11</b>	<b>Course Aims</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an advanced understanding of the evolution and implications of literatures in English, including their contexts of production, adaptation, composition, and reception, with a particular focus on literature’s contemporary relevance.</li> <li>• Enhance critical thinking skills – with a particular focus on place and truth – through enabling the close analysis and interpretation of literary texts, cultural works, and various forms of discourse, and the production of sophisticated and compelling interpretations.</li> <li>• Contribute to complex critical debates surrounding authorship and the dynamic processes of writing, publishing, editing, and adaptation.</li> <li>• Cultivate adaptive communication skills, both verbal and written, and the ability to collaborate effectively in diverse academic and professional settings, fostering autonomy, flexibility, and resilience.</li> <li>• Facilitate engagement with diverse perspectives and life experiences, promoting dialogue, debate, and collaboration within a community that values inclusivity.</li> <li>• Provoke critical reflection on the current state and importance of English Studies and its meaningful contributions to varied contexts.</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop advanced practical skills for conducting sustained, theoretically informed research in English literature and gain expertise in project management, research methods, and presentation, to prepare for academic and professional success.</li> </ul>
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<b>12</b>	<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>
<b>1</b>	<b><u>Knowledge and Understanding</u></b> Understand in-depth contemporary approaches to, and current debates within, the academic study of English Literature, as well as responding to new insights in the field.
<b>2</b>	Demonstrate a systematic critical awareness of how literary writing in English responds to and creates different environments.
<b>3</b>	Demonstrate a multifaceted, theoretical understanding of literary form.
<b>4</b>	Develop arguments about how literary form, as a distinct mode of thinking, might intervene in national and global problems.
<b>5</b>	<b><u>Skills and other Attributes</u></b> Demonstrate comprehensive research skills relating to the advanced study of English Literature.
<b>6</b>	Apply a comprehensive understanding of techniques in conceptual analysis as it relates to the advanced study of English Literature.
<b>7</b>	Evaluate advanced methodologies in the discipline and, where appropriate, propose relevant new hypotheses.
<b>8</b>	Demonstrate originality in the application of advanced theoretical frameworks relevant to the discipline.
<b>9</b>	Produce research projects and engage in continuing professional and academic development, using intellectual independence and self-direction.
<b>10</b>	Recognise opportunities and devise plans for demonstrable benefits of literary research and practice, public engagement, collaboration, and career development.

<b>13</b>	<b>Level Learning Outcomes</b>
	<b><i>Upon completion of 60 credits at Level 7 / the PG Cert, students will be able to:</i></b>
	Demonstrate advanced skills in literary analysis by critically engaging with a range of texts through appropriate theoretical and methodological approaches.
	Articulate some complex ideas effectively, with clarity, coherence, and some sophistication.
	Critically evaluate your own scholarly development and identify strategies for continued growth and improvement in literary studies.
	<b><i>Upon completion of 120 credits at Level 7 / the PG Dip, students will be able to:</i></b>

	Demonstrate a sophisticated ability to critically analyse and interpret a wide range of literary texts, using advanced theoretical and methodological approaches with precision and depth.
	Communicate complex ideas and arguments effectively and convincingly in both written and oral forms, adhering to high standards of academic writing and presentation.
	Develop and present a range of research ideas that exhibit creativity and critical thinking.

