

Undergraduate study

BA (Hons) English

BA (Hons) English and American Literature

BA (Hons) English and Comparative Literature

BA (Hons) English with Creative Writing

BA (Hons) English and Drama/Drama and English

BA (Hons) English and History

BA (Hons) Media and Modern Literature

English & Comparative Literature



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Thank you for your interest in English and Comparative Literature at Goldsmiths, University of London. Please read this booklet in conjunction with our Undergraduate Prospectus.

We can supply information in alternative formats for people with a visual impairment or dyslexia. Please contact the Course Enquiry Team on **+44 (0)20 7078 5300** or e-mail **course-info@gold.ac.uk**.

Introducing the Department of English and Comparative Literature (ECL)

Thank you for your interest in English and Comparative Literature at Goldsmiths, University of London. Please read this booklet in conjunction with the Goldsmiths Undergraduate Prospectus.

ECL, with its rich research base, large student community, and proximity to the resources of the capital, offers a particularly lively environment for undergraduate study.

We combine the wide-ranging research interests of our staff in English, European and American literatures. You will therefore benefit from a stimulating context for the study of literatures, linguistics, literary theory and creative writing. Our staff come from a variety of cultural backgrounds – and, with their diverse research interests, they are ideally equipped to help you develop your own interests whether they lie in American, British, Caribbean, Irish, French, Spanish, German or Postcolonial literatures.

One of Goldsmiths' major strengths is the way in which our departments (and smaller centres and units) co-operate to offer new perspectives and insights on each other's subjects – this is the case, for example, with English and Drama (to which both the ECL and Theatre and Performance Departments contribute) and Media and Modern Literature (taught jointly by ECL and the Department of Media and Communications).

In the last Research Assessment Exercise, 65% of the research/writing produced by the academic staff in ECL was judged to be of 3* or 4* standard, which means that our research publications have been judged to meet international standards of excellence. Furthermore, selective reviews of our programmes continue to produce a clear 'vote of confidence' in the teaching provision in ECL.

You'll find a list of our staff and their research interests on page 29.

Key features

- We are large enough to provide a wide range of courses and specialists but small enough to let you get to know other students and staff.
- Degree programmes are structured to give you a broad foundation in literature/cultural studies, and the opportunity to study the topics that interest you.
- A diverse range of courses from which to select, such as The Art of the Novel; Shakespeare; The Emergence of Modern America: American Literature 1890-1940; Oedipus: Myths, Tragedies and Theories; Studies in Literature and Film; Postcolonial Literatures in English, alongside courses exploring every period of writing in English.
- Every student has a personal tutor to provide advice and support.
- Our strengths include 20th-century literature, creative writing, European literatures, 18th-century literature, Renaissance literature, socio-linguistics, Romanticism, American literature, Caribbean writing, postcolonial writing and literary theory.
- Our degree in English and Comparative Literature and departmental links including those with Theatre and Performance, History, and Media and Communications enrich our teaching and research.
- Postgraduate degrees present a range of opportunities for you to continue your study of English at that level: MAs in Creative and Life Writing; Comparative Literary Studies; Sociocultural Linguistics* plus MRes, MPhil and PhD research degrees.
- Each year the Department runs a series of special lectures/readings for the benefit of its students. In the Richard Hoggart Lectures in Literature, major international writers and critics present and talk about their work; they have included: Harold Pinter, Doris Lessing, Seamus Heaney, Alan Bennett, Will Self and Germaine Greer.

- The Department is making increasing use of learn.gold – Goldsmiths' resource for on-line learning.
- You can also use the University of London Library, which has over one million volumes, over 5,000 learned journals, a number of special collections, plus slides and music recordings.

See for yourself

If you're thinking of studying at Goldsmiths, we recommend you come and visit us to have a look around. Our Open Days are ideal opportunities to find out more about what Goldsmiths can offer you. If you'd like further information please visit www.gold.ac.uk/opendays.

The Department of English and Comparative Literature also runs Applicant Days in the Spring Term for applicants who have received an offer of a place or an interview.

* New programme title, subject to approval (previously MA in Applied Linguistics: Sociocultural Approaches).





Introducing the degrees

ECL offers the following undergraduate degrees, either alone or in association with other departments at Goldsmiths:

Single honours

BA (Hons) in English

Joint honours

BA (Hons) in English and American Literature

BA (Hons) in English and Comparative Literature

BA (Hons) in English with Creative Writing

BA (Hons) in English and Drama/Drama and English

BA (Hons) in English and History

BA (Hons) in Media and Modern Literature

Single honours or joint honours?

If your primary interest is English, we suggest you apply for the single honours degree. This degree gives you the chance to study literature from a wide range of periods and cultures; you also have the opportunity to take interdisciplinary course-units and so we believe that you will find a rewarding blend of both new and traditional directions in the subject.

If you are keen to assimilate the theory and conventions of two disciplines, you should choose a joint degree, which can be demanding but can also be very rewarding. If applying for joint degrees, you will be expected to demonstrate some knowledge or experience of the other subject discipline. Further information on all the degrees is detailed later in this booklet.

Full-time or part-time?

You can study full-time over three years or part-time over 4-6 years. Part-time students take either 60 to 90 credits per year. You may find part-time study particularly suitable if you have childcare or work commitments, but you will need to set aside enough time for lectures, seminars and private study. Your choice of courses may be restricted to the units that take place during your free time. All teaching takes place between 9.00 and 18.00 on weekdays. You choose your level 5* and level 6* courses each year in the spring term of the preceding session and you can see then which units are compatible with your other commitments.

Entrance requirements, 2012 entry

English	A Level grades AAB or equivalent
English & American Literature	(Grade A in English Literature or Language & Literature required)
English & Comparative Literature	
English & Drama/Drama & English	
English & History	
English with Creative Writing	
Media & Modern Literature	

Please note: for the BA English with Creative Writing programme, samples of your creative writing may be requested as part of the admissions process, but Goldsmiths will contact you during the process if these samples are required.

The above is only an indication of what we require. We also accept alternative qualifications such as the European Baccalaureate, the International Baccalaureate, the Irish Leaving Certificate and the Scottish Certificate of Higher Education. Please see the Undergraduate Prospectus for further details.

* Level 5 equates to the typical second year of a full-time BA programme, and Level 6 to a typical third year.

English Language requirement

If English is not your first language, you must obtain evidence of your English Language competence. Tests considered appropriate include:

- International English Language Testing System [IELTS] – pass with at least 6.5 overall and a minimum of 6.0 in the written element
- TOEFL score of at least 580 including 4.5 in the Test of Written English [TWE], or 237 in the Computerised test [CT] including 4.5 in the essay component, or 92 in the Internet-based test [IBT]
- International GCSE (IGCSE) English as a second language at Grade C
- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English [CPE] at Grade C or above
- Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English [CAE] at Grade B or above
- Pearson Test of English (Academic), with a score of 68 overall, including 68 in the written element and 59 in all other elements

For further information, please see the Undergraduate Prospectus. Alternatively, you may wish to attend one of our Pre-sessionals English Language courses.

Application and admission

For full-time study, you need to register on-line at the UCAS website where you complete a secure web-based application. There is information on-screen to guide you through your application. For more information, please visit the website at www.ucas.com/apply.

You can pay by credit/debit card when you submit your on-line application (£11.00 for a single entry, £21.00 to apply to two or more universities).

Please note: full-time applications can only be made on-line at www.ucas.com.

Admissions process

We make the offer of a place based on your enthusiasm and commitment to the degree subject, as demonstrated by your application form, qualifications, experience and reference. Please see the Undergraduate Prospectus for more information.

We interview some applicants. It is not always necessary or feasible to interview all applicants, but we often interview mature applicants and those with alternative qualifications. If you are offered a place without an interview, we strongly recommend that you visit Goldsmiths at one of our College-wide Open Days or ECL Applicant Days.

