English Literature 2 Course Handbook

2020-21

For students taking the following:
ENLI08003  English Literature 2 – the full year course (40 credits)
ENLI08012  English Literature 2 (VS1) – Semester 1 only Visiting Students (20 credits)
ENLI08013  English Literature 2 (VS2) – Semester 2 only Visiting Students (20 credits)

If you require this document or any of the internal University Of Edinburgh online resources mentioned in this document in an alternative format please contact June Cahongo (j.cahongo@ed.ac.uk).

The outbreak of Covid-19 has been an uncertain and challenging time for everyone. The University of Edinburgh has shown incredible commitment to adapting to the ongoing situation, changing ways of working to address new issues and collaborating across teams to support each other and students. This Handbook provides an overview of your programme with the caveat that changes may need to be made should this be necessary.
during these times. Please be assured that we will communicate any changes to you at the earliest possible opportunity.

Contents:

Key Contacts 3

Introduction 3

Lectures 4

Tutorials 5

Attendance 7

Reading List 8

Structure of Assessment 10

Visiting Students 11

Format of Essays 12

Submission of Essays 12

Feedback and Marks 14

Entry to Third Year 15

Further Information 15
KEY CONTACTS

Due to Covid-19 there is currently no drop-in service and email should be used as the default mode of communication. However, we have provided office locations in case normal service resumes later in the year.

The Course Organisers are Dr Anna Vaninskaya (anna.vaninskaya@ed.ac.uk) and Dr Lee Spinks (lee.spinks@ed.ac.uk). Room 2.07 (Dr Vaninskaya) and Room 2.11 (Dr Wild), on the second floor of 50 George Square.

The Course Administrator is June Cahongo (j.cahongo@ed.ac.uk). The Undergraduate Teaching Office, Room 1.08, first floor, 50 George Square.

The Undergraduate Director is Dr Dermot Cavanagh (Dermot.Cavanagh@ed.ac.uk). Room 2.18, 50 George Square.

The Head of Department is Dr Alex Thomson. Room 2.43, 50 George Square.

Please direct all technical questions to do with use of LEARN, Group Tools, Blackboard Collaborate and other digital issues to the Information Services helpline (IS.Helpline@ed.ac.uk).

INTRODUCTION

English Literature 2 introduces students to the history of literary writing in English from the 1700s to the 1950s. The course proceeds chronologically, and is organised into five broad periods. Each week you will study one essential set text (a ‘set text’ may be a number of poems or short stories, rather than a single novel or play) which you will need to have read in advance.

You will begin in the eighteenth century, with a society adapting to the rise of commerce, to the experience of empire (in America, the Caribbean and India), and to a series of revolutions (American, French, Industrial) that threaten to up-end the existing social order. The writers of the Romantic period react to these cataclysms, as well as the ongoing revolutions in science, religion and the perception of nature, as the country is transformed from a rural nation into a largely urban one. The Victorian period sees a sharpening preoccupation with the new industrial reality, as well as the fate of the marginalised and oppressed (whether by race, class or gender). New literary forms are developed to express these new insights, and formal experimentation increases as the twentieth century looms, producing, in the run-up to and aftermath of the First World War, the literary revolution of Modernism.

Over the course of the year, therefore, you will examine the ways in which literary texts adapt and transform the intellectual, linguistic and formal resources that they inherit from previous writing, to help writers and readers make sense of the society
in which they find themselves. While most of your attention will be focussed on texts in themselves (their language, theme, structure, and genre, for example) the **lectures and secondary reading** will also explain something about the literary and social contexts in which those texts were written and read.

By the end of this course, then, you will have developed your skills in the critical analysis of particular texts, and also gained a good grasp of the ways in which literary texts build on and respond to their context: both their literary context (the resources of thought, form and language made available by previous writing), and their contemporary social context. Your **assessed work (that which counts towards your final mark for the course)** will require you to demonstrate these skills: in both semesters, your **first essay** will be an extended piece of close reading of a single passage, and your **second essay** will ask you to compare two texts and to reflect on their relation to their historical contexts. Your **non-assessed work** will consist in watching **lectures** and taking notes, working with a small group of your fellow students (an ‘Autonomous Learning Group’ or ALG) to produce reports in answer to questions and close reading exercises set by the lecturer, and attending **tutorials** (in-person or digital) with your tutor.

