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PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Course record information

Name and level of final award:	BA English Literature and Language
Name and level of intermediate awards:	Diploma of Higher Education Certificate of Higher Education
Awarding body/institution:	University of Westminster
Teaching Institution:	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution:	Recognised Body
Location of delivery:	Central London
Language of delivery and assessment:	English
Mode, length of study and normal starting month:	Three years full time, September
QAA subject benchmarking groups:	English
Professional statutory or regulatory body:	Not applicable
Date of course validation/review:	February 2015
Date of programme specification approval:	April 2016
Valid for cohorts :	2016/17 level 4/5, 2017/18 level 4,5 and 6
Course Leader	Andrew Caink
UCAS code and URL:	Q301 westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate

What are the minimum entry requirements for the course?
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.

westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/how-to-apply

For most courses a decision will be made on the basis of your application form alone. However, for some courses the selection process may include an interview to demonstrate your strengths in addition to any formal entry requirements.

More information can be found here: westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/how-to-apply

Aims of the course
The BA English Literature and Language has been designed to develop your understanding and knowledge of English language and literature to an advanced and sophisticated level, whilst developing your skills in using English to a very high level. You will be able to study literature from Shakespeare to the present day, including texts from outside the usual 'literary canon'. You will develop your understanding of the English language in terms of the way it is structured, how it varies as a global language, the ways in which it varies between different texts, and, at a wider level, the ways in which it reflects and contributes to wider meanings in society. You will have the opportunity to consider the theoretical tools of both literary analysis and language research in detail. You will consider the wider context in which literary and non-literary works have been produced by focusing on the broader context of Western History and thought, and art and culture more generally. Students on this degree therefore develop advanced critical skills in reading and interpreting both literary and non-literary texts in context, with a focus on the medium of the language used. The degree offers an opportunity to examine a range of periods and authors both inside and outside the traditional literary canon, alongside providing the opportunity to consider a range of other cultural texts such as architecture and the visual arts. Overall, the course aims to prepare articulate, discerning and critically aware scholars of the English language, its literature and contexts, and human culture generally.

What will you be expected to achieve?
Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These are threshold statements of achievement and the learning outcomes broadly fall into four categories:

- The overall **knowledge and understanding** you will gain from your course (KU).
- **Graduate attributes** are characteristics that you will have developed during the duration of your course (GA)
- **Professional and personal practice learning outcomes** are specific skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course(PPP)
- **Key transferable skills** that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course (KTS)

Level 4 Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of level 4 you will:

L4.1 Have successfully made the transition from the demands and expectations of both English language and literature at level 3 to the demands and expectations at university level;

L4.2 confidently utilise the full range of bibliographic conventions particular to both English and Language, including citation practices, and effectively manage source material and scholarly presentation;

L4.3 demonstrate recognition of the characteristics of different literary and non-literary forms and genres and understand the significance of these characteristics;

L4.4 show knowledge of and ability to use theoretical descriptions of the basic components of language structure and its use in spoken and written forms, including the accurate use of terminology;

L4.5 demonstrate a competence in discussing literary and non-literary texts in their social and historical context and in the context of theoretical debates;

L4.6 communicate your ideas confidently and clearly in a variety of both written and verbal forms in an appropriate academic register; and

L4.7 demonstrate developing research skills in your ability to collect data, and locate, select and evaluate sources.

Level 5 Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of level 5 you will be able to demonstrate:

L5.1 An increased sense of resourcefulness in relation to your studies, evident in study choices and selection of assessment choices;

L5.2 an ability to use materials and concepts across modules and both disciplines;

L5.3 a more detailed and sophisticated knowledge of at least one of the principle generic literary forms and the features of its language;

L5.4 a knowledge of the features of English at different stages of its history;

L5.5 an ability to utilise literary and linguistic theory in the analysis of various genres of literary and non-literary texts from different periods;

L5.6 developing research skills in the collection and analysis of relevant language data and texts, and the ability to present their analysis in written and spoken formats of a suitably academic register;

L5.7 the ability to use a thematic approach and linguistic analysis beyond classroom discussion and set texts;

L5.8 an active engagement with the development of your own learning through the tutorial system; and

L5.9 enhanced study skills, including written and oral expression, and the use of scholarly conventions and handling of sources.

