

## Programme Specification: Undergraduate

### For Academic Year 2024/25

#### 1. Course Summary

<b>Names of programme and award title(s)</b>	BA (Hons) English Literature BA (Hons) English Literature with International Year (see Annex for details) BA (Hons) English Literature with Work Placement Year (see Annex for details)
<b>Award type</b>	Single Honours
<b>Mode of study</b>	Full-time
<b>Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award</b>	Level 6
<b>Normal length of the programme</b>	3 years; 4 years with either the International Year or Placement Year between years 2 and 3
<b>Maximum period of registration</b>	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
<b>Location of study</b>	Keele Campus
<b>Accreditation (if applicable)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Regulator</b>	Office for Students (OfS)
<b>Tuition Fees</b>	<p><b>UK students:</b></p> <p>Fee for 2024/25 is £9,250*</p> <p><b>International students:</b></p> <p>Fee for 2024/25 is £19,500**</p> <p>The fee for the international year abroad is calculated at 15% of the standard year fee</p> <p>The fee for the work placement year is calculated at 20% of the standard year fee</p>

**Please note this document only applies to Level 6 (Year 3) students in 2026/27.**

**How this information might change:** Please read the important information at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.

\* These fees are regulated by Government. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study in response to changes in government policy and/or changes to the law. If permitted by such change in policy or law, we may increase your fees by an inflationary amount or such other measure as required by government policy or the law. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions. Further information on fees can be found at <http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/>

\*\* These fees are for new students. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study by an inflationary amount. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions for full details. Further

## 2. What is a Single Honours programme?

The Single Honours programme described in this document allows you to focus more or less exclusively on this subject. In keeping with Keele's commitment to breadth in the curriculum, the programme also gives you the opportunity to take some modules in other disciplines and in modern foreign languages as part of a 360-credit Honours degree. Thus it enables you to gain, and be able to demonstrate, a distinctive range of graduate attributes.

## 3. Overview of the Programme

English Literature is a wide-ranging discipline involving the rigorous and critical study of literature in the Anglophone world. It is an exciting subject that allows students to develop skills in critical argument, and involves imaginative engagement with literary texts from both the past and the present. The subject also demands an understanding of how such texts function within the cultures of which they are part; thus students of English become aware of the historical, socio-political, ethnic, gender, and geographical contexts of the materials with which they work, as well as the ways in which the formal characteristics of literature (linguistic, generic and structural) have developed over time and across diverse Anglophone cultures.

### English Literature at Keele

The English Literature programme at Keele is founded on the core principles of tradition, innovation, and diversity. The historical range of the programme runs from the Renaissance period to the present day, and its formal and cultural range extends to include creative writing, American literature, film, and literature in translation. Thus students on the programme may combine their study of 'classic' texts and genres in English with other creative and cultural interests within the field of English. All modules offered will be taught by a team of staff with a commitment to lively and innovative teaching methods, who are research active and experts in their fields.

## 4. Aims of the programme

The broad aims of the programme are to enable you to:

- Engage in wide and varied reading among the regional and global varieties of literature and literary criticism.
- Think both critically and creatively about literature in English.
- Develop skills of critical analysis (on paper and in person) when assessing the form and meaning of literary texts.
- Understand, evaluate, and apply a range of critical ideas and theories relevant to textual criticism.
- Develop a critical understanding of the defining characteristics of some key literary genres (prose fiction, poetry, and drama) and periods.
- Communicate ideas and arguments with clarity and care in a number of different forms (essay, review, web projects, oral presentation, etc.) using appropriate language and techniques of presentation.
- Work both constructively and critically, by yourself and as part of a team, to deliver specific projects and be able to reflect productively on your strengths and weaknesses.
- Obtain the knowledge, skills and personal qualities necessary for you to find a fulfilling and rewarding career and maintain a lifelong interest in literature and related fields.

## 5. What you will learn

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

### Subject knowledge and understanding

Successful students will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of a range of literary texts from the Renaissance period to the present day.
- Apply knowledge and understanding of a range of literary texts and critical materials.
- Describe and evaluate key concepts and theories in literary criticism and apply these approaches critically.

