



LEEDS  
BECKETT  
UNIVERSITY

# Course Specification

MA English Literature with Pathways:

MA English Literature: Literary Studies

MA English Literature: Creative Writing

MA English Literature: English and  
Creative Writing

Course Code: ENGLI

2026/27

[leedsbeckett.ac.uk](https://leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

## MA English Literature with Pathways:

## MA English Literature: Literary Studies

## MA English Literature: Creative Writing

## MA English Literature: English and Creative Writing

(ENGLI)

### Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at 10/2025

#### General Information

<b>Award</b>	Master of Arts English Literature with Pathways: Master of Arts English Literature: Literary Studies Master of Arts English Literature: Creative Writing Master of Arts English Literature: English and Creative Writing
<b>Contained awards</b>	Post Graduate Certificate English Literature Post Graduate Diploma English Literature
<b>Awarding body</b>	Leeds Beckett University
<b>Level of qualification and credits</b>	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
<b>Course lengths and standard timescales</b>	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 12 months (full time, campus based)</li><li>• 24 months (part-time, campus based)</li></ul>
<b>Part time study</b>	PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. PT students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence from that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that a work placement option is not generally available to PT students.

**Location(s) of delivery** The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.

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**Entry requirements** Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: <https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/>

Admissions enquiries may be directed to: [AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

**Course fees** Course fees are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

Fees enquiries may be directed to [Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

## **Policies, Standards and Regulations**

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>

Standard regulations apply to this course.

## **Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course**

### **Professional body**

N/A

### **Accreditation/recognition summary**

N/A

## **Timetable**

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

## Key Contacts

### Your course director

Dr Caroline Herbert  
[c.herbert@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:c.herbert@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

### Your course administrator

The name of your Course Administrator/s will be confirmed during induction. Their contact details are:  
[EnglishAdmin@Leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:EnglishAdmin@Leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

## Course Overview

### Aims

The aims of the programme are to develop in students:

1. advanced knowledge and critical understanding of a range of literatures in English, informed by recent developments in the field.
2. critical understanding of key literary, critical and theoretical issues and debates in the field of English literature, and the deployment of a range of practical, critical and theoretical skills specific to the modules studied.
3. expertise in the application of theoretical and conceptual models to the analysis and/or creation of literary texts.
4. the ability to produce critical and reflexive evaluation of methodologies, informed by a range of cultural, theoretical, and practice-led reference-points.
5. the ability to demonstrate intellectual independence, self-direction, and originality in tackling problems, and to act independently in planning, designing, and implementing a sustained project of research and/or creative practice.
6. effective ability to construct coherent and persuasive arguments both orally and in written form, including the informed and confident use of appropriate critical vocabulary
7. possession of appropriate bibliographic skills, including the scholarly use of citation and reference in the presentation of written work.
8. the qualities and transferable skills necessary for undertaking a higher research degree in the field and/or for highly-skilled employment/professional practice.

### Course learning outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1	Understand, apply, and criticise key practical, contextual, conceptual and theoretical issues and debates in the analysis and/or creation of literary texts;
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2	develop persuasive and sophisticated style both orally and in written form, including the advanced use of appropriate critical vocabulary and appropriate bibliographic (citation and reference) skills;
3	articulate how to transfer the qualities and skills necessary for undertaking a higher research degree in the field and/or for highly-skilled employment/professional practice;
4	reflect on and evaluate methodologies, drawing on a range of cultural, theoretical, and practice-led reference-points;
5	demonstrate intellectual independence, self-direction, and originality in tackling problems, and act independently in planning, designing, and implementing a sustained project of research and/or creative practice;

## Teaching and Learning Activities

### Summary

Teaching and learning happens in and outside of the classroom. Seminars will be delivered in person. Outside of class students must be prepared to read both the materials assigned to them as well as reading 'around' the topic, especially in the preparation of assignments. Additional learning resources, including some lecture materials, will also be provided online via our Virtual Learning Environment.

