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BA (Hons)

English

UCAS code Q300

Entry requirements

A level: ABB

Study mode

Full-time

Duration

3 years

Apply by: **30 June 2026**

Starts on: **28 September 2026**

About this course

The BA English degree programme gives you the flexibility to combine the study of literature and language in a balance that suits you, and offers optional modules in creative writing in the second and final years. The language modules aim to provide understanding of the historical, social and psychological factors that shape the English language used in everyday life, while the literature modules are designed to foster interpretive skills applying to a wide range of genres and historical periods.

Introduction

Through a range of entirely optional modules, you may choose to construct a programme combining English language and literature in equal measures, or to specialise in either part of the subject.

Year one introduces key skills necessary for the advanced study of literature and language, including academic writing and independent learning. You will study the historical developments of the English language and of literatures in English, alongside approaches to textual analysis and interpretation.

In your second and final years, you will have the freedom to plan the specific path that you follow through the programme. Year two focuses on the major periods of English literature and core aspects of English language study. Available modules examine the literatures of specific historical periods – such as the medieval, Victorian, or modernist – and areas of language study including child language acquisition or psycholinguistics.

In the final year, the emphasis is on specialisation within different literary genres and on the social and other contexts of English language. You will develop skills of independent research – for instance, by choosing to write a dissertation on a topic of your own design – and you will also have the option to take a work placement module that will give you workplace experience with an organisation relevant to your degree.

Each year of study is comprised entirely of optional modules, enabling you to tailor the course of your studies. In each year, you will take modules amounting to 120 credits.

Creative Writing modules are offered in years two and three.

Year in industry

This programme is available with an optional [year in industry](#). If you choose this option, year three is spent on a paid placement within an organisation in industry, broadly defined. You will be supported by the School of the Arts and the Department throughout, and your reflexive written account of the experience will contribute towards your final degree result. If you wish to study this programme with a year in industry, please put the option code 'YI' in the 'further choices' section of your UCAS application form.

Brian Nellist English Attainment Scholarships

We are pleased to offer [two attainment scholarships](#) per year to undergraduate students from the UK. The scholarships will cover the entire UK tuition fee for both years two and three (currently £9,250 per annum). Awards will be made by the department at the end of year one, based on performance.

What you'll learn

- Knowledge of one or more specific literary historical periods, and the associated genres and language
- Critical and textual analysis
- Independent research and evaluative skills
- Advanced writing and communications skills
- The ability to write fluent prose
- An awareness of cultural, theoretical and historical contexts of literature and language use
- The ability to construct and support argument in written or spoken forms
- Literary and linguistic analysis

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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Year one

Your first year will provide the knowledge and skills required to pursue the rest of your degree. You will take at least 30 credits each of literature and language modules.

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
CLOSE READING (ENGL103)	15
INTRODUCTION TO STYLISTICS (ENGL105)	15
INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE STUDY (ENGL107)	30
LITERATURE IN TIME (ENGL117)	30
READING DRAMA (ENGL119)	15
INTRODUCTION TO WORLD LITERATURE 1: PLACES AND LOCATIONS (WLIT101)	15
LITERATURE AND PLACE: CITY, COUNTRY, PLANET (ENGL102)	30
THEORISING THEATRE AND PERFORMANCE (ENGL104)	15
ATTITUDES TO ENGLISH (ENGL106)	15
WAYS OF READING (ENGL113)	15

Optional modules	Credits
ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN CONTEXT (ENGL116)	30
INTRODUCTION TO WORLD LITERATURE 2: THEORY AND PRACTICE (ENGL120)	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change. As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we are currently reviewing all of our programmes. This may include refining study pathways, strengthening links with employers, integrating generative AI, developing students' research skills, and enhancing alignment with our research strengths. The course content currently shown on this page reflects the programme as it is running in September 2026. This page will be updated for students beginning in September 2027 by 1 September 2026 at the latest.

Year two

In year two, the literature modules give an overview of the major periods and genres of literary history, while the language provision covers theoretical, historical, and sociocultural approaches. You can choose your path through the degree according to your interests: you can choose to maintain an equal balance of literature or language, or you can choose to specialise more in one side of the subject.