Level 6 Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of level 6 you will be able to demonstrate:

L6.1 The development of your own specialised interests in literature and the study of the English language;

L6.2 an ability to construct complex and sophisticated arguments in an appropriate academic register across extended written work with fluency, clarity and confidence;

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

L6.4 advanced independence of thought and critical judgment;

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

L6.6 an understanding of how texts operate stylistically and the ways in which linguistic choices interact with genre and meaning in literary texts;

L6.7 an advanced reflexivity as evidenced by the ability to understand and use feedback and guidance; and

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.

How will you learn?
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 (4-5 students), seminars and workshops of 15–25 students, traditional lectures in university lecture halls, and, at level 6, individual supervision of your dissertation. All modules employ the on-line learning system, Blackboard, for the dissemination of information, the accumulation of study materials, assessment, and in some cases on-line discussion. Videos, films and audio recordings all play a role in presenting the various aspects of language study to you. Teaching in linguistics and English language regularly incorporates problem-solving and analytic exercises, small supervised research projects, and formative assessment that provide the opportunity for feedback.

Learning on the degree takes place in the classroom through small problem-solving exercises (both in groups and individually), through traditional lecturer-led dissemination of information, and via peer presentations and discussions. The vast majority of learning takes place beyond the contact time individually and in groups in the well-resourced and recently refurbished library, at home, and via the on-line learning provision. Contact time is designed to introduce new concepts, new information, foster your analytic skills, and supervise your own small research projects as a springboard for your own, increasingly independent academic and intellectual development. All summative assessment receives written feedback to enable you to improve your work and thus plays a central role in your learning.

How will you be assessed?
The course offers a variety of assessment to students which aims to both assess and nurture your intellectual and academic development. Assessment varies between small analytic exercises of language data at levels 4 and 5 through to the preparation and execution of your own research project for the level 6 dissertation. Different modules include small written reports, individual and group presentations, essays and exams. All assessment is designed to give you an opportunity to develop your analytic and critical skills and demonstrate your understanding of the topic. All summative assessments are given written feedback explaining the grade, the strengths of the work, and ways in which you will be able to improve your work in future. Formative assessment may receive written or oral feedback. Synoptic assessments link work on more than one module, and so they encourage you to demonstrate your deeper understanding of the subject as a whole.

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

Course structure
This section lists the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Undergraduate students study 120 credits per year. Diagrams showing the pattern of modules across the academic year are in the second part of this section.

Credit Level 4				
Code	**Module title**	**Status**	**UK cr**	**ECTS**
4ELIT003W	What is Literature?	Core	40	20
4ELIT004W	Keywords	Core	20	10
4ENGL005W	English Literature and Language Tutorial 1	Core	20	10
4ENGL002W	Words and Meaning	Core	20	10
4ENGL003W	Language and Text	Option	20	10
4ENGL004W	Language Myths	Option	20	10
4ELIT005W	Shakespeare and Performance	Option	20	10
4ELIT006W	Poetry and Politics	Option	20	10
	Elective	Elective	20	10
Award of Certificate of Higher Education available				

Credit Level 5				
Code	**Module title**	**Status**	**UK cr**	**ECTS**
5ELIT003W	The Novel	Core/Option	40	20
5ENGL001W	English Literature and Language Tutorial 2	Core	0	0
5ELIT004W	The Nineteenth Century	Core/Option	40	20
5ENGL002W	Discourse across Time	Core	40	20
5LING001W	Language and Literary Style	Option	20	10
5LING003W	Child Language Acquisition	Option	20	10
5ELIT005W	Writing Revolutions	Option	20	10
5ELIT006W	Travel Sickness	Option	20	10
5ELIT007W	Making Memory	Option	20	10
5ELIT008W	Monsters	Option	20	10
	Elective	Elective	20	10
Award of Diploma of Higher Education available				

Credit Level 6				
Code	**Module title**	**Status**	**UK cr**	**ECTS**
6ENGL005W	English Literature and Language Dissertation	Core	20	10
	Literary Linguistics	Option	20	10
6LING001W	Language Contact and Change	Option	20	10
6ENGL003W	Language and Power	Option	20	10
6LING002W	Language Form	Option	20	10

6LING003W	Applied Language Studies	Option	20	10
5LANS002W	ELCS Work Experience	Option	20	10
6ELIT002W	Modernism	Option	40	20
6ELIT003W	Tragedy	Option	20	10
6ELIT004W	What is the Contemporary?	Option	20	10
6ELIT005W	Issues in Theory	Option	20	10
6ELIT006W	Satire and the City	Option	20	10
6ELIT007W	Special Topic	Option	20	10
	Elective	Elective	20	10
Award of BA available, Award of BA Honours available.				

