



"I WAS ENCOURAGED
ABOUT THE QUALITY
OF THE TEACHING
AND THE QUALITY
OF THE SUPERVISION
AT WESTMINSTER."

MAX WATSON
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
AND CREATIVE WRITING
BA HONOURS



“THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER WAS MY FIRST CHOICE, AND IT REALLY LIVED UP TO EXPECTATIONS – IN FACT IT WAS EVEN BETTER THAN I HAD HOPED.”

YASMINE HANNA
SUPPORT OFFICER,
MARSH GREEN
CHILDREN'S CENTRE

» In the Department of English, Linguistics and Cultural Studies we make the most of our central London location, organising regular public events with institutions such as Tate Britain and the National Portrait Gallery. You will also be able to benefit from our programme of regular guest lectures by high-profile published writers and authors.

» There is an established and lively research culture in English at Westminster, which embraces a range of different critical approaches and covers all periods from the medieval to the contemporary. We publish work at the highest level, in books with major scholarly publishers and in internationally recognised journals in the field, and many of our teaching staff are published writers.

» The Department makes a major contribution to the University's Study Abroad and European Exchange programmes, with over 200 international students attending our classes each year. We are also responsible for the Westminster/Smithsonian Colloquium, a collaboration of lectures, workshops and seminars between the University and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, the world's largest museum complex.

For more information about English courses visit the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Languages website at westminster.ac.uk/sshl

This course combines the opportunity to improve your writing skills with the development of a thorough understanding of the English language. In addition to studying how the language works in its spoken and written forms and the different kinds of English that exist today, the course provides structured support and guidance in the development of writing skills in various genres (the novel, the short story, poetry, drama, and non-fictional writing). Knowledge and understanding of English are enhanced by focusing on its aesthetic possibilities. This particular combination is suitable for those interested in pursuing a career in any field that involves the production of texts, such as publishing or journalism, professional writing, or teaching.

Course content

Depending on whether the course is taken as a joint Honours or a major/minor combination, the balance of the two subject areas varies, but in each year modules extend your writing abilities, whether focused on the creation of texts or the study of an aspect of the English language. In Year 3 (Credit Level 6), you will produce either a single substantial work (novel or play) or a portfolio of shorter work (short fiction or poetry). There is a strong focus on future career opportunities, with a programme of visiting speakers from relevant professional areas, and an opportunity to do an internship within the fields of publishing and theatre in Year 3 (Credit Level 6).

Year 1 (Credit Level 4)

Subjects of study include composition, creative method, and the structure and use of the English language.

Year 2 (Credit Level 5)

Subjects of study include the history of the English language, literary linguistics, world varieties of English, writing poetry, the novel and writing for radio and screen.

Year 3 (Credit Level 6)

As well as the Creative Writing Project, you will be able to choose from topics that include Englishes of the British Isles, language and gender, writing for children, autobiography, and writing a dissertation on a chosen aspect of the English language.

Length of course

Three-year, full-time

UCAS code

QW38

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

Teaching is conducted in a variety of ways depending on the module but includes lectures, seminars, workshops, and individual supervision. All modules are assessed via course work.

Associated careers

You could go on to a career that includes a significant element of writing in professional and/or creative contexts, teaching related to language and creative writing, journalism or publishing, or a career that requires highly skilled use of language.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
A Levels	BB/BBC including English
International Baccalaureate	30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English
BTEC National Diploma	DDM plus minimum Grade B in A Level English

Those whose first language is not English must have an IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent. To study creative writing you should submit a portfolio of creative writing (maximum 10,000 words) of an individual or mixture of genres that you have written privately (not as part of a taught course). You may include poetry with prose works, but please do not submit solely poetry.

See also standard entry requirements on p206.

The combination of English language and English literature will appeal if you are interested in the reciprocity between language study and the reading of literary texts. It is a course that prepares you in detailed textual reading from analytical and aesthetic points of view, and would be particularly suitable for those considering a career in editing, teaching English, or in any field in which writing style or the presentation of text is central. The course will provide you with an understanding of stylistic and grammatical issues, and of the principles of textual analysis.

Course content

Depending on whether the course is taken as a joint Honours or a major/minor combination, the balance of the two subject areas varies. There is also the opportunity to take two modules in language teaching. In Year 3 (Credit Level 6) you can complete a dissertation in English language or English literature.

