ENGLISH: ISSUES IN MODERN CULTURE MA / 2019/20 ENTRY

www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/
This MA programme provides the opportunity to explore some of the most exciting and challenging works written in English, by writers from across the world, since the mid-nineteenth century – along with major artistic achievements in film, music and popular culture. It provides contexts for understanding these works in relation to historical, social, political, philosophical and technological developments of the period.

Degree summary

The programme explores a range of media, forms and genres using a variety of scholarly approaches, and encourages the development of independent research skills. The core module encourages close reading of works by writers of the period, while the optional modules offer the opportunity to analyse technologies, media, philosophical perspectives and art forms underpinning writing from 1850 to the present.

UCL English has an outstanding record of world-leading research. Staff publish in mainstream as well as academic media, and some publish original creative work.

Excellent facilities are provided by the UCL library. It has several important holdings including the James Joyce Collection, the Little Magazines, Alternative Press and Poetry Store Collections, and the George Orwell Archive.

Students have access to an incomparable range of resources, including those at Senate House Library and the British Library nearby. The department holds regular research seminars and facilitates engagement with a range of events and institutions of literary culture in London.

Each module is taught through a weekly two-hour seminar. Assessment is through take-home written examination (Authors), essays (Contexts and Options), and the research dissertation.

Degree structure

Mode: Full-time: 1 year; Part-time: 2 years
Location: London, Bloomsbury
Part-time students will usually attend one day a week.

Students undertake modules to the value of 180 credits. The programme consists of one core module ‘Authors’ (60 credits), three optional modules, which are usually ‘Contexts’ and two ‘Options’ offered by the English department (60 credits), and a 12,000 word research dissertation (60 credits).

Please note that the list of modules given here is indicative. This information is published a long time in advance of enrolment and module content and availability is subject to change.

COMPULSORY MODULE

The compulsory Authors module (60 credits) is taught over two terms and assessed by a take-home exam at the end of April. Please see the English department website for details of course contents.

OPTIONAL MODULES

The majority of students elect to take ‘Contexts’ (60 credits) and two of the six ‘Options’ (15 credits each) run by the English department.

Recent topics in Contexts include:

- City Symphonies
- Filming New York
- Psychogeography
- Class and the City
- The Harlem Renaissance
- Abstract Expressionism
- Queer Fictions and the City
- Options modules change each year, but recent years have included:
  - Chance and the Avant Garde
  - American Counter-Culture
  - Queer Literature, Queer Theories
  - Contemporary Poetry
  - Complicated Feelings

Students on this MA programme may request to take a module taught elsewhere in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at UCL.

DISSERNTATION/REPORT

All MA students undertake an independent research project which culminates in a dissertation of 12,000 words (60 credits), to be submitted at the end of August.
Your career

Graduates from this MA will be strongly equipped to find employment in fields such as professional writing, publishing, journalism, film and television, advertising and marketing, third-sector work, social enterprise, and teaching. The programme is also an ideal preliminary stage to doctoral research in literature; candidates who obtain the MA and have found a promising subject requiring further study are encouraged to apply to the UCL MPhil/PhD programme.

Employability

Studying on this MA programme will help students to develop their written and oral communication skills; their ability to analyse and synthesise ideas and to organise complex materials in a lucid manner; their capacity for logical argumentation and critical thinking; and their time management and independent working skills.
Entry requirements

A minimum of an upper second-class Bachelor’s degree in a relevant discipline from a UK university or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard will normally be required. This is a competitive MA, however, and the majority of our successful applicants either have, or are predicted to gain, a first class undergraduate degree (or overseas equivalent).

English language proficiency level

If your education has not been conducted in the English language, you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency.

The level of English language proficiency for this programme is: Good.

Information about the evidence required, acceptable qualifications and test providers is provided at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/english-requirements

Your application

Students are advised to apply as early as possible due to competition for places. Those applying for scholarship funding (particularly overseas applicants) should take note of application deadlines.

When we assess your application we would like to learn:

// why you want to study English: Issues in Modern Culture at graduate level

// why you want to study English: Issues in Modern Culture at UCL

// what particularly attracts you to this programme

Together with essential academic requirements, the personal statement is your opportunity to illustrate whether your reasons for applying to this programme match what the programme will deliver.

There is an application processing fee for this programme of £75 for online applications and £100 for paper applications. Further information can be found at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught/application.

FEES AND FUNDING 2019/20 ENTRY

// UK: £10,440 (FT), £5,275 (PT)
// EU: £10,440 (FT), £5,275 (PT)
// Overseas: £21,790 (FT), £11,060 (PT)

The tuition fees shown are for the year indicated above. Fees for subsequent years may increase or otherwise vary. Further information on fee status, fee increases and the fee schedule can be viewed on the UCL Students website.

Full details of funding opportunities can be found on the UCL Scholarships website: www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applicants: 28 June 2019

Details on how to apply are available on the website at: www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/apply

CONTACT

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EU referendum

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to www.ucl.ac.uk/brexit