**LECTURES**

This year, lectures will be pre-recorded rather than delivered in-person.

You will find **lecture recordings** in named weekly folders in LEARN, the virtual learning environment for the course, which is accessed via MyEd. The lectures, posted as a series of segments for ease of access, will address that week’s essential set text. Lectures will be made available by 9 am on the preceding Thursday; then, from **12.10 to 1pm on Monday**, the lecturer will answer questions in a **live chat Q&A session** accessible via a link in LEARN. Click on the grey speech bubbles icon next to the time of the relevant Q&A session and post your question, remembering to choose the relevant session from the drop-down menu.

In the folders for the weeks in which we begin each of our five historical periods (weeks 2, 6 and 10 in semester 1, and 4 and 8 in semester 2), you will also find a short lecture introducing the literary and historical context of that period.

Make sure to watch the lecture segments (a) in the right order; (b) taking notes on the important points, and things you don’t follow; and (c) in plenty of time to think about what the lecturer has said and to formulate questions to ask them in the Q&A forum. **You can post your question(s) in the Q&A forum at any time between watching the lecture and the hour of the session AND/OR during the session itself**; but before you do so, please check that no-one else has already posted the same question! This will help the lecturer make efficient use of the time available. NB. The lecturer will not be checking questions before or after the time of the session.

There will be no Q&A forum attached to the short introductory lectures, but if you have any questions feel free to raise them in that week’s set-text Q&A session.
The lecture recordings and Q&A chat transcripts will remain available all year, so you can return to them when, for example, writing an essay on that text.

TUTORIALS

In addition to watching pre-recorded lectures and contributing to live Q&A sessions with the lecturers on a weekly basis, students will also participate in a tutorial group. Teaching and learning within these groups will be structured on a **fortnightly** basis.

In each fortnight, students will attend a live one-hour session with their tutor (in-person or digital), complete one autonomous learning group (ALG) report, and engage with the tutor’s feedback. Everything necessary for these activities will be found in LEARN:

- a Collaborate Group Room for digital live tutorials
- a Group Wiki for collaborating on and posting ALG reports

A sample fortnight might look like this:

**Even Week**

*Monday morning: students watch the weekly lectures in LEARN*
*Monday afternoon: students participate in the live 1-hour Q&A chat session with the lecturer, accessed via LEARN [questions may be posted in advance]*
*Students attend the live tutorial session on campus or digitally via LEARN [see your personalised timetable for timing]*
*During the week students read the essential text for the following week*

**Odd Week**

*Monday morning: students watch the weekly lectures in LEARN*
*Monday afternoon: students participate in the live 1-hour Q&A chat session with the lecturer, accessed via LEARN [questions may be posted in advance]*
*Wednesday 2pm: students submit the ALG group report on the weekly text in LEARN*
*Friday afternoon: students access the tutor’s feedback on their ALG report*
*During the week students read the essential text for the following week*

**Allocation to a Tutorial Group**

Tutorial hours will be allocated by the Timetabling unit and the group to which you have been assigned will appear on your personal timetable (accessible via the MyEd portal) by the end of the first week of the semester. At that point or shortly thereafter, you should also be able to see your tutorial group and all relevant tools in LEARN under ‘My Groups’.
Guidance on accessing timetables and requesting changes to group allocation (until the end of week 3) is available here: https://www.ed.ac.uk/timetabling-examinations/timetabling/personalised-timetables/student-timetables

If you have any difficulties, please email the **course administrator**, June Cahongo (j.cahongo@ed.ac.uk).

**Live Tutorials – Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10**

You will attend five live tutorials (in alternate weeks) over the course of the semester. These will be either on-campus or digital (in your Collaborate Group Room), depending on circumstances. Each tutorial will focus on the essential text covered in the lectures that week, so please read this text in advance of the tutorial. Your tutor will inform you of any other necessary advance preparation.

