



UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL

MA

# Publishing

## Study mode

Full-time

## Duration

12 months

Apply by: **11 September 2026**

Starts on: **28 September 2026**

## About this course

The MA in Publishing combines the industry expertise of our on-site publishing house (Liverpool University Press) with the academic excellence of a Russell Group institution, currently ranked within the world top 100 for English (QS World University Rankings 2025).

## Introduction

The programme has a specific focus on academic and trade publishing, and offers in-house professional support alongside the industry knowledge of our esteemed delivery partners at Liverpool University Press (LUP).

Your future employability is a key consideration of the programme. You'll have the opportunity to undertake relevant work experience, and will develop industry-standard digital skills (in the use of Adobe Creative Suite, for example). Career coaching will be provided by the LUP team, and you'll be prepared for entering the job market through support to develop your CV and participation in a mock interview. You'll gain insight into editorial, production and marketing, and see the global publishing industry in practice through a subsidised visit to the London Book Fair.

LUP is the third oldest university press in the UK, and this new MA is the first in the Russell Group to be co-developed with an on-site academic publisher. It builds on the existing strong

relationship between the Department of English and LUP, best exemplified by the successful and award-winning *Pavilion Poetry* imprint.

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## Who is this course for?

This programme is ideal for graduates of humanities or social science subjects who are interested in pursuing a career in publishing, book/journal production or related fields.

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## What you'll learn

- A broad grounding in the principles of contemporary publishing practices
- How to apply appropriate digital publishing technologies in the production of texts
- How to source and evaluate appropriate material to assemble into a publishable collection
- An understanding of various of roles and responsibilities in the publishing industry, including editorial, production and marketing
- How to plan and undertake an independent research or practical publishing project.

^ [Back to top](#)

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# Course content

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

## Semester one

You'll take three compulsory modules and choose one optional module.

## Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
RESEARCH SKILLS AND PRACTICE (ENGL700)	15
COMMISSIONING AND PRODUCTION IN CONTEMPORARY PUBLISHING (ENGL715)	15
SALES AND MARKETING IN CONTEMPORARY PUBLISHING (ENGL717)	15
Optional modules	Credits
SHAKESPEARE & CO (ENGL751)	15
EDITING THE EARLY MODERN (ENGL752)	15
VICTORIAN GOTHIC (ENGL761)	15
THE MODERN (ENGL770)	15
LITERATURE AND CRISIS (ENGL771)	15
GENRE DEFINITIONS (ENGL780)	15

Optional modules	Credits
SCIENCE FICTION AND/AS THE ARCHIVE (ENGL781)	15
TRANSLATED LITERATURE IN THE GLOBAL MARKET (MODL508)	15
MEDIA AND CULTURAL CHANGE B (COMM757)	15
RECORDKEEPING THEORY AND PRINCIPLES FOR HERITAGE PROFESSIONALS (HIST545)	15
THEORIES AND APPROACHES IN TRANSLATION STUDIES (MODL511)	15

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

## Semester two

You'll take three compulsory modules and choose one optional module.

## Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
FROM MANUSCRIPT TO DIGITAL PRINT (ENGL714)	15
GENRES IN CONTEMPORARY PUBLISHING (ENGL716)	15
CAREERS AND THE FUTURE OF PUBLISHING (ENGL718)	15

Optional modules	Credits
WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENT (ENGL795)	15

Optional modules	Credits
LITERATURE, SLAVERY AND EMPIRE (ENGL750)	15
LITERATURE AND SCIENCE (ENGL754)	15
YORE VICTORIANS (ENGL760)	15
READING VICTORIANS (ENGL762)	15
THE CONTEMPORARY (ENGL772)	15
THE BODY (ENGL773)	15
FICTIONS OF TECHNOLOGY (ENGL782)	15
BODIES IN SPACE (ENGL783)	15
VISUAL CULTURES: INSTITUTIONS, EXHIBITIONS, INTERVENTIONS (COMM761)	15
DIGITAL RECORDS: THEIR NATURE, USE AND PRESERVATION IN THE INFORMATION SOCIETY (HIST566)	15
ARTS, MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING (HLAC713)	15

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

## Final project

Your studies will conclude with an independent project conducted over the summer. This may be either a research project, or a practical publishing project.

