

Academic Placements in English Literature

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Why not work experience placements?

- Our students already undertake these.
- Many of our graduates do not move into 'traditional' English degree career areas.
- Academics are not always overly keen to become involved in purely career preparation activities.
- We wanted to exploit fully the possibilities placements might offer, both to us and our students.

The system

- All modules at Parts 2 and 3 are available as placement modules.
- Placements usually last two weeks and are carried out after the module teaching has taken place.
- Placements must be approved by module convenors.
- One form of assessment (usually the assessed essay) is replaced by the placement report.
- Students are supported by one to one sessions, drop-in sessions and workshops.

Academic placements for us...

- Link to specific learning on the module.
- Contribute to the assessment of the module.
- Tend to be:

shadowing placements

participation placements

project placements

...or a combination of two or more of these.

Reflecting on learning... and teaching

- Students engage with the expected learning on the module in order to identify a placement.
- Students need to grasp the module in order to carry out the placement.
- Students learn to reflect on their experience in a report – a new form of writing for most of them.
- On placement, students are often asked to give presentations.
- The nature of the report might change on placement – students have to be flexible in their learning.
- Independent research away from the seminar room is in itself a good preparation for their dissertation and/or life after university.