If you cannot attend a tutorial for any reason, please inform your tutor and the course administrator. Do not forget to engage with the other course components that week (lecture recordings and Q&A; ALG questions for informal individual study).

**ALG Group Task – Due Wednesdays in Weeks 3, 5, 7, 9, 11**

Your tutor will divide the tutorial into three sub-groups, called ALG groups. Each ALG group will find three ALG questions (one per group) and a close reading passage set by the weekly lecturer in the relevant Lecture folder in LEARN.

Establish a communication pattern within your ALG group in a manner and at a time convenient to you. You may use the Group Email function to contact members of your group. Create a Wiki Page in the Group Wiki in LEARN titled ‘Week X, ALG Group Y’, and collaborate on producing a group response by the Wednesday deadline.

**In weeks 3 and 5, your group report should focus on the close reading passage set by the lecturer that week,** and should answer the following two questions:

- Outline the central theme(s) of the chosen passage.
- How do the formal elements of the text (language, structure, etc.) advance these themes?

This serves as preparation for the first essay of the semester. There is no requirement to respond formally to the ALG questions for these weeks, though you are encouraged to use them for general reflection.

**In weeks 7, 9, and 11, your group report should respond to the ALG question set by the lecturer that week for your group number.** This serves as preparation for the second essay of the semester. There is no requirement to respond formally to the
close reading passages for these weeks, though you are encouraged to use them for general reflection.

The ALG reports do not receive a mark and your performance will not impact on your course grade. Your tutor’s feedback on your group report will be available by Friday afternoon, either as a written response in the Wiki or as an embedded or attached file in the Blog.

In weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, your tutor may choose to use the close reading passage and the ALG questions set by the lecturer that week to structure the live tutorial, and you are also encouraged to think about them yourself in preparation for your course assessments. However, in these weeks no formal response needs to be submitted in LEARN.

Seeking Further Advice

All questions should be directed to your tutor in the first instance, who will refer you on to the course secretary or course organisers if necessary. Any queries about specific lectures should be addressed to the lecturer during the designated Q&A hour on Monday afternoons.

ATTENDANCE

Students should attend all classes as specified in their course programme, and undertake all preparation and reading required for them; attendance is monitored carefully. If you are unable to attend a class, advance notice of absence should be given to the course tutor, the course administrator and your Personal Tutor. If you are affected by ill health and will be unable to attend for more than one week, do please inform your Personal Tutor as a matter of urgency.

READING LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential Texts</th>
<th>Optional Texts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>18th Century</strong></td>
<td><strong>18th Century</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Gray, 'Progress of Poesy' and 'The Bard' (LEARN)</td>
<td>Macpherson, <em>Fragments</em> (with Blair) (LEARN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Blake, ‘The Chimney Sweeper’ from <em>Songs of Innocence</em>; ‘The Chimney Sweeper’ from <em>Songs of Experience</em>; <em>Visions of the Daughters of Romanticism</em></td>
<td>Burns, selected poems (LEARN)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Albion; The Marriage of Heaven and Hell; ‘A Song of Liberty’ (Norton Anthology)

**Romanticism**

William Wordsworth, 'Tintern Abbey' and Preface to Lyrical Ballads (Norton Anthology)
Washington Irving, ‘Rip van Winkle’ and ‘The Legend of Sleepy Hollow’ from The Sketch-Book (Oxford)
Jane Austen, Northanger Abbey (Norton)
Mary Shelley, Frankenstein (Norton)

**Victorian Period**

Charles Dickens, Hard Times (Norton)
George Eliot, Silas Marner (Oxford)
Christina Rossetti, ‘Goblin Market’ (Norton Anthology)

1890-1918

Thomas Hardy, Jude the Obscure (Norton)
World War I Poetry: Brooke, Thomas, Sassoon, Gurney, Rosenberg, Owen, Jones (Norton Anthology)

**Modernism and Beyond**

James Joyce, Ulysses (first 3 chapters) (Oxford)
Virginia Woolf, Mrs. Dalloway (Oxford or Norton)
Chinua Achebe, Things Fall Apart (Penguin)

