

OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY

MA ENGLISH LITERATURE



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND MODERN LANGUAGES

The MA in English Literature offers an exciting and challenging course of graduate study, covering a range of periods and genres from the Renaissance to the Contemporary.

Key features of our programme

- Top-quality teaching by experienced university academics
- A supportive environment which offers small teaching group sizes and individual tutorials to help you flourish in your studies
- A broad-ranging curriculum that spans Renaissance to Contemporary literature.
- You can choose to keep your options open or take a specific pathway and specialise in the area that interests you the most
- A dedicated careers service
- Opportunity to study either full-time (1 year) or part-time (2 years)
- The department has an excellent reputation and we consistently rank as one of the best English Literature departments in the country
- Classes are held in the evening so that you can fit your studies around work or other commitments.

Did you finish your undergraduate degree with questions left unanswered? Is there an area of English Literature that you want to explore in greater depth? On this course you'll find a thriving postgraduate community that will stretch your intellect and deepen your critical appreciation of English Literature.

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COURSE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

The course is designed to improve your research skills, allow you to delve deeper into the topics that interest you, and carry out a sustained piece of research. The basic structure is as follows:

- A compulsory core module — Critical Debates and Methods explores perspectives on theory and method in English studies, helping you to acquire the advanced study skills needed to engage in independent research.
- Two elective modules — choose from specialist options that include fiction, poetry, and drama, covering a range of periods from the Renaissance to the present.
- Dissertation — you will complete an in-depth piece of research on a literary topic of your choice.

Dissertation

You will have the opportunity to conduct a major investigation into a literary topic, leading to the production of a 15,000 word thesis. The topic may be related to one of your elective modules or chosen from another area of interest. You will be supported throughout your dissertation through regular supervisions with a specialist tutor.

Research Excellence

- 100% of our research is internationally recognised*
- 20% of our research is world leading*
- Our teaching is informed by our research. This means that as a student you will benefit from the latest academic thinking.
- Our research expertise includes fiction and drama as well as poetry

*REF 2014



“Apart from making you extremely knowledgeable in your chosen field, the MA provides you with essential transferable skills in research and problem-solving.”

Zita Zelei,
MA English Literature graduate

OPTIONAL PATHWAYS

A uniquely flexible programme

You may choose to pursue a specialist pathway, or take a combination of modules that match your interests. The programme is flexible so that you can adapt it according to your research ambitions.

Early Modern Literature

This pathway allows you to focus your studies on literary and cultural production from the 16th to 19th centuries. You will have the opportunity to take modules that examine in depth the historical, political and aesthetic contexts that influenced the making of the Renaissance period, but also the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries more generally.

19th Century Literature and Culture

This pathway lets you focus on the literary and cultural production of the 19th century. Take modules that examine in depth the historical, political and aesthetic contexts that influenced the making of the Romantic and Victorian periods. This broad pathway enables analysis of a variety of forms of writing, and modules will be dedicated to specific thematic, generic and stylistic aspects of the century.

Modern and Contemporary Writing and Culture

Through this pathway, you can focus your study on literary and cultural production since the turn of the 20th century. It gives you the opportunity to take modules that examine in depth the historical, political and aesthetic contexts that influenced the making of the 20th and 21st centuries. This broad pathway enables analysis of prose, poetic and dramatic forms of writing from the Anglophone world, and in translation.



General Literature Studies

This pathway allows you to choose a from a wide range of topics, genres and periods across all of the modules on offer. You have the opportunity to take modules that examine in depth the historical, political and aesthetic contexts in multiple periods. This flexible pathway enables students to pursue their interests across the specialisms offered by our Department.

“I absolutely loved the MA course at Brookes. The support from the English department has been outstanding. The staff have been truly inspiring. It is due to their encouragement and belief in my abilities that I have reached this point. I’d highly recommend Brookes to anyone considering studying English Literature at any level.”

Cheryl Birdseye, MA English Literature graduate now studying for a PhD at Oxford Brookes

WHY CHOOSE OXFORD BROOKES?

Specialist facilities

Oxford Brookes houses the Booker Prize Archive and has particular research and teaching strengths in fiction, drama, and poetry. We are also home to the Oxford Brookes Poetry Centre, hosting a range of readings and research presentations with world-class poets and researchers.

Studying at Oxford Brookes gives you access to an excellent library and IT resources, sport and leisure facilities, a dedicated student careers service, a nursery, medical and dental facilities and student support services including academic and personal counselling.