### Subject specific skills

Successful students will be able to:

- Apply skills of bibliographical, library and internet research.
- Construct clearly articulated and effective arguments using advanced literacy and communication skills, and be able to harness these skills in oral presentation and in writing
- Use the knowledge and abilities they have acquired as the basis for more advanced learning or training

### **Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)**

Successful students will be able to:

- Record and reflect on their achievements
- Locate and evaluate information and ideas from a variety of sources, including on-line and digital materials
- Present materials in a written form, with clarity in the use of language, professional referencing, and lucid and effective layout
- Present materials orally in a clear and effective manner
- Write and think under pressure, and meet deadlines
- Organise their learning through self-management
- Work with others in a constructive and respectful way

### **Keele Graduate Attributes**

The Keele Graduate Attributes are the qualities (skills, values and mindsets) which you will have the opportunity to develop during your time at Keele through both the formal curriculum and also through co- and extra-curricular activities (e.g., work experience, and engagement with the wider University community such as acting as ambassadors, volunteering, peer mentoring, student representation, membership and leadership of clubs and societies). Our Graduate Attributes consist of four themes: **academic expertise, professional skills, personal effectiveness, and social, environmental and ethical responsibility**. You will have opportunities to engage actively with the range of attributes throughout your time at Keele: through your academic studies, through self-assessing your own strengths, weaknesses, and development needs, and by setting personal development goals. You will have opportunities to discuss your progress in developing graduate attributes with, for example, Academic Mentors, to prepare for your future career and lives beyond Keele.

## **6. How is the programme taught?**

Learning and teaching methods used on the programme vary according to the subject matter and level of the module. They include the following:

- **Lectures** where the lecturer provides students with a framework for reading and further independent study. These may also involve a degree of interaction when students are asked to consider and then respond to tasks or questions set by the lecturer
- **Seminars** in groups of about 10-20 students where key issues can be discussed in more depth. Students may be provided with worksheets in advance of these classes outlining their minimum preparation requirement (usually a primary text and some associated reading) together with some questions to consider in advance of the class. Students are expected to play a full part in - and occasionally to lead - these discussions. Some tutorials and seminars consist largely of student presentations or of group work set by the tutor
- **Independent study** based on directed reading from textbooks, research monographs, academic journals, and other media
- **Web-based learning** using the University's virtual learning environment (KLE) and MS Teams. The KLE is used to give students easy access to a wide range of resources and research tools, and as a platform for online discussions, quizzes, and blogs. MS Teams is also used to provide resources and tools for study, and as a platform for synchronous online seminars, workshops, supported writing retreats and one-to-one consultations
- **The English Independent Study Project** in the final year gives students the opportunity to undertake a piece of independent research supervised and supported by a member of staff

Apart from these formal activities, students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their academic mentors or module tutors on a one-to-one basis.

These learning and teaching methods enable students to achieve the learning outcomes of the programme in a variety of ways. For example:

- **Lectures and independent study** allow students to gain a wider understanding of the contexts (cultural and historical) in which literature in English may be understood as well as giving students ideas and examples for their own further study of the texts they will be discussing, both in tutorials and in their own written work

- **Seminars, workshops and online discussions** provide opportunities for students to ask questions about, and suggest answers to, questions arising from literary and critical analysis in a responsible way, and to present their own ideas to members of staff and other students using an appropriate medium of communication
- **Interactive lectures, seminars, workshops and web-based activities** encourage students to reflect on their own learning and take responsibility for its development by addressing areas of difficulty, perhaps by discussing them with their fellow students or by getting additional help from a member of staff
- Undertaking a **research Independent Study Project** with the support of an experienced and active researcher allows students to choose an appropriate and manageable subject; to formulate research questions and devise a feasible (and, where appropriate, ethically sound) strategy for answering them within a constrained time frame

## 7. Teaching Staff

The permanent teaching staff on the English Programme currently consists of professors, senior lecturers, and lecturers in English Literature and American Literature as well as senior lecturers and lecturers in Creative Writing. All current members of staff in English Literature have doctorates (PhDs or the equivalent). All current members of staff in Creative Writing are published authors. Each member of staff is an active researcher or published creative writer in their field and as a group the staff cover a very wide range of interests in literatures in English, as well as in film and creative writing. Their work has been widely published in books, research monographs and leading international journals as well as in the form of novels and poetry collections.

The staff group has extensive experience of teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level in universities in the UK, continental Europe, and the North Americas. Several members of staff are involved with the English Subject Centre, an organisation that coordinates events and research to allow academics in the field of literary studies to reflect on best practice and in the teaching of literature in English. All new members of staff take Keele's Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Programme approved by the Higher Education Academy.

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams; however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover - for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave - may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

## 8. What is the structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from programme to programme, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to the end of April. Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

There are two types of module delivered as part of your programme. They are:

- Compulsory modules - a module that you are required to study on this course;
- Optional modules - these allow you some limited choice of what to study from a list of modules.

### Global Challenge Pathways

This programme includes the option for you to take a Global Challenge Pathway. These modules offer you an exciting opportunity to work with students and staff from different disciplines to explore topical global issues such as power and conflict, health inequalities, climate change, generative AI, social justice, global citizenship, and enterprise from different perspectives.