Baillie, De Monfort (LEARN)
Hogg, short stories (LEARN)
Galt, Annals of the Parish (LEARN)
Scott, Ivanhoe (Oxford)

**Victorian Period**

Carlyle, ‘Signs of the Times’ (LEARN)
Oliphant, Hester (Oxford)
Oliphant, ‘Old Lady Mary’ and ‘The Open Door’ (LEARN)
Stevenson, The Master of Ballantrae (Penguin)

1890-1918

Barrie, A Window in Thrums (LEARN)
Davidson, poems (LEARN)
Buchan, Prester John (Polygon)
Conan Doyle, The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes (Oxford)

**Modernism and Beyond**

MacDiarmid, A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle (LEARN or Fyfield)
Findlater, Jacob and Muir stories (LEARN)
Corrie, In Time O’ Strife (LEARN)
Kay, The Lamplighter (Picador)

---

**Essential texts** are those you must read every week, and which will be addressed in the lectures, tutorials and set tasks.

**Optional texts** are those covered in the Scottish Literature 2 syllabus. You are encouraged but not obligated to read these texts in your spare time, and you may, if you wish, choose a text from this list to discuss in the comparative essay (the second essay assigned in each semester). You may also, if you wish, access lectures dedicated to these texts in the ‘Optional Primary Texts’ folder in LEARN.
Notes on Editions:

Books may be acquired second-hand, or bought from Blackwell’s Bookshop (53-59 South Bridge, Edinburgh or free UK shipping for online orders) individually or in discounted packs:

Semester 1:
https://blackwells.co.uk/jsp/readinglists/displaylist.jsp?fm_course=54737
Discounted pack: https://blackwells.co.uk/bookshop/product/2100000158201

Semester 2:
https://blackwells.co.uk/jsp/readinglists/displaylist.jsp?fm_course=57318
Discounted pack: https://blackwells.co.uk/bookshop/product/2100000161195

Some Norton Critical Editions may also be accessed electronically via DiscoverEd or the Norton Critical Editions collection in Library Databases.

Selected texts, including scans of poetry from the Norton Anthology, are provided in the ‘Essential Primary Texts’ and ‘Optional Primary Texts’ folders in LEARN.

If you bought a hard copy of The Norton Anthology of English Literature, ed. M.H. Abrams et. al. in first year, you will also find The Beggar’s Opera, Heart of Darkness and Mrs Dalloway there.

Books may be checked out from the Main Library in line with Covid-19 regulations.

SECONDARY READING

You can access the recommended secondary reading (3 articles keyed to every essential text) via the Resource List link under ‘Library Resources’ in LEARN (https://eu01.alma.exlibrisgroup.com/leganto/public/44UOE_INST/lists/27679854020002466?auth=SAML). Please refer to these for your ALG tasks and tutorials.

You may also wish to look at background secondary material and annotated bibliographies in the ‘Bibliographies’ folder.

STRUCTURE OF ASSESSMENT

The overall mark for the full-year course is produced from the average of four essays, two (one close reading and one comparative analysis) in each semester. See below for visiting students taking the course for one semester only.

ALL essays MUST be submitted, even if they will be marked at zero. An overall mark for the year of 40 or higher constitutes a pass for English Literature 2. This
must include a pass in one close reading and one comparative essay. However, if you reach the 40 threshold but you have failed to submit all four essays, your final grade will have FF (“forced fail”) appended to it.

If you do not complete and submit all four essays, obtain a pass in one close reading and one comparative essay AND obtain at least 40 overall, you cannot pass the course.

Semester 1

Essay 1: Close Reading Essay (1000 words) – Due Week 6, 2pm Monday, 26 October - 20%

Essay 2: Comparative Essay (2000 words) - Due Week 12, 2pm Friday, 11 December - 30%

Semester 2

Essay 3: Close Reading Essay (1000 words) – Due Week 6, 2pm Monday, 22 February - 20%

Essay 4: Comparative Essay (2000 words) - Due Week 12, 2pm Friday, 9 April - 30%

Essays 1 and 3 (the first in each semester, each worth 20%) will ask you to pick ONE of the close reading passages set by lecturers in weeks 2, 3, 4, or 5, and either expand one of your submitted group reports in weeks 3 or 5 into a full-length essay OR write a new essay using the passage from weeks 2 or 4.