<b>14</b>	<b>Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy</b>
	<p>All our taught courses align with our Learning, Teaching and Assessment strategy. This ensures that the teaching on your course will be shaped by the expertise in research and practice of our academic staff. The relationship between research and teaching ensures we can offer a curriculum that incorporates advances in research, emphasises the processes for producing knowledge and adopts an inquiry-based approach, designed to encourage new ideas and experimentation. Our strategy also ensures that the curriculum on your course will be designed and delivered inclusively. Our inclusive approach to curriculum and pedagogy reflects the wide range of contemporary issues which are of concern to our diverse student and staff population. This results in a curriculum which positively engages with and is willing to address and discuss issues of social justice and equality. Our approach is aimed at supporting the building of academic communities of practice and fostering high levels of scholarly professionalism in our students. All courses embed distinctive graduate attributes relevant to the subject and we hope that you will find your course engaging, challenging, stimulating and fun.</p> <p><b>How you will learn:</b>          The course is taught through small-group seminars, which have a lecture element, but are mostly designed to produce guided critical discussion. This is varied by guest speakers and guided visits to sites of literary interest, such as the Birmingham and Midland Institute, which has remarkable library of early books. 'Literature and Place' includes some city-walking with discussion of the textuality of place.</p> <p><b>How you will be assessed:</b>          All our assessments are designed to ensure that you meet the learning outcomes of your modules and thus of the course overall. Assessment types include written research reports, essays, and presentations. We will offer tutorials and a chance for you to discuss your draft assessments before you submit them. Once marked, we will give formal feedback and 'feed forward' on all work submitted, aimed at helping you improve future submissions.</p> <p><b>What we expect of you:</b>          Your course is designed so that you experience learning through inquiry: questioning, investigating, examining, exploring, analysing and creating. We will expect you to study independently, to uncover new sources and ideas, and to bring these to fellow students and tutors for discussion.</p>

15	<b>Course Requirements</b>																				
15a	<p data-bbox="204 349 320 383"><b>Level 7:</b></p> <p data-bbox="204 405 1430 477"><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 180 credits):</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="209 499 1452 786"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="213 499 469 566">Module Code</th> <th data-bbox="469 499 1192 566">Module Name</th> <th data-bbox="1192 499 1447 566">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="213 566 469 611">EGL7226</td> <td data-bbox="469 566 1192 611">Literature and Place</td> <td data-bbox="1192 566 1447 611">40</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="213 611 469 656">EGL7228</td> <td data-bbox="469 611 1192 656">Texts in Transition</td> <td data-bbox="1192 611 1447 656">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="213 656 469 701">EGL7234</td> <td data-bbox="469 656 1192 701">Literature in Practice</td> <td data-bbox="1192 656 1447 701">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="213 701 469 745">EGL7227</td> <td data-bbox="469 701 1192 745">Literature and Truth</td> <td data-bbox="1192 701 1447 745">40</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="213 745 469 786">EGL7231</td> <td data-bbox="469 745 1192 786">Major Project</td> <td data-bbox="1192 745 1447 786">60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	EGL7226	Literature and Place	40	EGL7228	Texts in Transition	20	EGL7234	Literature in Practice	20	EGL7227	Literature and Truth	40	EGL7231	Major Project	60
Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value																			
EGL7226	Literature and Place	40																			
EGL7228	Texts in Transition	20																			
EGL7234	Literature in Practice	20																			
EGL7227	Literature and Truth	40																			
EGL7231	Major Project	60																			

**15b Structure Diagram**
**Level 7 Full Time**

<b>Semester 1</b> Core EGL7228: Texts in Transition (20 credits) EGL7227: Literature and Truth (40 credits)	<b>Semester 2</b> Core EGL7226: Literature and Place (40 credits) EGL7XXX: Literature in Practice (20 credits)
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<b>Semester 3</b> EGL7231: Major Project (60 credits)	
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**Level 7 Part Time**
**Year 1**

<b>Semester 1</b> Core EGL7228: Texts in Transition (20 credits)	<b>Semester 2</b> Core EGL7226: Literature and Place (40 credits)
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**Year 2**

<b>Semester 1</b> Core EGL7227: Literature and Truth (40 credits)	<b>Semester 2</b> Core EGL7XXX: Literature in Practice (20 credits)
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<b>Semester 3</b> EGL7231: Major Project (60 credits)	
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<b>16</b>	<b>Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment</b>
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Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

## Level 7

### Workload

#### **XX% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Number of Hours</b>
Scheduled Learning	138
Directed Learning	796
Private Study	866
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>1800</b>

### Balance of Assessment

<b>Assessment Mode</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Coursework	95%
Exam	-
In-Person	5%