English Literature and Language

Level 4	
Semester 1	**Semester 2**
Core modules	
Words and Meaning (20)	
What is Literature? (40)	
Key Words (20)	
English Literature and Language Tutorial 1 (20)	
Options: choose one	
Shakespeare and Performance (20)	Poetry and Politics (20)
Language and Text (20)	Language Myths (20)

One elective may be chosen instead of one option (20)

Level 5	
Semester 1	**Semester 2**
Core modules	
Discourse across Time (40)	
The Novel (40) **OR** The Nineteenth Century (40)	
English Literature and Language Tutorial 2 (0)	
Options: choose two	
Writing Revolutions (20)	Travel Sickness (20)
Making Memory (20)	Monsters (20)
Language and Literary Style (20)	Child Language Acquisition (20)

One elective may be chosen instead of one option (20)

Level 6	
Semester 1	**Semester 2**
Core module	
English Literature and Language Dissertation (20)	
Literature options: choose minimum 40 credits from these	
Modernism (40)	
What is the Contemporary? (20)	
Issues in Theory (20)	Special Topic (20)
Satire and the City (20)	Tragedy (20)
Language options: choose minimum 40 credits from these	
Literary Linguistics (20)	
Language Contact and Change (20)	
Language and Power (20)	
Language Form (20)	
Applied Language Studies (20)	

One elective or 6ENGL004W ELCS Work Experience may be chosen instead of one option (20)

Academic regulations

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations

How will you be supported in your studies?

Course Management

The degree has a designated course leader whom you will meet during Orientation Week and who is available for consultation during weekly student consultation hours throughout the year or by appointment. During March of the first and second year, you will have the opportunity to choose your option modules for the following year after consultation with academic staff. Individual modules each have a module leader who is responsible for the smooth running of that module. Module leaders are available during term-time during their student consultation hours or by appointment. The degree is part of a suite of BA hons degrees in the department of English, Linguistics, and Cultural Studies. At levels 4 and 5 of the course (years 1 and 2), you will have a designated personal tutor to whom you may turn for general personal and academic advice. In the final year, you will be provided with a supervisor on your dissertation module with whom you will have individual supervisions.

Academic Support

Upon arrival, an orientation programme will introduce you to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which you will be studying, the Library and IT facilities, additional support available and to your Faculty Registry Office. You will be provided with the Course Handbook, which gives detailed information about the course. You have a course leader, and you will be assigned to both an academic tutor to support you in your studies and a personal tutor who can provides guidance on other matters. The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where you can access your course materials, and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students.

Learning Support

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.

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at that site. Students can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books). Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group work, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. You can also choose from several computer rooms at each campus where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the course. You can also securely connect your own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

Support Services

The University of Westminster Student Affairs 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. The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support students during their time at the University.

How do we ensure the quality of our courses and continuous improvement?

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel in 2015. The panel included internal peers from the University and academics from other universities. This helps

to ensure the comparability of the course to those offered in other universities and the relevance to employers.

The course is also monitored each year by the Faculty 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 outcomes from Course Committees, evidence of student progression and achievement and the reports from external examiners, to evaluate the effectiveness of the course. Each Faculty puts into place an action plan. This may, for example, include making changes on the way the module is taught, assessed or even how the course is structured in order to improve the course. There is an approval process for such changes.

A Course Review 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 and to further study. Students meet with review panels to provide feedback on their experiences. Student feedback from previous years, e.g. from Course Committees, 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 Course Committees students have the opportunity to express their voice in the running of their course. Student representatives are elected to Committee to expressly represent the views of their peers. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the student representatives.
- Each Faculty also has its own Faculty Student Forum with student representatives; this enables wider discussions across the Faculty. Student representatives are also represented on key Faculty 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 of the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be enhanced.
- The University also has an annual Student Experience Survey which seeks the opinions of students about their course and University experience. Final year undergraduate students will be asked to complete the National Student Survey which helps to inform the national university league tables.