

School of English

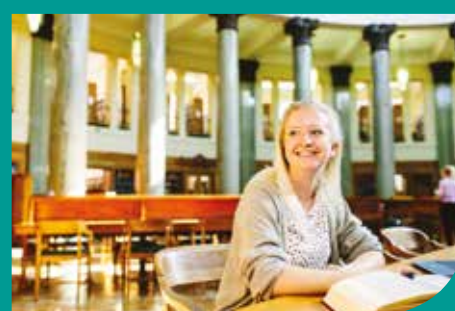
FACULTY OF ARTS, HUMANITIES AND CULTURES



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



POSTGRADUATE STUDY



Contents

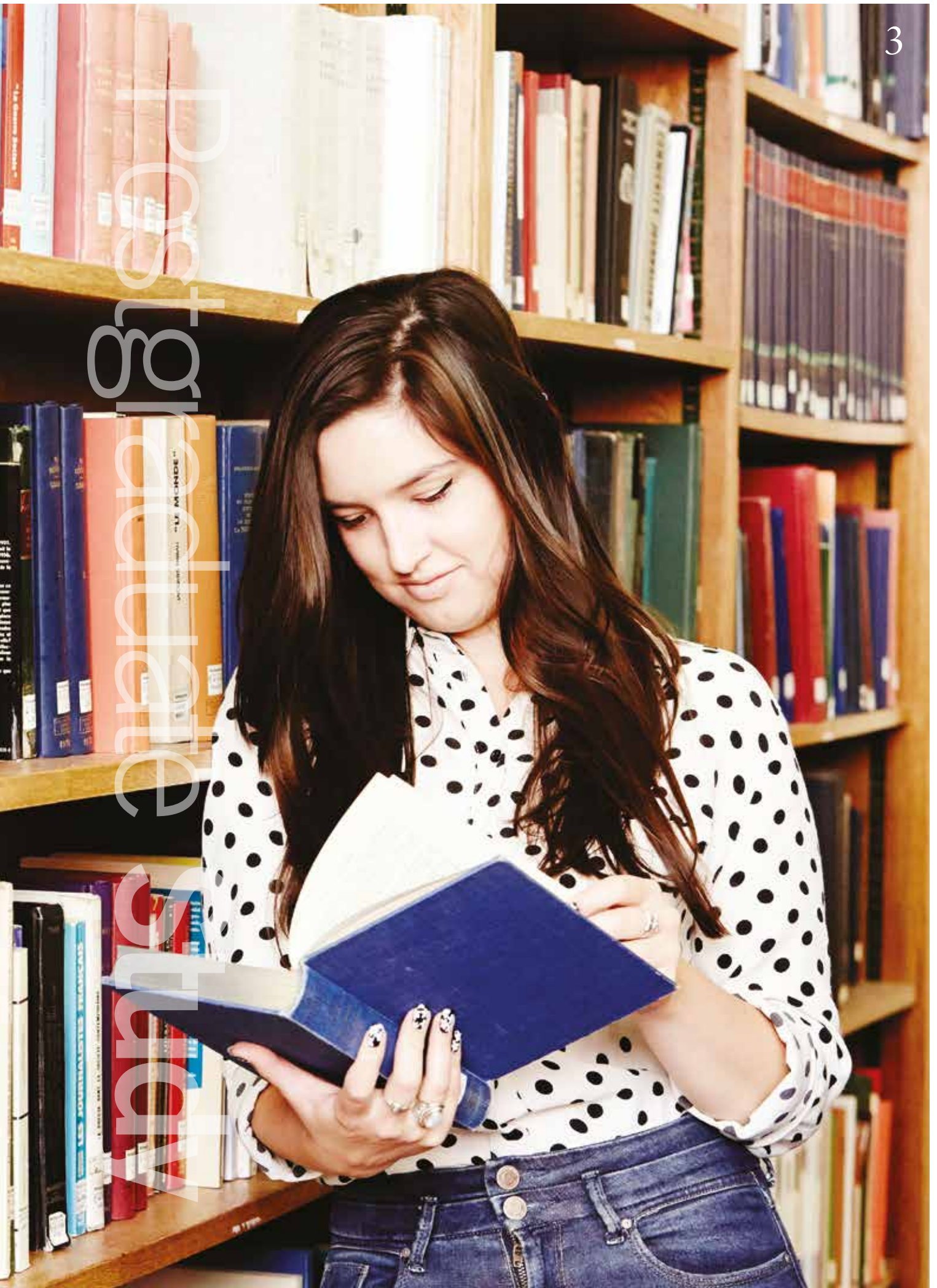
Important Information

Information provided by the University such as in presentations, University brochures and the University website, is accurate at the time of first disclosure. However, courses, University services and content of publications remain subject to change. Changes may be necessary to comply with the requirements of accrediting bodies or to keep courses contemporary through updating practices or areas of study.

Circumstances may arise outside the reasonable control of the University, leading to required changes. Such circumstances include: industrial action, unexpected student numbers, significant staff illness (where a course is reliant upon a person's expertise), unexpected lack of funding, severe weather, fire, civil disorder, political unrest, government restrictions and serious concern with regard to the transmission of serious illness making a course unsafe to deliver. After a student has taken up a place with the University, the University will look to give early notification of any changes and try to minimise their impact, offering suitable alternative arrangements or forms of compensation where it believes there is a fair case to do so. Offers of a place to study at the University will provide up to date information on courses. The latest key information on courses, entry requirements and fees can be found at www.leeds.ac.uk/courses.

Please check this website before making any decisions.

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The School of English

The School of English is a research-led school and you will join a community of academics who are at the cutting edge of research in their field.

Our staff are engaged in a wide variety of research activities, many funded by prestigious external bodies such as the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the British Academy and the Leverhulme Trust.

Research interests of our staff can be found at www.leeds.ac.uk/arts/school_of_english_staff

- **University of the Year 2017**
(The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2017)
- **Top 15 university in the UK**
(Complete University Guide 2018)
- **Top 40 in the world for English Language and Literature**
(QS World Rankings by Subject 2017)
- **Top 100 university in the world**
(QS World Rankings)
- **Member of the Russell Group of 24 research-intensive universities.**

With over 40 full-time members of staff, whose interests range across the whole spectrum of English studies, the School is one of the largest and most dynamic English departments in the UK and has an international reputation for research excellence.

