

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

FOR TAUGHT PROGRAMMES AT ALL LEVELS

Name of Programme:		BA(Hons) English Literature with Journalism	
Final award (BSc, MA etc):		BA	
Awarding institution/body:	University of Buckingham	Teaching institution:	University of Buckingham
School of Study:	Humanities	Parent Department:	English
Length of the programme:	2 years Also 3 year option.	Method of study: Full-time/Part-time/Other	Full Time
Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level (see Guidance notes, section D – External Reference Points)	FHEQ Level 6	Relevant subject benchmark statement (SBS) (see Guidance notes, section D – External Reference Points)	QAA SBS: English (2015); QAA SBS: Creative Writing (2016); QAA SBS: Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies (2016).
Professional body accreditation (if applicable):	N/A		
Criteria for admission to the programme:	A-level: BCC /104 UCAS points/ IB 24 or equivalent qualifications.	Cohort(s) to which applicable	From 1988 onwards
UCAS Code	Q3P5(2Yr) Q322(3Yr)		

Summary of Programme

This programme combines the Major in English Literature with a vocationally-orientated Minor, with a view to familiarising students with a range of key journalistic principles and writing practices. It draws on the many natural synergies between literature, language, and (photo-)graphic design across different media platforms

Educational Aims of the Programme

The programme aims to:

English Literature specific

- provide knowledge of the discipline as traditionally constructed by examining a range of literature in different genres across different historical periods
- facilitate critically-informed understanding of ways to approach literary texts, and understanding of current critical issues and theories
- give students the ability to engage closely and in detail with the stylistic and rhetorical features of texts

Journalism specific

- Introduce students to the technology, styles, and issues of the contemporary media
- teach up-to-the minute writing and software skills for those wishing to work as a journalist in some area of the media industries (online, print, and broadcast)
- provide high-level conceptual understanding of media practice, and ongoing instruction in media law relevant to different writing platforms
- provide extensive hands-on experience of TV newsgathering and production in an 'as live' environment (www.ustream.tv/channel/buckingham.news) and via IP TV

English Literature with Journalism

- encourage cross-fertilisation between the study and appreciation of literature and the creation of flexible and dynamic writing styles
- provide awareness of how style variously carries, mediates, and creates message in a journalistic context, and how to apply this reflexively in both critical writing and reporting/reportage
- enable students to consider how questions of political economy, representation, discourse, identity and ideology affect not just the media but their own major discipline
- the ability to read, write, and speak the language of effective and thorough communication.
- opportunities for rigorous discussion and debate, encouraged in a tutorial environment
- competencies directly relating to employability:
 - high-order conceptual, literacy, and communication skills
 - intellectual skills of critical analysis, synthesis, and evaluation
 - high-level, fluent, and accurate writing and presentation skills
 - excellent IT skills.

Programme Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding of:

On successful completion of their studies, students will be able to

1. Comprehend a significant number of texts and authors from different periods of literary history (including > 50 units of pre-1800 literature)
2. Understand the cultural, socio-historical, and ideological contexts in which the above are produced and read
3. Recognise the interdisciplinary nature of the study of literature in English and its ethically and emotionally educative dimensions
4. Knowledge of the main structure of national and international media organisations, and understanding of their dynamism
5. Demonstrate basic knowledge of UK media law and understanding of the principles which underwrite legislation in other countries; historically-informed knowledge of development of media codes of ethics
6. Display practical knowledge of industry-recommended software for DTP, online publishing, broadcast and photo-journalism



Teaching/Learning Strategy

used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated:

1. Courses dealing with specific historical periods and literary movements
2. Seminar and tutorial discussions focussing on detailed reading of texts and their features
3. Lectures, presentations, transparencies and handouts situating texts in their different contexts
4. Regular instruction in media law, ethics, and conceptual study of the media; teaching co-ordinated and delivered by experienced working journalists and teachers
5. Practical instruction in use of ICT and industry-standard software; analysis of generic graphic design issues
6. 2nd- year courses each dedicated to the writing and project-management skills required in the main media environments



Assessment Strategy:

1. Module essays
2. Unseen examinations
3. Practical Assessments
4. In-class tests
5. Presentations
6. Formative assessment

