Communication Studies & English

2+2
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Why choose the 2+2 at the University of Liverpool?

Our story began in 1881... The University of Liverpool became one of the first civic universities. **The original redbrick.**

Over 140 years later, we are still as original as ever – offering different viewpoints and daring ideas. Unique perspectives and a city bursting with character. We are uncovering world firsts through our pioneering research and helping you to forge your own original path to success. Studying in Liverpool will provide you with an amazing, life-changing university experience that will help you to achieve your ambitions.

Internationally recognised
● Ranked 181st in the QS World University Rankings (2021)
● Ranked 101-150 in the Academic Ranking World Universities (2021)
● 20th in the UK for research power with 7 subjects ranked in the top 10 in the UK’s Research Excellence Framework (both Chemistry and Computer Science ranked #1 in the UK for 4* & 3* research THE 2014).

Graduate outcomes for 2+2 students
● 87% of all 2+2 graduates in Liverpool achieved a 1st or 2:1 upon graduation
● 80% of 2+2 graduates in Liverpool who were in further study after graduating from the University of Liverpool were enrolled in QS Top 100 Universities (DHLE 2020, University of Liverpool analysis of unpublished data)
● One of the top 25 UK universities targeted by leading graduate employers (High Fliers 2020).

Support services
Happy students are successful students. In order to help you achieve your ambitions, the University of Liverpool has a wide range of services to support you throughout your studies, including:
● Academic advisors
● International advice and guidance
● English Language Centre
● Careers Studio
● Student services (Health, Counselling, etc)
● Guild of Students
● Sports and Fitness Centre
● Libraries
● On-campus accommodation.

The university offers great facilities, the 24-hour library, informational Career Centre and the gym. The campus is a very friendly, passionate place with a good balance of studying and socialising.

Siqi Li
2+2 alumna in Communication Studies
How to use this guide

This is a guide for students who have the opportunity to take the final two years of their undergraduate studies at the University of Liverpool, either studying Communication Studies BA (Hons), English BA (Hons), English and Business BA (Hons) or English and Communication Studies BA (Hons).

Communication Studies students are located in the Department of Communication and Media. They study alongside other Communication and Media students and have a wide range of modules available to them, all of which are optional. The Communication and Media pages (04-05) describe the department and the range of modules (pages 12-15) that students can choose to study. The information about the Department of English and its modules is not relevant for students taking the Communication Studies degree.

English students are located in the Department of English. They study alongside other English students and have a wide range of optional modules from which they can select. The English pages (06-07) describe the department and modules within the programme pages (16-21). The information about the Department of Communication and Media is not relevant for students taking the English degree.

English and Business BA (Hons) and English and Communication Studies BA (Hons) students take half of their studies in the Management School and the Department of Communication and Media respectively and the other half in the Department of English.

This means that they choose modules worth 30 credits from each department in each semester of study.

For the English half of their programme, students studying English and Business choose from modules offered by the Department of English. This guide contains detailed information about the English modules. For the Business half of their programme, students take selected modules from the Business Management BA programme. (Please refer to the Management School 2+2 guide for module descriptions).

English and Communications Studies students can choose from the same range of modules as other students in the Department of Communication and Media for the Communication Studies half of their programme. For the English half of their programme, they choose from modules offered by the Department of English. This guide contains information about both departments and about the modules that each department offers. So students wishing to study English and Communication Studies should read information about both departments.

Invest in your future

Our graduates have gone on to careers including broadcasting, journalism, social media, advertising and marketing, corporate communications and public relations, arts administration, political campaigning (including political parties, trade unions and charities), management, government, and the civil service.

Recent employers

Previous employers have included the BBC, The Independent newspaper, Red Union Films, Big Bear Films, Maya Vision International, TalkTalk Business Communications, the Children's Heart Federation, Liverpool Biennial and the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce. Former graduates include a television documentary maker, a Radio 1 DJ, journalists with the BBC and major newspapers, and senior executives in public relations, digital media and arts organisations. We are fortunate to welcome some of our high-flying graduates back to Liverpool to talk to our current students.

Work experience opportunities

Many students are also involved in media-related activities within the University and the city, including at Liverpool Guild Student Media which combines online news, radio and TV produced and managed by students, developing skills which give them confidence to impress employers.

Build skills for life

Students develop a wide range of skills through their degree which are vital for many careers. The broad commercial and cultural understanding of how the media and creative industries operate represents a crucial skill-set, central to careers from broadcasting to marketing. But students also gain transferable skills such as research and critical analysis, problem-solving and the ability to construct arguments and convey their ideas effectively, all of which are highly beneficial skills in any workplace setting.

