

BA English with French

Awarding Institution:
Teaching Institution:
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):
Faculty of Arts and Humanities
For students entering Part 1 in 2003
Programme Director: Dr Nicola Bradbury
Programme Adviser: Dr Joël Félix
Board of Studies: relevant liaison officers
Accreditation: not appropriate

UCAS code: Q3R1

The University of Reading
The University of Reading
English; Modern Languages
Programme length: 3 years
Date of specification: April 2003

Summary of programme aims

This is a multi-disciplinary programme which aims to provide students with subject-specific knowledge, including knowledge of a variety of different kinds of literary, cultural and historical texts from a range of periods, together with perspectives on different methods of critical analysis, a sound grasp of written and spoken French, and an understanding of selected aspects of franco-phone literature, history, culture and politics. More generally, the course also aims to foster an independent approach to formulating problems and arguments, using the close reading and analytical skills that are fundamental to both disciplines.

Transferable skills

The University's Strategy for Teaching and Learning has identified a number of generic transferable skills which all students are expected to have developed by the end of their degree programme. In following this programme, students will have the opportunity to develop their skills relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology.

In addition, students on the English with French programme will gain experience in self-reliance, effective time management, and cultural awareness; they will acquire skills in the use of library and other relevant information resources, the ability to formulate and evaluate their own and other people's arguments, to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills to new environments, and the ability to work co-operatively with others as well as independently.

Programme content

Each Part of the degree programme comprises 120 credits. In Part 1 students are required to take 60 credits in the School of English, where they are introduced to fundamental debates about the study of literature through close analysis of selected texts from different periods. They must also take a minimum of 40 credits in French, involving both language study and an introduction to aspects of contemporary French culture. In Parts 2 and 3 students must normally take 80 credits in English and 40 credits in French each year. The English strand of the programme provides increased breadth of coverage, focusing on a variety of historical periods and generic traditions, while in the French strand students continue their language studies and choose options from a selection of broadly-based modules in French history and politics or French and Francophone literature and culture.

Part 1 (three terms) Certificate level

Credits Level

In English (60 credits)

Compulsory modules

EN1LL	<i>Languages of Literature</i>	20	C
EN1RS	<i>Revisioning Shakespeare</i>	20	C
EN1WKT	<i>What Kind of Text is This?</i>	20	C

In French (40 or 60 credits)*Compulsory modules*

Either:	FR101	<i>Advanced French Language</i>	20	C
Or:	FR102	<i>Intermediate French Language</i>	20	C
and:	FR103	<i>Contemporary France</i>	20	C
<i>Optional module</i>				
	FR104	<i>French Cinema: Society, Culture and History</i>	20	C

Part 2 (three terms) Intermediate level*Credits Level***In English (80 credits)**

Students choose 4 modules in Part 2—two in the Autumn term and two in the Spring. At least one module must be chosen from each of Groups A, B and C.

Autumn Term*Group A*

EN2CMN	<i>Chaucer and Medieval Narrative</i>	20	I
EN2 RTC	<i>Renaissance Texts & Cultures</i>	20	I
EN2RR	<i>Restoration to Romantics</i>	20	I

Group B

EN2WW1	<i>Women's Writing and Feminist Theory 1</i>	20	I
EN2 MC1	<i>Modernity and Cultural Crisis 1</i>	20	I
EN2WAI	<i>Writing America 1</i>	20	I

Group C

EN2SH1	<i>Shakespeare A</i>	20	I
EN2NCN	<i>Nineteenth Century Novel</i>	20	I
EN2LCT	<i>Literary Criticism & Theory</i>	20	I

Spring Term*Group A*

EN2LV	<i>Lyric Voices 1340 - 1650</i>	20	I
EN2ERE	<i>English Renaissance Epic</i>	20	I
EN2SH2	<i>Shakespeare B</i>	20	I

Group B

EN2RD	<i>Romantics to Decadents</i>	20	I
EN2MC2	<i>Modernity and Cultural Crisis 2</i>	20	I
EN2MDR	<i>Modern Drama</i>	20	I

Group C

EN2WW2	<i>Women's Writing and Feminist Theory 2</i>	20	I
EN2WA2	<i>Writing America 2</i>	20	I
EN2FN	<i>Film Narrative</i>	20	I

Of the 120 credits at Part 2, 5 are taken up by Career Management Skills

<i>Careers Management Skills</i>	5	I
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Students may choose to replace one 20-credit English module from Groups B or C, or the 20-credit International Relations optional module, *either* with a module or modules totalling 20 credits from outside the programme, *or* with:

EN2CWA	<i>Communications at Work</i>	20	I
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In French (40 credits)

Compulsory module

FR201	<i>French Language 2</i>	20	I
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Optional modules

