

School of English

Head of School

Professor Lorna Hutson

Degree Programmes

Postgraduate Diploma:

Creative Writing
Mediaeval English
Mediaeval Studies (*see section 20*)
Shakespeare Studies
Women, Writing and Gender

M.Litt.:

Creative Writing
Mediaeval English
Mediaeval Studies (*see section 20*)
Shakespeare Studies
Women, Writing and Gender

M.Phil.:

Mediaeval English
Mediaeval Studies (*see section 20*)
Shakespeare Studies
Women, Writing and Gender

Programme Requirements

Creative Writing

Postgraduate Diploma:

120 credits made up of EN5101 and either EN5004 and EN5005, or EN5006 and EN5007

M.Litt.:

120 credits as for the Postgraduate Diploma plus EN5099

This degree is designed to enable students to undertake a detailed study of prose or poetry from the perspectives of practical, creative literary skills as well as those of criticism and the historical development of literary forms. Students will take two modules in either poetry or prose.

Mediaeval English

Postgraduate Diploma:

120 credits made up of EN5015, EN5016, EN5017, EN5100 and ME5110. (Candidates may be allowed to attend EN5021 seminars as partial fulfilment of the requirements for EN5016.)

M.Litt.:

120 credits as for the Postgraduate Diploma, plus EN5099

M.Phil.:

120 credits as for the Postgraduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

This degree is designed to equip students with the linguistic skills and the literary, cultural and historical background necessary to undertake further study in any area of Mediaeval English literature, from its earliest beginnings in the Anglo-Saxon period to the close of the Middle Ages.

Shakespeare Studies

Postgraduate Diploma:

120 credits made up of EN5031, EN5032, EN5033 and EN5100

M.Litt.:

120 credits as for the Postgraduate Diploma, including EN5100, plus EN5099

M.Phil.:

120 credits as for the Postgraduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

This degree is designed to develop critical skills through the investigation of Shakespeare's works in different cultural contexts.

English – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – September 2008

Women, Writing and Gender

Postgraduate Diploma:	120 credits made up of EN5112, EN5115, EN5116 and EN5100
M.Litt.:	120 credits as for the Postgraduate Diploma, including EN5100, plus EN5099
M.Phil.:	120 credits as for the Postgraduate Diploma, including EN5100, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

This degree will introduce students to key issues in the discussion of gender, through the detailed exploration of theoretical, critical and creative writing from the Renaissance to the contemporary period.

Modules

EN5099 Dissertation for M.Litt. Programme/s

Credits:	60.0
Prerequisite:	An average grade of at least 13.5 in course work
Programme(s):	Compulsory module for M.Litt. Postgraduate Programmes within the School
Description:	Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.
Class Hour:	At times to be arranged with the supervisor
Teaching:	Individual Supervision
Assessment:	Dissertation = 100%

Creative Writing Programme

EN5101 Research Skills for Creative Writing

Credits: 20 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Creative Writing Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: Students will be introduced to skills dedicated to the effective gathering of information through IT resources, library materials, as well as such primary skills as proofreading, copy-editing, basic literary theory, and the literary marketplace.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Two seminars

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5004 Writing Poetry I

Credits: 40 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Optional module for Creative Writing Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: The module considers a range of essential topics in poetry and its composition, including the creative process, sound and sentence, the poetic line, imagery, metaphor, gender, and narrative.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: One seminar and one practical class; tutorials by appointment

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5005 Writing Poetry II

Credits: 60.0 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for Creative Writing Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: Students will extend their knowledge of poetry and its creation into more technical aspects of writing than were covered in depth in EN5004 Writing Poetry I and the module will include detailed critical analyses of individual authors as well as ideas of poetic traditions, imagination, metre, rhetorical trope, and poetic forms.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: One seminar and one practical class; tutorials by appointment

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5006 Writing Fiction I

Credits: 40 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Optional module for Creative Writing Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: The module offers a critical and practical study of the writing of literary prose, including short and long fiction, as well as the literary essay, life writing and other non-fiction forms. Emphasis is given to the development of a literary prose tradition through the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, looking at a variety of approaches, from the novel to New Journalism to the literary essays of such figures as Gore Vidal and Joan Didion.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: One seminar and one practical class; tutorials by appointment

