Programme Specification

Course record information

Name and level of final award	• Bachelor of Arts with Honours - Creative Writing and English Language • Bachelor of Arts with Honours - BA Creative Writing and English Language with International Experience FT The award is Bologna FQ-EHEA first cycle degree or diploma compatible
Name and level of intermediate awards	• Diploma of Higher Education (Dip HE) - Creative Writing and English Language • Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) - Creative Writing and English Language
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)	https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-creative-writing.pdf?sfvrsn=2fe2cb81_4
Professional statutory or regulatory body	Not applicable
Westminster course title, mode of attendance and standard length	• BA Creative Writing and English Language FT, Full-time, September start - 3 years standard length with an optional year abroad • BA Creative Writing and English Language PT, Part-time day, September start - 6 years standard length with an optional year abroad
Valid for cohorts	From 2022/3

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 Creative Writing and English Language course has been designed to:

- Develop a detailed knowledge and understanding of the structure, history and usage of the English language;
- develop creative techniques in writing;
- integrate the two subjects to allow them to inform each other in learning and teaching;
- give a detailed and coherent sense of the current priorities and debates in each discipline
- provide options of specialised study and practice that are drawn from research expertise; and
- develop advanced skills of research, analysis, evaluation and communication.

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.

The BA Creative Writing and English Language aims to create graduates who:

- are able to engage in and promote informed, thoughtful dialogue about human life and society, both past and present;
- have a confident knowledge and understanding of the history and principles of English and are able to transfer that to their writing practice;
- show creativity in analysis of works and ideas, and in the practical production of writing;
- can show highly advanced skills of research, evaluation and synthesis of information, and communication; and
- use the skills and knowledge that they have acquired for the betterment of themselves and others in their communities

Graduates of the course go on to work in a wide variety of interesting fields, including further study at MA and PhD levels, teaching, arts organisations such as theatres and museums, charities, journalism, marketing and public relations, and writing and publishing in their chosen literary field.

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 successful transition from the expectations of the study of English and/or creative writing at level 3 to the expectations of the subject at university, including employability (GA)
- L4.2 Demonstrate ability to describe language using appropriate terminology and describe the basic components of different theories of language structure and use (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 ways in which words and sentences are related to each other and how they combine to create texts of different types (KU)

- L4.5 Demonstrate clear and confident communication of ideas in a variety of written and verbal forms and in an appropriate academic register (KTS)

- L4.6 Demonstrate developing research skills in an ability to locate, select and evaluate sources (KTS)

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

- L5.1 Demonstrate increased resourcefulness in relation to your studies and work-readiness that is evident in study choices and selection of assessment (GA)

- L5.2 Demonstrate an ability to use materials and concepts across modules (GA)

- L5.3 Demonstrate a critical knowledge of the features of English at different stages of its history (KU)

- L5.4 Demonstrate an ability to utilise theory in the analysis of discourse (PPP)

- L5.5 Demonstrate a clear understanding of forms of writing and the ability to use that critical understanding in the creation of texts (KTS)

- L5.6 Demonstrate enhanced study skills, including written and oral expression, use of scholarly conventions and use of sources (PPP)

- L5.7 Demonstrate active engagement with your own learning and work-readiness through the tutorial system (GA)

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

- L5.8 Demonstrate the ability to adapt to unfamiliar situations and to function successfully in different cultural contexts (KTS)

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

- L6.1 Demonstrate that you have developed specialised critical knowledge in chosen aspects of the English language; (KU)

- L6.2 Demonstrate confident techniques in the production of creative work (PPP)

- L6.3 Demonstrate ability to construct complex and sophisticated arguments across extended length with fluency, clarity and confidence (KTS)

- L6.4 Demonstrate advanced independence of thought and critical and creative judgement; (KTS)

- L6.5 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of current critical debates in the study of English (KU)

- L6.6 Demonstrate advanced reflexivity as students, on the evidence of the ability to make the fullest use of feedback and guidance (GA)

- L6.7 Demonstrate confidence in self-presentation and professional-standard evidence of preparedness for work or further study (GA)

How will you learn?