Students choose one module from the following list. Not all options will necessarily be available every year. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

FR202	<i>The Crusades</i>	20	I
FR203	<i>Introduction to Medieval Literature</i>	20	I
FR204	<i>The Poet's Art: French poetry & prose poetry of the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries</i>	20	I
FR205	<i>The Ingénue's Progress (17th & 18th centuries): L'Ecole des Femmes, La Princesse de Clèves, Les Liaisons Dangereuses</i>	20	I
FR206	<i>La littérature au siècle des Lumières: Montesquieu, Voltaire, Diderot</i>	20	I
FR207	<i>France in the Age of Revolutions, 1750-1870</i>	20	I
FR208	<i>Realism and Desire in four French novels 1846-1926: Balzac, Flaubert, Proust, Gide</i>	20	I
FR209	<i>Five Wars and Three Republics: France 1870-1962</i>	20	I
FR210	<i>Closed Spaces: Twentieth-Century Theatre</i>	20	I
FR211	<i>Introduction to Francophone Literature of the Maghreb</i>	20	I
FR212	<i>From Realist Novel to Nouvelle Vague Cinema: Who makes the meaning?</i>	20	I
FR213	<i>Le quatrième pouvoir: la presse et les médias en France</i>	20	I

Part 3 (three terms) Honours level*Credits Level***In English (80 credits)***Compulsory module*

EN3DIS	<i>Dissertation</i>	40	H
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Optional modules

Students choose two 20-credit modules, one in each term, from a list approved by the Department. (NB. Not all these options will necessarily be available every year. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.)

EN3AAL	<i>African American Literature</i>	20	H
EN3AF	<i>American Fiction: Chopin to Carver</i>	20	H
EN3AP	<i>American Poetry: Bishop to Dove</i>	20	H
EN3CD	<i>Contemporary Drama</i>	20	H
EN3CF	<i>Contemporary Fiction</i>	20	H
EN3CL1/2	<i>Children's Literature</i>	20	H
EN3CWF	<i>Canadian Women's Fiction</i>	20	H
EN3DD	<i>Decadence and Degeneration: Literature of the 1890s</i>	20	H
EN3DF	<i>Detective Fiction</i>	20	H
EN3DIC	<i>Dickens</i>	20	H
EN3EMP	<i>'For Profit and Delight': Early Modern Poetry Collections</i>	20	H
EN3ETW	<i>Elizabethan Travel Writing</i>	20	H
EN3FSS	<i>Further Spenser Studies</i>	20	H
EN3GG	<i>Grotesque to Gothic: Body Text and Audience 1680-1800</i>	20	H
EN3HJ	<i>Henry James</i>	20	H

EN3HP	<i>Harold Pinter</i>	20	H
EN3JA	<i>Jane Austen and her Contemporaries</i>	20	H
EN3JAF	<i>Jewish American Fiction</i>	20	H
EN3LC1	<i>Topics in Literary Theory and Criticism 1</i>	20	H
EN3LC2	<i>Topics in Literary Theory and Criticism 2</i>	20	H
EN3LP	<i>Literature and Psychoanalysis</i>	20	H
EN3LTT	<i>Irish Literature of 'The Troubles'</i>	20	H
EN3MA	<i>Margaret Atwood</i>	20	H
EN3MDN	<i>Medieval Dream Narrative</i>	20	H
EN3MID	<i>Modern Irish Drama</i>	20	H
EN3MP	<i>Modern Poetry: Larkin to Muldoon</i>	20	H
EN3MPP	<i>Marvell, Poetry and Politics in the Mid-17th Century</i>	20	H
EN3OEL	<i>Introduction to Old English Literature</i>	20	H
EN3OE2	<i>Old English 2</i>	20	H
EN3PCE	<i>Popular Culture in Early Modern England</i>	20	H
EN3PR	<i>Pre-Raphaelitism</i>	20	H
EN3RD	<i>Renaissance Drama</i>	20	H
EN3RWW	<i>Renaissance Women Writing</i>	20	H
EN3SB	<i>Samuel Beckett</i>	20	H
EN3SF	<i>British Science Fiction</i>	20	H
EN3SHG	<i>Shakespeare and Gender</i>	20	H
EN3SHH	<i>Shakespeare and History</i>	20	H
EN3SHR	<i>Shakespeare and Romance</i>	20	H
EN3SIR	<i>The American South: Image and Representation</i>	20	H
EN3SJ	<i>Samuel Johnson</i>	20	H
EN3SN	<i>The Sensation Novel</i>	20	H
EN3TH	<i>Thomas Hardy</i>	20	H
EN3TTC	<i>From Troy to Camelot: Medieval Romance</i>	20	H
EN3TVL	<i>Television, Literature and Popular Culture</i>	20	H
EN3TVP	<i>Television Police Drama</i>	20	H
EN3WOR	<i>Wordsworth</i>	20	H
EN3WP	<i>War Poetry: from the Crimean to World War 2</i>	20	H
EN3YJ	<i>Yeats and Joyce</i>	20	H