<p><u>Cognitive (thinking) skills:</u> <i>On successful completion of their studies, students will be able to</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read and describe a text closely in formal terms (stylistic, rhetorical, generic, etc.) 2. Articulate responses to the affective power of literature and its aesthetic qualities 3. Show awareness of how, historically, different social and cultural assumptions have operated inherently in the production and reception of literary texts 4. Analyse intellectually media messaging and representation 5. Draw upon and synthesise ideas from different disciplines 6. Show creativity and self-reflexivity in carrying out project work in different media 	<p>→</p>	<p><u>Teaching/Learning Strategy:</u> <i>used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Close analysis through lectures (up to 30), seminar activities, and tutorials (4-7 students) of a text's formal qualities 2. Setting reading and chairing subsequent tutorial debates over the central critical issues raised by set texts, as preparation for writing evaluative essays 3. Lecture and tutorial explanations of historical difference and cultural change 4. Syllabus is delivered through analytical lectures, inter-active seminars with an emphasis on discussing messaging and practical semiotics 5. Project work designed to allow students to choose agendas which complement their major discipline 6. Use of log-books to encourage self-reflexive practice
<p><u>Practical/Transferable skills (able to):</u> <i>Graduates successfully completing the programming will possess</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Skills of intellectual analysis, discrimination, and evaluation 2. Capacity for independent thought and judgement, including appreciation of alternative perspectives 3. Receptivity and detailed attention to others' points of view and emotional intelligence of response 4. Ability to discuss media concepts at an advanced level 5. Advanced communication and presentation skills in interpersonal settings 6. Ability to adapt to different media platforms and to work productively in a group or team, showing abilities at different times to listen, contribute and lead effectively 7. Research skills, including advanced information retrieval, note-taking and organisational abilities 8. Drafting, editing and presentational skills suitable for professional publications 9. Ability to produce work demonstrating competent manipulation of the written word, sound, and image 10. Ability to plan and manage time effectively, individually and as part of a team 11. High level IT skills 12. Ability to write for different platforms and brands 	<p>→</p>	<p><u>Teaching/Learning Strategy:</u> <i>used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prescribing different and sometimes conflicting readings of set texts for analysis, to demonstrate the need for synthesis and evaluation 2. Students challenged continually in development of assessed material, to appraise and judge different intellectual positions and to engage constructively with them 3. Weekly, detailed tutorial discussions amongst small groups of students (4 – 7) 4. inviting students to debate ongoing media approaches to news in tutorials and seminars 5. Making students communicate their ideas formally (during as-live broadcast) and informally (during simulated newspaper work) 6. 2nd-year courses simulate four different media environments, two of which involve news teams 7. On-going instruction in use of Library & Information Services, and advice on studying patterns (Personal Tutor system) 8. Detailed feedback on drafts; on grammar, style and presentation of written work; provision of Department's own <i>Style Guide</i> 9. Students required to submit portfolios of DTP, print, broadcast and online work 10. Setting frequent deadlines to encourage fluency and discipline 11. All students take a beginner's course in ICT, and are required to use PCs throughout the minor programme, for research, and creating and submitting work 12. Students required to interact with actual and up-to-date examples of brands and formats, and practise writing in each genre

	→	<u>Assessment Strategy:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Module essays 2. Unseen examinations 3. In-class tests 4. Presentations 5. Formative assessment
External Reference Points The following reference points were used in designing the programme		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Pages/quality-code-A1.aspx); • Relevant Subject Benchmark Statement(s) (http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Pages/quality-code-A2.aspx); • Other (list) 		
Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each course unit/module can be found in the departmental or programme handbook. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed annually by the University of Buckingham and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency.		
Programme Director(s) Name(s):		Professor Stefan Hawlin, Mr Roger Perkins
Date approved by School Learning and Teaching Committee		N/A
Date approved by School Board of Study		Jan 2013
Date approved by University Learning and Teaching Committee		Feb 2013

ENGLISH LITERATURE WITH JOURNALISM [BA]

January Entry

All modules are 15 units, except where specified as 30 units.