After studying with us, you can be confident that you:

- Can construct a cogent argument or account, drawing pertinently upon a range of types of evidence
- Are capable of independent critical thinking and judgement, including high order conceptual, analytic and communication skills of value in graduate employment
- Are able to work with and in relation to others
- Have the ability to gather, sift and organise material independently and critically, and evaluate its significance
- Have well-developed IT skills, and familiarity with the use and evaluation of electronic resources
- Have well-developed time management and organisational skills
- Have advanced literacy and communication skills
- Are competent in the planning and execution of essays, presentations, and other writing and project-work
- Have developed the potential to utilise all of these skills in appropriate ways in your subsequent career.
Communication & Media at Liverpool

From political campaigns to celebrity scandals, from how we communicate with each other to how we spend our leisure time, the media is at the centre of our daily experiences and our understanding of the world. Our flexible Communication Studies programmes address a wide range of questions about the modern media industry, news, communication and social interaction in a lively and creative environment which embraces innovation and change.

Immerse yourself in a city known as a political and creative force
What better place to immerse yourself in the subject than Liverpool, a city with a reputation as a political and creative force, with a thriving production sector and a unique cultural heritage? The Department has close links to cultural industries and venues in the city, some of which collaborate with us in offering assessed work placements as part of our programme of study.

Join an expanding and vibrant Department
In recent years, the Department has grown and we are now able to offer an even greater choice of modules, taught by staff with national and international reputations who are actively researching and publishing in their fields.

Be part of our supportive community
Although we have expanded recently, we have maintained our friendly, family ethos. Academic staff work closely with students and personal interaction is at the heart of what we do, offering learning support and guidance, extensive feedback and pastoral care.

How you learn
Weekly lectures and seminar discussions may be supplemented by screening sessions, presentations and opportunities for group work where appropriate. We regularly invite expert speakers and practitioners to speak to our students about their work. Some modules also make use of our specialist equipment or software. Dissertation and work placement modules involve more independent study, but always under the careful individual supervision of a member of academic staff.

How you are assessed
We are committed to using a range of different forms of assessment, so types of assessment vary widely from module to module. Depending on your choice of modules, these may include coursework projects, essays, blogs, reports, literature reviews, writing exercises, presentations, online tests and unseen examinations.

Languages at Liverpool
In Communication & Media, you can learn a new language, or further develop your language skills as an extracurricular course, on top of your degree.

My studies in Liverpool allow me to communicate with people from various cultures. In my course, we freely share opinions about topics like media, gender, race, etc. After I listen to diverse opinions from different cultures, it always expands the way I see the external world. This experience has given me the perfect answer of how to communicate with people by transcending cultural barriers. Therefore, it excites me to socialize more actively and helps me melt into university life.

Seeyoung Park, 2+2 student in Communication and Media
English at Liverpool

We are a research-led department that covers all aspects of the study of English at university level: literature, language and creative writing. Delivered by leading experts who are at the cutting edge of contemporary research, the English curriculum at Liverpool embraces a variety of periods and genres, and adopts a range of approaches to understanding the ways in which the English language works.

Challenge yourself to look deeper
We will challenge you to engage fully with words and texts, informed by the best in critical thinking and debate. The flexible framework of our programmes allows you the freedom to choose areas of specialisation as you progress through your degree. Our English degree programmes are also 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.

Explore English in all its breadth
Our Literature modules cover a wide and continuous range of writing in English, from the Renaissance to the present, and including every major genre: drama, prose fiction, poetry and nonfictional prose. Language modules cover topics ranging from the history, contexts and regional variations of English to child language acquisition and multilingualism. Our Creative Writing modules are provided by a group of award-winning writers.

Share ideas in our small group tutorials
We are committed to small group teaching. This encourages a more rewarding learning experience, where ideas are shared and explored with your peers and tutors.

Debate with leading academics in the field
Our tutors are all respected academics – including four BBC ‘New Generation Thinkers’. Our teaching is research-led, which means not only will you be challenged intellectually but your own research skills will be fostered and encouraged.

How you 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 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 are 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.
Articulation routes

**Communication Studies BA (Hons)**

Film, journalism, digital media and language: how do these various communication systems shape the world around us, and our perception of it?

From politics and human rights, to celebrity and culture: you will learn how such ideas are influenced, expressed and shared. You will have the opportunity to explore a wide range of media and communication forms, analysing how they are organised as text, how they represent the world to us and ourselves to the world (from global power politics to constructions of individual identity), and how the media industries are organised to produce and profit from them.

**Programme in detail**

As your degree progresses, you will have the opportunity to tailor your studies through a wide range of optional modules in topics such as political communication, screen media, virtual worlds, digital cultures, media writing, language and public relations.

Employability is incorporated throughout the programme, including within modules, through ‘real world’ assessment methods and at tailored events. Many of our modules seek to develop practical skills – such as media writing, blogging and video-making – alongside academic skills, and final year students have opportunities to undertake a relevant work placement or their own independent research.

We are a friendly, close-knit Department with a well-established academic advisor system. As such, we will get to know you and treat you as an individual, providing support and guidance from your very first day.

**Key modules**

**Year Two**

Our Year Two modules offer plenty of options, so you can begin to specialise in the areas which interest you most or which might prove valuable for your chosen career. For example, you can delve more deeply into film and the entertainment industry, the representation of self and society, or the interplay between global media and war. Or you can explore some of the practices associated with media writing and promotional media.