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5007 Writing Fiction II

Credits: 60.0 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for Creative Writing Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: Students will extend their study of prose writing and its techniques through discussion and critical and practical analysis. Emphasis will be given to exploring the wider possibilities of prose writing, with reference to the work of those contemporary or recent writers whose work defies easy categorization, such as W.G. Sebald and John Haskell.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: One seminar and one practical class; tutorials by appointment

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

English – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – September 2008

Mediaeval English Programme

EN5100 Literary Research: Skills and Resources

Credits: 20 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Mediaeval English Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: This module is compulsory for all School of English M.Litts, except Creative Writing. It aims to initiate students in the understanding and use of the essential skills and resources of research in English Studies. It provides preparation for the M.Litt. dissertation. Elements of this course include Use of Library Resources (Printed, Electronic and Remote); History of Book Production and the Institutions of Publishing; the Book as Artefact; Currents in Critical Theory; Writing and Giving Academic Papers; Writing a Thesis Successfully, and Getting your Work Published. There is also a strand of seminars on the critical theory of literary language. This general module leads on to the more specialist core modules of each individual M.Litt.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Two seminars

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5015 Reading the Mediaeval Text

Credits: 20 Semester: Either or Both

Co-requisites: EN5016, ME5110

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Mediaeval English Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: The module is designed to provide or enhance some of the specific skills and areas of knowledge necessary for undertaking research in mediaeval literature. Students will study Paleography and Codicology with specialists from the Special Collections department of the university Library. This will be followed by study of: editorial theory, the traditional periodisation of mediaeval English literature, mediaeval theoretical conceptions of the text.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: One seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5016 Special Topic in Mediaeval Literature

Credits: 20 Semester: 1 or 2

Co-requisites: EN5015, ME5110

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Mediaeval English Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: Students will explore a specific area of mediaeval literature chosen in consultation with the most relevant member(s) of staff, with whom the student will have up to six individual tutorials. Students may also request permission to attend relevant Honours seminars, or postgraduate seminars on EN5021 Literature of the Scottish Kingdom. Where a substantial number of taught seminars is attended, the number of individual tutorials may be reduced to a minimum of three.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: up to 6 tutorials

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

English - 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 - September 2008

EN5017 Old English

Credits: 20 Semester: 1 and/or 2

Antirequisite: MS5024

Programme(s): **Compulsory** module for Mediaeval English Postgraduate Taught Programme

Optional module for students of any other M Litt Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: A grounding in Old English grammar and translation from Old English will be acquired with the help of grammar exercises and translation practice on original Old English texts. It is recognized that students may join this module with widely varying levels of experience of Old English, from none to fairly extensive. The aim is to get all students to an acceptable level of proficiency in reading and translation, and this is reflected in the assessment of this module by two translation exercises. Time and students' linguistic expertise permitting, some literary contextualization of the texts studied and translated may also be included. An electronic component (WebCT, databases, internet tools) will assist students in their acquisition of the necessary knowledge of Old English grammar, vocabulary and syntax.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: One-and-a-half hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5021 The Literature of the Scottish Kingdom

Credits: 40 Semester: 1

Programme(s): **Compulsory** module for Scottish Literature Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: The module is concerned with the major works of earlier Scottish literature, including the poems of Henryson, Dunbar, and Gavin Douglas, Sir David Lindsay's *Ane Satyre of the Thrie Estaitis*, and a range of other types of poetry (including ballads) which were characteristic of Scotland during the period of independence.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: One seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

MS5110 Narrative and History in Mediaeval England and Scotland 1370-1470

Credits: 40 Semester: Whole Year

Programme(s): **Compulsory** module for Mediaeval English Postgraduate Taught Programme

Optional module for Mediaeval History and Mediaeval Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes

Description: This is an interdisciplinary module taught by the Schools of English and History. It runs over both semesters, with fortnightly seminars based on the reading and discussion of literary and historical texts. Sessions will normally be taught by a historian and a literary specialist in tandem, allowing the differing perspectives of each discipline to be brought to bear on each text or selection of texts.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: fortnightly seminars

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

Mediaeval Studies Programme

(see section 20)

English – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – September 2008

Shakespeare Studies Programme

EN5100 Literary Research: Skills and Resources

Credits: 20 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Shakespeare Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: This module is compulsory for all School of English M.Litts, except Creative Writing. It aims to initiate students in the understanding and use of the essential skills and resources of research in English Studies. It provides preparation for the M.Litt. dissertation. Elements of this course include Use of Library Resources (Printed, Electronic and Remote); History of Book Production and the Institutions of Publishing; the Book as Artefact; Currents in Critical Theory; Writing and Giving Academic Papers; Writing a Thesis Successfully, and Getting your Work Published. There is also a strand of seminars on the critical theory of literary language. This general module leads on to the more specialist core modules of each individual M.Litt.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Two seminars

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5031 Shakespeare and the English Renaissance

Credits: 40 Semester: Whole Year

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Shakespeare Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: The module examines a variety of Shakespeare's texts in the following contexts: Shakespeare's classical inheritance; history and theory of editing; the tragedy of state; sixteenth-century popular culture; rhetoric and poetry; Renaissance attitudes to women; and pastoral.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: One tutorial per fortnight

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5032 The Reception of Shakespeare 1660-1900

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Shakespeare Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: The module investigates over two centuries of adaptations and criticism of Shakespeare's plays. Among the adaptations are those by Dryden, Davenant, Otway and Garrick. Critical writing studies will include works by Dryden, Johnson and Morgann, in conjunction with material on stage conditions. Nineteenth-century critical writing will include texts by Coleridge, Lamb and Hazlitt.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: One tutorial

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5033 Modern Shakespeares

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Shakespeare Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: Among the work studied on this module will be adaptations by Brecht and Bond, and work by Marowitz and Wesker. Generic adaptations of Shakespeare on film will also be studied, using the Library's DVD collection as a basis for seminar work. Recent critical theories as applied to Shakespeare will also be studied.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: One tutorial

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

Women, Writing and Gender Programme

EN5100 Literary Research: Skills and Resources

Credits: 20 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Women, Writing and Gender Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: This module is compulsory for all School of English M.Litts, except Creative Writing. It aims to initiate students in the understanding and use of the essential skills and resources of research in English Studies. It provides preparation for the M.Litt. dissertation. Elements of this course include Use of Library Resources (Printed, Electronic and Remote); History of Book Production and the Institutions of Publishing; the Book as Artefact; Currents in Critical Theory; Writing and Giving Academic Papers; Writing a Thesis Successfully, and Getting your Work Published. There is also a strand of seminars on the critical theory of literary language. This general module leads on to the more specialist core modules of each individual M.Litt.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Two seminars

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5112 Theories and Contexts

Credits: 40 Semester: Whole Year

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Women, Writing and Gender Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: The module provides an introduction to key debates in contemporary feminist and gender theory, alongside an overview of the historical and cultural context within which these theories have developed. By drawing on the teaching resources available within the school, the module will be able to cover a considerable range of writers and their ideas, and students might expect to encounter the work of writers as diverse as Mary Wollstonecraft and Judith Butler. However, the emphasis will be upon the course as a point of departure, and the seminars will be accompanied by an extensive reading list through which the students will be encouraged to explore those areas of enquiry that most interest them.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: One seminar per fortnight

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5115 Women, Writing and Gender 1: Renaissance to Romanticism

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Women, Writing and Gender Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: The module seeks to introduce students to a range of debates concerning women, writing and gender, 1500 – 1800. The set texts embrace a variety of generic forms, and reflect upon such questions as the ‘problem’ of woman’s voice, the interpretation of Genesis and the staging of the female body. Also central to many of the works is a concern with the role of woman in marriage and civic society, the importance of education, and the tension between domestic ideology and female desire. Central to these works is a concern with constructions of femininity and masculinity and in conjunction with EN5112, the module will also examine current critical debates surrounding the cultural configuration of gender.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5116 Women, Writing and Gender 2: Victorian to Contemporary

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Prerequisite: EN5115

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Women, Writing and Gender Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: This module continues the chronological survey of debates surrounding women, writing and gender begun by EN5115. The module examines continuity and change in constructions of gender across the period 1800 – 2000, beginning with the ongoing significance of the fallen woman and the problem of female desire. Students will be introduced to key critical readings of nineteenth-century women’s writing before moving on to consider the emergence of the ‘new woman’ at the fin de siècle. In the twentieth century the module will consider the impact of the First World War on women’s writing, and the work of modernist writers will be examined alongside ‘middlebrow’ and popular fictions. Finally students will examine a range of contemporary writers whose rewriting of history and myth engages with current debates in gender theory.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

