

BA (Hons)

English Literature

UCAS code Q320

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

Study English Literature at Liverpool and learn to understand why people write, who for, and what their texts mean. English literature is a great choice for avid readers. You'll do reading – lots of it – and delve into texts for deep analysis

Introduction

You will have the opportunity to study a wide range of literary forms, genres and themes, from the early medieval period to the present day.

You'll learn to interpret literature from many perspectives: historical, sociological, political and more, making this course both intellectually challenging and rewarding. You'll be taught by a staff including award-winning writers and four BBC 'New Generation Thinkers', on a course informed by original academic research.

Students are taught in small groups for a collaborative and conversational experience.

Creative Writing modules are offered in years two and three.

Take your university experience even further on a paid year-long industry placement, or spend a year abroad at a partner university or our China campus.

English Literature students graduate with sought-after skills that apply to a wide range of careers, including journalism, arts and marketing.

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.

English attainment scholarships

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

What you'll learn

- Detailed knowledge of the literature of a variety of historical periods
- Critical thinking
- Teamwork
- Textual analysis from multiple perspectives
- How to undertake research
- How to present and communicate clearly
- How to debate, argue and persuade

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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

In your first year, you will develop key skills and subject knowledge that will equip you for more advanced and specialised modules in the later years of the degree. You'll explore the ways in which literary texts and themes are rewritten and reinterpreted in different historical and cultural contexts. You will also consider how literary texts interact with and speak to their own and other social contexts, what it means to interpret texts, and how meanings emerge from our reading.

- You will take four compulsory modules, which will set the foundation for the rest of your studies, and choose two optional modules.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
CLOSE READING (ENGL103)	15
LITERATURE AND PLACE: CITY, COUNTRY, PLANET (ENGL102)	30
LITERATURE IN TIME (ENGL117)	30
WAYS OF READING (ENGL113)	15

Optional modules	Credits
READING DRAMA (ENGL119)	15

Optional modules	Credits
CLASSICAL GREEK LITERATURE AND CULTURE (CLAH115)	15
ENGLISH LITERATURE IN IRELAND: JONATHAN SWIFT TO WB YEATS (IRIS103)	15
CRITICAL, ANALYTICAL AND CREATIVE THINKING (PHIL112)	15
INTRODUCTION TO WORLD LITERATURE 1: PLACES AND LOCATIONS (WLIT101)	15
THEORISING THEATRE AND PERFORMANCE (ENGL104)	15
INTRODUCTION TO WORLD LITERATURE 2: THEORY AND PRACTICE (ENGL120)	15
VIRGIL: LITERARY CULTURES AND CONTEXTS (CLAH102)	15
MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY IRISH WRITING: FROM JAMES JOYCE TO SALLY ROONEY (IRIS104)	15
THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER: ART AND PHILOSOPHY (PHIL110)	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Year two

In your second year, you will choose from a range of optional modules that will give you the opportunity to study texts from particular literary periods, ranging from the medieval to the modern. These modules will help you to develop a detailed understanding of the range of literature written in a particular period, and the ways in which they relate to wider social, artistic, and political contexts.

- To ensure coverage of literature from a range of periods, you must choose at least one module from each broad period group ('early' and 'modern'). Information on the modules available within each group will be provided to you.

- If you are following the year in industry pathway, you will be required to take module **SOTA260**.

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
DRAMA 1580-1640 (ENGL213)	30
BRITISH WRITING SINCE 1945: FICTION AND DRAMA (ENGL215)	30
VICTORIAN LITERATURE (ENGL243)	30
RESTORATION AND EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY LITERATURE: MILTON TO JOHNSON (ENGL272)	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
SHAKESPEARE IN CONTEXT (ENGL214)	30
WORLD DRAMA (ENGL216)	30
ROMANTIC LITERATURE (ENGL218)	30
MODERNIST LITERATURE (ENGL232)	30
KNIGHTS, ENCHANTRESSES AND ROGUES, 1100-1500 (ENGL270)	30

Optional modules	Credits
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

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Final year

The broad range of optional modules in your final year will allow further specialisation and a focus on specific genres and/or themes. You'll also have options to study modules in creative writing.

Modules at this level are often based on the current research of our academic staff and will involve you in conversations about the present and future directions of the subject, while also enabling you to develop your skills of independent research.

- 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

Optional modules	Credits
DISSERTATION (SEMESTER ONE) (ENGL311)	30
CREATIVE WRITING (DRAMA) (ENGL315)	15
NOIR: LITERATURE, FILM, ART (ENGL321)	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
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES IN POSTWAR BRITAIN: HISTORIES, LITERATURES, ACTIVISMS (ENGL485)	15
WAR WRITING (ENGL488)	30
RESEARCHING DIGITAL CULTURES IN THE AMERICAS (HISP348)	15
NEW TRENDS IN ITALIAN CINEMA (ITAL321)	15
TERROR REMEMBERED: REPRESENTING TRAUMATIC HISTORIES IN LATIN AMERICA, EUROPE AND CHINA (MODL304)	15
REMEMBERING SLAVERY (MODL332)	15
AESTHETICS (PHIL316)	15

Optional modules	Credits
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
THE FIN DE SIECLE: LITERATURE AND CULTURE 1880-1910 (ENGL395)	30
GAMES PLAYING ROLES (ENGL397)	15
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
PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE (PHIL327)	15
DISSERTATION (OVER BOTH SEMESTERS) (ENGL380)	30
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS WORK PLACEMENTS MODULE (SOTA300)	30

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Year in industry

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Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

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. From year two, you will choose from a range of literature modules that focus on specific periods, genres or themes. You will develop specialist knowledge of English literature, while also developing analytical skills that will inform and be enriched by your study of another 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 group work. Most teaching takes place in small groups where you'll share and explore ideas with your tutors and peers. You'll also attend workshops and lectures and self-direct study through the course reading list and conducting research for your essays and projects. Academic staff are regularly available for one-to-one feedback and support. Course material is available 24-hours a day on Canvas, our online learning platform, and study support is available from our dedicated student services team.

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 (eg in drama or language modules). In addition, in years two and three, 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

Students on this course are assessed with a combination of exams and coursework. Coursework includes essays, group projects, presentations and research projects. You'll submit coursework which contributes to your final grade during years two and three.

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

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](#).

Many graduates move on to have careers in the arts, the media, publishing, marketing, events, and project management, working for employers like:

- BBC
- Liverpool Echo
- The Guardian
- The Royal Shakespeare Company
- Hodder & Stoughton
- Routledge
- Oxford University Press
- Macmillan
- Liverpool University Press
- The Civil Service.

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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

Your tuition fee covers almost everything, but you may have additional study costs to consider, such as books or stationary.

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

Entry requirements

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

A levels

ABB

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

Subject requirements

A level English (Language, Literature or Language and Literature) at grade A

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
 - [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

120 overall, with no component below 95

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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