- There may be some restrictions on which modules can be taken in conjunction with others, which will be explained during module registration.
- If you are following the year in industry pathway, you will be required to take module **SOTA260**.

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
PSYCHOLINGUISTICS (ENGL202)	30
DRAMA 1580-1640 (ENGL213)	30

Optional modules	Credits
BRITISH WRITING SINCE 1945: FICTION AND DRAMA (ENGL215)	30
THE HISTORY OF ENGLISH: VARIATION AND CHANGE (ENGL221)	30
VICTORIAN LITERATURE (ENGL243)	30
RESTORATION AND EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY LITERATURE: MILTON TO JOHNSON (ENGL272)	30
LANGUAGE IN SOCIETY (ENGL276)	30
WRITING MAGAZINES / MAGAZINE WRITING: HISTORY, LITERATURE AND THE PERIODICAL (ENGL299)	30
PROFESSIONAL AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT (SOTA260)	15
WEIMAR FILM AND LITERATURE: THE CITY AND MODERNITY (GRMN218)	15
LATIN AMERICA IN ITS LITERATURE (LATI203)	15
INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC SPEAKING (POLI252)	15
SHAKESPEARE IN CONTEXT (ENGL214)	30
WORLD DRAMA (ENGL216)	30
ROMANTIC LITERATURE (ENGL218)	30
MODERNIST LITERATURE (ENGL232)	30
CHILD LANGUAGE ACQUISITION (ENGL256)	30

Optional modules	Credits
KNIGHTS, ENCHANTRESSES AND ROGUES, 1100–1500 (ENGL270)	30
PRAGMATICS (ENGL274)	30
MULTILINGUALISM IN SOCIETY (ENGL279)	30
BANNED: FICTION, SEX AND THE LIMITS OF DECENCY (ENGL298)	30
NATURE AND VIRTUE: ANCIENT ETHICS (CLAH299)	15
ART AND VIOLENCE: VISUAL CULTURES AND THE MEDIA IN MODERN FRANCE (FREN220)	15
WOMEN IN IBERIAN AND LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE (HISP219)	15

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Final year

Your final year modules are designed to allow greater specialisation, and many are based directly on the research expertise of academic staff. Modules will explore literary genres; relationships with film and other media; theoretical approaches to language and literature; English in social, legal and educational contexts; and more. You will have the option to write a dissertation on a topic of your choice, or to undertake a work placement.

- If taking the dissertation option, you may choose to take it in semester one (**ENGL311**), semester two (**ENGL379**), or over the course of the year (**ENGL380**).

- Students taking the **SOTA300** placement module are not normally permitted to take a dissertation option.

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
MILLENNIAL LITERATURE AND CULTURE (ENGL301)	15
AMERICAN POETIC WRITING SINCE 1930 (ENGL302)	30
DISSERTATION (SEMESTER ONE) (ENGL311)	30
CREATIVE WRITING (DRAMA) (ENGL315)	15
CORPUS AND COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS (ENGL317)	30
NOIR: LITERATURE, FILM, ART (ENGL321)	30
FROM SIGN TO TEXT: EXPLORING MULTI-MODAL COMMUNICATION (ENGL345)	30
BREAKING THE SENTENCE: LITERATURE AND FEMINISMS (ENGL347)	30
SHAKESCENE: MAKING SHAKESPEARE ON PAGE, STAGE, AND SCREEN (ENGL368)	30
CREATIVE WRITING (PROSE) (ENGL377)	15
LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (ENGL383)	30
POSTCOLONIAL LITERATURE AND THEORY (ENGL401)	15
LANGUAGE AND GLOBALIZATION (ENGL430)	30
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES IN POSTWAR BRITAIN: HISTORIES, LITERATURES, ACTIVISMS (ENGL485)	15