English Language

Year 1 (Credit Level 4)

Subjects of study concentrate on knowledge of English language structure, words and their meanings, and an understanding of different texts and genres.

Year 2 (Credit Level 5)

Subjects of study include the history of English, varieties of English around the world, and discourse analysis.

Year 3 (Credit Level 6)

Subjects of study include Englishes of the British Isles, language and gender, and a close study of the language of a specific author.

English Literature

You will be able to take modules in literature from Shakespeare to the present day, including texts from outside the usual tradition. There are also modules in literary theory and the history of ideas, ranging from classical philosophy to contemporary debates. Optional modules are available in a wide range of topics such as contemporary writing, theatre studies, writing and gender, travel writing, American literature, Gothic, Romanticism, and post-colonial writing.

Through these modules, you will develop a deep understanding of English society and literature's place within it, by investigating the codes and conventions that have emerged in a variety of social and historical contexts and the ways in which these have guided both literary and non-literary representation. You will also be able to relate the study of English literature to the broader context of Western history and thought.

Length of course

Three-year, full-time

UCAS code

Q301

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

Teaching is conducted in a variety of ways depending on the module but includes lectures, seminars, workshops, and individual supervision. Modules are assessed through a variety of methods including course work, exams, reviews and presentations.

Associated careers

You could go on to a career that includes a significant element of writing in professional and/or creative contexts, teaching related to language and creative writing, journalism or publishing.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
A Levels	BB/BBC including English
International Baccalaureate	30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English
BTEC National Diploma	DDM plus minimum Grade B in A Level English

Those whose first language is not English must have an IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent.

See also standard entry requirements on p206.

This course enables you to study the spoken and written forms of English, combined with modules that concentrate on the political, social and economic relations of nations in the contemporary global environment.

Course content

Depending on whether the course is taken as a joint Honours or a major/minor combination, the balance of the two subject areas varies. In Year 3 (Credit Level 6) you can complete a dissertation in English language or in international relations.

English Language

Year 1 (Credit Level 4)

Subjects of study concentrate on knowledge of English language structure, words and their meanings, and an understanding of different texts and genres.

Year 2 (Credit Level 5)

Subjects of study include the history of English, varieties of English around the world, and discourse analysis.

Year 3 (Credit Level 6)

Subjects of study include Englishes of the British Isles, language and gender, and a close study of the language of a specific author.

International Relations

You will be provided with an introduction to the methods, scope and theoretical perspectives that constitute international relations. The modules present a recent history of global politics and provide a framework for understanding the contemporary global system and the distribution of power throughout the global, regional and national levels of that system.

Length of course

Three-year, full-time

UCAS code

QL32

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

Teaching is conducted in a variety of ways depending on the module but includes lectures, seminars, workshops, and individual supervision. Modules are assessed by a variety of methods including coursework, exams and oral presentations.

Associated careers

You could go on to a career that includes a significant element of writing in a professional context, teaching related to English or international politics, work in government, public service or international organisations, journalism or publishing.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
A Levels	BB/BBC including English
International Baccalaureate	30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English
BTEC National Diploma	DDM plus minimum Grade B in A Level English

Those whose first language is not English must have an IELTS score of 6.0 or equivalent.

See also standard entry requirements on p206.

This course allows you to study the historical and cultural aspects of the English language, while improving your range of productive skills and awareness of English as a linguistic system and literary medium. It also recognises that the study of English is deepened and extended by a thorough knowledge of the structure, meaning and sound systems of language in general.

Course content

Depending on whether the course is taken as a joint Honours or a major/minor combination, the balance of the two subject areas varies. There is also the opportunity to take two modules in language teaching. In Year 3 (Credit Level 6) you can complete a dissertation in English language or linguistics.

English Language

Year 1 (Credit Level 4)

Subjects of study concentrate on knowledge of English language structure, words and their meanings, and an understanding of different texts and genres.

Year 2 (Credit Level 5)

Subjects of study include the history of English, varieties of English around the world, and discourse analysis.

Year 3 (Credit Level 6)

Subjects of study include Englishes of the British Isles, language and gender, and a close study of the language of a specific author.

Linguistics

Year 1 and Year 2 (Credit Levels 4 and 5)

Subjects of study include introduction to linguistics, language in society, literary linguistics, phonetics (articulatory and auditory), semantics (meaning of words and sentences and theory of meaning), and syntax (grammatical knowledge and theory of grammar).