Mature students

We welcome applications from mature students; around one quarter of our current intake is over 21 years of age. Mature students without A-levels may be admitted if they have successfully completed a recognised and appropriate Access to Higher Education Diploma, or the Goldsmiths Certificate in Language, Literature or Drama, or have other experience, which may be considered as equivalent to formal qualifications. Please see our Undergraduate Prospectus for further details.

EU and International students

We also welcome applications from European Union (EU) and International students and have visiting students from all around the world. We accept many EU and International qualifications, which are equivalent to GCE A-levels. If your first language is not English, please see above for the English Language requirement.

Deferred entry

Applications for deferred entry can be considered, but Goldsmiths looks for strong grounds for such deferral.

Teaching

Courses are taught by a combination of lecture-plus-seminar or seminars lasting two hours. Lectures are given by an expert on the book or topic in question and explore problems, interpretations, biography or contextualise the texts.

In ECL, a seminar consists of a group of 15 to 20 students and a tutor who meet to discuss the set texts for that week and the issues raised in the lecture, if applicable. Longer seminars often involve a brief talk from the seminar tutor, together with prepared student presentations and subsequent discussion. Seminars help you to develop your own ideas and to consider those of others with the guidance of an expert.

You also have a Personal Tutor whom you meet at the beginning of your studies and who is there to talk through any problems as and when these may arise during your programme. Students who are jointly enrolled with the Departments of History, Media and Communications, and Theatre and Performance have two Personal Tutors (one in each Department).

You are assessed throughout your degree by a combination of formal examinations and coursework. There are several assessment methods: see the individual courses for details. Results at every level count towards your final degree result, the 'weighting' of levels 4, 5 and 6 being 1:3:5.

Fees

For up-to-date information on fees, please visit www.gold.ac.uk/costs/ug, or see the Undergraduate Prospectus, available from the contact details on page 32. **Please note:** fees are quoted per year of study.

Skills and careers

Our degrees open up a wide range of careers by developing critical and analytical skills, proficiency in assessing evidence, the clear expression of ideas, and the ability to bring together insights from a range of subjects – all of which are attractive to a variety of employers.

You learn to solve problems, to think critically and creatively, and to communicate with clarity. Our graduates have a good employment record: professions include publishing, journalism, PR, teaching, advertising, civil service, business and industry, European Union private sector management and personnel work, and the media. The Goldsmiths Careers Service provides free information, advice, reference facilities and presentations.

You also have access to the University of London Careers Service in Bloomsbury whose monthly vacancy and advice magazine is available at Goldsmiths. If you obtain a good degree you may consider postgraduate study – undertaking original research or studying for a professional qualification – at Goldsmiths, or elsewhere. We offer a range of opportunities, including Masters and Doctoral programmes, taught diplomas and certificates. Further information is available in the Postgraduate Prospectus or by visiting www.gold.ac.uk.

BA (Hons) in English

3 years full-time or 4-6 years part-time

Introduction

This degree is ideal for you if you wish to concentrate exclusively on English. It aims to enhance your capacity to engage with many different worlds of thought and expression and develop your core skills in analytical and imaginative reading and writing. In line with the Goldsmiths' ethos, the degree aims to promote intellectual curiosity about the subject and enables you to expand your knowledge of diverse cultural and regional contexts in which literatures in English have evolved.

The learning process for the programme is structured through three levels. For a full-time student these match the three years of the degree. A part-time student progresses more slowly through the levels.

Level 4 consolidates your previous experience. Subsequently, you are encouraged to range through periods and particular interests. Levels 5 and 6 provide you with substantial choices, which enable you to develop your interests, whether they are (for example) in the English, American or European novel, in the Oedipus myth or Caribbean Writing, in Shakespeare, Chaucer, European culture or creative writing. One of the few restrictions you will find, in accordance with best practice nationally for the subject, is that at level 5 your selection of courses must include at least 60 credits from those designated by the Department as encompassing pre-1800 literature.

What do you study?

Please see course-units marked ENG on pages 18-27.

Level 4 (Year 1)

You take four courses: Explorations in Literature, Approaches to Text, The Short Story, Engaging Poetry (120 credits in total).

Level 5 (Year 2)

You choose four courses (120 credits) from a range characterised by wide literary, historical and contextual scope (including Moderns and The Victorians), of which at least 60 credits must encompass pre-1800 literature. The latter are to be chosen from Sensibility and Romanticism, Restoration and 18th-century Literature, Shakespeare, Literature of the English Renaissance, Literature of the Later Middle Ages, Drama and Transgression and Old English.

Level 6 (Year 3)

You choose the equivalent of three course-units; one course-unit may, with permission, be chosen from those taught in another department. You also complete a 6,000-8,000-word Dissertation (30 credits) on a topic of your choice (a pass in this unit is compulsory for the award of the degree). A rotation of single-term half-units is also available at Level 6.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and referred to the website and the Undergraduate Prospectus, please contact Dr Padraig Kirwan, Admissions Tutor, on 020 7919 7438 or e-mail p.kirwan@gold.ac.uk.

BA (Hons) in English and American Literature

3 years full-time or 4-6 years part-time

Introduction

The influence and importance of American literary and cultural forms on our daily lives developed rapidly throughout the 20th century, a trend that seems certain to continue in the 21st. This degree offers you a unique opportunity, in London, to study English and American literatures in a dedicated programme. You will read across a varied range of literary and critical works, comparing and contrasting English literatures with those of the United States. You also have the opportunity to study film, photography and other cultural manifestations.

The learning process for the programme is structured through three levels. For a full-time student these match the three years of the degree. A part-time student progresses more slowly through the levels.

What do you study?

Please see course-units marked E&AL on pages 18-27.

Level 4 (Year 1)

You take four courses: Introduction to American Literature and Culture, Explorations in Literature, Approaches to Text, and either Engaging Poetry or The Short Story (120 credits in total).

Level 5 (Year 2)

You take four courses: two courses (60 credits) chosen from the range of options available within the Department, plus Inventing the Nation: American Literature in the Mid-19th Century and Further Studies in American Literature and Culture (30 credits each).

Level 6 (Year 3)

You complete the following: The Emergence of Modern America: American Literature 1890-1940; one 6,000-8,000-word Dissertation (30 credits), covering some aspects of English and American literature or culture, plus courses worth a total of 60 credits chosen from the range of Level 6 options available within the Department (a rotation of single-term half-units is available at Level 6).

Please note: At Level 5 (Year 2) at least 30 credits must be chosen from those designated by the Department as encompassing pre-1800 literature, and a pass in the Level 6 (Year 3) Dissertation is compulsory for award of the degree.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and referred to the website and the Undergraduate Prospectus, please contact Dr Caroline Blinder, Admissions Tutor, on 020 7919 7820 or e-mail c.blinder@gold.ac.uk.

BA (Hons) in English and Comparative Literature

3 years full-time or 4-6 years part-time

Introduction

This programme offers a challenging, flexible scheme of study invigorated by current research, which advances your powers of engagement with literature across linguistic and national boundaries.

Combining the study of literatures in English with an integrated approach to, and practice of, Comparative Literature, the programme offers you a creative and innovative learning environment.

The English component of this programme aims to help you to:

- expand your knowledge and understanding of cultural, historical and regional evolutions and continuities of literatures in English.
- consider relationships between English and other literatures and to articulate patterns of similarity and difference.
- deepen your appreciation of literary periods, genres, forms and conventions.

The Comparative Literature component of this programme aims to help you to:

- develop your awareness of the depth and breadth of literature across linguistic and national boundaries.
- become aware of and to articulate similarities and differences between literary texts written in different places and at different times.
- appreciate comparative and cross-cultural approaches to literary studies.

The learning process for the programme is structured through three levels. For a full-time student these match the three years of the degree. A part-time student progresses more slowly through the levels.

What do you study?

Please see course-units marked E&CL on pages 18-27.

The four courses (120 credits) at Level 4 introduce you to key areas, problems, and concepts of the disciplines.

The courses at Level 5 offer a wide range of optional elements and they are designed to allow you to start to specialise in areas of your interest. At the same time, they are characterised by literary-historical and contextual range.