Optional modules	Credits
WAR WRITING (ENGL488)	30
RESEARCHING DIGITAL CULTURES IN THE AMERICAS (HISP348)	15
NEW TRENDS IN ITALIAN CINEMA: MAFIA, GENDER, MIGRATION AND ECO-CINEMA (ITAL321)	15
TERROR REMEMBERED: REPRESENTING TRAUMATIC HISTORIES IN LATIN AMERICA, EUROPE AND ASIA (MODL304)	15
REMEMBERING SLAVERY (MODL332)	15
AESTHETICS (PHIL316)	15
INTRODUCTION TO TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT (ENGL303)	30
ANALYSING DISCOURSE (ENGL307)	30
VARIETIES OF NORTHERN ENGLISH (ENGL308)	30
GOTHIC FICTION AND FILM (ENGL325)	30
RENAISSANCE POETRY (ENGL327)	30
CREATIVE WRITING (POETRY) (ENGL372)	15
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE (ENGL373)	15
DISSERTATION (SEMESTER TWO) (ENGL379)	30
THE NOVEL: 1740-1830 (ENGL386)	30

Optional modules	Credits
THE FIN DE SIECLE: LITERATURE AND CULTURE 1880-1910 (ENGL395)	30
GAMES PLAYING ROLES (ENGL397)	15
LANGUAGE AND GENDER (ENGL400)	30
RE-WRITING NATURE: LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND SCIENCE FICTION (ENGL403)	15
JAMES JOYCE: A WRITING LIFE (ENGL499)	30
POPULAR CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND POLITICS (COMM318)	15
COMICS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS: MEMORY AND TRANSCULTURAL MOBILITY (MODL326)	15
SCREENING TEXTS (MODL328)	15
PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE (PHIL327)	15
THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF RHETORIC IN BRITISH POLITICS (POLI323)	15
DISSERTATION (OVER BOTH SEMESTERS) (ENGL380)	30
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS WORK PLACEMENTS MODULE (SOTA300)	30

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Combined degree

Choosing this subject as a combined degree

In year one, you will take modules aimed at developing the skills necessary for advanced study in English literature and language. From year two, you will choose from a range of literature modules that focus on specific periods, genres or themes, and language modules that develop your understanding of the ways in which language works in the world. You can choose to maintain an even balance of language and literature study, or to specialise in one aspect of the subject.

In each year, you will take 60 credits of English and 60 credits from your other subject choice.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

You will experience a mix of lectures, seminars, workshops and tutorials, with no modules being taught entirely through lectures. Alongside independent study and research, some modules require timetabled student group work. We provide an online programme of study skills to help with the necessary standards of referencing and presentation in written work. Tutorials allow for discussion of key readings, concepts and ideas, typically in groups of up to nine students.

Seminar groups are larger, but do not normally exceed 18; they usually last for between one and a half to two hours. Workshops are similar in size but have a more distinct practical element (e.g. in drama or language modules). In addition, in your second and final years, you will participate to a greater or lesser extent in a range of other formative activities: seminar presentations, creative writing and peer teaching.

How you're assessed

The main modes of assessment are through a combination of essay and examination, but depending on the modules taken you may encounter project work, presentations (individual or group), and portfolios of creative work or specific tests focused on editing, translation or etymological tasks.

Liverpool Learning Framework

At Liverpool, we take a distinctive approach to education through the Liverpool Learning Framework. This means teaching that is engaging, inclusive and designed to help you succeed during your studies and beyond.

You'll develop specialist subject knowledge alongside the skills employers value most, including:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three Liverpool Hallmarks:

- Research-connected teaching - learning informed by the latest ideas and discoveries
- Active learning - taking part, applying knowledge and learning by doing
- Authentic assessment - assessments designed around real-world tasks and challenges

We also embed key priorities across our curriculum, including AI literacy, employability, and sustainability, helping you prepare for the future and make a positive impact in the world.

We're committed to creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive.

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Careers and employability

As a student in the School of the Arts, you will be supported to maximise your employability from day one. Our English degree programmes are valued by employers who recognise the skills our students develop, including teamwork, project design, critical thinking, proficiency in text analysis and communication and presentation skills.

The School has its own Placements and Employability Officer, and you will have the opportunity to undertake a semester-long work placement or a year in industry. We offer a popular poetry publishing placement through the SOTA300 work experience module, and you can read about the experiences of students who have undertaken this placement – and since found employment in the publishing industry – [here](#).