Year 3 (Credit Level 6)

Subjects of study include child language acquisition, translation theory, psycholinguistics, phonology (sound systems and theory of sound systems) and advanced syntactic theory.

Length of course

Three-year, full-time

UCAS code

Q140

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

Teaching is conducted in a variety of ways depending on the module but includes lectures, seminars, workshops, practical sessions and individual supervision. Modules are assessed in different ways appropriate to the module, such as course work, tests, presentations and exams.

Associated careers

The course will appeal to you if you enjoy the study of language for its own sake, but it also includes practical modules that make it ideal for those who are interested in a language-orientated career such as teaching English, speech therapy, editing, journalism or advertising.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
A Levels	BB/BBC including English
International Baccalaureate	30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English
BTEC National Diploma	DDM plus minimum Grade B in A Level English

Those whose first language is not English must have an IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent.

See also standard entry requirements on p206.

English Language and Politics BA Honours

In addition to providing the opportunity to study how English works in spoken and written forms in the world today, this course enables you to develop an understanding of British, European and global politics.

Course content

Depending on whether the course is taken as a joint Honours or a major/minor combination, the balance of the two subject areas varies. There is also the opportunity to take two modules in language teaching. In Year 3 (Credit Level 6) you can complete a dissertation in English language or politics.

English Language

Year 1 (Credit Level 4)

Subjects of study concentrate on knowledge of English language structure, words and their meanings, and an understanding of different texts and genres.

Year 2 (Credit Level 5)

Subjects of study include the history of English, varieties of English around the world, and discourse analysis.

Year 3 (Credit Level 6)

Subjects of study include Englishes of the British Isles, language and gender, and a close study of the language of a specific author.

Politics

You will consider the key themes and approaches of politics. The modules cover a wide range of academic specialisms and particular interests, but share a common concern with the relationship between state, nationhood and society in the modern world, and the complex interplay between domestic and international politics.

Length of course

Three-year, full-time

UCAS code

QLH2

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

Teaching is conducted in a variety of ways depending on the module but includes lectures, seminars, workshops, and individual supervision. Modules are assessed by a variety of methods including course work, exams and oral presentations.

Associated careers

You could go on to a career that includes a significant element of writing in a professional context, teaching related to English or politics, work in government or public service, journalism or publishing.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
A Levels	BB/BBC including English
International Baccalaureate	30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English
BTEC National Diploma	DDM plus minimum Grade B in A Level English

Those whose first language is not English must have an IELTS score of 6.0 or equivalent.

See also standard entry requirements on p206.

This course considers English literary texts against their background in the history of ideas, the other arts and British culture. It aims to make the most of the School's central London location – in the midst of galleries, museums, cinemas and theatres, and the urban landscape – as a resource for studying the social and theoretical issues relating to literature. If you take The Victorians module for example, you visit Tate Britain as part of your study to see the collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings. The course is of interest to those whose first language is English and who have some prior experience of literature, as well as international students wishing to take or complete a degree in the UK.

Course content

You can take modules in literature from Shakespeare to the present day, including texts outside the more familiar areas. There are also modules in literary theory and the history of ideas, ranging from classical philosophy to contemporary debates.

Optional modules are offered in a wide range of topics such as contemporary writing, theatre studies, writing and gender, American literature, travel writing, Gothic, Romanticism, tragedy, and post-colonial writing. Through these modules, you will develop a deep understanding of English society and literature's place within it. You will also be able to relate the study of English literature to the broader context of Western history and thought.

Length of course

Three-year, full-time

UCAS code

Q300

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

Some modules will be assessed totally by course work, and others partly by course work, partly by exam.

Associated careers

Employers value the communication and critical thinking skills of English graduates. You could go on to professional and/or creative writing, teaching, journalism or publishing.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
A Levels	BB/BBC including English
International Baccalaureate	30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English
BTEC National Diploma	DDM plus minimum Grade B in A Level English

Those whose first language is not English must have an IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent.

See also standard entry requirements on p206.

This course combines the study of literary and non-literary texts in English with the development of your own creative writing skills. The study of texts and their background in the history of ideas informs your progress as a writer, while your experience in producing literary texts in a variety of genres (the novel, the short story, poetry and drama) enhances your appreciation of literature. The course takes full advantage of our central London location through visits and the opportunity for internships as part of your study. This course will be of particular interest to those who wish to write or develop their reading with the experience that comes from writing literary texts.