We offer postgraduate provision at both MA and PhD levels in an unparalleled range of subject areas, including:

- American Literature and Culture
- Commonwealth and Postcolonial Literatures
- Contemporary British Literature
- Critical and Cultural Theory
- Creative Writing
- Eighteenth-Century Literature
- English Language
- Medieval and Early Modern Literature, including Shakespeare
- Modern British Literature
- Romantic Literature
- Theatre Studies
- Victorian Literature

Leeds has been an innovator in many of these areas. It was the first British university to establish the study of commonwealth literature and the first to create a Chair in American Literature. The journals *Leeds Studies in English*, *Moving Worlds*, *The James Joyce Broadsheet* and *Poetry and Audience*, as well as the poetry magazine *Stand*, were established here and continue to thrive. Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/arts/school_of_english_publications

Building on its distinguished past, the School remains at the forefront of innovative scholarship across the whole field of English studies, which creates a vibrant culture for all our students to benefit from.

The School also plays a vital interdisciplinary role in several of the University's leading research centres, including the Institute for Medieval Studies, the Institute of Colonial and Postcolonial Studies, and the Leeds Centre for Medical Humanities.

Research seminars

Our regular seminars, given by invited academics, staff and current research students, sustain the School's dynamic research culture. In addition to the School-wide seminars, which cover a wide range of subject areas and interdisciplinary interests, each research area of the School runs its own seminar series. The University also hosts numerous seminars for you to attend.

University Library

The University Library is one of the major academic research libraries in the UK and attracts scholars from around the world to its extensive print and manuscript collections. Its rich and growing print and online collections, gathered over 100 years, include some of the UK's most outstanding rare books and manuscripts.

As well as 2.8 million books, you will have access to over 500,000 online books and more than 37,000 print and online journals. Four libraries across campus house different subject-based collections and most provide a range of study environments. The Edward Boyle Library offers over 2,000 study spaces, bookable rooms and facilities dedicated to postgraduate students. The Library runs an excellent training programme to help you exploit all the resources on offer. Find out more at www.library.leeds.ac.uk

Regional libraries and archives

The Leeds Library, England's oldest surviving subscription library, has a remarkable collection of nineteenth-century first editions and The Leeds City Library also houses a valuable collection of Victorian books and rare periodicals. The British Library Document Supply lending division and reading room (an invaluable resource, especially for periodical material) is located in Boston Spa, just outside Leeds.

Careers

Undertaking postgraduate study at Leeds enhances your career prospects. In addition to the skills, contacts and broad professional awareness you gain in a postgraduate course at Leeds, we offer refined support and activities to help you achieve your career goals and make the most of your English skills in the workplace.

Mentor support

The Leeds Network gives you the opportunity to pair up with an experienced mentor from the world of work to receive personalised support. You can explore career options, gain tips on entry into specific careers and receive supportive advice on developing your career plans.

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures careers events

The Faculty hosts a number of careers events, workshops, taster sessions and fairs which attract leading graduate employers.

University Careers Centre

The award-winning Careers Centre provides free advice to all our students and graduates. They offer a drop-in service for advice on any career related issue, organise employer networking events and recruitment fairs, support your career planning strategies and help with job application forms/CV's. They also provide dedicated support for business start-ups including mentoring and funding for students who want to develop a viable business. Find out more at <http://careerweb.leeds.ac.uk>

Postgraduate opportunities

There are opportunities for second and third year doctoral students to undertake some undergraduate teaching as part of their career development. Support is offered both by induction sessions within the School and by programmes run by the University's Organisational Development and Professional Learning unit.

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures Graduate School

With the aim of bringing together postgraduates working across the Faculty, the Graduate School offers computing facilities, social space and seminar rooms for our postgraduates to mix, exchange ideas and create interdisciplinary networks. You can take part in professionalisation training events for postgraduates in the humanities, apply for the funding provided for postgraduate-run workshops and networks, and get information about the Faculty's research seminars and events.



DURING YOUR STUDIES, YOU
ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONSIDER
WAYS TO REFINE AND DEVELOP
YOUR EXISTING SKILLS TOWARDS
ACADEMIC PROGRESS



Our degrees will:

- Develop your interests in greater depth than is possible at undergraduate level.
- Provide an additional qualification for career development.
- Prepare you for doctoral research and help you attract external funding.
- Train you in research methods.
- Require you to write a 12,000 – 15,000 word research dissertation on the subject(s) of your choosing, with regular supervision.
- Offer small-group teaching in seminars no larger than 10 students.

We offer the following taught Masters degrees that can be studied full-time (12 months) or part-time (24 months):

- English Literature
- English Literature (Modern and Contemporary pathway)
- English Literature (Renaissance pathway)
- English Literature (Romantic pathway)
- English Literature (Victorian pathway)
- American Literature and Culture
- Creative Writing and Critical Life
- Postcolonial Literary and Cultural Studies

The 'Studying English: Research Methods' module, a core module of all our taught degrees, incorporates sessions on primary research, academic writing, subject-specific research and the research project/dissertation. As a result, you will be well equipped to complete your dissertation and gain an excellent basis for future doctoral study. At the end of the second semester the School holds a one day symposium organised by taught MA students where you will get the chance to present your research to staff and students.





MA English Literature

This degree is designed to allow you the greatest freedom to explore the diversity of expertise within the School of English.

You can choose from a selection of research-led modules covering a wide range of options. You will be able to study modules from different historical periods and from English, American, and Postcolonial literatures, allowing you to specialise in a particular period or genre, or put diverse modules together to tailor the degree to your own needs and interests.

The flexibility offered by this degree makes it attractive to many different kinds of student. You can use it to further interests already established in your undergraduate degree or to supplement and fill in the gaps in your knowledge and expertise. If you are looking to develop a topic which crosses conventional period and subject boundaries, or are as yet unsure of the precise area in which you want to work, the versatility of this degree makes it an excellent starting point. This degree is useful if you intend to pursue a career in teaching at any level, or as a 'refresher' for current teachers, and for those who wish to pursue doctoral study.