In French (40 credits)

Compulsory module

FR303	<i>Advanced Language Skills</i>	20	H
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Optional modules

FR304	<i>Provençal</i>	20	H
FR305	<i>The Legend of Tristan and Iseut</i>	20	H
FR306	<i>Warriors and Heroes : the Medieval French Epic</i>	20	H
FR307	<i>Between Rome and France: exile and displacement in French Renaissance poetry and prose</i>	20	H
FR308	<i>Seventeenth-century French tragedy</i>	20	H
FR309	<i>Aspects of the Eighteenth-Century French Novel</i>	20	H
FR310	<i>Women & men in the French récit</i>	20	H
FR311	<i>Modern French Drama</i>	20	H
FR312	<i>The Writing of Samuel Beckett</i>	20	H
FR313	<i>French-Canadian Novel</i>	20	H
FR314	<i>The Algerian Novel of French Expression</i>	20	H
FR315	<i>French Cinema</i>	20	H
FR316	<i>The French Right since 1940</i>	20	H
FR317	<i>André Gide 1869-1951</i>	20	H

FR318	<i>French Departmental Play</i>	20	H
FR319	<i>Political Leaders and Groups in the French Revolution</i>	20	H
FR320	<i>French-Canadian Cinema</i>	20	H
FR321	<i>France and Europe since 1945</i>	20	H
FR322	<i>Les droits de l'homme en question</i>	20	H
FR323	<i>Translation into French</i>	20	H
FR324	<i>Forms of the Book in France: texts and their readers from the Middle Ages to the Enlightenment</i>	20	H

Progression requirements

To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2, a Joint Honours student must (i) obtain an average of 40% across all Part 1 modules; (ii) achieve a minimum of 40% in each of the compulsory modules in both English and French; and (iii) have no mark less than 30% in any module, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided the candidate has pursued the course for the module with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without cause. To proceed from Part 2 to Part 3, students must obtain an overall average of at least 40% and achieve not less than 30% in any module, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for that module with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without cause.

Summary of teaching and assessment

Over the programme as a whole, teaching is through a combination of lectures, seminar discussion and essay tutorials. French language modules are taught in small groups, and include use of language laboratory resources. The Dissertation module is supported by workshops and individual supervision. Assessment is conducted through a mixture of assessed essays and formal examination.

Conventions for degree classification are included in the Programme Handbook, but you should note that weighting between Part 2 and Part 3 for classification purposes is 33% and 67%..

The University's honours classification is as follows:

<u>Mark</u>	<u>Interpretation</u>
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

Admission requirements

Entrants to this combined degree programme are normally required to have obtained:

UCAS Tariff: 280 points including (i) 100 points (grade B) in either English Literature *or* English Language and Literature, and (ii) either an A-level in French, *or* 50 points (grade B) in AS French, *or* a grade A in GCSE French.

International Baccalaureat: 31 points, with at least 6 for Higher level English Literature

Scottish Highers: BBBB

Irish Leaving Certificate: BBBBC

GCSE: English Language preferred, grade C or above

Admissions Tutor: Mrs Carolyn Lyle

Support for students and their learning

University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support includes IT Services, which has several hundred computers, and the University Library, which across its three sites holds over a million volumes, subscribes to around 4,000 current periodicals, has a range of electronic sources of information and houses the Student Access to Independent Learning (S@IL) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities available to those studying for a language degree and to those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, the Careers Advisory Service, the University's Special Needs Advisor, Study Advisors, Hall Wardens and the Students' Union.

Students receive Handbooks from both Schools which give details of the programme, guidance on study skills such as note-taking and essay writing, and information about staff, facilities, and sources of specialized help within the University, such as the Study Skills Advisor and the Counselling Service. Both components of the programme are designed to support students throughout their degree course while encouraging more independent work in Part 3. Academic feedback and guidance is given through one-to-one essay tutorials, and academic and personal support is provided through the tutor system and the University's Personal and Academic Record (PAR) scheme. Dissertation workshops prepare students for the Part 3 dissertation which is individually supervised. The Geoffrey Matthews Collection, housed in the School of English, has a collection of books, xeroxed materials, cassettes and videos for loan to students, and a video-viewing suite is available within the Faculty. The Library's electronic databases include the OED, the MLA Bibliography, and the DNB on CD ROM, and such on-line resources as JSTOR and First Search. Specialist subject librarians are available to give students advice and guidance to library resources.