Global Challenge Pathways can either be taken as one 15-credit module at Levels 4, 5 and 6, or one 15-credit module at Levels 5 and 6. For more information about our Global Challenge Pathways please visit:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/globalchallengepathways/>

### Modern Languages or Certificate in TESOL

Alternatively, you could choose to study modules with the University Language Centre. The Language Centre offers three pathways; The Language Specialist, The Language Taster, and The Trinity Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Language (TESOL). Language Centre modules are available separately for students at Levels 4 and 5. At Level 6 they are included within the Global Challenge Pathways.

If you choose the Language Specialist pathway, you will automatically be enrolled on a Semester 2 Modern Language module as a continuation of your language of choice. Undertaking a Modern Languages module in

Semester 2 is compulsory if you wish to continue to the Language Specialist Global Challenge Pathway the following academic year.

For more information about Language Centre option modules available to you please visit the following webpages.

For Level 4 and 5 students please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/languagecentre/languagecentreoptions/>

For Level 6 students please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/students/academiclife/global-challenge-pathways/>

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For further information on the content of modules currently offered, please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/modulecatalogue/>

A summary of the credit requirements per year is as follows.

Year	Compulsory	Optional	
		Min	Max
Level 6	30	90	90

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## Module Lists

### *Level 6*

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
English Independent Study Project	ENG-30112	30	Semester 1-2

<b>Optional modules</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Period</b>
The American South: US Summer School (Level 6)	LIB-30004	15	Semester 0
Postmodernism: Fiction, Film and Theory	ENG-30053	15	Semester 1
Writingscapes	ENG-30072	15	Semester 1
Words and Pictures: The Contemporary American Graphic Novel	ENG-30096	15	Semester 1
Thresholds: Young Adult Fiction	ENG-30108	15	Semester 1
British Social Realism	FIL-30019	15	Semester 1
Youth and Film: Growing Up on Screen	FIL-30021	15	Semester 1
'Eyes on the Prize': The Struggle for Civil Rights in America	HIS-30157	15	Semester 1
Podcast and Radio Production	MDS-30021	15	Semester 1
Work Placement for Humanities Final-Year Students	ENG-30088	15	Semester 1-2
Creative Writing: Portfolio - SH ISP	ENG-30100	30	Semester 1-2
Shakespeare on Film: Adaptation and Appropriation	ENG-30070	15	Semester 2
The Alcohol Question	ENG-30073	15	Semester 2
Working Class Fictions	ENG-30138	15	Semester 2
World Cinemas in the 21st Century	FIL-30009	15	Semester 2
Existentialism and the Novel	PHI-30044	15	Semester 2

## **Level 6 Module Rules**

Students cannot take the Work Placement module if they took it at Level 5.

Students cannot take 'The American South: US Summer School' again if they took it at Level 5.

## **Learning Outcomes**

The table below sets out what students learn in the programme and the modules in which that learning takes place. Details of how learning outcomes are assessed through these modules can be found in module specifications.

### **Level 6**

In Year 3 (Level 6), students will take the 30-credit Independent Study Project module, which will allow them to research a theme, author or historical period of their choice in depth, or undertake a piece of advanced editing work, under the guidance of a tutor with expertise in the subject. They will also choose from a wide range of optional modules, based on teaching staff's own specialist research interests, and gain experience in working at the cutting edge of literary studies. The learning outcomes will be achieved both through the completion of the ISP module and by any of the subject-approved optional modules that students take at this level.

<b>Subject Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Critically assess and evaluate the relevance of aspects of critical theory to the practice of literary criticism	All modules approved as part of the English Literature Programme
Clearly articulate and substantiate through argument and detailed analysis (in person and on paper) their critical judgements about literature	All modules approved as part of the English Literature Programme
Reflect on the status and value of the subject	All modules approved as part of the English Literature Programme
Extend specialized study by exploring in depth an area of particular interest through a substantial piece of focused research and writing.	English ISP

<b>Subject Specific Skills</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Apply skills in textual analysis and intellectual argument and engagement in a diverse range of contexts	All modules approved as part of the English Literature Programme
Demonstrate complex skills in literacy and reasoning	All modules approved as part of the English Literature Programme
Work productively as individuals and as group members, in both structured and unstructured contexts, exercising initiative and personal responsibility.	All modules approved as part of the English Literature Programme
Plan, research and produce work within the limitations of time and resources available to them and responding to feedback on this work positively.	All modules approved as part of the English Literature Programme

<b>Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)</b>	
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module in which this is delivered</b>
Think logically, reason and analyse, write and communicate effectively.	All modules approved as part of the English Literature Programme
Reflect on the acquirement of key and transferable skills	All modules approved as part of the English Literature Programme
Acquire and present bibliographical and other evidence to an advanced level	All modules approved as part of the English Literature Programme
Work independently to produce significant research projects using advanced skills of written expression, analysis, argument and persuasion	All modules approved as part of the English Literature Programme