At Level 6 you choose options of a more specialised nature (worth a total of 90 course units). You also work independently, with supervision, on a comparative theme of your choice to produce a 6,000-8,000-word Dissertation (30 credits) by the end of your final year.

Level 4 (Year 1)

You take four compulsory courses: Explorations in Literature; Approaches to Text; The Short Story; Introduction to Comparative Literature (120 credits).

Level 5 (Year 2)

Courses worth a total on 90 credits from an approved list, Sensibility and Romanticism, Moderns, Literature of the English Renaissance (at least one of these courses must be chosen from those designated by the Department as encompassing pre-1800 literature); one compulsory course (30 credits): Studies in Comparative Literature (must be passed in order to be awarded the degree).

Level 6 (Year 3)

You take English courses worth a total of 60 credits from an approved list (within this a rotation of single-term 15-credit courses are also available); 30 credits from a range of Comparative options (eg Studies in Literature and Film, or Literature in Question: Writing since World War II) plus one 6,000-8,000-word Dissertation worth 30 credits (must be passed in order to be awarded the degree).

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and referred to the website and the Undergraduate Prospectus, please contact Dr Carole Sweeney, Admissions Tutor, on 020 7919 7463 or e-mail c.sweeney@gold.ac.uk.

BA (Hons) in English with Creative Writing

3 years full-time or 4-6 years part-time

Introduction

In line with Goldsmiths' ethos, this degree promotes intellectual curiosity and creativity by combining the study of English literature with the practice of creative writing. Taught by active researchers and creative writing practitioners within a challenging and flexible scheme of study, it enables you to develop your analytical and critical abilities as well as your imaginative skills in both reading and writing.

The learning process for the programme is structured through three levels, each of which includes a year-long creative-writing course. If you study full-time, these levels match the three years of the degree. A part-time student progresses more slowly through the levels.

What do you study?

Please see course-units marked EwCW on pages 18-27.

Level 4 (Year 1)

You take five compulsory courses: Explorations in Literature; Approaches to Text; Foundation Workshop in Creative Writing* (these three each being worth 30 credits); Introduction to the Short Story (15 credits); Introduction to Poetry (15 credits).

Level 5 (Year 2)

You take the compulsory Creative Writing Workshop* (30 credits) and you also choose three courses (90 credits) from a range characterised by wide literary, historical and contextual scope (including Moderns and The Victorians), of which at least one must encompass pre-1800 literature. The latter is to be chosen from Sensibility and Romanticism, Restoration and 18th-century Literature, Shakespeare, Literature of the English Renaissance, Literature of the Later Middle Ages and Old English.

Level 6 (Year 3)

You take the compulsory creative-writing course Project Development** (30 credits) and you also choose courses worth a total of 90 credits from the full range offered by the Department (within this a rotation of single-term, 15-credit courses are also available).

* A pass in these courses is compulsory for progression to the next level

** A pass in this course is compulsory for the award of the degree

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and referred to the website and the Undergraduate Prospectus, please contact the Admissions Tutor via Marian Perez, Undergraduate Secretary, on 020 7919 7430 or e-mail m.perez@gold.ac.uk.

BA (Hons) in English and Drama

BA (Hons) in Drama and English

3 years full-time

Introduction

This programme (offered jointly by the Department of English and Comparative Literature and the Department of Theatre and Performance) is designed to appeal if you wish to synthesize your interests in English and Drama and to develop your analytical, creative and imaginative engagement with the complexities of literary and non-literary discourses. The programme offers a challenging and flexible scheme of study, invigorated by current research. You will not only engage with a range of literatures in English, but will also develop your theoretical knowledge of a range of performance practices.

The degree programme is based on a balanced combination of units in the theory, practice and history of drama and related media. As a full-time student you take courses worth a total of 120 credits each year, and at Levels 4 and 5 these consist of 60 credits taken in each department.

These courses are taught in a variety of ways, which will normally include lectures, workshops, seminars, and special exercises. The assessment methods also vary; they may include, for example, productions, essays, projects, exams, reports, and portfolios - structured arrangements of diverse materials, including designs, working notes, photographs, and written explanation.

The learning process for the programme is structured through three levels. For a full-time student these match the three years of the degree. A part-time student progresses more slowly through the levels.

What do you study?

You study a range of literatures in English, including course-units encompassing pre-1800 literature. You also study theatre and other performance media and cover aspects of theatre history, performance theory and approaches to production. At Level 4, this will include some practical experience of producing theatre in the Summer Performance Project.

All full-time students take courses equivalent to 360 credits in total (up to 120 credits in each year) and the programme can be studied through two pathways - Drama, leading to a BA (Hons) in Drama and English, or English, leading to a BA (Hons) in English and Drama. These pathways diverge above Level 5. You choose the pathway for Level 6 by the end of the Autumn term of the session in which you are completing Level 5, although you will be asked to give a provisional indication of your choice when enrolling.

Please see course-units marked E&D on pages 18-27.

Level 4 (Year 1)

English

Explorations in Literature
Introduction to the Short Story (15 credits)
Introduction to Poetry (15 credits)

Drama

Analytic Vocabularies
Theatre Making: Processes and Performance (15 credits, Spring Term)
Summer Performance Project (15 credits, Summer Term)

Level 5 (Year 2)

English

60 credits from recommended list

Drama

Elements of Theatre History
and
Performance Theory/Practice
or
Modernisms and Postmodernity A and B

Level 6 (Year 3)

English pathway

You take the equivalent of 60 credits from English*, one compulsory 30 credit course from Drama (Dramaturgy) and an interdisciplinary Dissertation (a pass in the latter is compulsory for the award of the degree)

or

Drama pathway

You take the equivalent of 60 credits from Drama (including the compulsory Dramaturgy), the equivalent of 30 credits from English* and an interdisciplinary Dissertation (a pass in the latter is compulsory for the award of the degree).

* A rotation of single-term, 15-credit courses are also available at Level 6.

Please note: timetabling constraints may preclude the taking of certain course combinations at Levels 5 and 6.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and referred to the website and the Undergraduate Prospectus, please e-mail english@gold.ac.uk.





BA (Hons) in English and History

3 years full-time or 4-6 years part-time

Introduction

This degree consists of three distinct components: English, History and Interdisciplinary Studies. It is taught jointly between the Department of English and Comparative Literature and the Department of History.

This degree offers you the opportunity to study and explore the connections between English literature and History. The English component gives you the opportunity to read widely, developing critical and verbal skills for a confident, effective reading of literary and non-literary texts. Course options offer an historical view of writing in English, and let you specialise in areas of interest, including thematic and genre-based approaches to literature.

The History component provides a range of choices of periods and topics, introducing you to the skills of the historian, and to an analysis of societies and their structures. An interdisciplinary study element examines areas where the two subjects inform and complement each other.

What do you study?

Please see course-units marked E&H on pages 18-27.

Level 4 (Year 1)

You take courses worth 120 credits, 60 credits in English and 60 credits in History.

English

Approaches to Text; Explorations in Literature

History

Concepts and Methods, plus 30 other credits in Level 4 History, chosen from: Ideas and Identities; Dictators, War and Revolution; Religion, Peace and Conflict.

Level 5 (Year 2)

You take courses worth 120 credits. These are made up of interdisciplinary course/s worth 30 credits, 30 credits in History, and 30 credits in English designated by the Department as encompassing pre-1800 literature. The remaining 30 credits shall be from either English or History (subject to there being a balance of work in each discipline for the degree over Levels 5 and 6 together).

Level 6 (Year 3)

You take courses worth 120 credits: one 6,000-8,000-word Interdisciplinary Project worth 30 credits (a pass in this is compulsory for the award of the degree); the equivalent of 30 Level 6 English credits; the equivalent of 60 additional Level 6 credits (either from History courses, or History and a Related Study, or History and English, or 60 credits University of London Group 3 paper – subject to your choices balancing the credits you took at level 5).

