

Cardiff University School of English, Communication and Philosophy



MA in English Literature

with pathways in:

**Advanced Studies in English Literature
(Open Pathway)**

**Editorial and Intertextual Studies
Medieval Literature and its Afterlife
Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Shakespeare**

**Nineteenth-Century Studies
Twentieth-Century Studies
Literature, Theory and Culture**

(Please note: the above is provisional; modules with fewer than 3 students may not be available)

English Literature Cardiff University, Humanities Building, Colum Drive, CARDIFF CF10 3EU

tel: 02920 870322; email: encap-pg@cardiff.ac.uk

ABOUT THE MA in ENGLISH LITERATURE at CARDIFF

Introduction

The MA in English Literature at Cardiff is both a stand-alone qualification and also a preparation for PhD study. The degree is built around the idea that students beginning postgraduate work often need to extend their range of reading and skills in a number of areas before they specialise in one particular period or author or topic for their PhD.

The MA itself has a number of pathways which offer students the opportunity to explore in depth a number of related specialist modules and modern critical ideas while gaining experience in research methodology.. As noted below, it is possible to combine modules across pathways .Or to begin on one pathway and swith to another in the second semester.

Students take two modules persemester. In chosing your modules you should also bear in mind you potential choice of dissertation topic.

In addition to taking you four modules, you are also required to attend supplementary classes on research methods, which include bibliographic techniques, resources and questions of academic presentation. In the second semester these seesions wil focus on the dissertation inorder to enable youto have a full draft by the end of July , when dissertation supervision ends.

You also have to attend the fortnightly reading group working on literary theory and texts. While this element of the degree, like the training in research methods, is not assessed, it is a vital component and gives you the chance, in an informal way, to discuss some of the criticism that informs contemporary readings of texts.

Aims and Objectives

The MA degree is designed to encourage you to develop your critical skills through three complementary ideas. The first is that of reading: quite simply, by the end of the degree you should have learned to read more intensively but also to be more aware of the larger critical arguments informing your reading of texts. Secondly, you should be aiming to develop your essay-writing skills, particularly your control and analysis of material. While we ask you to produce only four essays for the taught part of the degree, you should be prepared to give short written papers in which you try out your ideas and arguments. The essays themselves serve the further purpose of training you to write more extended essays than at undergraduate level and so help prepare you for writing the dissertation. Thirdly, the training in research methods is intended to help you develop your presentation of material as well as offering you ways of finding both source and critical works that bear upon your chosen essay or dissertation topic.

Teaching Methods

Students are required to take four courses (two per term) chosen in consultation with the teachers on the degree. Each course will be taught for two hours a week by seminar. Reading preparation is essential for each course along with supplementary reading and research. The arrangements for dissertation supervision are given in the course handbook.

Choice of pathways

As noted above, the MA is so arranged that you can choose from a number of pathways. Each pathway includes different genres. This is to encourage the exchange of ideas and also research methods and thinking across courses in cultural and historical terms. Each pathway has its own special modules apart from the Advanced or Open Pathway which offers the opportunity to study across genres and periods.

In order to specialize in a particular pathway, students normally take a minimum of three elements from that pathway; the three elements include the dissertation, which counts as one element. The idea behind the pathways is that they start to establish your identity as a researcher and this in turn helps you to direct your reading and thinking. At the same time, by combining your pathway with other modules, you have the opportunity to open up fresh ways of approaching texts and your way of writing about them.

MA in English Literature (Advanced Studies in English Literature)

This is the Open Pathway of the MA, and consists of a wide range of options. Students are able to choose their own set of courses, and the pathway is especially designed for students who wish to pursue a number of areas or themes across periods. Students take two courses per term, each assessed by a 4,000-word essay. After Easter they write a 16,000-word supervised dissertation. All courses are open to all students including modules cross-listed from the MA in Critical and Cultural Theory.