## 9. Final and intermediate awards

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

<b>Honours Degree</b> <b>BA (Hons) English Literature</b>	360 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6  You must accumulate at least 270 credits in your main subject (out of 360 credits overall), with at least 90 credits in each of the three years of study*, to graduate with a named single honours degree in this subject.  *An exemption applies for students transferring from a Combined Honours programme - see point 3.4 here: <a href="https://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations/regulationc3/">https://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations/regulationc3/</a>
<b>Diploma in Higher Education</b>	240 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher
<b>Certificate in Higher Education</b>	120 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher

**International Year option:** in addition to the above students must pass a module covering the international year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'international year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the international year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

**Work Placement Year option:** in addition to the above students must pass a non-credit bearing module covering the work placement year in order to graduate with a named degree including the 'with Work Placement Year' wording. Students who do not complete, or fail the work placement year, will be transferred to the three-year version of the programme.

## 10. How is the Programme Assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used on this programme at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The following list is representative of the variety of assessment methods used on your programme:

- **Essays** allow students to demonstrate their ability to articulate their ideas clearly using argument and reasoning skills and with close reference to the contexts and critical concepts covered in the modules. They will also be asked to carry out basic bibliographic research and to communicate their ideas effectively in writing in an appropriate scholarly style using the Harvard system of referencing
- **Close reading exercises** test students' skills in close textual reading, their ability to identify key aspects of literary form, and their ability to articulate the connection between form and meaning in a text or textual extract
- **Peer Review** requires students to offer constructive feedback on the draft copies of work (essay drafts, for example) submitted by other students. They are assessed on the quality of reflection, insight and thoughtfulness that they bring to the process
- **Individual and group presentations** to the seminar or tutorial group allow students to give an oral presentation to the larger group on an aspect of a text, author, critical debate or theoretical concept. These will develop their skills to communicate what they know orally and visually, and to reflect on these processes as part of their own personal development. Group presentations also test their ability to work effectively as members of a team. Students will be supported in the use of appropriate technology and visual aids.
- **Reviews** of books, poetry, drama or films, as well as of other scholars' work, test students' ability to identify the key differences between academic and journalistic discourse, as well as distinctions within these fields on literature and film as well as to summarise the key points of a text and to evaluate the quality of arguments (in an academic work) and the evidence used to support them
- **Creative Writing Reflective Commentaries** give students the opportunity to situate their own creative practice in relation to the history of English literature and to contemporary literary practice
- **Reflective Diaries** require students to keep a record of their critical or creative responses to the work of the module. They are assessed on the quality of this reflection and on their ability to respond constructively to the challenges and difficulties they encounter in the process of their own creative development and learning
- **Annotated Bibliographies** test students' ability to construct a bibliography according to the Harvard system of citation. Students are also asked to reflect briefly and critically on the content, usefulness and

- importance of the secondary sources they have encountered and their contribution to their own learning
- **Podcasts** allow students to record a presentation on a chosen subject in response to a set theme. They test students' ability to present arguments and critical analysis in oral form. Podcasts increase student confidence in addressing, and tailoring information to, an audience. Students are supported in the use of the recording technology
  - **Non-traditional Assessments** (also known as **Authentic Assessments**) are varied, and include activities such as designing a virtual exhibition, creating an anthology or edition, or writing a creative piece such as a poem or a screenplay that reflects a module's themes or ideas. These kinds of assessment are designed to allow students to apply their academic skills to a range of real-world tasks.

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

### Assessment rationale

In the first year (Level 4), students are introduced to a range of assessments to develop and test a number of key skills and knowledge sets which will be of use to them as they proceed onto more specialised modules in Levels 5 and 6. First-year assessments therefore include short papers involving close reading of texts (for example, on *Becoming a Critic*) and giving presentations (for example, on *Texts in Time & Texts in Theory*) as well as essays and various types of authentic assessment.

Assignments typically get longer and more challenging as students progress through their degree, culminating in the independent dissertation for final-year students, as students begin to dig more deeply into more specific topics and, using skills and approaches acquired in the first year, applying them to longer, more discursive pieces of writing and research.

The trend in assessments, as in the module subjects more generally, is toward increased depth and specialization. On Creative Writing modules, commentaries and portfolios of student work are the main forms of assessment throughout the three years, but the final-year individual study project is a more substantial submission (for example a series of poems or a longer prose work).

## 11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

Undergraduate courses at Keele contain an element of module choice; therefore, individual students will experience a different mix of contact time and assessment types dependent upon their own individual choice of modules. The figures below are an example of activities that a student might expect on their chosen course by year of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lectures, seminars, project supervisions, demonstrations, practical classes and labs, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

### Activity

	<b>Scheduled learning and teaching activities</b>	<b>Guided independent Study</b>	<b>Placements</b>
<b>Year 1 (Level 4)</b>	23.3%	76.7%	0%
<b>Year 2 (Level 5)</b>	24.5%	73.4%	2.1%
<b>Year 3 (Level 6)</b>	13.4%	83.8%	2.9%

## 12. Accreditation

This programme does not have accreditation from an external body.