**Selected optional modules**

- Children, culture and cinema (COMM214)
- Documentary (COMM231)
- Feminist media studies: texts and audiences (COMM204)
- Global news, media and war (COMM212)
- Immersive media and virtual worlds (COMM210)
- Media, self and society (COMM235)
- Preparing for a year in industry (COMM260)
- Public relations cultures and writing practices (COMM232).

In addition, students take two compulsory research methods modules (COMM207 & COMM208) to ensure that all of our graduates are trained in research skills. Students have an opportunity to practise their research skills in the final year.

**Year Three**

Your final year offers an even wider range of options, designed to provide opportunities to specialise further in your chosen areas of the subject and to strengthen your employability and research skills. Some modules encourage you to deepen your understanding of the topics studied in Year Two, but you can also learn to study magazines and design your own, develop skills in planning and producing online videos, or explore how media represent young people, celebrity or diverse cultures, for example. All of our students undertake an original project of their own in the final year, in which they can demonstrate the skills they have learned.

This can take the form of a **Dissertation**, a **Work placement**, creating **Viral Videos** to client briefs or working on a project relating to ongoing research in the department as part of the **Final Year Project** module.

**Selected optional modules**

- American independent modules (COMM316)
- Dissertation (COMM401)
- Games and algorithmic culture (COMM309)
- Introduction to strategic communication (COMM312)
- Issues in 'cult' television (COMM300)
- Issues in photography (COMM323)
- Media and campaigning (COMM302)
- Media and human rights (COMM317)
- Media, culture and the city (COMM320)
- Mediating the past (COMM339)
- News media and society (COMM301)
- Queer film, video and documentary (COMM305)
- School of the Arts work placements module (SOTA300)
- Social media, politics and society (COMM313)
- Stardom and media celebrity (COMM303)
- Understanding magazines (COMM341)
- Viral video (COMM342)
- Young people and the media (COMM343).

See modules descriptions, pages 12-15.

**English BA (Hons)**

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 Years Two and Three**.

Our Literature modules cover a wide range of texts, genres and themes from the early medieval period to the present day. Our Language modules aim to provide understanding of the historical, social and psychological factors that shape the English language used in everyday life.

**Programme in detail**

You will have the freedom to plan the specific path that you follow through the programme. We constantly monitor the curriculum and the modules on offer to ensure that the programme reflects current developments in the subject, and conforms to national requirements.

**Year Two**

Year Two focuses on the major periods of English Literature and core aspects of English Language study. Modules available examine the literatures of specific historical periods, eg the medieval, Victorian, or modernist, or areas of language study including child language acquisition or psycholinguistics.

You can choose to study 100% of your modules in English Literature or English Language (120 credits) or study either discipline in a 50:50 (60 credits in both) or 75:25 (90/30 credits) combination.

If you choose to study English Language, you will have the freedom to choose your modules, up to the number of credits within the proportion you’ve selected.

To provide you with exposure to a variety of literary periods, the English Literature modules have been grouped. Depending on the proportion of literature modules you decided to pursue will determine which optional modules you select.

If you opt to study 100% Literature, you can pick one module from each group, along with one additional module from any group.

Studying 75% Literature, will allow you to choose one module from each group.

If you select 50% Literature, you will choose one module from group 1 and one from either group 2 or 3.

Studying 25% Literature allows you to choose one module from any group.
Modules within each group are listed below:

**Group 1**
- Friars, whores and rovers: drama 1580-1640 (ENGL213)
- Medieval narratives (ENGL270)
- Restoration and Eighteenth-century literature (ENGL272)
- Shakespeare in context (ENGL214).

**Group 2**
- Declaring independence: American literature to 1900 (ENGL201)
- Romantic literature (ENGL218)
- Victorian literature (ENGL243).

**Group 3**
- Banned: Irish fiction (ENGL290)
- British writing from 1945: fiction and drama (ENGL215)
- Creativity (ENGL275)
- Modernist literature (ENGL232)
- Modernist magazines (ENGL299)
- Rethinking American literature (ENGL210).

**Year Three**

In Year Three the emphasis is on specialisation within different literary genres and on the social, legal and other contexts of English language. You will also 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.

You may take optional modules to the value of 120 credits, which may include a dissertation on a subject of your own choice for 30 credits.

As a 2+2 student, you are required to undertake an element of your own research in the final year of your programme to be eligible for the dual award. You can meet this criterion by registering for the Dissertation module (Semester One, Two or One and Two).

Please note: In order to study any Language module in Year Three, you must take at least one Language module in Year Two. In order to study any Literature module in Year Three, you must take at least one Literature module in Year Two.

**English and Business BA (Hons)**

Within this programme, you will take half of your studies in the Department of English and the other half in the Management School. You will choose modules worth 30 credits from each department in each semester of study.