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and referred to the website and the Undergraduate Prospectus, please contact Dr Isobel Hurst, Admissions Tutor (Department of English and Comparative Literature), on 020 7717 2988 or e-mail i.hurst@gold.ac.uk.

BA (Hons) in Media and Modern Literature

3 years full-time

Introduction

This degree offers you the opportunity to explore the connections between Media and Modern Literature. The Media component introduces you to the central issues in the study of present day media, and you take practice courses in journalism and writing short fiction. The Modern Literature component gives you the opportunity to read widely, and to develop critical and linguistic skills for a confident, effective reading of literary and non-literary texts. Course options let you specialise in areas of interest, including thematic and genre-based approaches to literature, linguistic analysis and literary theory. There is the possibility also of doing more creative writing.

The learning process for the programme is structured through three levels. For a full-time student these match the three years of the degree. A part-time student progresses more slowly through the levels.

What do you study?

Please see course-units marked M&ML on pages 18-27.

Level 4

Media: you take two 15-credit courses – Key Debates in Media Studies; Media Texts: Interpretation and Sensation – and a 30-credit practice course in either Journalism or Writing Short Fiction, both at introductory level.

Modern Literature: you take Approaches to Text and The Short Story.

Level 5

Media: you take two 15-credit courses – Communications, Psychology and Experience; Culture, Society and the Individual – and whichever practice course (Journalism or Writing Short Fiction) you did not take at Level 4.

Modern Literature: you take either Post-Victorian English Literature or Moderns and 30 credits from a range or approved Level 5 courses such as Sensibility and Romanticism; Varieties of English; Inventing the Nation: American Literature in the Mid-19th Century.

Level 6

Media: for your practice course (30 credits) you choose between Journalism or Writing Short Fiction at specialisation level, and you choose two 15-credit courses from a range of theory options, which have in recent sessions included the following: Chinese Cinemas; Cinema and Society; Explorations in World Cinema; Embodiment and Experience; Media Audiences and Media Geographies; Media Law and Ethics; Media Rituals; Media, Ethnicity and Nation; Music as Communication; Political Communications; Political Economy of the Mass Media.

Modern Literature: you take courses worth 60 credits from a range of approved Level 6 courses such as: Modern American Fiction; Caribbean Women Writers; The Emergence of Modern America: American Literature 1890-1940; Postcolonial Literatures in English; Literature in Question: Writing since World War II; Modernism and Drama (1880-1930); Decadence.

Please note: timetabling constraints may preclude the taking of certain course combinations at Levels 5 and 6. The list of options available may also change from year to year because of staff research commitments and timetabling.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and referred to the website and the Undergraduate Prospectus, please contact Dr Andreas Kramer, Programme Co-ordinator (in ECL), on 020 7919 7482, or e-mail a.kramer@gold.ac.uk.



Individual courses

All courses listed here are worth 30 credits, except for those marked ***, which are worth 15 credits.

The list of courses evolves from year to year, but the following list gives you an idea of what would be available to you. After each course title an abbreviation indicates for which of the programmes this particular course can be taken, as follows.

Please note: if the abbreviation is underlined (eg ENG), this indicates the course is **compulsory** for that particular programme.

ENG: BA (Hons) English

E&AL: BA (Hons) English and American Literature

E&CL: BA (Hons) English and Comparative Literature

EwCW: BA (Hons) English with Creative Writing

E&D: BA (Hons) English and Drama (abbreviation also applies to Drama & English at level 3)

E&H: BA (Hons) English and History

M&ML: BA (Hons) Media and Modern Literature

Level 4 courses taught by the Department of English and Comparative Literature

Approaches to Text

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

The course introduces you to essential concepts in modern literary study, including properties of literary language; convention and genre; prosody and poetic forms; narrative voice and structure; texts in performance, and larger questions of interpretation. Principal texts might typically include Shelley, Frankenstein; Shakespeare, The Tempest; Seamus Heaney, North; Lorca, The House of Bernarda Alba. **Assessed by:** a portfolio of three essays amounting to between 6,000 and 8,000 words.

Engaging Poetry [ENG, E&AL]

This provides coverage in both breadth and depth across the genre of poetry, introducing students to a range of poetic and verse forms in English from the early modern period to the present day. Using the structure of the four five-weekly slots for teaching across the two terms, the course will divide into four individual and yet integrated and coherent parts: Forms of Poetry; History of Poetry; the Practice of Poetry; Close Readings. Chronological issues will blend with more individualised approaches to the reading and understanding of poetry, and due

attention will be given to verse forms from medieval to modern lyric. The course will be the starting point for your engagement with both the critical and practical appreciation of poetry and will be supported by the participation of the department's creative practitioners. **Assessed by:** three-hour final part-prior-disclosure written examination. You are also required during the course to submit two 1,500-2,000-word essays.

Explorations in Literature

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW]

This course introduces a wide range of works covering the major literary genres and embodying significant interventions or influences in the history of literature. The emphasis is on reading primary texts and discovering (or rediscovering) writers and cultures so that you will be able to make informed choices among more specialised courses later in your degree. **Assessed by:** three-hour final written examination. You are also required during the course to submit two 1,500-2,000-word essays.

Foundation Workshop

[in Creative Writing] [EwCW only]

This workshop combines the study and practice of poetry and fiction in order to give you the opportunity to explore both genres, to develop your knowledge of form and technique and to lay the foundations of your own creative writing practice. The workshop, led by a creative-writing practitioner, will combine writing exercises with critical analysis of literary works from a broad range of cultures and eras, in addition to providing the opportunity to discuss your own work. **Assessed by:** portfolio of 6,000 words of prose fiction or 12-15 poems or a proportionate combination of poetry and prose fiction to be agreed with your tutor plus (in every case) a 1,000-word critical commentary of your own work.

Introduction to American Literature and Culture [E&AL only]

This programme-specific course develops your understanding of the main cultural, historical and political concepts underpinning America and its literatures. It covers five main subject areas, which are explored within a thematic rather than chronological structure: Colonial America, The Founding Fathers, Native Americans, Manifest Destiny, and The South. **Assessed by:** portfolio of a textual analysis of up to 1,500 words and two essays of 2,500-3,000 words each.

Introduction to Comparative Literature [E&CL only]

What is comparative literature? How and what do comparatists compare? In addressing these questions, the course introduces students to what has traditionally been the main focus of Comparative Literature: the study of themes, genres and movements across national literatures, as well as the relation between literature and other arts or disciplines. Overall, the course demonstrates how comparative literature involves the study of texts across cultures and that it is concerned with patterns of connections in literature across both time and space. In addition, the course allows students to appreciate that comparative literature is fundamentally interdisciplinary and how it differs in scope and methodology from the study of a national literature. Finally, it encourages students to engage in practical comparative reading and criticism and fosters an awareness of the issues involved in textual and cultural translation. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totaling 6,000-8,000 words.

Introduction to Poetry *** [EwCW, E&D]

This course subdivides into two five-week sections, on 'practice' and 'close readings'. The first concentrates on pivotal and innovative figures and movements in poetry from the early modern period to the present day, and the second explores fundamental issues in poetry through the lens of individual poems. Both sections are presented with the support of the department's creative practitioners. **Assessed by:** one required non-assessed 1,500-2,000-word essay; final seen-in-advance written examination (two hours).

Introduction to the Short Story *** [EwCW, E&D]

This course introduces you to the short story form and to samples of tales from a range of literary traditions and historical periods. In particular, you are presented with examples of the importance and development of the short-story genre within different national traditions. You will discuss the relationship between oral and written narrative form and study classical sub-genres such as the 'tale of terror'. **Assessed by:** one 3,000-4,000-word essay (which may be submitted for feedback before final submission).

The Short Story [ENG, E&AL, E&CL, M&ML]

This course introduces you to a number of short stories and tales from various literatures and historical periods. In particular, it presents examples of the importance and development of the genre within different national traditions, studies classical sub-genres, such as the tale of terror and looks at the uses of the short story in diverse areas of twentieth century literature. In addition, it introduces you to single-author studies of masters of the short story, such as Poe and Borges and offers close textual readings and examples of how to analyse narrative texts. Towards the end of the course you will be asked to prepare a presentation on a short story of your own choice. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totalling 6,000-8,000 words. The third essay will be an independent project on an approved topic.