## 13. University Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/>

A student who has completed a semester abroad will not normally be eligible to transfer onto the International Year option.

## 14. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

See the relevant course page on the website for the admission requirements relevant to this programme:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/>

Applicants who are not currently undertaking any formal study or who have been out of formal education for more than 3 years and are not qualified to A-level or BTEC standard may be offered entry to the University's Foundation Year Programme.

Applicants for whom English is not a first language must provide evidence of a recognised qualification in English language. The minimum score for entry to the Programme is Academic IELTS 6.0 or equivalent.

### English for Academic Purposes

Please note: All new international students entering the university will provide a sample of Academic English during their registration. Using this sample, the Language Centre may allocate you to an English language module which will become compulsory. This will replace any GCP modules. *NB:* students can take an EAP module only with the approval of the English Language Programme Director and are not able to take any other Language modules in the same academic year.

English Language Modules at Level 4:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2)
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

English Language Modules at Level 5:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2)
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

English Language Modules at Level 6:

- Business - ENL-90003 Academic English for Business Students (Part 1); ENL-90004 Academic English for Business Students (2); ENL-90005 Advanced Business English Communication
- Science - ENL-90013 Academic English for Science Students
- General - ENL-90006 English for Academic Purposes 2; ENL-90001 English for Academic Purposes 3; ENL-90002 English for Academic Purposes 4

**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)** is considered on a case-by-case basis and those interested should contact the Programme Director. The University's guidelines on this can be found here:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmesandmodules/recognitionofpriorlearning/>

## 15. How are students supported on the programme?

Support for student learning on the Programme is provided in the following ways:

- Module and seminar group leaders are responsible for providing support for learning on the modules and in the seminar groups for which they are responsible. They also give individual feedback on in-course assessments.
- Every student is allocated to an academic mentor who is responsible for reviewing and advising on students' academic progress in English.
- Academic mentors also act as a first point of contact for students on non-academic issues which may affect their learning, and can refer students on to a range of specialist health, welfare and financial services co-ordinated by the University's Student Services.
- Additional help with University level study skills is available from Student Services.

- Students for whom English is not their first language are offered language classes, facilities and services by the University's Language Centre. In addition to credit-bearing modules on English for academic study, students also have access to one-to-one tutorials for individual help and advice, and to a wealth of resources for self-study and practice.
- All members of teaching staff on the English Literature Programme are available to see students during advertised weekly Consultation and Feedback hours and at other times by appointment.

## 16. Learning Resources

English Literature is taught in modern teaching rooms across the University, almost all of which are equipped with computers, internet access and electronic whiteboards or projection equipment. Rooms may be arranged either in traditional lecture format or more informally to allow students to work together in small groups.

The learning resources available to students on the Programme include:

- The extensive collection of research materials relevant to undergraduate study held in the University Library. Built up over 50 years of delivering courses in English Literature at this level, these materials include books, journals, newspapers, and DVDs. Much of this material is also accessible online to Keele students from anywhere in the world with a University username and password.
- The Keele Learning Environment (KLE) which provides easy access to a wide range of learning resources including lecture notes, electronic materials available in a repository maintained by the University Library and other resources - video, audio and text- based - accessible from external providers via the internet.

## 17. Other Learning Opportunities

### Study abroad (semester)

Students on the programme have the potential opportunity to spend a semester abroad in their second year studying at one of Keele's international partner universities. Please note that students cannot take both a Global Challenge Pathway (GCP) and the semester abroad option.

Exactly which countries are available depends on the student's choice of degree subjects. An indicative list of countries is on the website (<http://www.keele.ac.uk/studyabroad/partneruniversities/>); however this does not guarantee the availability of study in a specific country as this is subject to the University's application process for studying abroad.

No additional tuition fees are payable for a single semester studying abroad but students do have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad to be greater than if they study in the UK. Information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Whilst students are studying abroad any Student Finance eligibility will continue; where applicable, students may be eligible for specific travel or disability grants or for income-dependent bursaries at Keele. Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

### Study Abroad (International Year)

A summary of the International Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided in the Annex for the International Year.

### Other opportunities

Students on the English Literature Programme have the opportunity to take advantage of the many Creative Writing events and resources available at Keele. Keele has a flourishing Creative Writing Society, with its own Facebook group. They run their own writers' workshops, and help organize regular and varied literary and social events, including open mic nights and readings from guest speakers. English Literature students are also involved in running, organizing and performing in productions put on by the Drama Society.

