



## **Module Handbook**

[Modules are available to students coming on the following incoming programmes: non-European exchange; European exchange; full-year fee-paying study abroad]

**Incoming Students**

**2026/2027**

**English Studies**

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## **A: THE DEPARTMENT**

The Department of English Studies is situated in three buildings, Hallgarth House, Elvet Riverside, and Old Elvet. Hallgarth House, a Georgian listed building, comprises accommodation for teaching staff and space for seminars. Elvet Riverside stands beside the River Wear and provides accommodation for the Department's administration and the many of its teaching staff. Its tutorial rooms on the riverside look across to Hatfield College and the Cathedral peninsula. 42 Old Elvet is a Georgian listed building which accommodates teaching staff and spaces. Lectures primarily take place in Elvet Riverside. Tutorials refer to small group teaching centered on discussion and collaboration. Seminars are small to medium size group sessions that invite students to explore given topics in greater depth'. Lectures are not compulsory, but tutorials and seminars are: undergraduates are expected to see their tutors regularly, and to prepare essays or shorter pieces for tutorial or seminar discussion. The University Library holds strong general collections in literary studies in its main building on Stockton Road as well as specialist collections on Palace Green. Both libraries are within easy walking distance. Further information about the Department's activities and research is available from our website:

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/english.studies/>

### **A1: Exchange Coordinator**

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## **B: DEGREE STRUCTURE**

All degrees at Durham have a modular structure, consisting of six modules each year for three years. Modules are usually studied over Michaelmas and Epiphany, the first two terms of the teaching year, and examined in Epiphany, the third term. All modules are examined or assessed in the year in which they are taught. At the end of the first year, there are preliminary examinations on material taught in first-year modules. The final degree class, however, is determined by the examinations taken in the second and third year. Final module marks are published towards the end of Easter Term and will at that point be available for Exchange students to receive.

## C: REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

**This section contains important information for setting up your academic programme at Durham University. Please read through this section carefully before considering your modules and filling in the Learning Agreement!**

### C1: General

#### Choice of Modules

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR STUDENTS: PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR LEARNING AGREEMENT**

At Durham University European agreements are signed by individual university departments and are not university-wide agreements. This means that, in general, students will have to choose modules (courses) within the Durham University department through which the European agreement with their home university has been signed (students should check with the Exchange Coordinator in their home university department if they are not sure which department this is). Modules offered by other departments are subject to availability and can only be taken with prior consent from the relevant host department at Durham. *Incoming students must take at least 50% of their modules in the primary host department and can take modules outside in no more than two additional departments.* Certain restrictions may also apply to courses in some departments and students need to follow the advice below carefully before completing their application form.

Please clearly indicate the modules you wish to take in the application form for approval by the respective department(s). Before completing your application form, it is very important that you read carefully the relevant departmental section(s) of the Module Handbook to check which modules are available to you and any restrictions which may apply. It is imperative that a properly completed application form is submitted. Only complete applications can be processed.

Section *D: Module Details* provides a list of modules available for European students in the receiving department, i.e., where the agreement has been established, as well as a list of modules available for students coming in through other departments (external departments) at Durham University. Please choose from these modules only!

## **C2: Departmental Requirements and Restrictions**

### **IMPORTANT**

**(i)** The Department of English Studies is one of the top-ranked English Departments in the UK and thus has a very high student intake for its programmes. Regrettably, this demand for teaching provision means that the Department will in the first instance only be able to consider students on *\*direct\** links.

To clarify, Incoming European Exchange Programme agreements are usually set up on a department-to-department basis. If your home university has an agreement with a department other than English Studies, it is unlikely that we will be able to accept your application to study with us. In some circumstances, the department may be willing to allow Incoming European Exchange Programme students from non-partner institutions to take 1-2 English modules, if capacity permits, but we must stress again that we can offer no guarantees to those applying via indirect links. If you apply through an indirect link, you are strongly advised to choose alternative modules in other Departments.

**(ii)** Because of the structure and duration of our modules, the Department is only able to accept students who will be in Durham for the full academic year. The only exceptions to this are students coming from our direct links with Kraków and Prague. In all cases, students must start their studies in the Michaelmas term.

**(iii)** If you intend to apply to study in the English Department, you should have a strong background in literary / cultural studies and be prepared to engage in literary critical work at an advanced level. With these requirements in mind, the department requires a piece of written work (essay, term paper, assignment etc.) from every student applying for English modules. Students will have to enclose this writing sample with their applications in order to be considered.

**(iv)** Please note that the Department of English Studies at Durham only teaches literary criticism. We do not offer modules in linguistics, English as a foreign language, or pedagogy.

**(v)** Lecture modules in English Studies at Durham are usually assessed at the end of the academic year by a take home paper equivalent to an exam of 2 or 3 hours. Seminar/special topic modules are assessed by coursework. This typically takes the form of two assessed essays, but the assessment may, where appropriate to the subject, take an alternative form, such as 'creative criticism'.

**(vi)** Applicants from our Incoming European Exchange Programme partners and the Non-European programme can select up to six modules in English and should normally choose

to study a coherent combination of Level 2 / Level 3 modules, depending on academic experience and background. Our modules become increasingly specialised as our students progress from Level 1 to Level 3 over the course of three years.

**(vii)** Four introductory modules at Level 1 are not available to exchange students: Introduction to Drama, Introduction to Poetry, and Introduction to the Novel and Approaches to University English. Since these lecture series are required of all first-year students in English Studies, we are not able to accommodate any additional enrolment in these four modules in particular.

