



# Module Handbook

**Incoming Students**

**Academic year 2024/2025**

**Part 2**

English Studies

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## **A: THE DEPARTMENT**

The Department of English Studies is situated in three buildings: Hallgarth House, Elvet Riverside, and # 42 Old Elvet. Hallgarth House, a Georgian listed building, provides accommodation for the Department's administration team. Staff offices and teaching rooms are distributed across all three sites. Most lectures take place in Elvet Riverside. Tutorials are normally held in groups of 8 students; seminars are held in groups of about 10-20. Lectures are not compulsory, but tutorials and seminars are. Undergraduates are expected to see their tutors regularly and to follow any preparatory instructions for classes. The University Library holds strong general collections in literary studies in its main building on Stockton Road as well as specialist collections on Palace Green. Both libraries are within easy walking distance. Further information about the Department's activities and research is available from our website:

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/english.studies/>

### **A1: Departmental Exchange Coordinator:**

Dr Daniel Blank

Email: [daniel.blank@durham.ac.uk](mailto:daniel.blank@durham.ac.uk)

Staff page: [Dr Daniel Blank - Durham University](#)

Dr Blank will welcome all exchange students at a Departmental induction session (the International Office will provide you with details of this in due course) and can provide academic support through the year.

## **B: DEGREE STRUCTURE**

Please note that modules are usually studied over all three Durham terms. All modules are examined or assessed in the year in which they are taught. With just a handful of exceptions (see C2.ii), exchange students study in the Department of English for the duration of the academic year.

## C: REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

**This section contains important information for setting up your academic programme at Durham University. Please read through this section carefully before considering your modules and filling in the Learning Agreement!**

### C1: General

#### Choice of Modules

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR STUDENTS: PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR LEARNING AGREEMENT**

At Durham University, European Exchange Programme agreements are usually signed by individual departments, rather than university-wide. As a result, in general, students have to choose modules within the Durham University department through which the European Exchange Programme agreement with their home university has been signed. (Students should check with the Coordinator in their university if they are not sure which department this is). Modules offered by other departments are subject to availability and can only be taken with prior consent from the relevant department. Certain restrictions may also apply to courses in some departments. Students therefore need to follow the advice below carefully before completing their Learning Agreements.

Please clearly indicate the modules you wish to take on your Learning Agreement (included in your application package) for approval by the respective department(s). Before completing your Learning Agreement, it is very important that you read carefully the relevant departmental section(s) of the Module Handbook to check which modules are available to you and any restrictions which may apply. It is imperative that a properly completed Learning Agreement is submitted as part of the application form. Only complete applications can be processed.

*Section D: Module Details* provides a list of modules available for exchange students in the department. Please choose from these modules only!

## **C2: Departmental Requirements and Restrictions**

### **IMPORTANT**

**(i) The Department of English Studies is one of the top-ranked English Departments in the UK and has a high student intake. Regrettably, this demand for teaching provision means that the Department will in the first instance only be able to consider students on \*direct\* exchange links.**

**To clarify, European Exchange Programme agreements are usually set up on a department-to-department basis. If your home university has an agreement with a department other than English Studies, it is unlikely that we will be able to accept your application to study with us. In some circumstances, the Department may be willing to allow European Exchange Programme students from non-partner institutions to take 1-2 modules, if capacity permits, but we must stress again that we can offer no guarantees to those applying via indirect links. If you apply through an indirect link, you are strongly advised to choose alternative modules in other departments.**

**(ii) Because of the structure and duration of our modules, the Department is only able to accept students who will be in Durham for the full academic year. The only exceptions to this are students coming from our direct links with Kraków and Prague. In all cases, students must start their studies in the Michaelmas term.**

**(iii) If you intend to apply to study in the English Department, you should have a strong background in literary / cultural studies and be prepared to engage in literary critical work at an advanced level. With these requirements in mind, the Department requires a piece of written work (essay, term paper, assignment etc.) from every student applying for English modules. Students will have to enclose this writing sample with their applications in order to be considered.**

**(iv) Please note that the Department of English at Durham teaches literary studies. We do not offer modules in linguistics, English as a foreign language, or pedagogy.**

**(v) If you are applying to study with us, you must be prepared to complete all assessments on your chosen modules. Assessments usually consist of a take home paper equivalent to an exam of 2 or 3 hours and/or coursework essays of various lengths.**

