

BA English and European Culture and Literature in Translation **UCAS code:**
For students entering Part 1 in 2006

Awarding Institution:	The University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	The University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):	English, Area Studies
Faculty of Arts and Humanities	Programme length: 3 years
Date of specification: Aug 2007	
Programme Director: Dr Andrew Nash	
Programme Adviser: Dr Julia Waters	
Board of Studies: English	
Accreditation: Not appropriate	

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, and a knowledge of core developments in English and European Literature and Culture. 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. The European Culture and Literature in Translation part of the programme aims to provide undergraduate students with subject-specific knowledge and related skills. In particular, it aims to:

- give the student an introduction to the intellectual and historical context within which the works were produced,
- develop the student's understanding of the interrelationship between the works studied and the context within which they were produced;
- develop the student's understanding of the comparative importance of national and European creative developments;
- enable the student to contextualise, to think conceptually about European creative production, and to develop an intercultural awareness.

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 had the opportunity to enhance their skills relating to literacy and communication and the ability to apply these in appropriate contexts, the ability to understand, interrogate and apply a variety of theoretical positions and weigh the importance of alternative perspectives, the ability to present sustained and persuasive written and oral arguments cogently and coherently, career management, a broad awareness of cultural difference in a European dimension, information handling, numeracy, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology.

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 and a minimum of 40 credits in European Culture and Literature in Translation. Part 1 students are introduced to fundamental debates about the study of literature through close analysis of selected texts from different periods and from different countries. In Parts 2 and 3, students must normally take 60 credits in both English and European Culture and Literature in Translation in each Part. However, in consultation with their programme adviser, they may choose to take up to 20 credits each year from modules elsewhere in the University. Both strands of the programme provide increased breadth of coverage, focusing on a variety of historical periods and generic traditions. Students will have the possibility of selecting specialised option modules.

The programme which follows states which modules must be taken (the compulsory part), together with one or more lists of modules from which the student must make a selection (the optional part). Students must choose such additional modules as they wish, in consultation with their programme adviser, to make 120 credits in each Part. The number of credits in each module is shown in column after its title, and the credit requirements in English and in European Culture and Literature in Translation are indicated for each Part.

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 European Culture and Literature in Translation (20 credits minimum) *Credits* *Level*

Compulsory module

ML101	<i>Twentieth-century European Fiction in translation</i>	20	C
-------	--	----	---

Optional modules. Students may choose to replace one 20 credit optional module with a 20-credit module from the IWLP programme: **Note:** the following modules are subject to the availability of academic staff in any one year. Students should consult the relevant Departmental handbook for up-to-date information.

FR104	<i>French Cinema: Society, Culture and History</i>	20	C
IT1004	<i>Italian Medieval and Renaissance Culture</i>	20	C

Part 2 (three terms) Intermediate Level

Students must take 60 credits in English and 60 credits in European Culture and Literature in Translation.

Of the 120 credits in Part 2, 5 are taken up by Career Management Skills and will be delivered by the Department of English.

In English (60 credits)

Students choose three modules in Part 2, at least one in the Autumn and one in the Spring terms. At least one of the chosen modules must be an asterisked module. Not more than one module may be chosen from each group.

Autumn Term

Group A

EN2RTC	<i>*Renaissance Texts & Cultures</i>	20	I
EN2MC1	<i>Modernism and Modern Poetry</i>	20	I
EN2RR	<i>The Eighteenth-Century: Restoration to Romantics</i>	20	I

Group B

EN2CMN	<i>*Chaucer and Medieval Narrative</i>	20	I
EN2NCN	<i>Nineteenth-Century Novel</i>	20	I
EN2WAR	<i>Writing America: Romances of Nationhood</i>	20	I

Group C

EN2RDR	<i>*Renaissance Drama</i>	20	I
EN2LCT	<i>Literary Criticism & Theory</i>	20	I
EN2WF1	<i>Women's Writing and Feminist Theory I</i>	20	I
EN2OEL	<i>*Introduction to Old English</i>	20	I