Essays 2 and 4 (the second in each semester, each worth 30%) will ask you to pick TWO authors from the Reading List above (two essential authors OR one essential and one optional) and compare their assigned texts in response to ONE of SIX questions. You may not use the author you selected for the close reading essay.

Questions will be period-based. In the first semester you will be asked to compare assigned texts by two authors within a single period (18th Century OR Romanticism - 3 questions on each); in the second semester you will be asked to compare assigned texts by two authors across two periods (Victorian; 1890-1918; Modernism and Beyond). You will find the authors grouped by chronological period in the Reading List above.

You are expected to refer to secondary reading in your comparative essay. Please consult the secondary texts available in LEARN.
For Essays 2 and 4 Joint EL2/SL2 students (doing the combined degree in English and Scottish Literature) should discuss different authors in the essays for their two courses.

*Failure to follow these guidelines constitutes an infringement of the rubric. Ten marks may be deducted for rubric violations.*

If your essay falls substantially short of the word length required, it is unlikely to be of the required standard, which will be reflected in the mark. Essays of less than half the required length are unlikely to receive a pass mark. Excessively long essays will not be marked beyond the word limit.

**VISITING STUDENTS**

Visiting Students who are here for the full year are assessed in exactly the same way as home students.

Semester 1-only and Semester 2-only Visiting Students will complete the two essays for the relevant semester. These will be due at the same time and assessed in the same way as for home students, but the weightings will be different:

The close reading essay will be worth **40%** of the grade

The comparative essay will be worth **60%** of the grade

You must achieve a **pass mark in both essays** to pass the course.

**FORMAT OF ESSAYS**

Written work must be word-processed using a standard application such as Microsoft Word. You should ensure also that you use the standard Times New Roman font, font size 12, and that your work is double-spaced, with ample margins.

The essay, including a title page with the name of course and the essay topic, the main body of the essay and the list of Works Cited, must be saved as a single document, with a page break inserted between each element.

You should include a note of the **Word Count** on the front (title) page of your essay.

The word limit set for essays includes the main body of the essay, quotations and any footnotes. This limit does not include the list of Works Cited.

For further guidance regarding format and presentation, and for advice on essay composition, please see the **English Literature Writing Guide**, available as a download from the department’s website ([http://www.ed.ac.uk/literatures-languages-cultures/english-literature/undergraduate/current/handbooks](http://www.ed.ac.uk/literatures-languages-cultures/english-literature/undergraduate/current/handbooks)) and in LEARN.
SUBMISSION OF ESSAYS

Students must submit all essays electronically by the deadlines listed above. A Turnitin drop box will be set up for each essay: this will be located under ‘Assessment’ in LEARN. Please ensure that you submit your work to the correct box. If you experience difficulties submitting your essays, inform the course administrator immediately.

When you submit your assignment you MUST:

Include your name and Exam Number in the ‘Submission Title’, which you complete as you upload your essay to Turnitin. The preferred format is <YourName>-<YourExamNumber>-EssayTitle, e.g., Jane Smith-B012345-HamletEssay (It is fine to abbreviate a long essay title.)

Your Exam Number can be found on your Student Card. It begins with a “B”. See illustration below for example:

Without your name and exam number, your work might not be marked by your tutor and feedback might be less focused on and helpful for your personal development.

Essays must be submitted before 2 pm on the deadline day. It is your responsibility to submit essays on time and it is advisable to upload essays well before the deadline to avoid last minute problems.

Electronic submission will take place via the Turnitin interface in your course’s LEARN section. You are responsible for ensuring that the connection over which you submit your electronic copy is capable of uploading a Word document.
through LEARN. Computer problems cannot be accepted as a legitimate excuse for late submission, other than in the case of a general failure affecting the university network.