### Enhanced Degree: With Language Competency/With Advanced Language Competency

English Literature students successfully completing a series of optional language modules have the opportunity to gain an enhanced degree title including their language competency such as, "BA (Hons) English Literature with

competency in Japanese". Students taking language modules of at least 60 credits counting towards their main degree at Keele, and successfully completing minimum stage 6 in the chosen language, will be awarded an enhanced degree title with the designation 'with competency in [Language]'. Students taking language modules of at least 60 credits counting towards their main degree at Keele, and successfully completing stage 10 in the chosen language, will be awarded an enhanced degree title with the designation 'with advanced competency in [Language]'.

### **TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) optional pathway**

English Literature students who successfully complete a series of 4 TESOL optional modules have the opportunity to acquire the externally accredited and internationally recognised teaching qualification 'Trinity (London) Cert TESOL'. An administration charge of currently approx. £175 is payable to Trinity College (London) if students opt for external accreditation.

## **18. Additional Costs**

### **Optional costs**

There may be optional costs that students can choose to incur to enhance their learning experience. These are not required to complete the course. Details of these optional costs are outlined below to help you plan accordingly.

Students who opt to take our work-based placement modules at level 5 and 6 may be expected to pay travel costs (usually one day weekly) to their placement.

Students who take one of our optional Work Placement modules, or our Work Placement year, may need to apply for a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, if they plan to work with e.g. schools and charities. The current costs for a DBS check are detailed on the additional costs webpage:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/tuitionfeesandfunding/undergraduatetuitionfees/additionalcosts>

Optional 4-week US Summer School trip:

Estimated maximum total cost (after taking into account Turing scheme funding): £820 for Widening Access students; £1675 for other students. (Estimated maximum cost of £2220 (£950 for flights; £1250 for accommodation; £20 for visa waiver application) to be sourced by student, in addition to usual subsistence costs. Based on 2025 figures, Turing funding is expected to reimburse student costs to a value of approximately £1400 for Widening Access students, and approximately £545 for other students.)

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

Students may also incur general expenses related to university study, such as for printing, textbooks and other materials. Students who undertake a placement may be responsible for additional costs, such as travel, accommodation, and subsistence costs. For further information, please refer to the [additional costs](#) information.

## **19. Quality management and enhancement**

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Revalidation process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Director as part of annual programme review.
- Findings related to the programme from the annual National Student Survey (NSS), and from regular surveys of the student experience conducted by the University, are subjected to careful analysis and a planned response at programme and School level.
- Feedback received from representatives of students in all three years of the programme is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Student Voice Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners

on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/>

## 20. The principles of programme design

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education:

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>

b. QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: English (2015) [http://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/sbs-english-15.pdf?sfvrsn=4f9df781\\_10](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/sbs-english-15.pdf?sfvrsn=4f9df781_10)

c. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations>

d. *In at the Deep End? The First Year in Undergraduate English*, Report 17, The English Subject Centre, David Ellis, June 2008

## 21. Annex - International Year

### English Literature with International Year

<p><b>International Year Programme</b></p> <p>Students registered for this Single Honours programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their period of study at Level 5 to the International Year option. Students accepted onto this option will have an extra year of study (the International Year) at an international partner institution after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the International Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfy the examiners in respect of the International Year will normally revert to the standard programme and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.</p> <p>Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the International Year option.</p>
<p><b>International Year Programme Aims</b></p> <p>In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the international year programme of study aims to provide students with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Personal development as a student and a researcher with an appreciation of the international dimension of their subject</li><li>2. Experience of a different culture, academically, professionally and socially</li></ol>
<p><b>Entry Requirements for the International Year</b></p>

Students may apply to the 4-year programme during Level 5. Admission to the International Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff.

The criteria to be applied are:

- Academic Performance (an average of 55% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5 is normally required. Places on the International Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 55% across all Level 5 modules. Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 55% requirement may progress to the International Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account)
- General Aptitude (to be demonstrated by application for study abroad, interview during the 2nd semester of year 2 (Level 5), and by recommendation of the student's academic mentor, 1st and 2nd year tutors and programme director)

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Placement Year.

### **Student Support**

Students will be supported whilst on the International Year via the following methods:

- Phone or Skype conversations with Study Abroad tutor, in line with recommended academic mentoring meeting points.
- Support from the University's Global Education Team

### **Learning Outcomes**

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete a Keele undergraduate programme with International Year will be able to:

1. Describe, discuss and reflect upon the cultural and international differences and similarities of different learning environments
2. Discuss the benefits and challenges of global citizenship and internationalisation
3. Explain how their perspective on their academic discipline has been influenced by locating it within an international setting.
4. Design, plan and critically evaluate literary critical and/or creative projects within the field of English literary studies, record relevant information accurately and systematically and be able to reflect upon a range of sources in a critical manner.
5. Integrate, apply and develop principles relating to literary production in history, or creative practice in the present, to describe and explain cultural phenomena and reflect critically on problems relating to contemporary society and culture.