Our graduates leave to take up a very wide range of careers, including in the following areas:

- Teaching
- Media: journalism; broadcasting; the arts
- Publishing
- Business: marketing; management trainees in a variety of businesses; accounting
- Librarianship
- The Civil Service
- The legal sector

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Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year - £9,790

Year in industry fee - £1,955

Year abroad fee - £1,465 (applies to year in China)

International fees

Full-time place, per year - £27,000

Year in industry fee - £1,955

Year abroad fee - £13,500 (applies to year in China)

The fees shown are for the academic year 2026/27. Please be advised that tuition fees may increase each year for both UK and international students. For UK students, this will be subject to the government's regulated fee limits.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support. [Learn more about paying for your studies.](#)

Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

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Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

A levels

ABB
including English (Language, Literature or Language and Literature) at grade A.

Applicants with the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) are eligible for a reduction in grade requirements. For this course, the offer is **ABC** from A levels, with **A** in the EPQ.

You may automatically qualify for reduced entry requirements through our contextual offers scheme. Based on your personal circumstances, you may automatically qualify for up to a two-grade reduction in the entry requirements needed for this course. When you apply, we consider a range of factors – such as where you live – to assess if you're eligible for a grade reduction. You don't have to make an application for a grade reduction – we'll do all the work.

Find out more about [how we make reduced grade offers](#).

T levels

T levels are not currently accepted.

GCSE

4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma

Applications considered. BTEC in a humanities-related subject plus A level English at grade A required

International Baccalaureate

32 points overall with no score less than 4 and including 6 in Higher Level English or pass the IB Diploma plus 6,5,5 in 3 HL subjects including 6 in Higher Level English.

Irish Leaving Certificate

H1, H2, H2, H2, H3, H3 with H1 in English

Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher

Scottish Advanced Highers of ABB with English Grade A.

Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced

B in the Welsh Baccalaureate, plus AB at A level to include English at grade A.

Access

Pass relevant Access to HE Diploma (Humanities/Social Science) with 45 Level 3 credits with 33 at Distinction (including all English credits) and 12 at Merit.

International qualifications

Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.

Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our direct entry requirements. Although there is no direct Foundation Certificate route to this course, completing a Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the [University of Liverpool International College](#), can guarantee you a place on a number of similar courses which may interest you.

Alternative entry requirements

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
 - If you are returning to learning, have had a disrupted education or are switching career pathways, the one-year [Go Higher diploma](#) qualifies you to apply for University of Liverpool arts, humanities and social sciences programmes
 - [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.
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English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 5.5

TOEFL iBT

If you took a TOEFL test on or before 20 January 2026, you'll need 88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 17, writing 17, reading 17 and speaking 19. If you took a TOEFL test from 21 January 2026 onwards, when a new scoring system was introduced, you'll need 4.5 overall, with 4 or above in all components. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

Duolingo English Test

125 overall, with speaking, reading and writing not less than 105, and listening not below 100

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 60

Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0500

Grade C overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking and listening. Speaking and listening must be separately endorsed on the certificate.

Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0990

Grade 4 overall, with Merit in speaking and listening

Cambridge IGCSE Second Language English 0510/0511

0510: Grade B overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking. Speaking must be separately endorsed on the certificate. 0511: Grade B overall.

Cambridge IGCSE Second Language English 0993/0991

0993: Grade 6 overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking. Speaking must be separately endorsed on the certificate. 0991: Grade 6 overall.

Cambridge ESOL Level 2/3 Advanced

176 overall, with no paper below 162

International Baccalaureate English A: Literature or Language & Literature

Grade 5 at Standard Level or grade 5 at Higher Level

International Baccalaureate English B

Grade 7 at Standard Level or grade 6 at Higher Level

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or [the equivalent score in selected other English language tests](#), to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no more than one component at 5.0	10 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.0	12 weeks	Online
5.0 overall, with no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no component below 4.5	30 weeks	On campus
4.5 overall, with no more than one component at 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to [Pre-sessional English entry requirements](#) for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 5.5, for further details.

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