Course structure

You study two compulsory modules (Studying English: Research Methods and the Research Project/Dissertation) along with three option modules, one of which can be a module taken outside of the School of English.

Semester One (September – December)	Semester Two (January- May)
Studying English: Research Methods	Option Module 2
Option Module 1	Option Module 3
Research Project/Dissertation	

Teaching and assessment

- The majority of option modules are assessed by one 4,000 word essay.
- The research project/dissertation is 12,000 – 15,000 words in length, to be submitted at the end of the degree in September.
- The majority of modules are taught by one two-hour seminar per week.

Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

Course content

In addition to the compulsory modules, you choose three option modules from a selection. A different module list is made available each year, but previously offered modules include the following:

- Africas of the Mind
- Apprentices to Life: The Nineteenth-Century *Bildungsroman*
- Arthurian Legend: Medieval to Modern
- The Brontës
- Caribbean and Black British Writing
- Culture and Anarchy: 1945 – 1965
- Enigmatic Body of Modernism
- Feeling Time
- Fictions of Citizenship in Contemporary American Literature
- Global Indigeneity
- Literature and the Politics of Language
- Literature of Crisis: Politics and Gender in 1790s Britain
- Reading (with) Psychoanalysis
- Romantic Ecologies
- Shakespeare's Tyrants
- So Where Do You Come From? Selves, Families, Stories
- The Magic of Mimesis
- Turks, Moors and Jews: Staging the Exotic in the Renaissance
- Victorian New Media
- War, Mourning, Memory: 1914-1939
- Writing about Death in Nineteenth-Century America

Please note that this is an indicative module list: our modules change regularly and a different selection is available every year. For a complete listing of available modules see www.leeds.ac.uk/courses



MA English Literature

(Modern and Contemporary pathway)

This MA pathway offers the opportunity to study the literatures of Britain and Ireland from the birth of Modernism to the writing of the present day.

You will encounter a variety of texts from across the century and be invited both to understand those texts in their historical contexts and to view them in the light of shifting theoretical discourses and debates.

A range of option modules represent the School's significant expertise in the period, and you'll also be able to take two modules from the full list of those offered for the MA English Literature (see page 7). In its concentrated attention on a single period, this pathway provides an excellent basis for students who wish to pursue further research in the area.

Course structure

You study two compulsory modules (Studying English: Research Methods and Research Project/Dissertation) along with three option modules, two of which can be from outside of the pathway and one of which can be a module taken outside of the School of English.

Semester One (September – December)	Semester Two (January – May)
Studying English: Research Methods	Option Module 2
Option Module 1	Option Module 3
Research Project/Dissertation	

Teaching and assessment

- The majority of option modules are assessed by one 4,000 word essay.
- The research project/dissertation is 12,000 – 15,000 words in length, to be submitted at the end of the degree in September.
- The majority of modules are taught by one two-hour seminar per week.

Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

Course content

In addition to the compulsory modules, you choose at least one option module from a selection, for example:

- Caribbean and Black British Writing
- Culture and Anarchy: 1945 – 1965
- Enigmatic Body of Modernism
- Global Indigeneity
- Reading (with) Psychoanalysis

Please note that this is an indicative module list: our modules change regularly and a different selection is available every year. For a complete listing of available modules see www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

MA English Literature

(Renaissance pathway)

This MA pathway studies the literature of the Renaissance in relation to a variety of political and cultural contexts. You will study an eclectic mix of different kinds of texts, including plays, poetry, court entertainments, translations, political tracts and sermons, and gain a multifaceted insight into this exciting area.

The School has one of the strongest teams of Renaissance scholars in the country. Four members of staff work centrally within the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and their expertise ranges from Elizabethan and Jacobean literature, including Shakespeare, to the literature of the Restoration; from historicist criticism to gender studies; and from court politics to the history of the book.

You will be able to investigate a rewarding variety of writers, issues and approaches, while the research project/dissertation provides the opportunity to pursue individual interests in more depth and with expert supervision. You will be able to use the outstanding resources in the University's Brotherton Library, including a variety of manuscript, archive and early printed materials. You will be welcomed into a vibrant intellectual community, which meets through regular research seminars, enjoys visits from scholars from all over the country, and is one of the centres at which the Cambridge Edition of *The Works of Ben Jonson* is based.

Course structure

You study two compulsory modules (Studying English: Research Methods and the Research Project/Dissertation), along with three option modules, two of which can be from outside of the pathway and one of which can be taken outside of the School of English.

Semester One (September – December)	Semester Two (January – May)
Studying English: Research Methods	Option Module 2
Option Module 1	Option Module 3
Research Project/Dissertation	

Teaching and assessment

- The majority of option modules are assessed by one 4,000 word essay.
- The research project/dissertation is 12,000 – 15,000 words in length, to be submitted at the end of the degree in September.
- The majority of modules are taught by one two-hour seminar per week.

Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/courses



Course content

In addition to the compulsory modules, you choose at least one option module from a selection, for example:

- Shakespeare's Tyrants
- Turks, Moors, and Jews: Staging the Exotic in the Renaissance

Please note that this is an indicative module list: our modules change regularly and a different selection is available every year. For a complete listing of available modules see www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

MA English Literature

(Romantic pathway)

This MA pathway focuses on one of the most exciting periods of British literary and political history: the years from the Declaration of American Independence through to the passing of the Great Reform Act in 1832.

This period is dominated by the French Revolution, an event that inspired contrary feelings of fear and pity, revulsion and enthusiasm. While the period is one of great social upheaval, it is also one of literary invention and philosophical enquiry. This MA pathway offers you the opportunity to explore this period by concentrating on the related themes of sensibility, imagination, gender, national identities, revolutionary politics and romantic literature. You will be able to choose from a set of options focusing on key areas of literary and cultural study in which the impact of social and cultural change was most strongly felt.

Course structure

You study two compulsory modules (Studying English: Research Methods and Research Project/Dissertation) along with three option modules, two of which can be from outside of the pathway and one of which can be a module taken outside of the School of English.