Level 4 courses: Drama

Analytic Vocabularies [E&D only]

An exploration of methods of performance analysis. We examine some of the significant theoretical frameworks for the analysis of western performance, identifying creative processes and outcomes in the light of the theories of key practitioners. We evaluate performance texts from different media, and distinguish how history and culture influence contemporary theatre-making.

Theatre Making: Processes and Performance *** [E&D only]

An introduction to dramatic and performance genres, considered under three headings: modes and conventions, performance implications, dramatic texts. The genres we focus on are ritual, tragedy, commedia, comedy of manners, melodrama, realism, and naturalism. We are looking for common patterns within genres and their implications for performance.

Summer Performance Project *** [E&D only]

This summer term project is the culmination of level 1 work in the Department. It is an opportunity to explore theatre making in a creative and inventive fashion, within defined parameters and a constructively critical framework. Although the work is assessed, we hope that this project also takes on the quality of a festival.

Level 4 courses: History

Concepts and Methods [E&H only]

This course introduces you to theories of History, methodologies and conceptual problems of advanced historical work from the medieval to the contemporary world. The course consists of one lecture and seminar per week and tutorials with a personal tutor. **Assessed by:** portfolio including a bibliography, a critical assessment, one essay of 2,000-2,500 words and one essay of 4,000 words.

Dictators, War and Revolution [E&H only]

This course aims to introduce you to the discipline of political history, by analysing key modern political ideologies, developments and political leaders and by providing a basic understanding of how the modern world has been shaped by dictators, wars and revolutions. **Assessed by:** a 2,000-2,500-word essay (25%) and a two-hour unseen written paper (75%). There is also a range of coursework on which formative feedback is given.

Ideas and Identities [E&H only]

This course introduces you to the disciplines of intellectual and cultural history as a way of understanding yourself, other people and the world round us. The course is divided into four thematic blocks of five weeks each. While the order of the blocks and particularly lecture topics may vary from year to year, the broad focus on identities and the relationships between human beings and their surroundings will remain the same. Hence, there may be blocks on self-representation and portraiture; creation of the individual across various historical periods; emotions and bonds; humans and the natural world; political systems in the theory and practice; public history and national identities. **Assessed by:** a 2,000-2,500 word essay (25%); a two-hour unseen written paper (75%); required non-assessed essay of 2,000-2,500 words; required non-assessed journal with reflections on weekly lectures and seminars.

Religion, Peace and Conflict [E&H only]

This course explores the historical and contemporary role of religion in promoting peace and conflict, through a series of case studies focusing on religion in Asia and the West. **Assessed by:** a 2,000-2,500-word essay (25%) and a two-hour unseen written paper (75%). There is also a range of coursework on which formative feedback is given.

Level 4 courses: Media

Journalism or Writing Short Fiction* [M&ML only]

This course-unit introduces media practice in either Journalism or Writing Short Fiction. Production skills will be applied in the creation of small-scale projects. Critical skills will be developed through the analysis of excerpts of work produced in each medium. **Assessed by:** a portfolio of work comprising examples of news writing, interviewing and feature writing (for Journalism) or examination of final draft of the 10-minute script or 10-page short story. The reader's reports are also assessed (for Writing Short Fiction).

* whichever course is not taken at level 4, you take at level 5.

Key Debates in Media Studies *** [M&ML only]

This course focuses on important debates concerning media power and mediated identity and examines the different traditions and disciplines that have contributed to media analysis in this area. **Assessed by:** 2,000-word essay.

Representation and Textual Analysis ***

[M&ML only]

This course focuses on the formal address of media texts in order to examine the way in which they make meaning. **Assessed by:** 3,000-word project.

Typical Level 5 courses taught by the Department of English and Comparative Literature

Please note: timetabling constraints may preclude the taking of certain course combinations at Level 5.

Creative Writing Workshop [EwCW only]

After a first term in which you will build on the knowledge and skills, creative and literary, acquired through the Foundation Workshop by continuing to explore creative writing forms, in the second term you choose between a workshop in prose fiction and a workshop in poetry. You are advised on your choice, and the focus will be increasingly on developing your own body of creative work. **Assessed by:** 6,000-word portfolio of prose fiction or 12-15 poems or a combination of poetry and prose fiction to be agreed with your tutor plus (in each case) a 1,000-word critical commentary on your own work.

Drama and Transgression: From Prometheus to Faust [ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

This course explores a range of approaches to conflicts between divine or political authority and human claims to self-assertion and freedom; submission to orthodoxy; co-existence of orthodoxy and humanism; reconciliation of autonomy and theonomy; and the demise of divine law. The course introduces you to epoch-specific types of overlaps and tensions between religious and positive law, divine and human reason, feeling and understanding. The course also aims to increase your awareness of issues of gender and power, and investigates the nature of female revolt and violence in the light of the Aristotelian theories and traditional male academic and religious discourses. **Assessed by:** one required non-assessed essay of 1,500-1,800 words; one assessed essay of 3,000-4,000 words (50%); three-hour written examination with questions announced in advance (50%).

Further Studies in American Literature & Culture [E&AL only]

This course is designed to deepen the understanding developed during the Level 1 Introduction to American Literature and Culture of the main concepts underpinning America and American literature. Four main areas will be covered as this course divides into a thematic rather than chronological study of the nation, its literature and its culture: The American City; Politics and Paranoia; Gender in American Culture; Countercultures. Students will explore these key terms in American culture through the study of a range of different cultural forms, including literature, intellectual history and film. The course will provide the second half of a two-year comprehensive survey of central themes in American cultural history. **Assessed by:** portfolio of two essays totalling 6,000-8,000 words.

Inventing the Nation:

American Literature in the mid-19th Century [ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

This examines a cluster of major American writers from the 1830s to the 1880s, all of which are engaged in shaping, describing, criticising and contesting the emerging American nation. We will examine literature's role in the definition of national identity by exploring individual writers. We will also address the key ways in which the American literary tradition differs from its English counterpart. The writers of the so-called 'American Renaissance' – Emerson, Thoreau, Hawthorne, Melville and Whitman – will be central to the course, as their writings are at the heart of the project of national self invention. However, the course will look at this project from alternative perspectives, including those of region, race and gender. It includes the study of film as well as texts. **Assessed by:** one essay of 3,000-4,000 words (50%) and a two-hour final written examination paper (50%).

Literature of the English Renaissance

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW]

This course constitutes a 'pre-1800' choice. You examine the literature and ideas of the 16th and 17th centuries, principally in poetry and drama. The major texts might typically include Marlowe, Doctor Faustus; Shakespeare, Henry IV and King Lear; the poetry of Donne; Spenser, The Faerie Queene (Canto 1); Milton, Paradise Lost (Book 1); Webster, The Duchess of Malfi. **Assessed by:** two essays of 1,500-2,000 words each (20% each); three-hour final written examination (60%).

Literature of the Later Middle-Ages:

Society and the Individual [ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW]

This course constitutes a 'pre-1800' choice. You study English writing in the 14th and 15th centuries, especially social satire, the comic tale, varieties of romance, and autobiography. You study texts in relation to genre; society and morality; gender; dissent and individual consciousness. Texts might typically include Chaucer, The Canterbury Tales (selection); romances such as Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, and The Book of Margery Kempe; the 'Lais' of Marie de France. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three assignments totalling 6,000-8,000 words.



Moderns

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML] *
You study modernist writing in Britain, Ireland and internationally from the 1920s, including such works as Eliot, *The Waste Land*; Woolf, *Mrs Dalloway*; Joyce, *Ulysses*; Brecht, *Mother Courage*; poems of Yeats, Auden, Stevens and others. M&ML students must take either this course or Post-Victorian English Literature or both. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totaling 6,000-8,000 words.