Spring Term

Group A

EN2ERE	<i>*English Renaissance Epic</i>	20	I
EN2MC2	<i>Modernity, Crisis and Narrative Fiction</i>	20	I
EN2RD	<i>Romantics to Decadents</i>	20	I

Group B

EN2LV	<i>*Lyric Voices 1340 – 1650</i>	20	I
EN2MDR	<i>Modern Drama</i>	20	I
EN2WAS	<i>Writing America: Self, Race, Region</i>	20	I
EN2CAW	<i>Communications at Work</i>	20	I

Group C

EN2SH	<i>*Shakespeare</i>	20	I
EN2WF2	<i>Women's Writing and Feminist Theory 2</i>	20	I
EN2FN	<i>Film Narrative</i>	20	I

Special Module:

Students may, with the permission of the Programme Director, replace one of their English modules with the following special module:

EN2CW	<i>Creative Writing and Critical Practice</i>	20	I
-------	---	----	---

In European Culture and Literature in Translation (60 credits)

Students must choose the compulsory module and TWO optional modules. Students may choose to replace one 20 credit optional intermediate module with a 20-credit module from the IWLP programme.

Compulsory module:

ML201	C19th European Romanticism	20	I
-------	----------------------------	----	---

Optional modules (NB. Not all these options will necessarily be available every year, and may be replaced by other modules. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.):

FR203	<i>Introduction to Medieval Literature: Marie de France</i>	20	I
IT205	<i>Italian Cinema I (Introduction to Italian film)</i>	20	I
IT206	<i>Italian Cinema 2 (Popular genre cinema)</i>	20	I

Of the 120 credits in Part 2, 5 are taken up by Careers Management Skills.

Students may choose to replace one 20 credit intermediate module from English with modules totalling 20 credits from outside the programme.

Part 3 (three terms) Honours level

Credits Level

Compulsory

EN3JDE	<i>Joint Dissertation</i>	40	H
--------	---------------------------	----	---

In English (40 Credits)

Students choose two optional 20-credit modules, one in each term, to make a total of 40 credits.

Optional modules: A complete list of options is available from the Programme Director and in the English Part 3 Module Supplement. Admission to optional modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

In European Culture and Literature in Translation (40 credits)

Students may choose:

EITHER: ONE compulsory module and ONE optional module. Students may choose to replace their 20-credit optional module with a 20-credit module from the IWLP programme

OR: BOTH compulsory modules

Compulsory modules

ML301	<i>Twentieth-Century European Theatre</i>	20	H
ML302	<i>Realism in 19th-Century European Fiction</i>	20	H

Optional modules

Students will choose optional modules from the IWLP and an approved list of those modules on offer annually to Modern Languages students in the Departments of French, German and Italian for which there are special arrangements for students of European Literature and Culture to study the material in translation.

Progression requirements

To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2, a Joint Honours student must obtain (i) an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1, where all the credits are at C level or above; (ii) a mark of at least 40% in each English module; (iii) a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1.

To proceed from Part 2 to Part 3, students must obtain (i) an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 2; (ii) an average of 40% across English Part 2 modules; (iii) a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 2.

Summary of teaching and assessment

Over the programme as a whole, teaching is through a combination of lectures, seminar discussion and essay tutorials. The Dissertation module is supported by workshops and individual supervision. Assessment is conducted through a mixture of assessed coursework 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 programme are normally required to have obtained:

UCAS Tariff: *either* 300 points from three A2s, including 100 points (grade B) in English Literature or English Language and Literature; *or* 320 points from 3 A2s + up to two AS, including 100 points (grade B) in English Literature or English Language and Literature

International Baccalaureat: 31 points with 6 or 7 for Higher level English Literature

Scottish or Irish Highers: ABBBB (A in English Literature)

GCSE/O English Language preferred: grade C or above.