Learning methods

The BA Creative Writing and English Language is constructed around a clear and rigorous sense of the current state of each discipline. In keeping with this, innovative and imaginative methods of learning and teaching are used which will engage you and inspire in you a keen sense of the lively and mobile nature of your subjects. These methods are focused particularly in developing in you a critical self-reflexivity and an awareness of your own learning experience throughout the modules, not just when engaging in summative assessments.

Teaching methods

The teaching of the course employs a variety of methods throughout the three levels depending on the nature of the module. These methods consist of small group tutorials on core modules (3 – 4 students), writing workshops, seminars of 15 – 25 students, some formal lectures and, at level 6, individual supervision of your writing project.

The principal mode of learning and teaching is the seminar/workshop format. In English modules seminars may involve small problem-solving exercises (both in groups and individually), presentations by your lecturer or by other students or whole-class discussions. Writing workshops will often involve presentation of drafts of your work and discussion of drafts with staff and other students. Much of your learning is independent, conducted beyond the classroom individually and in groups in the library, at home, and via the on-line learning provision. Study visits to galleries, museums and other London locations are also used as a context for your creative development.

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.

Contact time is designed to introduce new concepts, new information, foster your analytic skills, and supervise your own small research projects as a springboard for your own, increasingly independent, academic and intellectual development. All summative assessments receive written feedback to enable you to improve your work and thus plays a central role in your learning.

All modules are augmented by digital materials and activities through the on-line learning environment, Blackboard, for the dissemination of information, the accumulation of study materials, assessment, and on-line discussion. Videos, films and audio recordings all play a role in presenting the various aspects of language study to you, and for creative writing can act as stimulus for your own creativity.

Assessment methods

There are many different forms of assessment for our modules: coursework essays, creative exercises, analysis of language data, examinations, presentations, journals, blogs and portfolios. They have been designed to match the content of the modules and to provide experience of different forms.

The variety of assessments is designed to help as well as to measure your academic development. It aims to enhance your learning, not merely to test it, and helps you to demonstrate what you have learned in particular modules and across the range of your degree. The assessments help you build up your knowledge and skills, linking issues and knowledge within and between modules, while also developing and reinforcing your independent study.

This wide 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.

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.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	PT Year (where applicable)	UK credit	ECTS
4ENGL002W	Introducing English Language	Core	1	20	10
4CREW001W	Reflective Writing 1	Core	1	20	10
4CREW002W	Beginnings in Writing	Core	2	40	20
4ENGL003W	Language and Text	Option	Various	20	10
4ENGL007W	World Varieties of English	Option	Various	20	10
		Elective	Various	20	10

Level 5

Award of Diploma of Higher Education available.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	PT Year (where applicable)	UK credit	ECTS
5ENGL002W	Discourse across Time	Core	3	40	20
5CREW001W	Reflective Writing 2	Core	3	20	10
5CREW002W	Forms of Writing	Core	4	40	20
5LING003W	Child Language Acquisition	Option	Various	20	10
5ENGL004W	Language and Literary Style	Option	Various	20	10
5CREW004W	Screenwriting	Option	Various	20	10
		Elective	Various	20	10

Additional Year

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

5ENGL006W Humanities Year Abroad Placement Semester 1 (60 credits)
5ENGL007W Humanities Year Abroad Placement Semester 2 (60 credits)

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

Level 6

Award of BA available. Award of BA (Hons) available.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	PT Year (where applicable)	UK credit	ECTS
6CREW001W	Individual Writing Project	Core	Various	40	20
6ENGL002W	Studies in Literary Language	Core	Various	20	10
6LING003W	Applied Language Studies	Option	Various	20	10
6ENGL003W	Language and Power	Option	Various	20	10
6LING001W	Language Contact and Change	Option	Various	20	10
6LING002W	Language Form	Option	Various	20	10
6CREW003W	Special Topic: Genres in Writing	Option	Various	20	10
6CREW004W	Writing Life	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

Each module that you take has a module leader who is responsible for the management and the quality of the teaching and learning on that module, including the co-ordination of all staff who teach on it. The module leader's name is on the module outline, on SRSWEB and on Blackboard. The modules belong to courses and each course has a course leader. The Course Leader for the BA Creative Writing and English Language is Dr Matt Morrison. He is responsible for the day-to-day running of your course and he reports to the Head of the School of Humanities, Dr Alexandra Warwick.

Academic regulations

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at 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.

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at that site. Students1 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