Old English [ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW]
This course constitutes a 'pre-1800' choice. An introduction to the language and literature of the Anglo-Saxons, with consideration of a variety of themes and genres, including history, lyric, mythology, poetic elegy and romance. Some texts are read in translation. Major texts might typically include selections such as the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, *Beowulf*, works by King Alfred, Ælfric, and Bede. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totaling 6,000-8,000 words.

Post-Victorian English Literature [ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML] **
This course examines selected literary works across several genres in the period 1901-36, concentrating upon English-based writings in the non-modernist tradition. Topics for consideration include responses to social change and warfare, and new conceptions of Englishness and modern sexuality. Authors typically include Hardy, Shaw, Forster, Strachey, Brooke, Owen, Graves, Mansfield, Lawrence, Waugh, Holtby, and Orwell. M&ML students must take either this course or Moderns or both. **Assessed by:** three-hour final written examination with question paper partially disclosed one week prior to examination date. You are also required during the course to submit two 1,500-2,000-word essays.

Restoration and 18th-century Literature [ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW]
This course constitutes a 'pre-1800' choice. You study English verse and prose satire 1660-1760; the Restoration comic stage; the rise of the novel; landscape and poetry. The principal texts might typically include selections from: Paul Hammond (ed.), *Restoration Literature: An Anthology*; Behn, *Oroonoko*; Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*; Swift, *Gulliver's Travels*; Richardson, *Pamela*; Fielding, *Tom Jones*; Sterne, *Tristram Shandy*; and works by Burney and Johnson. **Assessed by:** one 1,500-word critical commentary (30%); two-hour final written examination (prior disclosure) (70%). You are also required during the course to submit one 1,500-2,000-word essay.

** If you are on the BA Media and Modern Literature programme, you must take at least one of these courses. You may take both.

Sensibility and Romanticism: Revolutions in Writing and Society [ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW]
This course constitutes a 'pre-1800' choice. The course covers aspects of mid to late 18th century and early 19th century literature including 'sensibility', 'pre-romanticism', the Gothic novel and the emergence of the Romantic movement. Principal texts might typically include Sterne, *A Sentimental Journey*; Goldsmith, *The Vicar of Wakefield*; Austen, *Sense and Sensibility* and *Mansfield Park*; Lewis, *The Monk*; Scott, *Waverley*; Brontë, *Wuthering Heights*; selected poems of Blake, Byron, Coleridge, Keats and Wordsworth. **Assessed by:** three-hour final written examination. You are also required during the course to submit two 1,500-2,000-word essays.

Shakespeare [ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW]
This course constitutes a 'pre-1800' choice. The course covers the literary and cultural analysis of Shakespeare's work in its chronological development; his poetic language and dramatic art. You read most of Shakespeare's plays and poems. **Assessed by:** two essays of 1,500-2,000 words each (20% each); three-hour final written examination (60%).

Studies in Comparative Literature [E&CL only]
You will look at literature and the arts during three major periods of European cultural history, seen as exemplary of a process of circulation, diffusion and adoption of new ideas and styles. Cross-national influences are investigated across a broad range of works and assimilation is observed through translation and imitation in a variety of genres and media. The three major periods to be covered are the Renaissance, Romanticism and the Fin de Siècle. **Assessed by:** two 1,500-1,800-word in-course essays (25% each); final two-hour written examination with questions announced in advance (50%).

Varieties of English [ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]
This course explores how and why language is used differently in a range of contexts. We will examine language variation in relation to region, gender, ethnicity, age and social class; we will see that individuals are able to shift their style of speaking from one situation to the next and we will explore the attitudes that people have towards different varieties of English. The topics/issues that will be studied may include the following: Do women and men speak differently? What is slang? How and why do adolescents speak differently from adults? What are the public stereotypes about speakers with "non-standard" accents? What is Standard English? In our discussion of these issues we will study various examples of spoken and written language and examine the role of literature and the media in representing language variation. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totaling 6,000-8,000 words.

The Victorians

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW]

Topics include verse, drama, fiction and non-fictional writing in Britain and Ireland, 1837-1901, with special attention to the impact of science, the place of women, and ideas of nationality. Major texts might typically include B Richards (ed), *English Verse 1830-1890*; Dickens, *Bleak House*; C Brontë, *Villette*; Eliot, *Middlemarch*; Hardy, *The Return of the Native*; Collins, *The Moonstone*. **Assessed by:** three-hour final written examination. You are also required during the course to submit two 1,500-2,000-word essays.

Level 5 courses: Drama

Elements of Theatre History [E&D only]

This course-unit involves selection of two options from a range which has recently included: French Theatre; Classical Greek Theatre; Shakespeare and Renaissance Theatre; Irish Revival and Revolution; African Theatre; Spanish and Catalan Theatre.

Performance Theory/Practice [E&D only]

This is a laboratory course, which investigates the major forms of twentieth-century Western theatre performance, exploring ways in which various practices have been theorised and, conversely, the way performance theories have been translated into practice.

Modernisms and Postmodernity A *** [E&D only]

This course is an introduction to key aspects of modern and postmodern thought, culture and theatre. It aims to explore the historical and cultural contexts of its topic while at the same time exploring the theoretical and cultural ideas and practices which have been seen as modernist and postmodern.

Modernisms and Postmodernity B *** [E&D only]

You normally chose one 10-week option. These options are designed to extend the study of modernism and/or postmodernity through a sustained engagement with a particular range of material. Typical offerings have included: Post-colonial Theatre; Brecht and Political Theatre; Theatre of the artistic avant-garde; Contemporary women practitioners.

Please note: options are likely to change from year to year, depending on staff availability and research interests.

Level 5 options: History

Option courses such as the following are generally available in alternate years: *The Crusades 1095-1400*; *Heresy, the Occult and the Millennium in Early Modern Europe*; *Mediterranean Encounters: Venice and the Ottoman Empire 1453-1797*; *Germany Since 1870: Nationalism versus Democracy*; *Nationalism Democracy and Dictatorship in Twentieth Century Eastern Europe*; *Early Modern European Philosophy*; *London History Through Literature*; *Imaging Africa: Ideology, Identity and Text in Africa and the Diaspora*; *Italy since 1870*; *Health, Healing and Illness in Africa*.

Level 5 courses: Media

Communications, Psychology and Experience * (MML only)**

This course introduces psychological perspectives on the analysis of culture and communication, language and thinking. **Assessed by:** 3,000-word essay.

Culture, Society and the Individual *** (MML only)

This course focuses on the formation of subjectivity in the context of huge social and political change and the growth of individualisation. **Assessed by:** 3,000-word essay.

Journalism (if not taken at level 4) (MML only)

Writing Short Fiction

(if not taken at level 4) (MML only)

Typical Level 6 courses taught by the Department of English and Comparative Literature

Please note: timetabling constraints may preclude the taking of certain course combinations at Levels 5 and 6. Not all optional courses are available in a particular year, but the following are characteristic examples.

Caribbean Women Writers

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

You explore representative African-Caribbean and Indian-Caribbean women's writing – prose and poetry – since the 1960s, with comparative study of black women's writing in non-Caribbean contexts. Principal texts might typically include Gilroy, *Boy Sandwich*; Collins, *Angel*; Hodge, *Crick Crack Monkey*; Riley, *Waiting in the Twilight*; Senior, *The Arrival of the Snake Woman*. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totaling 6,000-8,000 words.

Creating the Text [ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H]

You explore practical problems of literary convention and technique, including dramatic dialogue, poetic forms, fictional prose and reviewing. **Assessed by:** portfolio of a selection of creative work (a minimum of three genres), with critical commentary focusing on process, totalling 6,000-8,000-words.