All applications are considered on their individual merits. Mature candidates will usually be expected to have a B (100 points) at A Level English Literature, or equivalent qualification. Consideration is also given to applicants with other qualifications and experience.

Admissions Tutor: Mrs Carolyn Lyle

Support for students and their learning

University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, the Study Advice Team, the University's Special Needs Adviser, Hall Wardens, the Students' Union and the Careers Advisory Service. 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 both for those students studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Transferable skills are supported by the Skills Opportunities At Reading (SOAR) website with links to information about resources and events offered by the Library, IT Services, Study Advisers, RUSU, Mathematics Support Centre and the University Language Centre.

The School of English and American Literature also offers students specific help to improve and develop their essay writing skills through the Royal Literary Fund Fellowship scheme, which provides a resident professional writer whose role is to advise students individually, from first-year to postgraduate level, on raising the level of their academic writing.

Students in the School of English and American Literature and the School of Modern Languages receive a Handbook which gives 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. The programmes are designed to give students extensive teaching support in Part 1 leading to 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, provides books, xeroxed materials, cassettes and an extensive collection of videos for loan to students. A video-viewing suite is available within the Faculty. The Library is well-stocked with printed materials as well as essential electronic databases on-line and on CD ROM, such as the OED, the MLA Bibliography, and JSTOR. Specialist subject librarians are available to give students advice and guidance to library resources.

Career prospects

In recent years students who have gained an English and European Literature degree from Reading have gone into a wide variety of jobs, including teaching, publishing, journalism, the media, management, administration, and public relations. An literature degree provides graduates with a range of communication and analytical skills that will serve them in good stead in the marketplace. A number of graduates each year go on to further academic study and research. In addition to the help provided by the University Careers Advisory Service, SEAL has a Careers Tutor available to advise students in English on researching and planning their career choices.

Educational aims of the programme

The programme aims to develop students' knowledge and understanding of a wide variety of literary texts, and to promote an informed and self-reflective awareness of procedures of critical analysis.

Programme Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

1. Literary and other cultural texts in English and European Literature 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 and European Literature studies
6. Selected special fields of English and European Literature

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminar discussions, and individual essay feedback), prescribed and recommended reading, and the writing of essays and a dissertation. Certificate Level modules offer a broad introduction to 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. At Inter-mediate Level the understanding and skills acquired at Certificate Level are developed with particular emphasis on 1, 2 and 4 through seminars, lectures and individual feedback. Honours Level modules introduce 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.

Assessment

At Certificate and Intermediate Levels, knowledge and understanding of 1 – 5 are tested through a combination of essays and unseen written examinations. At Honours Level, assessment is through a mixture of methods, such as extended essays, essays plus unseen exams, and the dissertation.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills – able to:

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

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Intellectual skills are acquired through independent reading (1), seminar preparation and discussion, and essay writing (1, 2, 3) and essay feedback through tutorials (2, 3 and 4).

Assessment

1 – 3 are assessed both formatively in coursework essays, and summatively in essays, unseen exams and the dissertation.

1- 4 are assessed formatively through seminar discussion and essay feedback and tutorials

C. Practical skills – able to:

1. criticize and formulate interpretations of texts
2. engage in critical argument using relevant theoretical approaches
3. demonstrate an awareness of the rhetorical resources of the English language
4. undertake bibliographical and research skills
5. demonstrate a knowledge of appropriate conventions in the presentation of written work
6. relate the study of English and European literature to cultural and social issues

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

1 – 3 and 6 are developed in seminars, essays and essay tutorials. 4 and 5 are developed through essays, essay feedback and dissertation guidance and supervision.

Assessment

All the subject specific practical skills are assessed through formative and summative essays. 1 – 3 and 6 are also tested in unseen examinations.

D. Transferable skills – able to:

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, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 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 be expected 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 the module description and in the programme handbook. The University reserves the right to modify this specification in unforeseen circumstances, or where the process of academic development and feedback from students, quality assurance processes or external sources, such as professional bodies, requires a change to be made. In such circumstances, a revised specification will be issued.