These learning outcomes will all be assessed by the submission of a satisfactory individual learning agreement, the successful completion of assessments at the partner institution and the submission of the reflective portfolio element of the international year module.

### **Regulations**

Students registered for the International Year are subject to the programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the International Year, the following regulations will apply:

Students undertaking the International Year must complete 120 credits, which must comprise *at least 40%* in the student's discipline area.

This may impact on your choice of modules to study, for example you will have to choose certain modules to ensure you have the discipline specific credits required.

Students are barred from studying any module with significant overlap to the Level 6 modules they will study on their return. Significant overlap with Level 5 modules previously studied should also be avoided.

### **Additional costs for the International Year**

Tuition fees for students on the International Year will be charged at 15% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The International Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation, to find out more about your personal eligibility see: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Students who meet external eligibility criteria may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible income dependent bursaries at Keele.

Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some Governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.

## 22. Annex - Work Placement Year

### English Literature with Work Placement Year

#### Work Placement Year summary

Students registered for this programme may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their studies to the 'with Work Placement Year' option (NB: for Combined Honours students the rules relating to the work placement year in the subject where the placement is organised are to be followed). Students accepted onto this programme will have an extra year of study (the Work Placement Year) with a relevant placement provider after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele.

Students are responsible for securing their placement to enable complete flexibility in terms of when and where the placement is conducted, taking into consideration potential living and travel expenses which may be incurred, for which the student responsible. However, students are supported throughout the process by the School, Keele Careers and Employability team, and various other departments across the university.

Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the Work Placement Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfactorily complete the Work Placement Year will normally revert to the 3-year programme and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript.

Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for the Work Placement Year option.

#### Work Placement Year Programme Aims

In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the Work Placement Year aims to provide students with:

1. The opportunity to carry out a long-term, placement-based learning experience between Years 2 and 3 of their degree programme
2. Enhanced employability
3. A professional CV and portfolio that they can use when applying for employment (see below)

#### Entry Requirements for the Work Placement Year

Admission to the Work Placement Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff. Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with work placement year' degree programme, or to transfer onto the 4-year programme at any point prior to undertaking the year-long work placement. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking the year-long work placement. Students who fail to pass the work placement year, and those who fail to meet the minimum requirements of the work placement year module, (\* or equivalent, work placement), will be automatically transferred onto the 3-year degree programme.

\* We recommend where possible students undertake a placement of between 9 - 12 months on a full-time basis to maximize academic and personal growth. However, the Work Placement Year mandates a minimum of 24 weeks in duration, ideally on a full-time basis, but no less than 21 hours per week. This enables those undertaking an unpaid placement to work on a part-time basis alongside.

The criteria to be applied are:

- A good University attendance record and be in 'good academic standing'.
- Academic Performance (an average of 50% across all modules in Semester 1 at Level 5 is normally required. Places on the Work Placement Year are then conditional on achieving an average mark of 50% across all Level 5 modules. Students with up to 15 credits of re-assessment who meet the 50% requirement may progress to the Work Placement Year. Where no Semester 1 marks have been awarded performance in 1st year marks and ongoing 2nd year assessments are taken into account)
- Students undertaking work placements will be expected to complete a Health and Safety checklist and/or training prior to commencing their work experience and will be required to satisfy the Health and Safety regulations of the company or organisation at which they are based. International students are permitted to undertake a placement, however due to visa requirements, it is not possible for international students who require a Tier 4 Visa to apply for direct entry onto the 4-year with Work Placement Year degree programme. Students wishing to transfer onto this programme should discuss this with student support, the academic tutor for the work placement year, and the Programme Lead. Students should be aware that there are visa implications for this transfer, and it is the student's responsibility to complete any and all necessary processes to be eligible for this programme. There may be additional costs, including applying for a new Visa from outside of the UK for international students associated with a transfer to the work placement programme.

Students may not register for both an International Year and a Work Placement Year.

### **Student Support**

Students will be supported whilst on the Work Placement Year via the following methods:

- Regular contact between the student and a named member of staff who will be assigned to the student as their University supervisor. The University supervisor will be in regular contact with the student throughout the year, and be on hand to provide advice (pastoral or academic) and liaise with the Placement supervisor on the student's behalf if required.
- Two formal contacts with the student during the placement year: the University supervisor will visit the student or contact them virtually in their placement organization at around 5 weeks after the placement has commenced, and then visit again or contact them virtually at around 15 weeks into the placement.

