

Programme Specification

MRes Children's Literature (full-time)

PFTZCHILLIHS

MRes Children's Literature (part-time)

PPTZCHILLIHS

For students entering in 2024/25

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	MRes Children's Literature (full-time) - 12 months MRes Children's Literature (part-time) - 2 years
Accreditation	N/A
Programme Start Dates	September
QAA Subject Benchmarking Group	N/A

Programme information and content

The Children's Literature M(Res.) aims to develop students' comprehension of a wide range of literary and cultural theories and critical approaches and their relevance to the study of 'children's literature' and 'childhood'. Working with a wide range of texts and a selection of other narrative media in English, the course aims to introduce students to the problems and issues around defining texts as 'children's' literature or media, and to develop their ability to question and to think critically and analytically about writings on identity, and the implications for their own thinking and formulations of arguments. The M(Res.) prepares students for advanced study at doctoral level by training them through a research-block composed of a Theory of Children's Literature core module and the dissertation.

Programme Learning Outcomes

-MRes Children's Literature (full-time)

During the course of the Programme, you will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills, knowledge and attributes (known as learning outcomes) For this programme, these are:

Learning outcomes	
1	Demonstrate a knowledge of critical, theoretical and methodological approaches to children's literature and interdisciplinary childhood studies, including children's media
2	Use a knowledge of the origins and development of children's literature and media
3	Implement research skills, including archival research skills
4	Write critically and analytically about issues in children's literature and interdisciplinary childhood studies
5	Demonstrate an awareness of the relevance of issues in children's literature and interdisciplinary childhood studies to wider social and cultural issues and questions

6 Demonstrate an awareness of international and global issues in relation to childhood and children's literatures in English.

You will be expected to engage in learning activities to achieve these Programme learning outcomes. Assessment of your modules will reflect these learning outcomes and test how far you have met the requirements for your degree.

To pass the Programme, you will be required to meet the progression or accreditation and award criteria set out below.

Module information

The programme comprises 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory modules as listed below.

Compulsory modules

Module	Name	Credits	Level
ENMCH8	Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Children's Literature	20	M
ENMCHDI	Dissertation	100	M
ENMCHG	Global Children's Literatures in English	20	M
ENMCHL	Myth, Folktale and Popular Culture	20	M
ENMCHT	Theory of Children's Literature	20	M

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

The programme can be taken part-time over two years. In the first year the students will be required to complete two of the compulsory modules amounting to 40 credits, whilst in the second year the students will be required to complete the remaining two compulsory modules and the dissertation amounting to the remaining 140 credits. The programme may not be completed over more than two years.

Placement opportunities

Placements can be undertaken at the initiative of the student and in consultation with the course Director. The form and assessment of placements will be negotiated on an individual basis.

Study abroad opportunities

N/A

Optional modules

The course does not include optional modules: students are required to complete all compulsory modules and the compulsory dissertation. However, all the compulsory modules are partly or entirely co-designed with each cohort of students, so that optionality takes place within the compulsory modules.

Teaching and learning delivery

You will be taught entirely through interactive, small-group seminars. Some seminars may include student-presentations.

Elements of your programme will be delivered via digital technology.

The scheduled teaching and learning activity hours and amount of technology enhanced learning activity for your programme will depend upon your module combination. In addition, you will undertake some self-scheduled teaching and learning activities, designed by and/or involving staff, which give some flexibility for you to choose when to complete them. You will also be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module study hours including 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 coursework: four 4,000 word summative essays – one for each compulsory module – and the 20,000 word dissertation.

Progression

Part-time and modular progression requirements

Part-time students take the following modules, where the order of the modules per year is reversed every two years (for each new cycle of part-time students):

Year 1: ENMCHL and ENMCHG

Year 2: ENMCHT, ENMCH8 & ENMCHDI

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

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Master's degree:

Award of a Master's degree

- (i) an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 180 credits
- (ii) a mark of 50% or more in at least 120 credits
- (iii) not more than 20 credits with a mark below 40%
- (iv) a mark of 50% or more for the Dissertation

In addition to the threshold conditions for the award of a Master's degree, the following **further** conditions must be satisfied for a classification of Distinction or Merit:

Distinction

An overall weighted average of 70% or more over 180 credits

OR

an overall weighted average of 68% or more over 180 credits and marks of 70% in at least 90 credits

AND

A mark of at least 60% in the dissertation

AND

No marks below 40%.

Merit

An overall weighted average of 60% or more over 180 credits

OR

an overall average of 58% or more over 180 credits and marks of 60% in at least 90 credits

AND

No marks below 40.

For Postgraduate Diploma

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma:

Award of a Postgraduate Diploma

- (i) an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 120 credits
- (ii) a mark of 50% or more in at least 80 credits
- (iii) not more than 20 credits with a mark below 40%

In addition to the threshold conditions for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma, the following further conditions must be satisfied for a classification of Distinction or Merit:

Distinction

An overall weighted average of 70% or more over 120 credits

OR

an overall weighted average of 68% or more over 120 credits and marks of 70% in at least 60 credits

AND

No marks below 40.

Merit

An overall weighted average of 60% or more over 120 credits

OR

an overall average of 58% or more over 120 credits and marks of 60% in at least 60 credits

AND

No marks below 40.

For Postgraduate Certificate

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate:

Award of a Postgraduate Certificate

(i) an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 60 credits

Additional costs of the programme

Students are asked to buy some texts, but we distribute materials when possible and use online availability when possible. When texts must be acquired, we always endeavour to use the least expensive versions possible.

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 2023.

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.

MRes Children's Literature (full-time) for students entering in session 2024/25

8 August 2023

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