THE LITTLE BOOK OF ENGLISH LITERATURE WITH CREATIVE WRITING AT BROOKES
What will I study?

You will take modules that develop your writing skills and work one-to-one with creative writing staff for a major project. Our teaching team offers an excellent range of expertise, with specialists in contemporary fiction, drama, poetry, Shakespeare, modernism, American literature, and romanticism - including published writers and novelists.

You will study core modules that help you develop essential critical, analytical, and communication skills.

On this course you’ll discover a range of themes, including:

- Creative writing: a world of your own
- From kings to clones
- Real and imagined worlds
- Writing on the edge
- Literature of the USA
- Literature and the non-human
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 go to Creative Writing Open Lectures with high-profile guest speakers who have included international best-seller Philip Pullman, 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.
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...

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.
FROM KINGS TO CLONES

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

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, by studying 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. Additionally, the Utopias module explores our visions of perfect and imperfect worlds.
WRITING ON THE EDGE

The modules that make up this theme will challenge you to think beyond the familiar. Prepare to propel yourself into the minds of the criminal, the insane, and the ghostly, through experimental writing that asks you to rethink what you know about yourself.

Consider writing that unsettles our moral and social norms through the Culture, Crime and Transgression module. Discover more by taking modules on witchcraft, the supernatural, and writing about madness.
Explore how the voices of America have chosen to speak about themselves. Through the modules in this theme, you will discover how writing in America has captured the diversity of peoples and regions that have shaped the national identity.

Be introduced to the American literary tradition, which you can expand into areas including African American Avant-Garde, and the writing of modern and postmodern urban experience.
LITERATURE AND THE NON-HUMAN

What does it mean to be human? Taking modules on literature and technology, the human-animal relationship, or writing of the supernatural will make you question the boundary between your humanness and the other worlds beyond you.

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

92% of English Literature students are satisfied with the overall quality of the course.

2016 NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY. SOURCE: UNISTATS
On this course, you will be taught by published, and publishing, authors.

The author of Sprung Nocturne (2016), a pamphlet of poems, Andy Eaton was awarded the 2016 Tupelo Quarterly Poetry Prize, selected by Tracy K. Smith. Andy is from San Diego, California and earned a PhD from the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry at Queen’s University, Belfast. His work has been selected for the Poetry Ireland Introductions series and received support from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. Recent poems and reviews appear in Copper Nickel, Edinburgh Review, Hayden’s Ferry Review, Magma, Narrative, Prelude, and Poetry Ireland Review among other places.
Morag Joss’s eight novels have been published in the UK and USA and translated into several languages. Her awards and nominations include the 2003 Silver Dagger, the USA Dilys Award and the USA Edgar Award for Best Novel. She also writes short fiction and poetry. Her fourth novel, *Half Broken Things*, is currently optioned for stage adaptation, and she is working on her ninth novel.

James Hawes is author of six novels with Jonathan Cape. The first, *A White Merc With Fins* (1996), was a Sunday Times bestseller, as was his second, *Rancid Aluminium* (1997). James has reviewed in and/or written for every UK broadsheet. He has been working closely with the king of UK adaptation, Andrew Davies (*Bleak House*, *Pride and Prejudice* etc) on a screen version of his fifth novel. His first work of non-fiction, *Englanders and Huns*, was shortlisted for the political books of the year 2015, and he is currently developing an original TV series.
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.

Oxford Brookes is also home to the Poetry Centre, which creates a space for discussion and research, as well as promoting connections between poets, academics, and readers of poetry in the local community. It also sponsors readings by poets, such as Helen Mort and Kate Clanchy, and a regular seminar series as well as hosting international competitions.
95% of English Literature students feel that staff are good at explaining things.

2016 NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY. SOURCE: UNISTATS

We encourage you to become a researcher in your own right and by designing and undertaking your own research you will develop excellent analytical and independent study skills, adding weight to your CV.

We are part of the Royal Literary Fund fellows scheme. This means that you can sign up to consult an experienced writer, who will offer confidential one-to-one tutorials on any aspect of writing and presentation, whether creative writing, academic assessed and non-assessed work, exam writing or seminar presentation.
“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.”

AMNA EDRIS, ENGLISH LITERATURE AND FILM STUDIES, 2017

78% of our research is either world leading or internationally excellent.

Source: REF 2014
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.
“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.”

FRANCESCA COOPER, DRAMA AND ENGLISH LITERATURE
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 media, public relations, teaching and commerce. 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 placements module that you can choose in your second or third year, you’ll 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, and Oxford University Press.

90% of English Literature graduates are in work or further study within 6 months

2016 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.
Department of English and Modern Languages

For more information about English Literature with Creative Writing:

www.brookes.ac.uk/undergraduate/english-literature-with-creative-writing

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