**Programme in detail**
For the English half of the programme, you can choose from the same range of modules as other students in the Department of English, studying the BA English programme. For the Business half of your programme, you will choose from the same range of modules offered by the Management School to students on the Business Management BA programme.

**Key modules**
For the English half of your degree, refer to the English BA (Hons) information within this guide for details of the modules offered within this programme. For the Business half of your degree, you will take the following:

**Year Two**

**Core modules**
- Business ethics (PHIL272)
- Business in the global economy (MKIB225)
- Financial management for business (ACFI205)
- Principles of people management (ULMS207).

**English and Communication Studies BA (Hons)**

Within this programme, you will take half of your studies in the Department of Communication and Media and the other half in the Department of English.

You will choose modules worth 30 credits from each department in each semester of study.

**Programme in detail**
For the Communication Studies half of the programme, you can choose from the same range of modules as other students in the Department of Communication and Media. For the English half of your programme, you will choose from the same range of modules offered by the Department of English.

**Key modules**
Refer to the module details for the Communication Studies BA (Hons) and English BA (Hons) for information on the modules offered within this programme, pages 12-21.
Selected optional modules overview

Year Two Communication Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children, culture and cinema COMM214</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15/30</td>
<td>In this module, students will be invited to think critically about the relationship between children, culture and cinema — exploring how norms and expectations of children and childhood are depicted cinematically. The module considers and analyses films targeted at children and family audiences as well as films that engage adult audiences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication and media research I COMM207</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>As the first of two modules aimed at developing students’ research skills, students learn about the basics of academic research, constructing literature reviews, ethical considerations, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication and media research II COMM208</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>In the second of two linked modules aimed at preparing students for advanced academic research, students learn to formulate research questions and are introduced to a wide range of methodologies and their appropriate use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentary COMM231</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15/30</td>
<td>Besides introducing you to a variety of remarkable and sometimes rare documentary texts, this module examines the key purposes, forms and approaches employed at different moments in the history of documentary, how documentary represents the “real world”, and notions of “truth”, ethics and audience engagement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feminist media studies: texts and audiences COMM204</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15/30</td>
<td>Introduces key concepts and debates relating to gender and the media, provides the opportunity to reflect on the relationship between gender and media and ways of disrupting normative gender constructions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global news, media and war COMM212</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15/30</td>
<td>Examines the interplay between global news, media and war in the context of rapidly evolving communication technologies and journalistic practices; compares and contrasts the contexts and challenges in which journalists operate across the world, traces the evolution of foreign reporting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immersive media and virtual worlds COMM210</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15/30</td>
<td>Introduces the histories of immersive media and virtual world forms and the theories and conceptual approaches to immersion, digital realism, cognition and simulation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media, self and society COMM235</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15/30</td>
<td>Introduces to and asks for critical analysis of key debates and perspectives relating to issues of selfhood, body and identity in a global media age.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public relations cultures and writing practices COMM232</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15/30</td>
<td>Enhances critical understanding of PR industries, contexts and practices as part of promotional culture and develops practical skills which enhance employability for students wishing to work within PR, media writing and related communication fields.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year Three Communication Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American independent cinema COMM316</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>American independent cinema represents a mode of filmmaking which is distinct from mainstream Hollywood. In this module, we examine this phenomenon by exploring the industrial and economic conditions that have given birth to independent films, especially in the post-1980 period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation COMM401</td>
<td>1 and/or 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Under the supervision of a member of academic staff, you will construct an extended and original research project on an appropriate topic which is clear and realistic in scope and seeks to make a distinct contribution both to your own learning and to debates within your chosen field.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final year project COMM355*</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>This module provides students with a variety of opportunities to contribute to live academic research by undertaking their own supervised projects in areas connected to current research in the department. Specific research areas will vary from year to year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Games and algorithmic culture COMM309</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>The global videogame industry is the focus of this module. You will be introduced to contemporary trends in digital entertainment, examining how videogames and their development and distribution reflect technical, aesthetic, social and economic changes brought about by contemporary digital culture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to strategic communication COMM312</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>The module seeks to provide students with a critical understanding of the strategic functions of communication for organisations and institutions and will increase their awareness of the positive and negative impact of strategic communication practices on society.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issues in ‘cult’ television COMM300</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module engages with the multiple applications of the term ‘cult’, offering you the opportunity to critique the notion of cult television in terms of its textual, producer and fan-community-oriented properties. We engage with cult texts from a number of genres — from cult classics such as The Prisoner (1967-1968) and Doctor Who (1964-), to more recent TV series which straddle definitions of ‘cult’, ‘quality’ and alternative TV, including Sex in the City (1998-2004), Breaking Bad (2008-2013) and Sense8 (2015-2018).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: modules are illustrative only and subject to change.
### Selected optional modules overview