## Modules

## Compulsory modules

Credits

PUBLISHING PROJECT (ENGL722)

60

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

## Teaching and assessment

### How you'll learn

The principal mode of delivery will be a two-hour seminar which will promote group discussion and team working. This will be complemented by practical sessions using Adobe Creative Suite and in the University's Special Collections and Archives, as well as masterclasses from external partners (such as authors, publishers or agents). In-person teaching will be supplemented by technology supported learning (e.g. Canvas discussion boards).

### How you're assessed

The programme uses a diverse range of authentic assessment methods which are keenly aligned with the demonstration of practical skills used within the publishing industry.

Examples include:

- A video presentation pitch
- Promotional flyer and information sheet
- Marketing plan for a publication
- SWOT analysis of a genre publisher
- CV, cover letter and application/interview strategy for a role in industry
- Copyediting and typesetting a text for digital publication.

Each module includes (shorter) formative and (longer) summative assessments as a feedback/forward mechanism.

## 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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^ [Back to top](#)

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# Careers and employability

This programme is designed specifically with employability in mind. You'll gain industry insight with publishing professionals to discuss career options and pathways, alongside software training to foster practical skills. You'll also have the opportunity to arrange a period of work experience at a publishing house of your choice, and the LUP team will provide career coaching which includes CV development and mock interviews.

Graduates will be well-equipped to seek employment in a variety of roles in the publishing industry or the wider bookselling trade, such as commissioning, sales, marketing, publicity, rights management, bookselling. Explore our [Publishing Work Placement Opportunity](#) for some examples of the roles which former Department of English students have secured following an undergraduate work placement with LUP.

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## Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

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### Career planning

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### From education to employment

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### Networking events

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[^ Back to top](#)

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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 – £12,500

### International fees

Full-time place, per year – £28,000

Tuition fees are for the academic year 2026/27.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can pay your tuition fees in instalments.
- All or part of your tuition fees can be funded by external sponsorship.
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to pay a tuition fee deposit.

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,858 to help with course fees and living costs.

**[Learn more about paying for your studies.](#)**

## Additional costs

Optional field trip to London Book Fair (subsidised; student cost TBC). We estimate that students will need to budget a maximum of £100 towards the cost of travelling to/from their optional work placement.

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

^ [Back to top](#)

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# Entry requirements

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

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## Postgraduate entry requirements

We accept a 2:2 undergraduate degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This should be in a humanities or social sciences subject, eg English Literature, Communication Studies, Media, History, Business, Marketing. Applicants will be required to submit a sample of written work, eg an essay from their undergraduate studies as part of the application process.

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## 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 entry requirements. Completing your Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the [University of Liverpool International College](#), means you're guaranteed a place on your chosen course.

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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.

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## IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0

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## **TOEFL iBT**

If you took a TOEFL test on or before 20 January 2026, you'll need 88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. 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.

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## **Duolingo English Test**

125 overall, with writing not less than 125, speaking and reading not less than 115, and listening not below 110

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## **Pearson PTE Academic**

61 overall, with no component below 59

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## **LanguageCert Academic**

70 overall, with no skill below 65

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## **PSI Skills for English**

B2 Pass with Merit in all bands

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## **INDIA Standard XII**

National Curriculum (CBSE/ISC) - 75% and above in English. Accepted State Boards - 80% and above in English.

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## **WAEC**

C6 or above

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## **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.

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# 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.

<b>Your most recent IELTS score</b>	<b>Pre-sessional English course length</b>	<b>On campus or online</b>
6.0 overall, with writing at 6.0 and no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with writing at 5.5 and no component below 5.0	10 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no more than one component at 5.0	12 weeks	Online
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no more than one component at 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 6.0, for further details.

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