Decadence

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

This course explores the literature of the decadence in France and England in the 19th century. Beginning with definitions of the term 'decadence' and its antecedents in antiquity, the course considers the emergence of decadence as a literary tradition in France as a challenge to the orthodoxies of Romanticism and its subsequent treatment by English decadents and European Symbolists at the *Fin de Siècle*. The principal themes of decadence – degeneration, disease, sex, death – are traced in the work of writers in the 19th century and understood against the backdrop of contemporary cultural anxieties and controversies. Among the texts considered on this course are: Théophile Gautier, *Mademoiselle de Maupin*; Edgar Allan Poe, 'The Masque of the Red Death'; Leopold von Sacher-Masoch, *Venus in Furs*; Joris-Karl Huysmans, *Against Nature*; Max Nordau, *Degeneration*; Friedrich Nietzsche, *The Anti-Christ*; Rachilde, *The Grape Gatherers of Sodom*; Oscar Wilde, *Dorian Gray*; selected poems of Swinburne, Baudelaire and others. French and other-language texts will be studied in specified translations. **Assessed by:** three-hour final written examination. You are also required during the course to submit two 1,500-2,000-word essays.

The Emergence of Modern America:

American Literature 1890-1940

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

This course covers the period from the closing of the frontier in America to the eve of the Second World War; a period that saw both mass immigration and the growth of urban centres, the crash of 1929 and the onslaught of the Great Depression. Through a selection of poetry and fiction, the course traces some of the major themes of the period; the literary and cultural move from Naturalism to Modernism, the Harlem Renaissance, Cubism and Avant Garde Aesthetics, Expatriate Writers and the cult of the Lost Generation, Regionalism, Documentarism and Photography and the emergence of an American poetic vernacular – to name a few. The course takes some account of the relation of the visual arts, photography and cinema to literature of the period. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totalling 6,000-8,000 words.

Language and the Media

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

This course introduces you to a semiotics approach to the analysis of media texts, and to a multi-modal perspective on the analysis of communication. You will compare and analyse media and literary genres. The course will develop your critical awareness of a variety of linguistic techniques for analysing media discourse types and genres, and enable you particularly to understand the relationship in particular media discourses/genres between text and context. **Assessed by:** a portfolio of three essays amounting to between 6,000-8,000-words

Literature in Question: Writing since World War II

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

Taking its cue from the debate initiated by Jean-Paul Sartre's essay 'What is Literature?' the course examines some of the main issues explored in literary and theoretical texts of this period and discusses how the role, scope and status of literature have been questioned and re-assessed both within literary texts and by other disciplines. The relationships between literature and philosophy, ethics, history and science will be addressed. There will be analysis of the representation and conceptualisation of issues such as the question of authenticity, individual and national identity, the role and status of language, the literary canon and the possibility of originality, the relationship between gender and writing. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totalling 6,000-8,000 words.

Modern American Fiction

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

You explore a variety of styles and approaches practised in the American novel and short story since 1945, including African-American and 'postmodern' fiction. Principal texts might typically include: R Ford (ed), *The Granta Book of the American Short Story*; Nabokov, *Lolita*; Kerouac, *On the Road*; Ellison, *Invisible Man*; Plath, *The Bell Jar*; DeLillo, *White Noise*. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totalling 6,000-8,000 words.

Modern Poetry

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

The course surveys major trends and figures in English-language poetry since 1945, chiefly in the USA, Britain and Ireland, with close attention to linguistic and formal features characteristic of this period, and to patterns of influence. Authors for study typically include Stevens, Auden, Lowell, Larkin, Ginsberg, Ashbery, Gunn, Hughes, Plath, Hill, Harrsion, Heaney, and Mahon. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totalling 6,000-8,000 words.

Modernism & Drama (1880-1930)

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

Whilst modernist drama on the European continent is characterised by a variety of pronouncedly anti-realist tendencies, modern English drama continues the tradition of Realism. The course explores the main contrasts and affinities between these modernist and realist trends, focusing on major innovative approaches to Realism and on precursors and varieties of modernist drama from 1880-1930. Through a close reading of representative texts, you will be introduced to a range of dramatic forms and techniques of the period in question. Examples from expressionist film will acquaint you with questions related to performance, stage set, and lighting. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totalling 6,000-8,000 words. [Course not available for English & Drama/Drama & English]

The Art of the Novel

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

The course explores the history of the Western novel's development since Don Quixote by focusing on representative landmarks of 'realism' and later modernist and postmodernist novels. We investigate a number of theoretical problems including those of narrative voice and strategy and of mimesis in the novel. Major texts might typically include: Cervantes, Don Quixote; Austen, Emma; Balzac, Père Goriot; Flaubert, Madame Bovary; Kafka, The Trial; Proust, Swann's Way; Calvino, If on a Winter's Night a Traveller. **Assessed by:** portfolio of two essays totalling 6,000-8,000 words. [Course not available in 2008-9]

Oedipus: Myths, Tragedies and Theories

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

The course considers a number of dramas that feature the related figures of Oedipus and Antigone. The plays to be studied are drawn from disparate periods and cultures, and so the thrust of the course is to enquire into why the myth on which they are based has proved so perennial. As part of the effort to provide answers to this question, the course addresses relevant literary and cultural criticism and psychoanalytic theory. Texts might typically include Sophocles, Oedipus the King; Antigone, Oedipus at Colonus; Seneca, Oedipus; Shelley, Oedipus Tyrannus; Brecht, Antigone; Eliot, The Elder Statesman; Fugard, The Island; Berkoff, Greek. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totalling 8,000-words.

Postcolonial Literatures in English

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

This course analyses the literature and culture produced in the aftermath of, and in response to, the end of European formal colonialism. It addresses representations of colonialism and decolonisation, of the experience of postcolonial societies and of diasporic peoples. You consider issues of ethnicity, class and gender in postcolonial literatures, the claims of 'nativist' ideologies and cosmopolitan theories of 'hybridity', through a comparative analysis of different genres, regions and historical experiences of (post)colonialism. Included in text studies will be works by some of the following: R K Narayan, Chinua Achebe, Flora Nwapa, V S Naipaul, Athol Fugard, Salman Rushdie, Hanif Kureishi, Mehdi Charef, Arundhati Roy. **Assessed by:** portfolio of two essays totalling 6,000-8,000 words.

Project Development (in Creative Writing)

[EwCW only]

This focuses on the development of your own writing skills in the context of a critical awareness of recent writing, recent literary concerns and cultural theory, and knowledge about writing and publishing issues. You are encouraged to interact within a community of writers supportive of the development of your work, small-group work in the first term leading into one-to-one surgeries to address concerns of writing practice as you prepare your portfolio of work in the second term. **Assessed by:** Portfolio of your own writing, with critical commentary, amounting to a maximum of 12,000 words.

Studies in Literature and Film

[ENG, E&AL, E&CL, E&D, E&H, EwCW, M&ML]

The course explores the close relationship between literature and film in the 20th century. It offers a range of perspectives and methodologies for studying literature and film, both separately and in relation to each other, with an emphasis on cultural and historical criticism. The course also examines the particular characteristics of both literature and film and the cross-connections between them through a detailed study of selected poems, plays, essays, experimental films, and feature films. The texts studied will be drawn from a range of national literatures and cinemas. Foreign literary texts will be studied in English translation. **Assessed by:** portfolio of three essays totalling 6,000-8,000 words.

15-credit courses ***

Each year a small number of these units, which can be combined in pairs to make up the equivalent of 30-credit courses, may be offered. Teaching lasts only one term in each case.

For example, 15-credit courses that have been offered in sessions are as follows: Dustbowl to Dreamfactory: American Cinema and Writing in the 1930's; Writing, Gender and Anxiety; Writing the European City; Language and Gender; The Detective Story to Crime Fiction; The English Decadence: Literature and the Visual Arts at the Fin de Siècle; Words, Meanings and Contexts of Use; The Classic Fairy Tale; American Crime Fiction.

15-credit courses are not offered at Level 5 in ECL.

Level 6 courses: Drama

Dramaturgy [E&D/D&E]

This course, specifically for English & Drama/Drama & English students, provides a critical engagement with the possibilities of dramaturgical practice in relation to the staging of text, dramatic and non-dramatic, in live performance.