Career prospects

In recent years students who have gained combined degrees in English with sFrench have gone into a wide variety of jobs, including teaching, publishing, journalism, the media, administration, and public relations. A degree involving a second language may also be useful for careers in management or marketing, and an increasing number of students find positions in the business world, including the travel industry. More generally, the degree provides graduates with a range of communication and analytical skills that will serve them in good stead in the marketplace. Graduates may also go on to further academic study and research.

Educational aims of the programme

The programme seeks to develop students' knowledge and understanding of both English and French culture. It also seeks to promote an informed and self-reflective awareness of procedures of critical and cultural analysis and, by exposing students to a variety of learning experiences, to equip them with a broad range of transferable skills of potential value to future employers.

Programme Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

1. Literary texts in English from selected periods between the Middle Ages and the present day
2. A range of kinds of texts including fiction, poetry and drama
3. Methods of critical textual analysis
4. Ways in which social, cultural and historical issues relate to texts
5. A range of approaches in English studies
6. Selected special fields of English
7. The French language
8. French and francophone history, politics and/or literature and culture
9. Key approaches and methods of historical, political and/or literary and cultural analysis

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

In English, knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminar discussions, individual essay feedback), prescribed and recommended reading, and the writing of essays and a dissertation. Part 1 offers a broad introduction to 1-5. In Part 2 the understanding and skills acquired in Part 1 are developed with particular emphasis on 1, 2 and 4 through seminars, lectures and individual feedback. Part 3 introduces more specialized study, particularly in relation to 3, 5 and 6, through a choice of seminar-based modules together with supervised, independent study leading to a dissertation.

In French, the skills of reading, writing, listening to and speaking French (7) are developed through small-group work and regular non-assessed coursework. The acquisition of French grammar is aided by Powerpoint lectures in Part 1, supplemented by self-access materials. 8 and 9 are introduced in lectures and seminars, and are developed through individual reading and research from library and internet resources.

Assessment

In English Parts 1 and 2, knowledge and understanding of 1 – 5 are tested through a combination of essays and unseen written examinations. In Part 3, assessment is based on a mixture of methods, such as extended essays, essays plus unseen exams, and the dissertation. Assessment in French is by a combination of coursework essays and unseen examination.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills :

1. Capacity for independent analysis and research
2. Identification of problems and issues
3. The ability to read closely and critically
4. An ability to reflect on one's own positions
5. Ability to understand and evaluate different cultural traditions and environments
6. Ability to plan and conduct an extended analysis of a chosen topic

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Intellectual skills are acquired through private reading (1), through guided study of texts, seminar preparation and discussion (2-5), essay writing and feedback through tutorials (1-5), and the completion of the dissertation (6).

Assessment

1-5 are assessed formatively in coursework essays, and summatively in essays and unseen exams; 6 by means of the dissertation and the extended essays which form part of some modules

C. Practical skills:

1. The ability to criticize and formulate interpretations of texts
2. An ability to engage in critical argument using relevant theoretical approaches
3. An awareness of the rhetorical resources of the English language
4. Proficiency in speaking, writing, reading and understanding French
5. Ability to understand a variety of types of textual material in French
6. Bibliographical and research skills
7. A knowledge of appropriate conventions in the presentation of written work.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

In English, 1-3 and 6-7 are developed in seminars, essays, and essay tutorials, and through the guidance and supervision of the dissertation module. French language classes are compulsory in every year (4-5), and much primary and secondary reading material is in French.

Assessment

All the subject-specific practical skills are assessed through formative and summative coursework essays. 1-5 are also tested in unseen written examinations, and 6-7 in the Dissertation.

D. Transferable skills:

1. Fluency in written and oral communication
2. The ability to formulate and present arguments
3. Assessing the merits of competing approaches
4. The ability to translate subject-specific knowledge and skills into other environments
5. The ability to find and use relevant information resources
6. Time-management skills
7. A creative approach to problem-solving
8. Group and interpersonal skills
9. An ability to self-evaluate and self-reflect
10. Use of information technology, especially word-processing

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Transferable skills are developed through seminar discussions(1 - 4, 7 - 9), through seminar presentations, essay writing, tutorial feedback and unseen examinations (1 – 9). 4 and 7 particularly are developed through requiring students to draw on acquired knowledge and skills when analyzing new material in essays and unseen examinations. 5 and 10 are developed through use of the library and other sources of information, for seminar preparation, essay writing and research for the dissertation. We require that all summatively assessed essays are word-processed (10).

Assessment

1 – 7 and 9 are formatively assessed through coursework essays and seminar presentations, and summatively assessed through essays, unseen examinations, and the dissertation. 9 is encouraged through essay feedback and essay tutorials. 8 is encouraged through seminars and in tutorials.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably expect to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in module and programme handbooks.