AUTUMN SEMESTER

1	SET206	Bibliography and Textual Studies	Anthony Mandal
1	SET207	British Romanticism and Satire	Jane Moore
1	SET208	Shakespearean Comedy	Lewis Beer
1	SET209	The Myth of King Arthur	Rob Gossedge
1	SET227	Tolkein's Medievalism	Carl Phelpstead
1	SET211	Violent Death in Renaissance Drama	Martin Coyle
1	SET225	Welsh Fiction in English: Colonial and Postcolonial	Katie Gramich
1	SET231	Women's Writing, 1970s to the present	Becky Munford

Modules cross-listed from the MA in Critical and Cultural Theory

1	SET603	Capitalism and Schizophrenia	Marcelo Svirsky
1	SET609	The Cultural Politics of Gender and Race	Chris Weedon

SPRING SEMESTER

2	SET220	Constructing Shakespeare	Martin Coyle
2	SET607	Gothic and Gender	Becky Munford
2	SET233	Middle English Romance and Its Afterlife	Rob Gossedge
2	SET235	Modernisms	Katie Gramich & Martin Kayman
2	SET222	Shakespeare in Theory	Richard Wilson
2	SET221	Slavery and Nineteenth-Century Literature	Carl Plasa
2	SET223	The Novel and the Nineteenth Century	Claire Connolly
2	SET219	Tragic Love in the Trojan War	Carl Phelpstead & Lewis Beer

Modules cross-listed from the MA in Critical and Cultural Theory

2	SET606	Derridean Thought: 1990 to the Present	Laurent Milesi
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In addition, students attend classes on Research Methods and Scholarly Presentation as well as a Critical Reading Group. These are unassessed but compulsory. The timetable published here is provisional

MA in English Literature (Editorial and Intertextual Studies)

This pathway enables students with interests in the processes of textual and visual interpretation to pursue the study of a number of interlocking specialisms while gaining research experience in a variety of bibliographic modes. Students choose two courses per term, each assessed by a 4,000-word essay. After Easter they write a 16,000-word supervised dissertation. All courses are open to all students.

AUTUMN SEMESTER

1	SET206	Bibliography and Textual Studies	Anthony Mandal
1	SET207	British Romanticism and Satire	Jane Moore
1	SET209	The Myth of King Arthurs	Rob Gossedge

SPRING SEMESTER

2	SET220	Constructing Shakespeare	Martin Coyle
2	SET223	The Novel and the Nineteenth Century	Claire Connolly
2	SET219	Tragic Love in the Trojan War	Carl Phelpstead

In addition, students attend classes on Research Methods and Scholarly Presentation as well as a Critical Reading Group. These are unassessed but compulsory. The timetable published here is provisional.

MA in English Literature (Medieval Literature and Its Afterlife)

This pathway explores the literary links between the medieval period and later texts in order to broaden understanding of the ways in which the medieval is now researched and the implications of its cultural heritage. Students take two courses per term, each assessed by a 4,000-word essay. After Easter they write a 16,000-word supervised dissertation. All courses are open to all students.

AUTUMN SEMESTER

1	SET209	The Myth of King Arthur	Rob Gossedge
1	SET206	Bibliography and Textual Studies	Anthony Mandal
1	SET227	Tolkein's Medievalism	Carl Phelpstead

SPRING SEMESTER

2	SET233	Middle English Romance and Its Afterlife	Rob Gossedge
2	SET219	Tragic Love in the Trojan War	Carl Phelpstead & Lewis Beer

In addition, students attend classes on Research Methods and Scholarly Presentation as well as a Critical Reading Group. These are unassessed but compulsory. The timetable published here is provisional.

MA in English Literature (Medieval and Renaissance Studies)

This pathway provides an introduction to the issues and research of two closely related periods and the critical approaches that inform current research thinking in the early modern period. Students take two courses per term, each assessed by a 4,000-word essay. After Easter they write a 16,000-word supervised dissertation. All courses are open to all students.

AUTUMN SEMESTER

1	SET208	Shakespearean Comedy	Lewis Beer
1	SET209	The Myth of King Arthur	Rob Gossedge
1	SET211	Violent Death in Renaissance Drama	Martin Coyle
1	SET227	Tolkein's Medievalism	Carl Phelpstead

SPRING SEMESTER

2	SET220	Constructing Shakespeare	Martin Coyle
2	SET223	Middle English Romance and Its Afterlife	Rob Gossedge
2	SET222	Shakespeare in Theory	Richard Wilson
2	SET219	Tragic Love in the Trojan War	Carl Phelpstead & Lewis Beer

In addition, students attend classes on Research Methods and Scholarly Presentation as well as a Critical Reading Group. These are unassessed but compulsory. The timetable published here is provisional.

MA in English Literature (Shakespeare)

This pathway provides an advanced introduction to Shakespeare and the current research and theoretical thinking that informs approaches to the texts and their contexts in the early modern period. Students take two courses per term, each assessed by a 4,000-word essay. After Easter they write a 16,000-word supervised dissertation. All courses are open to all students.