Culture and Performance [D&E]

Consisting of two half-course units: A = Critical Cultural Theory, B = Option. For B you choose one half-course from a range of options which have included Japanese Art and Culture; Community-specific Performance Practice, or Translation across languages, cultures and genres.

Level 6 options: History

Option courses such as the following are generally available in alternate years: The Crusades 1095-1400; Heresy, the Occult and the Millennium in Early Modern Europe; Mediterranean Encounters: Venice and the Ottoman Empire 1453-1797; Germany Since 1870: Nationalism versus Democracy; Nationalism Democracy and Dictatorship in Twentieth Century Eastern Europe; Early Modern European Philosophy; London History Through Literature; Imaging Africa: Ideology, Identity and Text in Africa and the Diaspora.

Level 6 courses: Media

Journalism or Writing Short Fiction

(one full course-unit) [M&ML only]

You specialise in one of the practice areas studied earlier in their programme and apply further technical and creative skills in the creation of course projects/portfolios. **Assessed by:** portfolio of your work comprising three features, at least one of which must be laid out on computer (for Journalism) or examination of the final draft of the 10-20 minute script or 10-20 page short story and a sample of the reader's reports prepared in advance of workshops. Extracts from the research notebook will be presented and assessed as coursework (for Writing Short Fiction).

Examples of Level 6 options: Media (all half-course units)

After New Media; Cinema and Society; Embodiment and Experience; Explorations in World Cinema; Media Audiences and Media Geographies; Music as Communication; Media, Ethnicity and Nation Media Law and Ethics; Media Rituals; Political Communications; Political Economy of the Mass Media; Promotional Cultures; Representation and Reality; Screen Cultures.

Please note: the list of options available may change from year to year because of staff research commitments and timetabling.



ECL academic staff and their research interests

Tim Parnell BA PhD (London)

Head of Department

Restoration and 18th-century literature, especially Rochester, Swift, Fielding, Sterne, satire in verse and prose, the early novel and the literature of sensibility; Menippean satire (especially Rabelais, Robert Burton, Swift and Sterne); history of the novel and aspects of narrative theory; 'postmodernist' fiction, especially Beckett, Calvino, Kjaerstad, Kundera and Rushdie; 'magic realism'.

Professor Joan Anim-Addo BEd (Kingston) MA, PhD (London)

Caribbean women's literature; Caribbean literature; black British literary history; black experience in Britain (local history).

Professor Chris Baldick BA DPhil (Oxford)

History of criticism; Gothic fiction; Victorian decadence; literature in England 1910-1940.

Sarah Barnsley BA (East Anglia) MA PhD (London)

American Literature, poetry and poetics, modernism, gender and queer theory.

Caroline Blinder BA (Tufts) MA (Northwestern) PhD (London)

19th- and 20th-century American literature; literature and photography.

Lucia Boldrini PhD (Leicester)

PhD (Pisa and Florence)

Modernist and postmodernist fiction; new literatures in English; contemporary British theatre; literary theory.

Marie-Claude Canova-Green BA MA PhD

(Paris-Sorbonne)

17th- and 18th-century French literature, theatre and court entertainments.

Professor Josh Cohen BA (Birmingham)

MA (Exeter) DPhil (Sussex)

Modern American writing; critical theory; Holocaust writing.

Rick Crownshaw BA (Keele) MA PhD (Sussex)

American literature since the 19th century; representations of the Holocaust (literature, museums, memorials and monuments); cultural memory and trauma studies.

Jane Desmarais MA (Reading) PhD (London)

Literature and Visual Arts and Anglo-French cultural relations 1870-1920 and the Fin-de-Siècle in particular.

Maura Dooley BA (York)

Creative and life writing; contemporary poetry; children's literature.

Professor Alan Downie MA MLitt PhD (Newcastle-upon-Tyne)

English literature from the sixteenth century to the present day; literature and politics 1590 to 1750; Swift and the Scriblerian satirists; the early novel; early English press to 1800.

Isobel Hurst BA MPhil DPhil (Oxford)

19th- and 20th-century literature, especially poetry and fiction; women's writing; the epic tradition; the reception of classical texts in English literature

Padraig Kirwan BA MA PhD (University College Dublin)

Indigenous literatures of the Americas with particular focus on contemporary Native American fiction; border theory; the American novel since 1800; 19th-century American narrative.

Stephen Knight BA (Oxford)

Creative writing – particularly poetry and the novel, and the Theatre.

Andreas Kramer MA DrPhil (Münster)

20th-century German and Austrian literature; expressionism, modernism and the avant-garde.

Frank Krause, Staatsexamen DrPhil (Bochum)

German and Austrian literature and culture of the 18th and 20th centuries.

Carole Maddern BA MA PhD (London)

Old English; literature of the later Middle Ages; developments of the English language; London theatre.

Gail McDonald BA (Texas) MA PhD (Pennsylvania)
American Literature: poetry, prose and drama,
particularly in the period 1880-1969; Anglo-American
modernism (including Joyce, Woolf and others).

**Professor Russ McDonald BA (Duke)
MA PhD (Pennsylvania)**
Early modern writing, particularly drama;
Shakespeare; Renaissance rhetoric and poetics;
history of Shakespearean performance; opera.

**Professor Bart Moore-Gilbert BA (Durham)
DPhil (Oxford)**
Literature and empire; Postcolonial theory and
novel; post-1945 British novel.

**Professor Blake Morrison BA (Nottingham)
MA (McMaster) PhD (London) FRSL**
Contemporary British and American fiction and
poetry; memoir; journalism, translation, writing for
the theatre and libretti.

**Uttara Natarajan MA (Cambridge)
MPhil DPhil (Oxford)**
Romantic and Victorian literature, especially prose
non-fiction; history of ideas.

Pia Pichler MPhil (Salzburg) PhD (Roehampton)
Discourse and conversation analysis; sociolinguistics;
language and gender; feminist linguistics; language
and identity (especially gender, ethnicity, and
social class).

Geri Popova MA (Sofia) PhD (Essex)
English linguistics – particularly theoretical
linguistics, grammatical description; translation
and discourse analysis.

Jacqueline Rattray BA (Anglia) PhD (Aberdeen)
The Spanish Avant-Garde; surrealism; the Generation
of 1927.

Deac Rossell BA (Syracuse)
Modern European filmmaking; American
independent film and documentary film;
the history of the projected image.

Charlotte Scott BA MA (London) PhD (Warwick)
Shakespeare; Renaissance drama and poetry;
book history and the early modern theatre;
the representation of nature.

**Michael Simpson BA (Cambridge) MA (York)
PhD (Cambridge)**
Romantic literature, especially drama and questions
of censorship; postcolonial drama.

Francis Spufford BA MA (Cambridge)
Creative writing, with current interests in Russia in
the 1950's and 1960's; the literary possibilities of
economics; contemporary forms of religious feeling.

**Carole Sweeney BA (Portsmouth)
MA (Simon Fraser) DPhil (Sussex)**
French studies and translation studies; modernism,
imperialism and primitivism.

Derval Tubridy BA PhD (Dublin)
Samuel Beckett; Thomas Kinsella; modern and
contemporary Irish and British literature; textual
and visual studies; literary theory.

Jack Underwood BA (Norwich), MA (London)
Creative writing, English-language poetry
and criticism.

Ardashir Vakili BA (Cambridge) PGCE
Creative writing, particularly the novel and
the short story.

Emeritus Professors
Professor Alcuin Blamires
Professor Helen Carr
Professor Peter Dunwoodie
Professor David Margolies
Professor B J Sokol

Administrative staff
Richard Bolley BA (York) MMus (Auckland)
(Departmental Administrator)
Maria Macdonald (Postgraduate Secretary
and PA to the Head of Department)
Marian Perez-Velazquez (Undergraduate Secretary)
Birgul Yavuz BA (London)
(Undergraduate Secretary)



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fax +44 (0)20 7919 7509
e-mail course-info@gold.ac.uk

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Our Mission

We offer a transformative experience, generating knowledge and stimulating self-discovery through creative, radical and intellectually rigorous thinking and practice.

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