#### Year Three Communication Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Issues in photography</td>
<td>COMM323</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15 The aim of this module is to develop your ability to read, discuss and write critically about the photographic image. You will be introduced to the history of photography and examine the purposes and aesthetic components of photographs, as well as the ethics of the photographic gaze and its consumption.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media and campaigning</td>
<td>COMM302</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15 In this module, we examine the interaction between media, public opinion and election campaigns, asking whether media uphold or undermine democracy through their presentation of political campaigning. You will be introduced to theoretical perspectives on the impact of the media on public opinion and knowledge, and look at changes in campaigns as they have adapted to developments in media.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media and human rights</td>
<td>COMM317</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15 This is a module which examines key debates relating to the interaction between news media and human rights. Students will scrutinise the underlying rationale for media representation and reporting of critical human rights issues, examining specific cases of media and human rights interaction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media, culture and the city</td>
<td>COMM320</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15 Provides an introduction into the different ways that cities and urban life are represented, experienced, and engaged with as spaces of culture. Introduces students to a wide range of key perspectives and debates on cities from across the film, media and cultural studies literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mediating the past</td>
<td>COMM339</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15 The media has a key role to play in our understanding of cultural heritage and memory. In this module, you will look at the issues of representation and mediation raised by a broad range of practices and discourses of cultural heritage including broadcast media, museums, and archives and archival practices. Your work includes a heritage/museum field trip, in which you will gain and demonstrate practical skills in observation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News media and society</td>
<td>COMM301</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15 News is created to appeal to particular audiences and to privilege particular voices, so it prioritises certain ways of explaining the world. This module examines the construction of news through journalists’ choices and values, exploring notions of objectivity and impartiality, ‘agenda-setting’ and ‘news values’. We also look at the challenges posed to the quality of news in the digital era, in the face of declining revenues and the rise of social media.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popular culture, language and politics</td>
<td>COMM318</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15 We are constantly interacting with popular culture, though all these communicative activities are infused with power relations and ideologies. This module explores how popular culture can be political. Drawing on a number of ideas about how to examine popular culture, but principally on discourse analysis, we analyse a range of artefacts such as films, television programmes, digital popular culture (memes, animations, mash-ups, parodies all shared on social media), popular music and the tabloid press.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queer film, video and documentary</td>
<td>COMM305</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15 Introduces students to queer theory and queer politics through the history and analysis of the production and reception of moving images; encourages students to develop advanced moving image analysis skills and use them to differentiate between the forms and practices of film, video and documentary; introduces key concepts and key theories around LGBTQ+ identity as historically, culturally, and politically situated; encourages students to widen their knowledge and understanding of LGBTQ+ equality and diversity through the theory, history, ethics, and politics of queer moving images.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of the Arts work experience module</td>
<td>SOTA300*</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30 Working with one of our industry partners – in film, radio, public relations, corporate communications or professional writing – you will undertake research on a project within a professional context, developing a range of theoretical and workplace skills. Your final report on this project, and your reflections on the experience, will form a major part of the assessment for this module.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social media, politics &amp; society</td>
<td>COMM313</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15 This module aims to enable students to better understand the impact of social media in society, as well as to critically examine the role of social media in democratic life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stardom and media celebrity</td>
<td>COMM303</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15 This module is designed to introduce students to the academic disciplines of star studies and celebrity studies. It will encourage students to differentiate between historical periods in stardom and mediated identities, and across different media platforms and contexts. It will encourage students to widen their knowledge of public figures and celebrities via conceptual, technological, economic, political and formal approaches to the topic, and to make connections between the idea of stardom/fame and other media topics and discourses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding magazines</td>
<td>COMM341</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15 This module focuses on how magazines are produced and consumed, offering a critical overview of the magazine industry from its earliest origins in pamphleteering to the present day. You will evaluate existing research on magazines and how they appeal to readers, and conduct your own analyses using similar approaches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viral video</td>
<td>COMM342</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30 In this module, students will develop skills in online video production and work in teams to devise, produce and promote online videos with the potential to ‘go viral’. Teaching includes guest lectures from industry professionals such as digital video producers and social media strategists.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young people and the media</td>
<td>COMM343</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15 Explores the relationship between children and young people, society and the media; provides a critical overview of the main debates and theories on the role of the media in children’s and young people’s lives; investigates the media’s role in key processes such as socialisation and social identity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Students are required to take one of COMM401, COMM342, SOTA300 or COMM355.