In order to ensure that your essay is submitted correctly, you must CONFIRM your upload to Turnitin and wait to make sure that you receive a Digital Receipt. You should see the following appear on the screen: "Congratulations - your submission is complete! This is your digital receipt. You can print a copy of this receipt from within the Document Viewer". You should also receive an email from TurnitinUK with the subject “This is your TurnitinUK Digital Receipt”. If you do not, log back in to View/Complete on the Turnitin dropbox right away and check your essay is there. If it is not, you will be able to upload it.

The electronic version will be scanned by software which generates an ‘originality report’, to help you and your tutors ensure that you have referenced your sources correctly.

**LATE SUBMISSION OF WORK AND EXTENSIONS TO DEADLINES**

It is a requirement that all students submit coursework on time and in accordance with the published deadlines. Tutors are under no obligation to mark or to provide feedback on written work that is submitted after the deadline without explanation. It's important to manage your time, therefore, and to ensure that all written work is submitted on schedule.

Late coursework will only be accepted without penalty if you have provided a good reason and have been granted an extension in advance or exceptional circumstances prevented you from doing so. Late coursework submitted without an authorised extension will be recorded as late and the following penalties will apply: 5 percentage points will be deducted for every calendar day or part thereof it is late, up to a maximum of 7 calendar days. After this time a mark of zero will be recorded. These penalties follow the University’s Taught Assessment Regulations, regulation 28.

Please note that computer problems and competing essay deadlines do not count as an excuse for late submission. It is up to you to foresee any potential problems in this or other regards and to manage your time accordingly. Factor in enough time to cope with a possible emergency.

However, if you are unable to finish your essay by the deadline because you are seriously unwell or suffering serious personal difficulties, you can apply for an extension (of up to 7 calendar days) in advance of the deadline. See the guidance and the online form here: [https://www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/extensions-special-circumstances/continuing-students/extensions-explained](https://www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/extensions-special-circumstances/continuing-students/extensions-explained)
Please note that there is a separate process for students who wish to request an extension in line with their Learning Adjustment (for additional time and/or time for a proof-reader). Please see the information and the online form here: https://www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/extensions-special-circumstances/new-students/learning-adjustments-explained

If you are unable to submit work within the extended deadline, it is vital that you contact your Personal Tutor immediately with a view to completing a special circumstances form. For more details see the following link: https://www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/extensions-special-circumstances/continuing-students

FEEDBACK AND MARKS

In line with University policy, assessment in English Literature Pre-Honours courses operates according to the following principles:

Feedback on essays is provided in written form by your tutor via LEARN. You may also ask your tutor for additional comment and advice, where appropriate.

Feedback and marks will normally be provided within 15 working days of submission (in effect, three weeks). If your work is not marked within this timeframe, please notify the course organisers and/or undergraduate director. The University Christmas and New Year closure period is excluded from the 15 working day calculation.

It is important to note that the initial marks provided in LEARN are provisional and are subject to moderation, application of penalties and final confirmation at the Exam Board.

Moderation is done by sampled second marking. This means that the course organisers will review a number of marked essays to confirm the marks. This process ensures a high quality and consistency of marking for this course, and across related courses.

The marks you receive for your work should always be understood in the light of the feedback that you will receive at the same time, and both marks and feedback should be read in the light of the Grade Descriptors published in the English Literature Writing Guide (see https://www.ed.ac.uk/literatures-languages-cultures/english-literature/undergraduate/current/handbooks).

ENTRY TO THIRD YEAR
For admission to honours, an overall mark of at least 50% at the first attempt is required. Students must also gain a pass in one close reading and one comparative essay.

Other individual course and entry requirements are given in the University's Degree Regulations and Programmes of Study (http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/): students should consult these and take any questions to their Personal Tutor as soon as possible.

Full information on 3rd Year Honours courses for 2021-2022 is not yet available but you may wish to consult the current session's Honours information which will give you an indication of the structure of the Honours programme and range of courses on offer. Individual courses may change from session to session.

The English Literature Honours web page:

https://www.ed.ac.uk/literatures-languages-cultures/english-literature/undergraduate/current/honours

FURTHER INFORMATION

Please see Support for Success in LLC under ‘Help and Support’ in LEARN for links to a range of useful resources and key information.