### **Learning Outcomes**

In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of the Programme Specification, students who complete the 'with Work Placement Year' option will be able to:

1. Understand the variety of ways in which skills developed during the study of Humanities subjects can be deployed in non-academic contexts
2. Assess their own strengths and weaknesses in an employment context through a SWOT analysis, design learning outcomes, and reflect on their own progress throughout the module
3. Articulate their placement experiences effectively and reflect on their enhanced skill set in front of an audience, using visual aids
4. Understand the aims and priorities, as well as the strengths and possible limitations, of an external organisation and design and complete activities/projects/materials that recognise and support these
5. Reflect on and critically evaluate their learning from the work placement, showing evidence that they have researched their sector and evaluated the effectiveness of their activities with this in mind

These learning outcomes will be assessed through the non-credit bearing Work Placement Year module (ENG-30090) which involves:

1. Supporting students in locating and securing a relevant work placement in any workplace where the research, analytical, and communication skills as a developed part of a Humanities degree can be used
2. Students completing a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) at the beginning of the placement, reflecting on their employability skills in terms of their assessment of sector skill demands. This will be used to create Intended Placement Outcomes and contribute to Continuing Professional Development. The action plan will be negotiated and agreed by the student, module convenor and employer.
3. Students creating a professional CV and portfolio that can be used when seeking employment after graduation
4. Students completing a 15-20 minute presentation in June/July, critically reflecting on the activities/projects they have completed so far, and the skills they have learned/developed. The audience will primarily be other students on this module, to ensure shared experiences and to create connections in preparation for returning to Keele for third year (Level 6)
5. Students developing a heightened awareness of the various ways in which their knowledge and skills can be utilised in real-world situations

## **Regulations**

Students registered for the 'with Work Placement Year' option are subject to programme-specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the Work Placement Year, the following regulations will apply:

- Students undertaking the Work Placement Year must successfully complete the zero-credit rated 'Work Placement Year' module (ENG-30090)
- In order to ensure a high-quality placement experience, each Placement is required to satisfy an approval process including a Health & Safety Checklist completed by the Placement Provider. Each party (Placement Provider, Student and University) will agree and sign a Learning Agreement outlining the rights and responsibilities associated with their participation in the Placement Year.
- Once a student has been accepted by a placement organisation, the student will inform the University as soon as possible. The placement supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that the placement experience meets the agreed contract agreed with the University.
- The placement student will also sign up an agreement outlining his/her responsibilities in relation to the requirements of each organisation.

Students will be expected to behave professionally in terms of:

- (i) conforming to the work practices of the organisation; and
- (ii) remembering that they are representatives of the University and their actions will reflect on the School and have an impact on that organisation's willingness (or otherwise) to remain engaged with the placement.

## **Additional costs for the Work Placement Year**

Tuition fees for students on the Work Placement Year will be charged at 20% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The Work Placement Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation; for more information please contact Student Services.

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their placement provider, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the placement provider additional costs may include parking permits, travel and transport, suitable clothing, DBS checks, and compulsory health checks. Whilst on Placement students are still classed as full-time students and so eligible for Council Tax exemption, student discounts for travel etc

Eligibility for student finance will depend on the type of placement and whether it is paid or not. If it is paid, this is likely to affect student finance eligibility, however if it is voluntary and therefore unpaid, should not affect student finance eligibility. Students are required to confirm eligibility with their student finance provider.

International students who require a Tier 4 visa should check with the Immigration Compliance team prior to commencing any type of paid placement to ensure that they are not contravening their visa requirements.

## **Version History**

### **This document**

**Date Approved:** 31 March 2026

### ***What's Changed***

Optional module changes for 2026/27

### **Previous documents**

<b>Version No</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Date Approved</b>	<b>Summary of and rationale for changes</b>
3.1	2024/25	NICHOLAS BENTLEY	01 October 2025	FIL-30019 British Social Realism added as optional module (SEM1)
3	2024/25	BECKY YEARLING	09 May 2025	Optional module changes
2	2024/25	SIOBHAN TALBOTT	06 August 2024	Optional module change due to staff availability - ENG-30104 High Culture replaced by FIL-30021 Youth and Culture
1	2024/25	SUSAN BRUCE	31 May 2024	Added ENG-30090 to LV4 SEM2
1.1	2023/24	BECKY YEARLING	12 May 2023	Change of FIL-20011 to SEM1
1	2023/24	BECKY YEARLING	14 February 2023	
1	2022/23	BECKY YEARLING	29 March 2022	
1	2021/22	BECKY YEARLING	05 March 2021	
1.1	2020/21	BECKY YEARLING	30 November 2020	Additional costs added
1	2020/21	JONATHON SHEARS	12 December 2019	Amended by QA to reflect MM from July
1.1	2019/20	BECKY YEARLING		Redundant version - changes rejected
1	2019/20	JONATHON SHEARS	12 December 2019	