Please note: modules are illustrative only and subject to change.
Selected optional modules overview

Year Two English

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banned: fiction, sex and the limits of decency ENGL298</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Introduces you to censorship and the debates around its informal and formal use. You will be equipped to study the novel and its relationship with censorship, and to see the relationship between censorship and the cultural and historical contexts in which it arose.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British writing since 1945: fiction and drama ENGL215</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Introduces you to a range of post-war British writing and consider the literature of this period in a broad cultural and political context and will ask how forms of modern and contemporary identity are represented and contested within the literature and culture of the period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child language acquisition ENGL256</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Introduces the scope, history, and the main findings of the field; familiarises students with the most important theoretical and methodological issues in the area of child language acquisition; enables critical reflection on the representation of child language research in popular media.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creativity: socially-engaged writing practice ENGL275</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Explores the nature and value of creativity, in theory and practice, mainly through the medium of creative writing. Introduces and develops an awareness of the creative writing process, in poetry and prose and develops writing skills in conjunction with the development of critical and theoretical reading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declaring Independence: American literature to 1900 ENGL201</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Traces the historical development of American literature through the American Renaissance to the end of the 19th century. Examines burgeoning movements such as American gothic and transcendentalism among other topics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friars, whores and rovers: drama 1580-1640 ENGL213</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Introduces you to the variety of interesting and important theatre in the period 1580-1640 and encourages an intelligent analysis of drama as a genre, involving the ability to respond to the plays via a number of different approaches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language in society ENGL276</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Will make you aware of the interactive relationship between language and society and the variation in use of language. You will gain experience in conducting your own small scale sociolinguistic research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medieval narratives ENGL279</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Introduces a range of medieval narrative literature and common themes found there through studying a variety of texts in the original Middle English, alongside some others written in Anglo-Norman (studied in translation). You will be provided with a basic reading knowledge of Middle English, examine the issues involved in editing early literature, and encounter a range of medieval cultural, intellectual, and literary contexts through the study of Middle English literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modernist literature: 1900-1945 ENGL232</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Explore the work of experimental writers responding to the 20th century world. You will read Ford Madox Ford, James Joyce, T.S. Eliot, D.H. Lawrence, Virginia Woolf and many others. Lectures will address contemporary art and architecture as well as myth, history, psychologies and bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modernist magazines: history, fiction and the literary periodical ENGL299</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Making use of the library Special Collections and Brown University’s Modernist Journals Project, this module looks at the history, context and content of some of the late 19th and early 20th century’s most important ‘little magazines’, the role that literary magazines play within culture, and the historical background to their production.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multilingualism in society ENGL279</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Introduces sociolinguistic and ethnographic approaches to the study of multilingualism; cultivates an understanding of how multiple languages are managed in society; and fosters a critical understanding of the differentiated evaluation and use of multilingual varieties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pragmatics ENGL274</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Enables you to understand and apply a range of pragmatic theories. Clarifies, as far as possible, the distinction between semantics and pragmatics in accounting for communicated meaning, and the range of ways in which pragmatic meaning has been explained. This module will encourage you to consider the relative merits of different pragmatic theorems as analytical approaches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psycholinguistics ENGL202</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Explores questions concerning the relationship of language to consciousness. This will entail addressing questions concerning the nature of language and its evolutionary, developmental and degenerative stages, and the nature of human language as compared to non-human communication systems, such as those used by computers, apes and other animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restoration and Eighteenth century literature: poetry, prose and drama 1660-1789 ENGL272</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Introduces you to a wide range of writing from the period 1660-1789, including the rise of the novel and developments within poetic and dramatic genres. This module will investigate the literature of the period in the context of developments in society, in enlightenment thought and in the modes of literary production and consumption.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rethinking American Fiction ENGL210</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Offers a critical exploration of the American novel in the 20th and early 21st century. Sets out to reveal the thematic concerns and narrative modes linking different works in this area, and considers writers’ treatment of ethnic minorities, rural displacement, technological progress and – in particular – their stance towards America.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: modules are illustrative only and subject to change.

Continued over...
## Core and selected optional modules overview

### Year Two English (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Romantic literature ENGL218</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>You will be introduced to a wide range of texts from the Romantic and pre-Romantic period to improve reading skills specific to those texts. You will gain an informed sense of the wider cultural history of the time and the interconnections between different forms of writing in the period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shakespeare in context ENGL214</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>This module examines Shakespeare’s plays in relation to the early modern socio-cultural contexts in which they were written and first performed. It will introduce you to a range of comedies, histories and tragedies and encourage you to analyse and discuss how they engage with key issues of sixteenth and seventeenth century English life. By the end of the module you should be able to demonstrate in-depth knowledge of a number of Shakespeare’s works and an informed sense of the plays’ relationship to their historical contexts. Topics covered will typically include, Sex &amp; Gender; Power &amp; Performance; Belief &amp; Superstition; Race &amp; Culture; Travel &amp; Trade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The history of English: variation and change ENGL221</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Examines some of the most important developments in the history of English, introducing you to modern theories of language change and how they apply to the history of English.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victorian literature ENGL243</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Provides intensive study of a wide range of writing between 1837 and 1901, including the development of the realist novel, the problematic status of poetry, and the rise of women writers; and provides a context for such study in the light of the social and religious changes of the period.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Selected optional modules overview