Course content

At each credit level, modules focus on either writing in particular forms, or on the study of literature (particular periods, authors or genres, or literary theories and the history of ideas). Modules in creative writing work in tandem with modules in English literature, particularly in Year 3 (Credit Level 6), when you will produce either a single substantial work (novel, play) or a portfolio of shorter work (short fiction, poetry) while studying related literature modules.

There is a strong focus on future career opportunities, with a programme of visiting speakers from relevant professional areas, and an opportunity to do an internship in publishing and theatre in Year 3 (Credit Level 6).

You will be able to take modules in literature from Shakespeare to the present day, including non-fiction as well as prose, poetry and drama. There are also modules in literary theory and the history of ideas, ranging from classical philosophy to contemporary debates in art.

Optional modules are available in a wide range of topics such as contemporary writing, theatre studies, writing and gender, travel writing, American literature, Gothic, Romanticism, and post-colonial writing.

Through these modules, you will develop a deep understanding of English society and literature's place within it, by investigating the codes and conventions that have emerged in a variety of social and historical contexts and the ways in which these have guided both literary and non-literary representation. You will also be able to relate the study of English literature to the broader context of Western history and thought.

Length of course

Three-year, full-time

UCAS code

QW3V

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

Teaching is conducted in a variety of ways depending on the module but includes lectures, seminars, workshops, and individual supervision. Most modules are assessed totally via course work, others are assessed partly by course work, partly by exam.

Associated careers

You could go on to a career in freelance writing, publishing, theatre, or teaching literature and creative writing.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
A Levels	BB/BBC including English
International Baccalaureate	30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English
BTEC National Diploma	DDM plus minimum Grade B in A Level English

Those whose first language is not English must have an IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent. To study creative writing you should submit a portfolio of creative writing (maximum 10,000 words) of an individual or mixture of genres.

See also standard entry requirements on p206.

This degree is theoretical and challenging, allowing you to study the historical, creative and cultural aspects of English literature, while improving your range of productive skills and awareness of English as a linguistic system and literary medium. It also recognises that the study of English is deepened and extended by a thorough knowledge of the structure, meaning and sound systems of language in general.

Course content

Depending on whether the course is taken as a joint Honours or a major/minor combination, the balance of the two subject areas varies. There is also the opportunity to take two modules in language teaching. In Year 3 (Credit Level 6) you can complete a dissertation in English literature or linguistics.

English Literature

You will be able to take modules in literature from Shakespeare to the present day, including texts outside the accepted canon. There are also modules in literary theory and the history of ideas, ranging from classical philosophy to contemporary debates.

Optional modules are offered in a wide range of topics such as contemporary writing, theatre studies, writing and gender, modern poetry, travel writing, Gothic, Romanticism, and tragedy. Through these modules, you will develop a deep understanding of English society and the place of literature within it, by investigating the codes and conventions that have emerged in a variety of socio-historical contexts, and the ways in which these have guided both literary and non-literary representation. You will also be able to relate the study of English literature to the broader context of Western history and thought.

Linguistics

Year 1 and Year 2 (Credit Levels 4 and 5)

Subjects of study include introduction to linguistics, language in society, literary linguistics, phonetics (articulatory and auditory), semantics (meaning of words and sentences and theory of meaning), and syntax (grammatical knowledge and theory of grammar).

Year 3 (Credit Level 6)

Subjects of study include child language acquisition, translation theory, psycholinguistics, phonology (sound systems and theory of sound systems) and advanced syntactic theory.

Length of course

Three-year, full-time

UCAS code

QQ31

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

Teaching is carried out by means of seminars, workshops or lectures. You will be expected to carry out a considerable amount of reading and other preparation in the workshops. We are also developing extensive electronic materials on the University website to act as a resource and a back-up for teaching contact. Assessment is by a variety of methods, including course work (essays), exam, dissertation and seminar presentation.

Associated careers

This course gives you many skills of interest to employers, and will open up numerous career possibilities. The level of textual sophistication that you attain has applications in many workplaces. Employers are as interested in this kind of training as they are in more vocational courses. There are also purely educational benefits to the course. If you like the idea of becoming expert in communication skills, or of being well versed in the issues of the role of language and literature in culture, this is a course that will appeal to you.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
A Levels	BB/BBC including English
International Baccalaureate	30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English
BTEC National Diploma	DDM plus minimum Grade B in A Level English

Those whose first language is not English must have an IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent.

