

OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY

THE LITTLE BOOK OF

**ENGLISH
LITERATURE
AT BROOKES**



What will I study?

You will explore literature from the Renaissance onwards, on a course that gives you the chance to focus on the writing that excites you most.

You will study core modules that will develop your critical, analytical, and communication skills.

On this course you'll encounter a range of themes, including:

From kings to clones

Real and imagined worlds

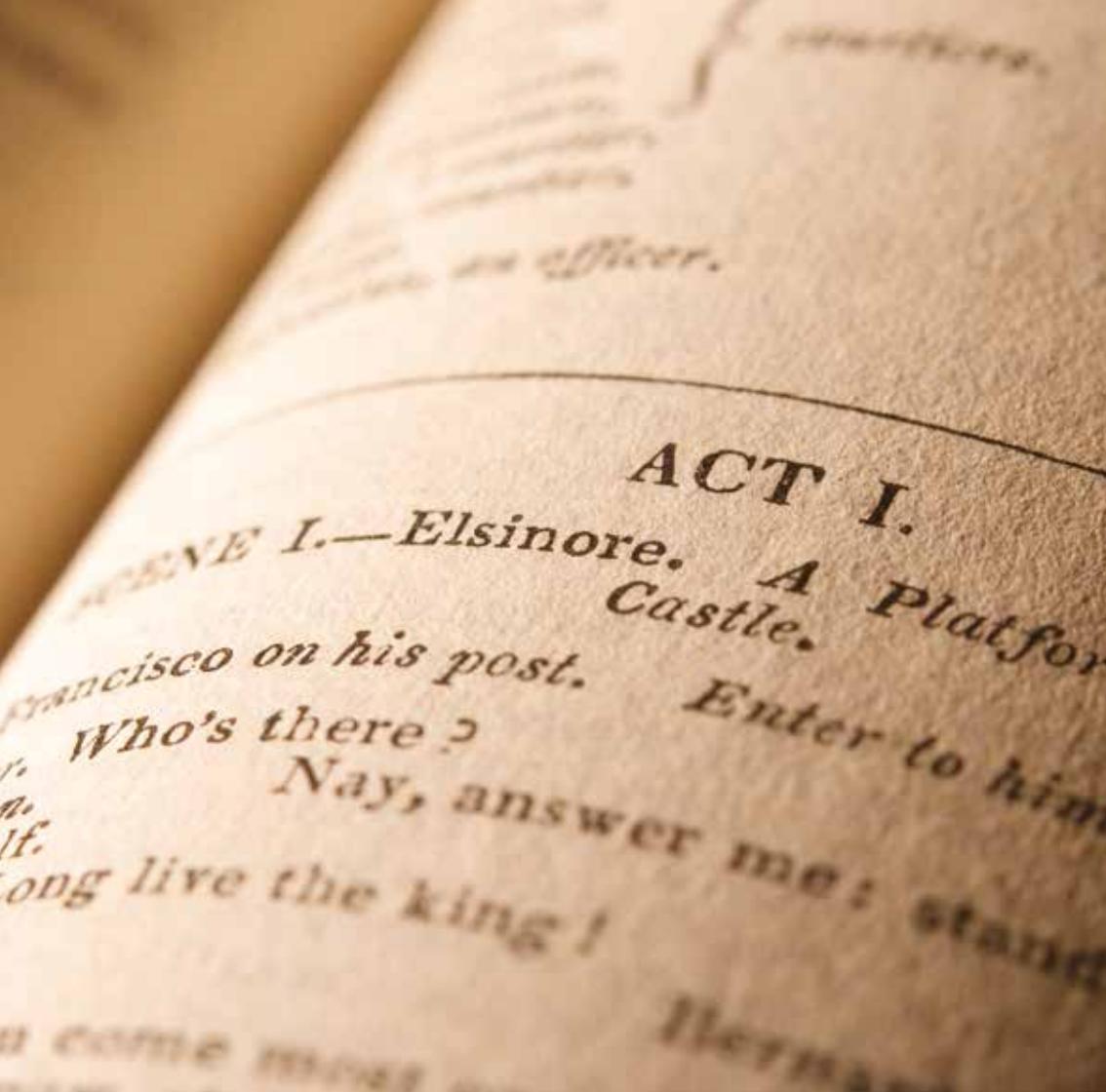
Writing on the edge

Literature of the USA

Creative writing: a world of your own

Literature and the non-human





FROM KINGS TO CLONES

The modules that explore this theme will help you to develop the skills and knowledge to become a confident critic of literature. Study the English literary tradition from Shakespeare to the 21st century.

Alongside core modules, designed to give you an excellent grounding in the subject, you will be able to explore a wide range of texts and ideas from around the globe through **Special Topic** and **Advanced Option** modules.



REAL AND IMAGINED WORLDS

Explore how writers have created worlds of the imagination. Study literature that throws light on the world in which we live... and on the fantastical worlds in which we *could* live.

In the module **Landscapes and Mindscapes**, you will consider how writers have explored the worlds both around and inside themselves. You can also study a module on **Utopias** which explores our visions of perfect and imperfect worlds.



LITERATURE OF THE USA

Explore how a range of American writers have chosen to speak about themselves. Through the modules on this theme, you will discover how writing in America has expressed the diversity of peoples and regions that have shaped the national identity.

Be introduced to the American literary tradition, and progress further into areas including African American Avant-Garde, and the writing of modern and postmodern urban experience.





CREATIVE WRITING: A WORLD OF YOUR OWN

Develop your talent, whether that is for flash fiction or epic poetry. Work with publishing writers and select modules that teach you to how to express your own voice in writing.