### Year Three English

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Almost Shakespeare ENGL359</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces you to a range of ‘offshoot’ texts that rework Shakespeare’s plays in a number of formats and genres (fiction, poetry, drama, graphic literature, and film) produced throughout the 20th century. We examine questions of influence, reception, and intertextuality in these ‘offshoot’ texts, which have a life and status different from straightforward ‘adaptations’, and consider how these works are derivative yet ‘original’ and distinct as literary works.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American poetic writing since 1930 ENGL302</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Explores and explains the prominence of such poets as Wallace Stevens, Elizabeth Bishop, Robert Lowell and Allen Ginsberg in 20th century American poetry; addresses the major concerns of the American tradition in the wake of Modernism; analyses parallel and later developments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British poetic writing since 1930 ENGL305</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Studies British poetry from 1930-c.1990s; the Auden generation of the 1930s, to the poetry of World War II, the movement poets of the 1950s and 1960s; the development of women’s poetry, and the Northern Irish Poetry Revival.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s literature ENGL373</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Explores the critical study of children’s literature in a literary academic context; to consider the variety of types of writing for children, the aims of children’s literature, dominant motifs and the question of a tradition, concentrating on writing from the ‘golden age’ of children’s literature (late C19th); to explore the relation of such material to adult literature and the popularity of writing for children among an adult audience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative writing (poetry) ENGL372</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gives you an opportunity to develop practical poetry writing skills in conjunction with the development of critical readings of poetry. The aim is to make you aware of the function and importance of the drafting process and to establish awareness of the writing process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative writing (prose) ENGL377</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Gives you an opportunity to develop practical prose writing skills in conjunction with the development of critical and theoretical reading in relation to prose genres. It allows you to extend your awareness of the function and importance of the drafting process and fosters independent reading of contemporary literature in prose.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>1/2 or 1 and 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Gives students the opportunity to carry out independent study at an advanced level, with appropriate support, into a topic of interest to them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early modern crime writing ENGL381</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module is designed to introduce you to a range of literary and other writing on themes of crime and detection between the years 1590-1850.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early modern women writers ENGL382</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>This module is designed to introduce students to a range of writing by women before 1795.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gothic fiction and film ENGL325</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>You will develop a broader understanding of the historical development of the gothic genre and its relationships to other literary and cinematic genres. The module will broaden and deepen your understanding of relationships between literature, film and other visual and technological media.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Year Three English (continued)

<table>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to TESOL in a global context</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>This module is intended for students who are interested in the possibility of pursuing a career in teaching English as a Foreign Language (EFL), and aims to provide students with an introduction to the principles and practice of EFL teaching.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Joyce: a writing life</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Develops an understanding of the works of James Joyce at an advanced level, the historical and sociological context of his work alongside an understanding of his life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language and gender</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>The module will begin with a theoretical overview that will introduce key concepts and major studies in language and gender research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language and globalisation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Develops an appreciation of the complex ways language and communication are involved in the globalisation process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language and literature</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>This module combines the linguistic and literary approaches to the study of literary texts, introducing students to the linguistic methods for the analysis of literary texts. You will contest the effectiveness of different analytical approaches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language and the law: a course in forensic linguistics</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Practical in orientation, this module develops a set of methods for examining the links between language and the law in all its forms. Activities include: performing expert analysis and commentary on the language of legal documents, courts and prisons; improving translation services in the court system; helping alleviate linguistic disadvantage produced by the legal process; providing forensic evidence that is based on professional academic knowledge of language and discourse; offering advice in legal drafting and interpreting, often with an emphasis on the use of ‘plain language’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language and the mind: an introduction to cognitive linguistics</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Develops a critical understanding of the theories and concepts in Cognitive Linguistics and their application to neighbouring fields.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature, science and science fiction</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Enhances students’ understanding of the relationship between literature and science issues such as religion, class, climate change, artificial intelligence and genetic engineering.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medieval boundaries: text, image</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Offers you a chance to read and study medieval texts, and to explore medieval culture, in its own terms and in relation to post-medieval and modern western culture, including considerations of the relationships between medieval and modern across literature and images (pictures, cartoon, film).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millennial literature and culture</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores a cross-section of international literature (fiction and non-fiction) from 1990 to the present day and the concept of ‘millennial culture’ as scholarly discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noir: literature, film, art</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Develops an understanding of the range of writing, film and art in the genre of Noir, the relationships between literary and non-literary, particularly visual, media; an understanding of the political, intellectual and historical contexts of Noir.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postcolonial literature and theory</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Develops a knowledge of the historical impact of British colonialisation and colonial discourse on the literary culture of countries located in Africa, South Asia and the Anglophone Caribbean.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Renaissance poetry</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>The aims of this module are: to introduce you to a range of poetic writing from the Renaissance period; to develop you understanding of poetic form and its development and manipulation; to enable you to read the poetry of the period in relation to its political, cultural and intellectual contexts, to develop your capacity to communicate ideas clearly in written and spoken form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of the Arts work placement module</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Provides an opportunity for students to gain credit for experience gained in a placement with a business, public sector or voluntary organisation or cultural provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shakespeare: page, stage, screen</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Introduces you to both a more advanced and dynamic way of understanding Shakespearean drama by looking at the plays in relation to textual/editorial and theatrical practice, as well as cinematic adaptation. Assesses how our interpretations of Shakespeare’s plays might both inform and be informed by specific questions of editing, staging, directing, and adaptation; and how the texts of the plays appeared in Shakespeare’s own time (i.e. in Quarto and in the Folio), and how and why modern editors have dealt with them subsequently.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talking pictures</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Develops an understanding of a range of texts within the tradition of comics, pictorial narrative and graphic literature. Students gain a sense of the possible relationships between visual and verbal exposition and narrative form, and develop an understanding of the cultural, intellectual and historical contexts of comics and graphic literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Fin De Siecle: literature and culture</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>This module aims to encourage you to broaden and deepen your understanding of the late-Victorian period and the diverse cultural movements and trends associated with it through study of a wide variety of written and visual texts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The novel: 1740-1830</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>This module is for anyone interested in the novel. For students who have studied Milton to Johnson, this picks up the story of what happened to the novel after Defoe and Richardson. This is the story of how the novel got to the point where writers such as the Brontës and Dickens could appear. Topics covered will typically include prose fictions from the period 1740-1824, with particular attention to the interwoven issues of realism and counterrealism, genre and narrative; sensibility, education; the gothic and the supernatural.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varieties of northern English</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Through this module you will be given the opportunity to familiarise yourself with the origins of Northern English and their role in the development of modern standard English. The aim is to raise your critical awareness of language variation and equip you with the theoretical tools that will enable you to conduct your own case study and analyse original data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War writing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Explores how “wartime” and “peacetime” are imagined by 20th century writers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women writers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Over the course of the module you will have the opportunity to develop a written style that suits your own particular outlook on and interests in women’s writing, and to create new modes of expression or argument. By the end of the module you will have acquired experience in selecting and completing essays on topics of your own choice and gained an understanding of what makes a feasible and interesting subject for an essay of 3,000 words.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student support at the School of the Arts and next steps