Classes typically take the form of seminars, broadly defined to take in a range of teaching activities that cater to various learning styles. As with undergraduate study, at postgraduate level it is key to engage students in a mix of structured discussions, workshop exercises, learning sets and in-class assignments that develop students' critical, analytical, creative and reflective abilities. These activities further develop and hone students' curiosity, problem-solving, active learning and team-working. Because it is crucial to the learning process, all students are encouraged to contribute and engage in debate. Discussions are always inclusive, so that agreeing and dissenting voices are recognised and heard. Where necessary, such as in the discussion of sensitive topics, 'rules of engagement' will be established early in the running of modules. We are mindful of students with diverse needs and have an effective system for those who hold reasonable adjustment plans, which includes liaison with administrative and other central services of the university, including Well-being Support, and Disability Services.

All members of the English and Creative Writing team are published researchers and practitioners who have made contributions to the development of the discipline. It is fundamental to this course that we regard both rigour and imagination as essential characteristics of student work that is carried out on both sides of, and between, the intersection between creative and critical approaches to English Literature. Equally vital is the development of skills in listening, reflection, and thinking empathetically. Through understanding differing viewpoints, and cultural perspectives that are unlike our own, we can better understand -- and indeed question and rethink -- our own voices and attitudes, and develop them in the pursuit of good relationships, positive contributions to society, and an inclusive, balanced sense of our own global citizenship. This ethos is fundamental to the course. Practised in class, and furthered through

assignments, we expect to see rigour, imagination and empathy as among the key attributes of graduates of MA English Literature.

Time outside of classroom is spent in the guided reading of primary texts, the researching of secondary materials, other preparatory work such as informal groupwork, and the completion of written or other tasks. Independent learning tasks are regularly set ahead of seminars and workshops, and these provide students with an opportunity to prepare thoroughly for discussions and/or workshops, to absorb and reflect on the topic(s) and to begin to formulate their own ideas and responses. Regular, directed reading and writing exercises further help to enhance students' academic writing skills of clarity and fluency of expression, coherence and persuasive argumentation and the effective citation of supporting evidence. The frequency of such exercises is particularly important at postgraduate level study given the concentration of the credits into a relatively short (one or two-year) programme. A varied diet of exercises encourages adaptability, which, again, is important in preparing students both for the varied challenges of the course assignments, but also the challenges that await them as highly-skilled members of the workforce and positive contributors to community and society.

These learning and teaching approaches accord with the Leeds Beckett University Education Strategy's Learning Pathway, which at level 7 emphasises the value of 'sophistication', independence of mind, and critical thought, while also recognising that 'Level 7 is as much about transition as level 4, and we will support this transition so that all students will become confident in their academic and professional abilities and able to apply their knowledge and skills within complex situations'.

## Your modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Part-time students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Students will be tied to a full pathway at the start of the course for administrative reasons, but then select their preferred pathway in the course of the first semester.

The Major Project module extends across the summer beyond the calendar length of Semester 2.

## Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Creative Criticism (all Pathways)	30	1 – delivered over 10 weeks
Contemporary Literature (all Pathways)	40	1 – delivered over 12 weeks

Literature in Practice (all Pathways)	20	1 – delivered over 7 weeks
Major Project (all Pathways)	60	2 and over the summer
Literature and History (Literary Studies Pathway)	30	2
The Art of Creative Writing (Creative Writing Pathway)	30	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	180	

### ***Option modules***

<b>Module title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Semester/ teaching period</b>
<b>For the English and Creative Writing Pathway, students choose either:</b>		
Literature in History OR	30	2
The Art of Creative Writing	30	2
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	30	

\*The combined pathway in English and Creative Writing is achieved by students undertaking a Major Project in Literary Studies alongside The Art of Creative Writing, or a Major Project in Creative Writing alongside the Literature and History module.

## **Assessment and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities**

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director, but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

The modules on this course have different lengths and different notional hours of study attached to them. Hours will be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

### **Assessment**

On this course students will be assessed through a mixture of coursework assignments. There is a major independent study module which will require the production of a dissertation or creative writing, coupled with reflective commentary.

### **Workload**

<b>Overall Workload</b>	
Teaching, learning and assessment	116 hours
Independent study	1684 hours
Placement	-