

Programme Specification

MA English Literature (full-time)

PFTZENGLITHM

MA English Literature (part-time)

PPTZENGLITHM

For students entering in 2023/24

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	MA English Literature (full-time) - 12 months MA English Literature (part-time) - 2 years
Accreditation	N/A
Programme Start Dates	September

Programme information and content

This degree provides an in-depth investigation into modern English studies. Working with such unique and important resources as the Beckett Archive, the programme will introduce students to methods of research with regard to bibliography, manuscripts, databases, and editing. In the initial stages, the MA will also require students to question and think critically about the organisation of English studies, and especially about the social and chronological categories that are often invoked to place and to explain literature. Following on from this questioning of traditional paradigms in the compulsory modules, the range of the optional modules again invites students to consider the comparative and transnational dynamics of modern English studies. The programme grants students a wide choice of specialised modules within sub-areas of strong current research interest, from the early modern to the contemporary; it enables detailed study of particular authors and canons, from Shakespeare to Beckett, from nation to diaspora.

Module information

The programme comprises of 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

Compulsory modules

Module	Name	Credits	Level
ENMMED	Dissertation	90	M
ENMMT	Materiality and Textuality	30	M

The remaining credits will be taken from the list of optional modules from the School of Literature and Languages or from an approved list of modules from across the University.

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

Part-time and modular students must complete four modules before beginning their dissertation.

Part-time students will replace the compulsory modules ENMMED Dissertation (90 credits) and ENMMT Materiality and Textuality (30 credits) with ENMEDS Dissertation (80 credits) and ENMMAT Materiality and Textuality (40 credits).

They will take these modules in their second year of study. Modular students from 2024-25 onwards will also take ENMEDS Dissertation (80 credits) and ENMMAT Materiality and Textuality (40 credits) as compulsory modules.

Additional costs of the programme

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2022.

Optional modules

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the programme. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Placement opportunities

N/A

Study abroad opportunities

N/A

Teaching and learning delivery

Students are taught in plenary seminar sessions, and also in smaller guided study groups, by the tutors of English and research methods in The Department of English Literature. Active participation by students is expected and encouraged at every stage. Classes in research methods and resources are incorporated into the Materiality and Textuality module. The dissertation is supported by a series of seminars on aspects of dissertation writing, followed by one-to-one supervision.

Total study hours for your programme will be 1800 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is – 80 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

N/A

Assessment

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written assignments, coursework, and a 15,000-word dissertation. Assessment patterns vary from module to module. Further information is contained in the individual module descriptions.

Progression

Part-time and modular progression requirements

Part-time students are expected to complete the EN3MMT Materiality and Textuality module in the first year of study.

Classification

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark Interpretation

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories:

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

For Masters Degree

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

1. gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits; and
2. a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation; and
3. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
4. students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

1. gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits; and
2. a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and

3. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
4. students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

1. gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits; and
2. a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
3. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
4. the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

In addition, for all classifications above, students must obtain a mark of at least 40% in ENMMT.

For PG Diploma

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

1. gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits; and
2. In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
3. students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

1. gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits; and
2. the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and

students must not have any mark below 40.

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

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18 October 2023

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