You will be part of the School of the Arts, situated in beautiful Abercromby Square. Within the School of the Arts you will find a dedicated student support team, offering guidance and advice all the way from enrolment through to your graduation. In addition to the support offered by the XJTLU link tutors, the programme leads and other academic staff, you will find a dedicated student support team, offering guidance and advice all the way from enrolment through to your graduation.

Open Monday to Friday, the Student Support Centre provides the following support:

Learning and teaching support
Our Learning and Teaching Support Officers are on hand to help anyone experiencing difficulties – whether that’s meeting deadlines or settling in to their new surroundings – in a friendly and confidential environment. They can also provide guidance on applying for extenuating circumstances or extensions.

Careers and employability
We run a Work Experience module (SOTA300) and will support students in finding a suitable placement with one of our many partner organisations. A School Employability Support Award is also available to those who may require financial aid to undertake any career-related activities.

Disability support
Our Departmental Disability Contacts (DDC) work collaboratively with the University’s Disability Advice and Guidance team to develop support strategies and plans for students who require reasonable adjustments. The Learning and Teaching Support Officers also act as School-level DDCs and can help make referrals to the appropriate student support services for advice and guidance on declaring a disability, arranging tests, and meeting with the Disability Advisors.

Culture connect
The School of the Arts runs free trips for all international students so that they can learn more about Liverpool and UK culture. There are normally four or five trips per semester and previous trips have included a RIBA walking tour of Liverpool and going to watch a pantomime at the Everyman theatre.

The Language Lounge
The Language Lounge is a unique study facility where students at the English Language Centre can mix with language students from across the university, find a study or social space, or take part in events. As a result of the pandemic, they have launched a very successful Microsoft Teams account where students can attend English conversation clubs online and meet other Liverpool students.

Summer abroad
Once you arrive at the University you’ll have the opportunity to apply for one of our exciting Summer Abroad programmes. Summer Abroad allows you to visit a new country whilst undertaking worthwhile academic study. Destinations include Australia, France and Canada. Find out more at: liverpool.ac.uk/study-abroad/outbound/what-is-study-abroad/summer/.

Next steps
You will be able to register in early April through a module registration form sent by the Student Support Office by email.

There will be induction meetings at the beginning of study, and you will be assigned to an academic advisor during your study in Liverpool.

I’m enjoying the learning process of each of my courses. I was able to choose every course based on my interests. The course Gender and Media helped to reconsider and reevaluate every expression and representation in the daily life. The course Video Game Cultures helped to explore the attraction of this new area and discover the deep concepts. I enjoyed everything I learned.

Yulin Zhou, 2+2 alumna in Communication Studies
Find out more
liverpool.ac.uk/study

Accommodation: liverpool.ac.uk/accommodation
Fees and student finance: liverpool.ac.uk/money
Life in Liverpool: liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/welcome-to-liverpool
Student Welfare Advice and Guidance: liverpool.ac.uk/studentsupport

Enquiries
Two Plus Two Team
two-plus-two@xjtlu.edu.cn

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Information provided is correct at time of going to press and is subject to change.