Semester One (September – December)	Semester Two (January – May)
Studying English: Research Methods	Option Module 2
Option Module 1	Option Module 3
Research Project/Dissertation	

Teaching and assessment

- The majority of option modules are assessed by one 4,000 word essay.
- The research project/dissertation is 12,000 – 15,000 words in length, to be submitted at the end of the degree in September.
- The majority of modules are taught by one two-hour seminar per week.

Find out more at
www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

Course content

In addition to the compulsory modules, you choose at least one option module from a selection, for example:

- Literature of Crisis: Politics and Gender in 1790s Britain
- Romantic Ecologies

Please note that this is an indicative module list: our modules change regularly and a different selection is available every year. For a complete listing of available modules see www.leeds.ac.uk/courses



MA English Literature

(Victorian pathway)

This MA pathway offers an opportunity to study literary works of the nineteenth century in a city rich in Victorian resources.

Staff with Victorian specialisms bring a wide range of expertise to this lively field of study. With its scope and variety and its concentrated scholarly attention on a single period, this pathway provides an excellent foundation for further research in Victorian literature and culture. Leeds retains an unrivalled Victorian city centre, no fewer than three Victorian theatres, many great buildings designed and built in the nineteenth century, and an extensive collection of Victorian paintings in the Leeds Art Gallery. You will benefit from studying in a major Victorian cultural and industrial centre, and be able to take advantage of the archives, museums, galleries and libraries that the City and University have to offer.

The Brotherton Library, Leeds City Library, and Leeds Library (a subscription library) have extensive nineteenth century holdings, including manuscripts and Victorian newspapers and periodicals.

Option modules enable you to develop your interests in fiction, poetry, and drama of the period and give you the chance to explore texts and contexts that are new to you.

Course structure

You study two compulsory modules (Studying English: Research Methods and Research Project/Dissertation) along with three option modules, two of which can be from outside of the pathway and one of which can be a module taken outside of the School of English.

Semester One (September – December)	Semester Two (January – May)
Studying English: Research Methods	Option Module 2
Option Module 1	Option Module 3
Research Project/Dissertation	

Teaching and assessment

- The majority of option modules are assessed by one 4,000 word essay.
- The research project /dissertation is 12,000 – 15,000 words in length, to be submitted at the end of the degree in September.
- The majority of modules are taught by one two-hour seminar per week.

Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

“The School offered the exact MA course that I was looking for and the modules and reading list provided by the School are equally exciting. The Brotherton Library owns a massive set of Special Collections of letters, journals and diaries of some of very prominent Victorian writers, which has helped me find studying Victorian Literature here extremely exciting.”

Nurul Shima Abd Rahman
(pictured left)
MA Victorian Literature



Course content

In addition to the compulsory modules, you choose at least one option module from a selection, for example:

- Apprentices to Life: The Nineteenth-Century *Bildungsroman*
- The Brontës
- Victorian New Media

Please note that this is an indicative module list: our modules change regularly and a different selection is available every year. For a complete listing of available modules see www.leeds.ac.uk/courses



MA American Literature and Culture

This degree explores the range and variety of American literature and culture, offering the chance to develop an already existing enthusiasm or to explore a fascinating area which may not have figured significantly in your undergraduate studies.

Leeds was the first university in Britain to establish a Chair in the field of American Literature, and today continues that tradition through the research and teaching interests of five full-time members of staff.

Focusing both on literary texts and their cultural contexts, a range of modules allows you to study different genres, authors and periods. Literature is considered alongside other forms of expression, and American modules include options on particular genres and periods, on the works of major individual writers, and on drama, film and photography. American literature – indeed, American culture as a whole – has often been viewed as distinctive, with an inveterate tendency towards the experimental. This MA enables you to investigate this contention in the context of the broader School of English MA provision since you can choose one of your options from the wide range of non-American modules in English literature.

The degree provides an excellent platform for further work at doctoral level within this rich field.

Course structure

You study two compulsory modules (Studying English: Research Methods and the Research Project/Dissertation) along with three option modules, one of which can be a module taken outside of the degree and one of which can be taken outside of the School of English.

Semester One (September – December)	Semester Two (January- May)
Studying English: Research Methods	Option Module 2
Option Module 1	Option Module 3
Research Project/Dissertation	

Teaching and assessment

- The majority of option modules are assessed by one 4,000 word essay.
- The research project/dissertation is 12,000 – 15,000 words in length, to be submitted at the end of the degree in September.
- The majority of modules are taught by one two-hour seminar per week.

Find out more at
www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

Course content

In addition to the compulsory modules, you choose at least two option modules from a selection, for example:

- Feeling Time
- Fictions of Citizenship in Contemporary American Literature
- Writing about Death in Nineteenth-Century America

Please note that this is an indicative module list: our modules change regularly and a different selection is available every year. For a complete listing of available modules see www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

Brittney Coker

MA American Literature and Culture

I completed my undergraduate degree in California after completing a year exchange in England. I one day hope to become a secondary teacher in English Literature and write a memoir.

I applied to the University of Leeds as it has a very strong international reputation. I decided to apply for the MA in American Literature and Culture due to the eclectic subject specialities of the faculty. There are so many different interests being pursued by the faculty that I knew there would always be a faculty member to assist me with what I want to pursue myself.

I am passionate about my area of study because I am American and being able to examine my own culture through an outside perspective has taught me so much about American culture and myself as an American abroad. During my course I have enjoyed the variety in courses and reading lists. I like that professors are open to allowing the discussions to go down whichever path they lead. They are very strong individuals that encourage each and every student to push past the boundaries. The memoir module in particular has gotten me very excited about pursuing my own memoir writing in the future.

Leeds is a very vibrant city. It caters to every type of individual – whether one is the quiet pub type, the crazy club goer, the enthusiastic shopper or the solitary reader or even all of the above. There are so many cultural places to visit within the city and also a short distance outside the city. If one wants to get away, a short train/bus journey can take one to the most gorgeous of the Yorkshire Dales. I feel the diversity of Leeds has made my adjustment away from California much easier than if I were in any other city. Everywhere I have gone, I have met people interested in having a chat, helping with directions, or even just a friendly smile.