STUDYING IN OXFORD

Oxford is a historic city with a thriving academic culture. At Oxford Brookes, you will join a collaborative and supportive community at the forefront of the academic world.

English Literature in Oxford

Oxford is the world's most literary city. You can write in the place used as Hogwarts library in the *Harry Potter* films, sit in the very garden where *His Dark Materials* ends so heartbreakingly, or discover the haunts of Evelyn Waugh, C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien.

There are countless competitions, literary open-mic sessions and public readings, not to mention the annual Oxford Literary Festival, one of the biggest events in the publishing calendar.

Living in Oxford

With over 30,000 students, Oxford is not only a centre of education and learning but it is also a rich cultural hub with a wealth of historic buildings, cinemas, theatres and museums, exceeding many other cities of its size.

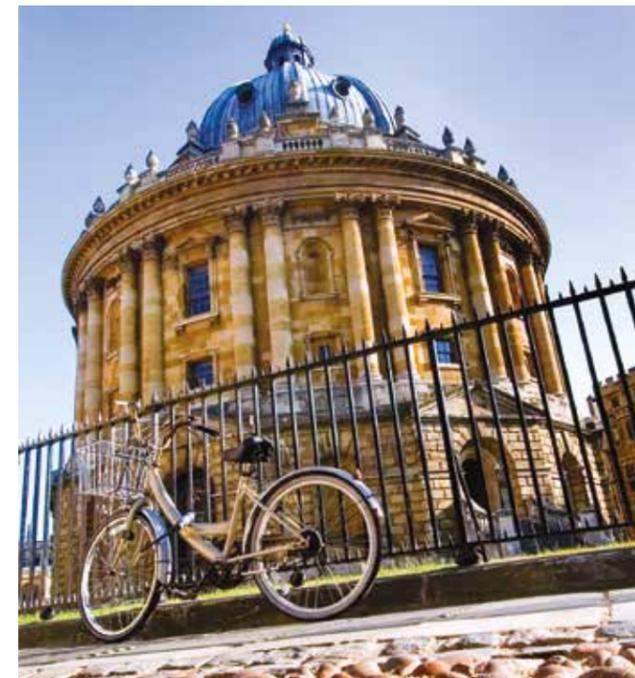
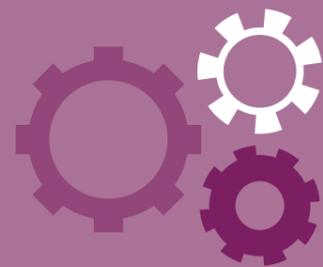
Oxford offers a world of dining opportunities as well as bars, clubs and traditional English pubs famous for their legendary customers. Performances of live music range from classical

concerts at the intimate Holywell Music Room to jazz, reggae, rock and indie at the O2 Academy on Cowley Road.

Oxford has parks, meadows and nature reserves to discover as well as Britain's oldest botanic garden – ideal spots for a quiet walk or picnic with friends. Your time in Oxford wouldn't be complete without spending an afternoon rowing or punting on the river.

Library resources

In addition to our own excellent libraries and resource centres, Oxford Brookes also offers you access to the world-renowned Bodleian Library - one of the oldest libraries in Europe and home to over 12 million printed items. This is an amazing resource that can be invaluable when completing your dissertation.



FUNDING AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry requirements

You should normally hold an upper second-class honours degree, or its equivalent, in English Literature or a related subject.

If it is some time since you completed your undergraduate education, or you do not meet the standard requirement, it may be possible to consider your application based on evidence of other relevant personal and professional experience, the support of your referees, and examples of written work.

Students with a first language other than English are required to give evidence of a good degree as well as minimum IELTS score 6.5, with 6.0 in reading and writing and 5.5 in listening and speaking, or equivalent. For more information see: www.brookes.ac.uk/international

How to apply

Please apply directly to Oxford Brookes.

Funding

- Oxford Brookes graduates are eligible for a 10% discount on postgraduate tuition fees
- The UK government offer postgraduate loans to all eligible UK/EU students

Visit our website for details of scholarships, bursaries and other funding sources.

www.brookes.ac.uk/studying/finance

10%
discount for Oxford Brookes alumni



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Department of English and Modern Languages

For more information
about MA English Literature:

www.brookes.ac.uk/maenglishlit

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