	COMBINED HONOURS		
	MAJOR		MINOR*
Term	YEAR ONE		
1 Winter	Poetry and Poetics [4]	Victorian Fiction [4]	Introduction to Reporting [4]
2 Spring	Fiction and Theory [4]	Victorian Poetry [4]	Videocraft [4]
	THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION		
3 Summer	Creative Writing 1 [4] †	Rewriting Empire [5]	Media Studies [5]
4 Autumn	Reading Genders [5]	Literary Journalism 1642-Present [5]	Principles of Media Practice [5]
	THE PART 1 EXAMINATION		
	YEAR TWO		
5 Winter	Restoration and Augustan Literature [6]	Modern American Literature [6]	Advanced Story Technique [6]
6 Spring	Romantic Literature [6]	Film Studies [5]	From Data to Story [6]
	THE PART 2 STAGE 1 EXAMINATION		
7 Summer	Shakespearean Drama [6]	Modernist Writing [6]	Radio Journalism [6]
8 Autumn	Renaissance Literature [6]	Contemporary Writing [6]	Current Affairs TV [6]
	THE PART 2 STAGE 2 EXAMINATION		

* In all terms students are expected to engage, for credit, in the production of both the Wednesday video news bulletin and their own radio show.

† At the discretion of the Programme Director, an appropriate 15-unit English Language or English Literature module may be substituted for Creative Writing 1.

ENGLISH LITERATURE WITH JOURNALISM [BA]

September Entry - 9 Terms

All modules are 15 units, except where specified as 30 units.

	COMBINED HONOURS		
	MAJOR		MINOR*
Term	YEAR ONE		
1 Autumn	Eras of English [4] **	Plays in Performance [4]	
	THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 1		
2 Winter	Poetry and Poetics [4]	Introduction to Reporting [4]	
3 Spring	Fiction and Theory [4]	Videocraft [4] **	
	THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2		
4 Summer	Creative Writing 1 [4] †	Rewriting Empire [5]	Media Studies [5]
5 Autumn	Reading Genders [4]	Literary Journalism 1642- Present [5]	Principles of Media Practice [5]
	THE PART 1 EXAMINATION		
	YEAR TWO		
6 Winter	Restoration and Augustan Literature [6]	Modern American Literature [6]	Advanced Story Technique [6]
7 Spring	Romantic Literature [6]	Film Studies [5]	From Data to Story [6]
	THE PART 2 STAGE 1 EXAMINATION		
8 Summer	Shakespearean Drama [6]	Modernist Writing [6]	Radio Journalism [6]
9 Autumn	Renaissance Literature [6]	Contemporary Writing [6]	Current Affairs TV [6]
	THE PART 2 STAGE 2 EXAMINATION		

* In all terms students are expected to engage, for credit, in the production of both the Wednesday video news bulletin and their own radio show.

** Eras of English and Videocraft may change terms with one another at the discretion of the Programme Director.

† At the discretion of the Programme Director, an appropriate 15-unit English Language or English Literature module may be substituted for Creative Writing 1.

ENGLISH LITERATURE WITH JOURNALISM [BA]
September Entry – 3 year, 3 term per annum, Programme
All modules are 15 units, except where specified as 30 units.

	COMBINED HONOURS		
	MAJOR		MINOR*
Term	YEAR ONE		
1 Autumn	Eras of English [4]	Plays in Performance [4]	Introduction to Reporting [4]
	THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 1		
2 Winter	Poetry and Poetics [4]	Victorian Fiction [4]	
3 Spring	Fiction and Theory [4]	Victorian Poetry [4]	Videocraft [4] **
	THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2		
	YEAR TWO		
4 Autumn	Reading Genders [5]	Literary Journalism 1642-Present [5]	Principles of Media Practice [5]
	THE PART 1 EXAMINATION		
5 Winter	Restoration and Augustan Literature [6]	Shakespearean Drama [6]	ONE of : Media Studies [5] Digital Publishing [5]
6 Spring	Romantic Literature [6]	20th-Century Theatre [5]	
	THE PART 2 STAGE 1 EXAMINATION		
	YEAR THREE		
7 Autumn	Synoptic Study Unit [6]	Renaissance Literature [6]	Current Affairs TV [6]
	THE PART 2 STAGES 1 & 2 EXAMINATION		
8 Winter	Rewriting Empire [5]	Modern American Literature [6]	Advanced Story Technique [6]
9 Spring	Modernist Writing [6]	Film Studies [5]	
	THE PART 2 STAGE 2 EXAMINATION		

* In all terms students are expected to engage, for credit, in the production of both the Wednesday video news bulletin and their own radio show.