The learning facilities at Leeds are definitely something to brag about. It is never difficult to get the advice you may need. The libraries are amazing and staff are very dedicated to making sure there are plenty of resources available as well as ordering those that are not.

Outside of studying I enjoy being with the friends I have made on my course. There is such an array of things to do in Leeds, I enjoy getting lost in the city centre. I always seem to find some new quirky shop, a vibrant coffee shop, or a historical site of some kind.

To anyone thinking of applying to your course I would have to say APPLY. Choosing Leeds was one of the best decisions of my life.

BRITTNEY (FROM CALIFORNIA) IS PICTURED ON THE MOORLAND IN THE NEARBY TOWN OF ILKLEY, WEST YORKSHIRE.





MA Creative Writing and Critical Life

This degree will enable you to engage with both creative and critical writing whilst looking specifically at the question of identity.

You will develop an understanding of the relationship between writing and the self at the same time as exploring a range of genres with particular relevance to identity such as memoir and autobiography. In addition to these genres you will also have the opportunity to study lyric poetry, prose fiction and drama. The University's Brotherton Library offers an array of critical and creative writing works, including extensive archive and manuscript material pertaining to contemporary poets Tony Harrison, Geoffrey Hill, and Simon Armitage.

You will improve your knowledge of the research methods used in critical and creative studies and develop writing skills which will be invaluable to your career. This degree will also provide an excellent basis for students who wish to pursue further research in the area.

Course content

In addition to the compulsory modules, you choose at least one option module from a selection, for example:

- Feeling Time
- Literature and the Politics of Language
- The Magic of Mimesis
- So Where Do You Come From: Selves, Families, Stories
- War, Mourning, Memory: 1914-1939

Please note that this is an indicative module list: our modules change regularly and a different selection is available every year. For a complete listing of available modules see www.leeds.ac.uk/courses



Course structure

You study three compulsory modules along with two option modules, one of which can be from outside the School of English.

Semester One (September – December)	Semester Two (January – May)
Studying English: Research Methods	Option Module 1
Writing Identities: Criticism, Creativity, Practice	Option Module 2
Research Project/Dissertation	

Teaching and assessment

- The majority of option modules are assessed by one 4,000 word essay.
- The research project/dissertation is 12,000 – 15,000 words in length, to be submitted at the end of the programme in September.
- The majority of modules are taught by one two-hour seminar per week.

Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

Sara Brio

MA Victorian Literature
PhD English

My time at Leeds has been the most intense and rewarding period of academic growth I have experienced thus far. I have been stretched in ways I did not know I could grow and taught to express myself in a richer and more complex manner than during my undergraduate degree.

Being surrounded by people who are as addicted to Victorian literature as I am has furthered my love of this literary era. I have always understood and appreciated texts most when I discuss them with others; the discussions I have had during my MA spurred me to deeper reflection on books I previously thought I knew.

These discussions even proved to be the intellectual springboard which provided the overarching idea for my dissertation. Although at first I felt intimidated by my supervisor, he turned out to be one of the most supportive and encouraging persons I have met in Leeds. He always makes himself available to answer questions and provides prompt, positive, and valuable feedback on my research or writing. His support, above all others, has helped me to hone my craft and equipped and prepared me to continue towards my career path of teaching.

Sara came to Leeds from the USA as an international student. She is now studying for her PhD in the School with a focus on examining the dialogues between late Victorian Egyptian fiction and nineteenth-century theology.



MA Postcolonial Literary and Cultural Studies

This degree explores the richness and diversity of new writings in English, paying attention to their innovative experiments with form and language, their several histories and specific socio-cultural contexts, and the critical and theoretical issues raised by colonial and postcolonial literatures.

Leeds was the first UK university to establish commonwealth literature as an academic discipline at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and its postcolonial specialists, together with visiting writers and critics, maintain an unrivalled expertise across a broad area of this exciting and developing field. You will also have the opportunity to study other modes of cultural production, such as film and music, and the relation between literary studies and other disciplines, including history, geography and anthropology. This degree will also provide an excellent basis for students who wish to pursue further research in the area.

The cross-disciplinary Institute for Colonial and Postcolonial Studies both extends and enhances research and teaching in the area.

Course structure

You study two compulsory modules and three option modules, one of which can be a module taken outside the degree or outside of the School of English.

Semester One (September – December)	Semester Two (January – May)
Studying English: Research Methods	Option Module 2
Option Module 1	Option Module 3
Research Project/Dissertation	

Teaching and assessment

- The majority of option modules are assessed by one 4,000 word essay.
- The research project/dissertation is 12,000 – 15,000 words in length, to be submitted at the end of the degree in September.
- The majority of modules are taught by one two-hour seminar per week.

Find out more at

www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

Course content

In addition to the two compulsory modules, you choose at least two option modules from a selection, for example:

- Africas of the Mind
- Caribbean and Black British Writing
- Global Indigeneity

Please note that this is an indicative module list: our modules change regularly and a different selection is available every year. For a complete listing of available modules see www.leeds.ac.uk/courses



Kate Spowage

PhD English

Before doing my PhD at Leeds, I did both my Bachelors and my Masters by Research degrees here. I stayed because the supervision is great, the atmosphere is inspiring, and the city is fantastic.

One of the key things that attracted me to Leeds is that it is the home of the famous Survey of English Dialects. Indeed, the SED is part of the Leeds Archive of Vernacular Culture, which is home to over 6,000 items. Working somewhere that made such an important contribution to the field of linguistics is inspiring.

My work allows me to challenge the unequal distribution of power and privilege in the world, and to critique hegemonic discourses that are extremely powerful in linguistics and wider political discourse. I am passionate about my research because it is progressive, and the faculty in the School of English have been instrumental in facilitating that.

The research students at the School of English form a tight community, and I have made lots of great friends here. Together, we all create a friendly, supportive atmosphere that allows us to encourage each other and maintain a social side to PhD research.

The facilities at Leeds are fantastic. The research hub at Edward Boyle Library is state of the art, and an inspirational space for both individual working and collaboration. It is exclusively for staff and postgraduates, and has two large silent study rooms that are complete with big desks, power sockets, and very comfy chairs for long writing sessions. There are also a number of bookable rooms, which are great for collaborating with other researchers.