AUTUMN SEMESTER

1	SET208	Shakespearean Comedy	Lewis Beer
1	SET211	Violent Death in Renaissance Drama	Martin Coyle

SPRING SEMESTER

2	SET220	Constructing Shakespeare	Martin Coyle
2	SET222	Shakespeare in Theory	Richard Wilson
2	SET219	Tragic Love in the Trojan War	Carl Phelpstead & Lewis Beer

In addition, students attend classes on Research Methods and Scholarly Presentation as well as a Critical Reading Group. These are unassessed but compulsory. The timetable published here is provisional.

MA in English Literature (Nineteenth-Century Studies)

This pathway explores some of the classic texts and debates of the nineteenth century, examining both its Romantic matrix and its later formulations. Students will be encouraged to develop a detailed knowledge of the period while gaining research experience. Students take two courses per term, each assessed by a 4,000-word essay. After Easter they write a 16,000-word supervised dissertation. All courses are open to all students.

AUTUMN SEMESTER

1	SET206	Bibliography and Textual Studies	Anthony Mandal
1	SET207	British Romanticism and Satire	Jane Moore
1	SET209	The Myth of King Arthur	Rob Gossege

SPRING SEMESTER

2	SET607	Gothic and Gender	Becky Munford
2	SET221	Slavery and Nineteenth-Century Literature	Carl Plasa
2	SET223	The Novel and the Nineteenth Century	Claire Connolly

In addition, students attend classes on Research Methods and Scholarly Presentation as well as a Critical Reading Group. These are unassessed but compulsory. The timetable published here is provisional.

MA in English Literature (Twentieth-Century Studies)

This pathway encourages students to explore the wider dimensions and contexts of twentieth-century literature and theory, drawing on a range of courses which span the century. Students take two courses per term, each assessed by a 4,000-word essay. After Easter they write a 16,000-word supervised dissertation. All courses are open to all students.

AUTUMN SEMESTER

1	SET225	Welsh Fiction in English: Colonial and Postcolonial	Katie Gramich
1	SET231	Women's Writing, 1970s to the present	Becky Munford
1	SET227	Tolkein's Medievalism	Carl Phelpstead

Modules cross-listed from the MA in Critical and Cultural Theory

1	SET603	Capitalism and Schizophrenia	Marcelo Svirsky
1	SET609	The Cultural Politics of Gender and Race	Chris Weedon

SPRING SEMESTER

2	SET607	Gothic and Gender	Becky Munford
2	SET235	Modernisms	Katie Gramich & Martin A. Kayman

Modules cross-listed from the MA in Critical and Cultural Theory

2	SET606	Derridean Thought: 1990 to the Present	Laurent Milesi
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In addition, students attend classes on Research Methods and Scholarly Presentation as well as a Critical Reading Group. These are unassessed but compulsory. The timetable published here is provisional.

MA in English Literature (Literature, Theory, and Culture)

This pathway provides the opportunity to focus on the interaction between culture, history and texts in relation to issues and questions arising from contemporary critical theories and recent historical research. Students take two courses per term, each assessed by a 4,000 word essay. After Easter they write a 16,000-word supervised dissertation. All courses are open to all students.

AUTUMN SEMESTER

1	SET206	Bibliography and Textual Studies	Anthony Mandal
1	SET207	British Romanticism and Satire	Jane Moore
1	SET208	Shakespearean Comedy	Lewis Beer
1	SET231	Women's Writing, 1970s to the present	Becky Munford

Modules cross-listed from the MA in Critical and Cultural Theory

1	SET603	Capitalism and Schizophrenia	Marcelo Svirsky
1	SET609	The Cultural Politics of Gender and Race	Chris Weedon

SPRING SEMESTER

2	SET220	Constructing Shakespeare	Martin Coyle
2	SET607	Gothic and Gender	Becky Munford
2	SET235	Modernisms	Katie Gramich & Martin Kayman
2	SET221	Slavery in Nineteenth-Century Literature	Carl Plasa
2	SET222	Shakespeare in Theory	Richard Wilson
2	SET223	The Novel and the Nineteenth Century	Claire Connolly

Modules cross-listed from the MA in Critical and Cultural Theory

2	SET606	Derridean Thought: 1990 to the Present	Laurent Milesi
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In addition, students attend classes on Research Methods and Scholarly Presentation as well as a Critical Reading Group. These are unassessed but compulsory. The timetable published here is provisional.