You can attend Creative Writing Open Lectures with high-profile guest speakers such as international best-seller Philip Pullman, and writers like Iain Sinclair, Jonathan Meades, Booker Prize-winner Howard Jacobson, Orange Prize-winner Daisy Goodwin, Pulitzer-winner Marilynne Robinson, Nick Cohen or comedians Mark Watson and Stewart Lee.



LITERATURE AND THE NON-HUMAN

What does it mean to be human? You can take modules on literature and technology, the human-animal relationship, or writing of the supernatural.

Here's where you can discover how literature has changed in our digital age, how writers have puzzled about the ethics of our attitudes to animals, or how experiences at the limits of understanding can open up new, exciting and dangerous worlds for us.



Inspiring your writing

You will have the option to take Creative Writing modules as part of your course. So whether you have a passion for creative writing, or want to give it a try for the first time, you will be able to take modules that develop your writing skills.

Our friendly, close-knit team will help you get the most out of the course. One-to-one tutorials are offered on each module and you'll be encouraged to talk to us outside of class to discuss your work and ideas.

Why not join the student-run creative writing society? They run weekly workshops and sessions where you can hear each other's work and meet new people, as well as try out new genres and writing styles.

And of course, a social always follows...



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Take advantage of excellent on-campus literary resources, including the Booker Prize Archive, Royal Literary Fund Fellows and the Oxford Brookes Poetry Centre.

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91%

of English Literature students are satisfied with the overall quality of the course

2017 NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY.
SOURCE: UNISTATS



Research and expertise

The English team has strengths in 20th century literature, modernist culture, gender studies, Romantic poetry, Renaissance writing including drama and performance history, contemporary fiction, 19th century fiction, American writing and culture, and post-colonial writing.

Lecturers in the department are all active researchers, who share their cutting-edge research through their teaching.

We encourage you to become a researcher in your own right, developing specialist knowledge in areas which most interest you. **By designing and undertaking your own research, you will develop excellent analytical and independent study skills, adding weight to your CV.**

78%

of our research is either world leading or internationally excellent.

Source: REF 2014



Oxford Brookes Poetry Centre

The Department of English and Modern Languages is home to the Oxford Brookes Poetry Centre. The Centre hosts a prestigious International Poetry Competition, events, conferences, research seminars, workshops, exhibitions and community projects.

The Poetry Centre also runs **ignition**press, a poetry pamphlet press with an international outlook. Interns help to run numerous projects such as events for National Poetry Day, a contemporary poetry reading group, and spoken word evenings.

Opposite: poet Marie-Aline Roemer (right), winner of the International Poetry Competition 2015 (ESL category), with students from Oxford Spire Academy.



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“Oxford Brookes undoubtedly provides its students with all the tools we need to succeed. The tutors are all experts in their fields and we also benefit from added tutorials from the Royal Literary Fund Fellows.”
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AMNA EDRIS, ENGLISH LITERATURE AND FILM STUDIES
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We are part of the Royal Literary Fund fellows scheme. You can sign up to consult an experienced writer, who will offer confidential one-to-one tutorials on any aspect of writing whether this is a seminar or presentation, creative writing, academic assessed and non-assessed work, exam writing or seminar presentation.



96%

of English Literature students feel that they were given the opportunity to explore ideas and concepts in depth

2017 NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY.
SOURCE: UNISTATS



“The course is wide-ranging, challenging and – most of all – well taught.”

CHRISTINA STORES, ENGLISH LITERATURE





Literature in Oxford

Oxford is the world's most literary city. You can spend days writing in the very 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.

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“Oxford is a great city; there are lots of theatre and drama events going on, all against a beautiful backdrop rich in culture and heritage. Being allowed to use resources such as the Bodleian Library in third year is also a massive benefit of being based in Oxford.”
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FRANCESCA COOPER, DRAMA AND ENGLISH LITERATURE
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Careers

As an English Literature graduate you will be able to communicate with clarity and confidence, and possess the refined analytical and reasoning skills that employers look for.

Our graduates enter careers in publishing, journalism, advertising and the media, public relations, teaching and commerce, theatre and charities. Others have gone on to further study - from PhDs to the Graduate Diploma in Law.

Work experience

Oxford has brilliant opportunities for work experience in publishing, journalism, media, and theatre.

As part of the **work placement module** that you can choose in your second or third year, you can work alongside experienced professionals in organisations that have links with English Language and Literature. Previous students have enjoyed placements with the Oxford Literary Festival and various exciting places in Oxford, such as The Story Museum, Pegasus Theatre, Oxford University Press and Oxfam.



86%

of English Literature graduates are in work or further study within 6 months

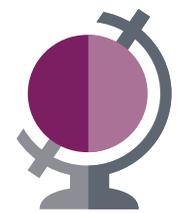
2017 NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY.
SOURCE: UNISTATS



Study abroad

English Literature students can benefit from time spent living in a culture that is different from their own, and studying abroad is a really popular option. Recent undergraduates have spent time studying at universities in Canada, Australia, and the Netherlands.

We have links with more than 100 partner universities around the world so if you're interested in expanding your international experience you can choose to study abroad as part of your degree.



Combined honours

You can choose to study English Literature as a single or combined honours degree. Popular combinations with English Literature include:

Education Studies

Philosophy

History

The flexible approach at Brookes also means that whether you're studying single or combined honours English Literature, you'll be able to choose to study a module from outside of your course in the first year.



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**Department of English and
Modern Languages**

For more information about
English Literature:

www.brookes.ac.uk/undergraduate/english



brookes.englishlanguages



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