There are a number of training sessions that I have attended with the LEAP researcher training hub. They provide a number of courses for research students, about the PhD process, professionalisation, and employability. I found the 'Getting Published' workshop extremely helpful, as it demystifies the academic publishing industry and offers lots of concrete advice in terms of how to select journals to submit to, and what editors look for. There is also an opportunity to discuss the specifics of your own proposal for a journal article, which I found very helpful in terms of constructing an abstract, a title, and relevant keywords.

The city is incredible. It's always changing, with new venues and events cropping up all the time. For me, Leeds is outstanding in terms of what it offers culturally and in terms of entertainment. There are countless museums, parks, bars, restaurants, and the beautiful architecture of a city based on the industrial revolution. It's a fantastic place to live.





Medieval Studies

The School of English at Leeds has been a leader in medieval studies since its foundation, providing expert teaching in Old and Middle English, Old Norse and Anglo-Norman.

You can take medieval studies modules as part of the MA English Literature or study the MA Medieval Studies degree offered by the Institute for Medieval Studies (IMS).

Studying Medieval Studies as part of your English degree

The MA English Literature (see page 7) emphasises flexibility and you can choose from medieval modules offered within the School and up to two modules on offer within the IMS. You can also research a medieval topic, or a topic in medievalism, for the research project/dissertation element of your degree.

Medieval research and teaching in our School includes texts ranging through the corpus of Old English, Middle English, Old Norse and Anglo-Norman; the modern reception and construction of the Middle Ages; medieval health, illness and healing; multiculturalism, multilingualism and translation; gender studies; Arthurian literature; and traditional beliefs and Christianisation. The School is home to the UK's oldest journal in this field, *Leeds Studies in English* (www.leeds.ac.uk/lse), and also takes an active role in the University's International Medieval Congress – Europe's biggest medieval congress.

The School of English currently offers the following Medieval Studies module: Arthurian Legend: Medieval to Modern.

Modules offered by the Institute for Medieval Studies, with participation from medievalists in the School of English, include:

- Medieval English
- Old Norse
- Old and Middle French
- Medieval Bodies
- Vikings, Saxons, and Heroic Culture

Please note that this is an indicative module list: our modules change regularly and a different selection is available every year. For a complete listing of available modules see www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

MA Medieval Studies

This degree, taught by the Institute for Medieval Studies (IMS) where medievalists in the School of English also teach, focuses on providing research training tailored to medievalists, such as language skills and palaeography, alongside a diverse range of interdisciplinary modules. Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/ims



THE SCHOOL IS HOME
TO THE UK'S OLDEST
JOURNAL IN THIS FIELD

A smiling man, Ashraf R. Abdullah, is seated at a wooden desk in a library. He is wearing a dark, vertically striped button-down shirt. His hands are on a computer keyboard. In the background, there are large, ornate columns and a bookshelf with a clock and a computer monitor.

Ashraf R. Abdullah

PhD English Language

I have enjoyed the independence of doing a PhD: you have to be aware of your own responsibilities, but at the same time you have the freedom to do whatever you want, whenever you want. During my time here so far I have given presentations and papers at Postgraduate Research Seminars, attended and presented at conferences, audited MA modules and taught undergraduate modules.

My supervisor is incredible. She always picks me up when I'm down, motivates me and constantly reminds me that I can be a great academic. Regarding my work, her feedback has been very beneficial and influential. I could never do the work without her.

Leeds is a very quaint city with a very vibrant lifestyle. For younger students, the nightlife is terrific. For slightly older ones, the other recreational activities available are diverse, from good dining to outdoor fun like paintballing, climbing, etc. I would also say that Leeds has such an internationally diverse community, yet the people are so kind and friendly. I play a lot of football outside my study times, and I appreciate just spending time with friends in a good shisha café.

Students have all they need and more regarding facilities. There are plenty of quiet study areas and places to do group study, the lecture theatres are modern and spacious and the libraries are very sophisticated with an easy system.

Academically and socially, it's an excellent place to study. The supervision is brilliant and the research community is very active. There are many conferences around to participate in and you can even organize your own quite easily with good support.

Once I've completed my PhD I plan to go home and continue pursuing my academic career, and maybe publish a few books!

Research degrees



We offer the following research provision:

- PhD (normally 3 years full-time; 5-7 years part-time)
- MA by Research (1 year full-time; 2 years part-time)

We currently have around 80 postgraduate research (PGR) students working in all areas of English literature and culture, including English language and theatre studies. The School of English has around 40 academic staff which means we have a very broad research profile, and can offer supervision for research degrees across the whole range of expertise of our staff, including Medieval English literature, Early Modern literature including Shakespeare, Eighteenth-century literature, Romantic literature, Victorian literature, Modern British literature, Contemporary British literature, American literature and culture, Commonwealth and Postcolonial Literature, English Language, Theatre Studies and Creative Writing.

A full list of our academic staff and their research interests can be found at: www.leeds.ac.uk/arts/school_of_english_staff

We strongly encourage you to discuss your project with us before you make a formal application. You are welcome to contact any member of the School whose research interests seem appropriate and they will be happy to advise you, or you can contact the Postgraduate Research Tutor who will match your interests to a suitable staff member. Email: englishpgr@leeds.ac.uk



Assessment

Research students are examined exclusively by thesis, with a viva voce examination. The thesis should not normally exceed the following maximum length:

- PhD: 100,000 words or 300 pages
- MA by Research: 30,000 words

Research postgraduate facilities

The School has a dedicated research students' common room, a study room with a number of networked computers to which students have 24-hour access and a flexible learning space which can be used to hold conferences and seminars. We also host a monthly social event with coffee and cake.

The Faculty Graduate School brings together postgraduate research students and offers study facilities, a shared social space, opportunities for interdisciplinary exchange, conferences, and training and workshops.

Funding for conference attendance and research trips

The School offers financial support to PhD students who wish to make research trips or attend conferences during their studies. You can apply for a grant each year of up to £300. The School also offers an impact fund of £250 throughout the year for post transfer students within their second and third years of study.

