



**LEEDS  
BECKETT  
UNIVERSITY**

## Course information for applicants

This information applies to the course as it will be delivered to students starting the course in 2027/28.

Information provided here was confirmed on 24/09/2026

## General information

### Programme code

ENGLI

### Target award

If you complete this course successfully you will be eligible for the award of:

MA English Literature with Pathways:

MA English Literature: Literary Studies

MA English Literature: Creative Writing

MA English Literature: English and Creative Writing

### Delivery mode

☒ On campus

☐ Distance learning

### Where you will study

The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.

### Awarding body

Leeds Beckett University

### Regulator

Office for Students

### Level of qualification

Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

### Course duration

If you are made an offer of a place on the course, your offer letter will include the start date.

This course can be studied:

12 months full-time

24 months part-time

## Part-time study

This course can be studied part-time.

If you study the course part-time, it will usually take twice as long to complete compared with the equivalent full-time course. The modules may be delivered in a different sequence than on the full-time course, but you will study the same modules at each academic level. With the agreement of the course team, you may be able to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration.

As a part-time student, you will not usually have the option of a work placement.

## Work placement

This course does not include a placement year.

## Entry requirements

Admissions criteria are available on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have previous relevant qualifications or experience, you could be exempt from certain parts of your course. Recognition of prior learning (RPL) allows you to start your course at a point appropriate to the learning and skills that you may have developed in a professional, vocational or community setting.

Find out more here: <https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning>

If you have questions about entry requirements and admissions, contact [AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

## Course fees

Course fees and a breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have questions about fees for this course, contact [Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

## Timetable

You will receive your full timetable for the year during induction week.

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# What you will study

## Course 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.

### Teaching and learning activities

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'.

## Course structure

This information is correct for students progressing through the course within standard timescales. If you have to repeat study or take time out during your course, you may be taught alternative modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes.

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.

## Level 7

### 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                           |
| Total number of credits of compulsory modules:         | 180     |                             |

### Option modules

| Module title                                                                 | Credits | Semester/teaching period |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| <b>For the English and Creative Writing Pathway, students choose either:</b> |         |                          |
| Literature in History <b>OR</b>                                              | 30      | 2                        |
| The Art of Creative Writing                                                  | 30      | 2                        |
| Total number of credits of elective modules a student must enrol on:         | 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.

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## Assessment and feedback

The balance of assessment may change depending on which pathway and option modules you choose.

### Level 7

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.

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## Workload

The modules on this course have different lengths and different notional hours of study attached to them.

You can expect to spend a total of 100 hours learning per 10 credits.

| Overall workload                  | Level 7    |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Teaching, learning and assessment | 116 hours  |
| Independent study                 | 1694 hours |
| Placement study                   | -          |