**(vi) Applicants from our European Exchange Programme partners (direct links) and the Overseas Exchange Programme can select up to six modules in English and should normally choose to study a coherent combination of Level 2 / Level 3 modules, depending on academic experience and background. Our modules become increasingly specialised as our students progress from Level 1 to Level 3 over the course of three years.**

**(vii) Three introductory modules at Level 1 are not available to exchange students: Introduction to Drama, Introduction to Poetry, and Introduction to the Novel. Since these lecture series are required of all first-year students in English Studies, we are not able to accommodate any additional enrolment.**

**(viii) Creative writing modules are not available to exchange students.**

**(ix) Applicants may select from other Level 1 modules but must bear in mind that combining these modules with options at Levels 2 and 3 is not always possible or advisable. For example, if you wish to take 'Medieval Literature' at Level 3, you should already have some kind of foundational training in this area. Taking an introductory module in the same field would not be appropriate. Combining Level 1 modules with Level 2 or 3 modules can also create timetabling problems.**

**(x) The majority of your choices should be from our lists of *lecture* modules. You may, however, if you wish, apply to take *\*one\** special topic (Level 3) or *\*one\** seminar module (Level 2).**

## **D: MODULE DETAILS**

This section contains a list of modules that exchange students can choose from.

To find further details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content,

etc) please refer to the Faculty Handbook online under <http://www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/>

**Please note: Current modules are indicative. Not all modules are necessarily offered every year. Lecture modules tend to stay the same; seminars (Level 2), however, and special topics (Level 3) often change from year to year, depending on staff availability.**

To find out about the details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc) please refer to the Faculty Handbook online under <http://www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/>

**MODULES AVAILABLE: 2024/25** (the list given below is subject to change)

### **L1 Lecture Modules**

ENGL 1011	Introduction to Drama ( <b>not available to exchange students</b> )
ENGL 1031	Ancient Worlds and English Literature
ENGL 1041	Epic and the Legend of Literature
ENGL 1051	Romance and the Literature of Chivalry
ENGL 1061	Introduction to the Novel ( <b>not available to exchange students</b> )
ENGL 1071	Introduction to Poetry ( <b>not available to exchange students</b> )

### **L2 Lecture Modules**

ENGL 2011	Theory and Practice of Literary Criticism
ENGL 2021	Shakespeare
ENGL 2041	Renaissance Literature
ENGL 2071	Victorian Literature
ENGL 2081	Literature of the Modern Period
ENGL2091	Old English
ENGL 2121	Chaucer
ENGL 2801	Postcolonial and World Literatures
ENGL2141	American Poetry

## **L2 Seminar Modules**

ENGL 2291	Fin-de-Siecle Fiction
ENGL 2381	Arthurian Literature
ENGL 2771	Contemporary US Fiction & The Question of Genre
ENGL 2781	Writing Women: Gendering Literature, c.800-1600
ENGL 2791	Romantic Plays and Players
ENGL 2831	Literature and the Internet
ENGL 2841	What is Literature? Literary Thought from Antiquity to Modernity
ENGL 2821	Hotel Stories
ENGLNEW01	Stagecraft and Subversion in the Early English Drama (Replacing ENGL 2701 - English Plays before Shakespeare)
ENGLNEW02	Ted Hughes (Replacing ENGL 2191 Modern Poetry)

## **L3 Lecture Modules**

ENGL 3051	Restoration and 18 <sup>th</sup> Century Literature
ENGL 3061	Literature of the Romantic Period
ENGL3091	Old English
ENGL 3131	American Fiction
ENGL 3162	Dissertation
ENGL 3591	Post-War Fiction and Poetry

## **L3 Seminar Modules**

ENGL 3171	Writing Prose Fiction
ENGL 3831	Literary Psychoanalysis
ENGL 3271	Creative Writing Poetry
ENGL 3611	Keats and Shelley
ENGL 3641	From Romance to Romanticism: An Introduction to English Ballads
ENGL 3711	Mind and Narrative



ENGL 3741	The Politics of Style: From Close Reading to “World Literature”
ENGL 3811	Modernism, Movement and Dance
ENGL 3821	Digital Deformations
ENGL 3841	Reading Games, Playing Books
ENGL 3891	Life Write Now: Reading Contemporary Autofiction
ENGL 3901	Life-Writing and Mental Health
ENGL 3911	Literature and the Artinatural 1850-1950
ENGL 2561 – new code needed for L3 ENGLNEW04	The Domestic Object: Home and Identity in Edwardian and Modern Fiction