The Postgraduate Seminar

The monthly Seminar, run by postgraduates in the School, is an opportunity for all taught and PGR students to meet, give papers, or discuss someone else's paper. All students are encouraged to attend and it is a social event as well as an academic one. There are also many other specialised, inter-disciplinary and cross-Faculty research seminars run by the staff and postgraduate students of the School.

Leeds postgraduate research conference

The University holds the annual conference to celebrate the outstanding contribution of our postgraduate researchers. www.pgrconference.leeds.ac.uk

Teaching in the School of English

The School is committed to the professional development of its PGR students and is keen for students to acquire teaching experience, however there is no requirement to undertake teaching. This experience will provide valuable skills whether you pursue a career in academic teaching or take up employment elsewhere. In the second and third years of research, postgraduate students will be invited to apply for undergraduate teaching. The School runs an Induction Day for new teachers at the beginning of each year, and the Organisational Development and Professional Learning unit also offers courses in teaching methods.

'Starting Your Research Degree' workshops

This one-day workshop helps you plan what you need to do during the first few months of your studies, addressing such issues as the practicalities of doing a research degree, working with your supervisor, planning, time management, monitoring progress, and gathering and managing information. We also run a ten-week induction programme at the start of your first year.

LEAP Researcher Training Hub

The Hub provides access to transferable skills training and development opportunities for research students in business, arts, humanities and social sciences. The programme for PhD students is continually evolving and covers a wide range of topics; for example, in the areas of research management and personal effectiveness skills, professionalisation, communications skills, research methodologies, networking, and career management skills.

www.leaptraining.leeds.ac.uk

IT support

You will have access to our dedicated IT provision and a range of free IT training courses, developed to meet the needs of researchers. This includes courses on Microsoft Office and other specialist software, an online induction to introduce IT at the University and support from the service desk.

Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/it

Organisational Development and Professional Learning unit

You will be encouraged to make the most of workshops, training opportunities and events offered by the Organisational Development and Professional Learning unit, including one-off short courses, networking, one-to-one advice, coaching, mentoring, personal development planning and online resources.



WE CURRENTLY HAVE AROUND 80
POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH (PGR)
STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL.

International students

The University is home to students from 147 different countries, making our campus one of the most diverse in the UK.

The School has welcomed students from countries such as Japan, Barbados, Spain, USA, Norway, India and many more, which has created a diverse and exciting experience for all of our students. Some of the reasons international students choose the School of English are:

- Small seminar groups and one-to-one supervisions with leading international scholars.
- Guaranteed University accommodation for the duration of your course*.
- Graduation after one year as a full-time MA student.
- Specialised English language support provided by the University's Language Centre.

Take a virtual tour of the School and the surrounding campus at www.leeds.ac.uk/arts/english_virtual_tour

Supporting you

The University's International Student Office provides extensive information and advice to help you adjust to living and studying at Leeds. Throughout the year they offer events, support services and informal networks. Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/internationalstudents

Link to Leeds allows you to ask any questions about being a student here via live chat, Skype or email. Our Link to Leeds ambassadors are from a range of countries and regions and study a number of different courses at the University. www.internationalstudentsupport.leeds.ac.uk/link_to_leeds/about

When you join us, you will be assigned a dedicated Personal Tutor in the School of English who will offer academic support throughout your studies and we have a dedicated Student Support Officer who offers pastoral support to all our students. Leeds University Union, based a short walk from the School, offers independent help and advice on all aspects of student life and hosts a number of events to celebrate the diversity of our campus, including the Global Café – a weekly coffee and cake social event.

Language Centre

Pre-sessional courses on English for academic purposes and key study skills are available from the University's Language Centre in the summer before you start your studies with us. You may choose to take one of these courses in order to optimise your study experience here. Alternatively, you may be made a conditional offer of a place with us that is based on successful completion of a pre-sessional course as an alternative to taking a further IELTS test or equivalent.

English language development and academic study skills support are also available through part-time in-session classes which you can take alongside your course. www.leeds.ac.uk/languages

Postgraduate scholarships

See page 25 for scholarship provision.

English language requirements

The School of English's minimum English Language requirements (for those whose first language is not English) are:

- IELTS score of 6.5 overall, with at least 6.0 in all components
- TOEFL (internet-based test) score of 92 overall, with at least 21 in listening and reading, 22 in writing and 23 in speaking.

*as long as you apply by the deadline. For more information see www.leeds.ac.uk/accommodation



WATCH OUR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TALKING ABOUT STUDYING AT LEEDS

<https://youtu.be/QGDINsQhcPk>



Life in Leeds

Established in 1904, the University is one of the largest and most successful universities in the UK with an international reputation for the high standard of its teaching and research. Each year over 30,000 students choose to study with us on our single-site campus, 10 minutes from the city centre.

The University is a creative community with a vibrant and distinctive cultural life. You will be able to take part in numerous opportunities and events to make the most of your time here. We also provide a network of specialist services centred on you and your wellbeing which all work together to ensure that any problems you may have are carefully resolved. This includes career guidance, childcare on campus, mental health and wellbeing support, and much more.

Leeds University Union, our award-winning students' union, runs over 300 student-led clubs and societies, bringing together students with a range of interests. The Union also offers a number of services, events and opportunities including club nights, stand-up comedy, trips around the UK and much more.

Whatever your level of fitness, the University provides excellent facilities and opportunities to keep healthy and active. The Edge is our £12.5m indoor facility offering over 140 classes per week (during term-time), a 250-station state-of-the-art fitness suite, an eight-lane swimming pool and a climbing wall. Our outdoor facilities including playing fields and two outdoor centres in the Lake District and the Yorkshire Dales, both National Parks in Northern England.

Our IT facilities are centred on you – a single login will give you access to all the University's IT services, including two mobile apps. You will find over 1,800 networked PCs across campus and if you prefer to use your own devices most areas have high-speed Wi-Fi. With the Desktop Anywhere service you'll always have access to your resources, files and software.

Accommodation

The University guarantees* to provide University accommodation to all new, single postgraduate students paying international fees who apply by the deadline. Unfortunately, we are unable to extend this guarantee to UK or EU students; however, the city has a wide range of good-quality private accommodation for students to suit all lifestyles and budgets. Help in locating this can be found at www.unipol.leeds.ac.uk.