See also standard entry requirements on p206.

This course allows you to combine the study of literary texts with the study of history. It enables you to gain a command of the social and political circumstances in which the writing of literature has taken place, as well as of the texts themselves.

Course content

Depending on whether the course is taken as a joint Honours or a major/minor combination, the balance of the two subject areas varies. There is also the opportunity to take two modules in language teaching. In Year 3 (Credit Level 6) you can complete a dissertation in English literature or modern history.

English Literature

You will be able to take modules in literature from Shakespeare to the present day, including non-fiction texts as well as novels, poetry and drama. There are also modules in literary theory and the history of ideas, ranging from classical philosophy to contemporary debates.

Optional modules are offered in a wide range of option topics such as contemporary Britain, theatre studies, writing and gender, American literature, travel writing, Gothic, Romanticism, and tragedy. Through these modules you will develop a deep understanding of English society and the place of literature within it, by investigating the codes and conventions that have emerged in a variety of socio-historical contexts, and the ways in which these have guided both literary and non-literary representation. You will also be able to relate the study of English literature to the broader context of Western history and thought.

Modern History

You will be introduced to the theoretical perspectives and methodologies that constitute the modern historical discipline. The focus of the modules is predominantly late 19th and 20th Century with a geographical emphasis on Britain, Europe and the wider world. There are specialised modules on aspects of social, economic, political, gender and diplomatic history.

Length of course

Three-year, full-time

UCAS code

QV31

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

Teaching is conducted in a variety of ways depending on the module but includes lectures, seminars, workshops, and individual supervision. All modules are assessed in relation to their content, including through course work, presentations and exams.

Associated careers

You will have the skills and knowledge to enter careers with a significant element of research such as in broadcasting, journalism, or teaching publishing.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
A Levels	BB/BBC including English
International Baccalaureate	30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English
BTEC National Diploma	DDM plus minimum Grade B in A Level English

Those whose first language is not English must have an IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent.

See also standard entry requirements on p206.

This innovative course combines an in-depth study of human language with the development of your creative writing skills, offering a rare opportunity to pursue both a scientific and aesthetic approach to language. Your writing skills in various genres (the novel, the short story, poetry, drama, and professional writing) will be fostered within a programme enhanced by the theoretical study of the structure, meaning and sound systems of languages. Your understanding of the ways in which language is used is deepened by your work with specific examples of verbal art in English. The course is ideal for those interested in language as a defining characteristic of humans, and who are keen to pursue a career that involves a substantial element of engagement with the verbal arts.

Course content

At each credit level, modules are focused on either the characteristics of a particular verbal art form or an aspect of linguistics. In the first year you will follow introductory modules in general linguistics and language in society, alongside developing your skills as a creative writer in a range of genres. In the second year you will be able to pursue interests in writing for screen and radio, writing plays for the stage, and writing poetry, while studying the structure of language and the interplay between linguistic structure and verbal art. In Creative Writing in Year 3 (Credit Level 6), you will produce either a single substantial work (novel or play) or a portfolio of shorter work (short fiction or poetry) as part of your studies.

There is a strong focus on future career opportunities, with a programme of visiting speakers from relevant professional areas, and an opportunity to do an internship within publishing and theatre in your final year. In Linguistics, you will be able to study child language acquisition, translation theory, psycholinguistics, phonology (sound systems and theory of sound systems) and advanced syntactic theory. Subjects of study include introduction to linguistics, language in society, literary linguistics, phonetics (articulatory and auditory), semantics (meaning of words and sentences and theory of meaning), and syntax (grammatical knowledge and theory of grammar).

Length of course

Three-year, full-time

UCAS code

QW18

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

Teaching is conducted in a variety of ways depending on the module but includes lectures, seminars, workshops, and individual supervision. Most modules are assessed completely through course work, but some linguistics modules are a combination of course work and exam.

Associated careers

You could go on to a career that includes a significant element of writing in professional and/or creative contexts, teaching related to language and creative writing, speech therapy, and broadcasting.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
A Levels	BB/BBC including English
International Baccalaureate	30 points including a minimum of 5 in Higher English
BTEC National Diploma	DDM plus minimum Grade B in A Level English

Those whose first language is not English must have an IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent. To study creative writing you should submit a portfolio of creative writing (maximum 10,000 words) of an individual or mixture of genres.

See also standard entry requirements on p206.