**(viii)** Applicants may select from other Level 1 modules but must bear in mind that combining these modules with options at Levels 2 and 3 is not always possible. For example, if you wish to take 'Literature of the Modern Period' at Level 2, you should already have some foundational training in literary studies and therefore taking an introductory literature module alongside it will not be appropriate. Combining Level 1 modules with Level 2 or 3 modules can also create timetabling problems.

**(ix)** The majority of your choices should be from our lists of *lecture* modules. You may, however, if you wish, apply to take \*one\* special topic (Level 3) and/or \*one\* seminar module (Level 2).

**(x)** Students staying in Durham for two terms may take modules which are delivered over the full academic year and submit assessments for their modules online during Easter Term.

## **D: MODULE DETAILS**

This section contains a list of modules that Incoming European Exchange Programme students can choose from.

To find further details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc.) please refer to the Faculty Handbook online under <http://www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/>

**Please note: Current modules are indicative. Not all modules are necessarily offered every year. Lecture modules tend to stay the same; seminars (Level 2), however, and special topics (Level 3) often change from year to year, depending on staff availability.**

To find out about the details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc.) please refer to the Faculty Handbook online under <http://www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/>

**MODULES AVAILABLE: 2026/27 (the list given below is subject to change)**

**Level 1 Lecture Modules**

<b>Module code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Durham Credits</b>	<b>Single Term Module (Y/N)</b>
ENGL 1051	Romance and the Literature of Chivalry	20	N
ENGL 1041	Epic and the Literature of Legend	20	N
ENGL 1011	Introduction to Drama ( <b>not available to exchange students</b> )	20	N
ENGL 1061	Introduction to the Novel ( <b>not available to exchange students</b> )	20	N
ENGL 1071	Introduction to Poetry ( <b>not available to exchange students</b> )	20	N
ENGL 1081	Approaches to Literary Studies ( <b>not available to exchange students</b> )	20	N

**Level 2 Lecture Modules**

<b>Module code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Durham Credits</b>	<b>Single Term Module (Y/N)</b>
ENGL 2011	Theory and Practice of Literary Criticism	20	N
ENGL 2021	Shakespeare	20	N
ENGL 2041	Renaissance Literature	20	N
ENGL 2071	Victorian Literature	20	N
ENGL 2081	Literature of the Modern Period	20	N
ENGL 2091	Old English	20	N
ENGL 2111	Medieval French Literature	20	N
ENGL 2121	Chaucer	20	N
ENGL 2141	American Poetry	20	N
ENGL 2801	Postcolonial and World Literatures	20	N

## Level 2 Seminar Modules

<b>Module code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Durham Credits</b>	<b>Single Term Module (Y/N)</b>
ENGL 2291	Fin-de-Siecle Fiction (STEM - Epiphany)	20	Y - Epiphany
ENGL 2381	Arthurian Literature (STEM - Michaelmas)	20	Y - Michaelmas
ENGL 2471	George Eliot: Novelist of Ideas	20	N
ENGL 2791	Romantic Plays and Players	20	N
ENGL 2821	Hotel Stories	20	N
ENGL 2831	Literature and the Internet	20	N
ENGL 2861	Stagecraft and Subversion in the Early English Drama	20	N
ENGL 2871	Ted Hughes	20	N
ENGL 2881	Poetry by the Book (STEM - Michaelmas)	20	Y - Michaelmas
ENGL 2901	Reading Milton's Paradise Lost (STEM - Epiphany)	20	Y - Epiphany

### Level 3 Lecture Modules

<b>Module code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Durham Credits</b>	<b>Single Term Module (Y/N)</b>
ENGL 3051	Restoration and 18th Century Literature	20	N
ENGL 3061	Literature of the Romantic Period	20	N
ENGL3091	Old English	20	N
ENGL 3111	Medieval French Literature	20	N
ENGL 3131	American Fiction	20	N
ENGL 3162	40-Credit in Dissertation in English ( <b>not available to exchange students</b> )	40	N
ENGL 3591	Post-War Fiction and Poetry	20	N
ENGL 3661	Medieval Literature	20	N

### Level 3 Special Topic modules

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Durham Credits</b>	<b>Single Term Module (Y/N)</b>
ENGL 30A1	Legality and Justice in South Asian Literature and Film	20	N
ENGL 3171	Writing Prose Fiction	20	N
ENGL 3261	A Society of Equals	20	N
ENGL 3271	Creative Writing Poetry	20	N
ENGL 3611	Keats and Shelley	20	N
ENGL 3671	Contemporary Short Fiction: Towards an Intersectional Writing of the Present	20	N
ENGL 3691	Nonsense Literature	20	N
ENGL 3711	Mind and Narrative	20	N
ENGL 3741	The Politics of Style: From Close Reading to "World Literature"	20	N

**Level 3 Special Topic modules (continued.)**

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Durham Credits</b>	<b>Single Term Module (Y/N)</b>
ENGL 3791	Black Lives, pre 1900	20	N
ENGL 3641	From Romance to Romanticism: An Introduction to English Ballads	20	N
ENGL 3821	Digital Deformations	20	N
ENGL 3841	Reading Games, Playing Books	20	N
ENGL 3871	Contemporary Feminist Drama (2000-21)	20	N
ENGL NEW02	Star Wars Stories: Inventing & Consuming Popular Culture	20	N
ENGL NEW03	The Grubby Renaissance	20	N
ENGL NEW05	Postcolonial and Decolonising Theory & Criticism	20	N