The City of Leeds

You will be part of a vibrant student community situated in the heart of a student-friendly city located in the centre of the UK.

As home to 700,000 people, Leeds, has all you can expect from a major city yet is surrounded by the beautiful and accessible Yorkshire Dales. There are fast and frequent transport links to all other major UK cities. The city's roots lie firmly in the textile industry but more recently it has become a centre for trade and commerce, and one of Britain's most important financial, banking and legal centres outside of London.

Leeds is unrivalled in the North of England as a major shopping destination and centre for entertainment, nightlife, the arts and leisure. It is the third largest shopping destination in the UK outside of London and has an eclectic mix of high street favourites, independent boutiques and vintage stores, all within easy reach of campus. You will be able to explore Trinity Leeds, a retail and leisure development home to over a 100 shops, cafés, bars and restaurants and Victoria Gate, which is home to a range of high-end shops including Harvey Nichols. The city offers an extensive choice of places to eat and drink no matter what your taste or budget.

Nightlife in and around the city is well known for its diversity and popularity. Leeds also offers a unique selection of commercial and independent cinemas, hosts the annual Leeds International Film Festival and is home to Opera North, Northern Ballet, the Henry Moore Institute, the Royal Armouries, and Leeds City Museums and Galleries.

Find out more at
www.leeds.ac.uk/citylife

How to apply



What next?

We aim to process your application for a place as soon as possible which is usually within 2-4 weeks of receipt. However, during our busiest times (MAs April-June, PhDs January-June), this process can take up to 6 weeks. We will contact you in writing when a decision has been made on your application.

Taught Masters degrees

All of our taught Masters degrees begin in September, at the start of the UK academic year. We do not have a final deadline for MA applications, and will consider your application right up until the start date of the degree. Early application is essential if you are applying for funding. You can apply for all our degrees online. For further information see www.leeds.ac.uk/masters

What you need to provide with your application

- a transcript of your completed BA degree or grades to date
- a personal statement
- two academic references
- a recent sample of your academic work
- if English is not your first language, you will need to submit proof of your English language results (e.g. IELTS).

Check the School website for full details on what you are required to provide with your application.

Research degrees

You can apply to start your research degree on the first of any month, however we do prefer that you start in October. You can apply for all our degrees online. For further information see www.leeds.ac.uk/researchdegrees

For further information see www.leeds.ac.uk/english

What you will need to provide with your application:

- a research proposal of between 500 and 1,000 words
- a recent sample of your academic work
- a transcript of your completed BA degree or grades and MA (if complete), to date
- two academic references
- if English is not your first language, you will need to submit proof of your English language results (e.g. IELTS).

Check the School website for full details on what you are required to provide with your application. Successful PhD applicants must also take an appropriate English language test on arrival.

Entry requirements

Taught and Research Masters

We welcome applications from students of all ages and educational backgrounds. Applicants must hold a bachelor degree with a 2:1 (hons) in English or in a related subject. See www.leeds.ac.uk/courses for exact entry requirements of each of our courses.

PhD

Your first degree should usually be in English, or a joint honours degree which includes English. A degree in American studies is accepted for students applying to work in American Literature and Culture, and a qualification in Linguistics may be appropriate for work in English Language. Normally we expect applicants to have a bachelor degree with a First Class or 2:1 (hons) or equivalent, and in most cases an appropriate taught Masters degree, however, we are aware that circumstances can vary so please do get in touch with us if you need clarification of your own particular position.

English Language requirements

The School of English's minimum English Language requirements (for those whose first language is not English) are*:

- IELTS score of 6.5 overall, with at least 6.0 in all components
- TOEFL (internet-based test) score of 92 overall, with at least 21 in listening and reading, 22 in writing and 23 in speaking.

*correct at time of publication, please check the www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

Fees and funding

Course fees for Taught Masters, Masters by Research and PhD provision can be found on www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

As a postgraduate student in our School there are number of scholarships and bursaries that you may be eligible for.

Postgraduate loan

If you are a UK or EU national you may be eligible to apply for a government-backed loan of up to £10,280. The loan is contribution towards the costs of study; it will not necessarily cover all tuition and living costs. Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/mastersfunding

School of English scholarships

We offer a range of postgraduate scholarships for UK/EU and international students:

- MA scholarships, open to both Taught and Research MA applicants
- Home/EU and international PhD scholarships

In addition, we offer the following awards for which no application is required:

- University of Leeds 10% alumni tuition fee bursary
- Two Purvis scholarships (£1000) for the best two Taught Postgraduate students (UK/EU/International) as judged on academic merit

You can find more information about our scholarship provision at www.leeds.ac.uk/english. Early application is essential if you are applying for funding.

University of Leeds scholarships

For a complete listing of the awards offered by the University of Leeds, together with details on how to apply, see www.scholarships.leeds.ac.uk

External scholarships

The major external scholarship provider outside the University is the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). The School of English at Leeds is a constituent member of the White Rose College of the Arts and Humanities (WRoCAH), which organises the annual competition for AHRC postgraduate scholarship funding. WRoCAH was awarded £19 million to fund 300 AHRC scholarships over a five year period. All awards pay full fees (for UK/EU students only) and a substantial maintenance payment (UK students only). For more information, see www.leeds.ac.uk/english

For a complete listing of the awards offered by external organisations see www.scholarships.leeds.ac.uk





Visit Us

University open day

The open day is an opportunity to find out more about the School and studying at Leeds. www.leeds.ac.uk/pgopenday

School open events

The events usually take place in November and December and are an opportunity to find out more about our taught MA provision. www.leeds.ac.uk/english

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures postgraduate research open day

This event usually takes place in November and is exclusively for those who are looking at research opportunities in the Faculty. If you are unable to visit us, you can take a tour of the School and the campus using our virtual tour. www.leeds.ac.uk/arts/english_virtual_tour

Contact details

For information on MA degrees or to arrange an informal visit:

Taught Postgraduate Administrator
School of English
University of Leeds
Leeds LS2 9JT

+44 (0)113 343 4738
pgtenglish@leeds.ac.uk

For information on research degrees:

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School of English

Postgraduate Study



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

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