

Department of English

About the department

The Department of English at Royal Holloway is one of the leading schools of English in the world, in the top 150 internationally according to the QS University Rankings 2021 and ranked 12th in the UK for English and Creative Writing in The Guardian 'Best UK Universities 2022'.

Our modules cover the span of English literature. Your journey could take you from Old English riddles, Middle English romances, and the rich poetry and theatre of the Renaissance to the wit and politics of the eighteenth century; from Romantic verse to the radical novels of the Victorians; from the complexities of modernism to world literatures, American literature, and the latest contemporary writing.

Entry requirements

The modules listed below are open to all Study Abroad, International and European Exchange students, subject to any required previous knowledge or qualifications, as stated in the module specifications below.

Each module is either 15 or 30 UK credits (7.5 or 15 ECTS) and starts in either the Autumn Term (September) or the Spring Term (January).

Please note, there are a limited number of spaces on each module.

The information contained in the course outlines on the following pages is correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change as part of our policy of continuous improvement and development.

Module options for visiting students, 2025-26

Module number	Module title	Term	UK Credits	Link to syllabus
EN1001	Encountering Medieval Literature: Beowulf to Chaucer	UG Spring Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN1011	Thinking as a Critic	UG Autumn Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN1105	Literature and Crisis	UG Autumn – Spring Term	30.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN1106	Shakespeare	UG Autumn Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN1107	Re-Orienting the Novel	UG Autumn-Spring Term	30.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN1107V	Inventing The Novel	UG Autumn	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN1112	Introduction to Poetry	UG Spring Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2001	Middle English Poetry	UG Spring Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2002	Medieval Drama	UG Autumn Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2004	Medieval Dream and Vision	UG Spring Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2005	Strange Fictions	UG Autumn Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2009	Old English Riddles	UG Spring Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)



royalholloway.ac.uk/English



**ROYAL
HOLLOWAY
UNIVERSITY**
OF LONDON

Module options for visiting students, 2025-26

Module number	Module title	Term	UK Credits	Link to syllabus
EN2010	Renaissance Literature	UG Autumn-Spring Term	30.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2010V	Renaissance Literature	UG Autumn or Spring Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2011	Intensive Shakespeare	UG Spring Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2012	Witchcraft and Drama	UG Autumn Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2013	Theatre and the City: 1590 - 1625	UG Autumn Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2014	Early Modern Bodies	UG Spring Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2017	Afterlives of Slavery	UG Autumn Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2018	American Immigrant Novels	UG Spring Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2020	Exploring James Joyce's Ulysses	UG Autumn Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2212	Victorian Literature	UG Autumn-Spring Term	30.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2212V	Victorian Literature	UG Autumn	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2213	Romanticisms	UG Autumn-Spring Term	30.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)

Module options for visiting students, 2025-26

Module number	Module title	Term	UK Credits	Link to syllabus
EN2213V	Romanticisms	UG Autumn	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2215	Creative Writing: Structure	UG Spring Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2219	Environmental Literatures	UG Autumn Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2315	Literature and the Digital	UG Autumn Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2324	Contemporary Debates in Literary and Critical Theory	UG Autumn-Spring Term	30.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2324V	Contemporary Debates in Literary and Critical Theory	UG Autumn	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2325	Modernist Literature	UG Autumn-Spring Term	30.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2325V	Modernist Literature	UG Autumn or Spring Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2326	Writing as a Critic	UG Autumn or Spring Term (runs each term separately)	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2328	American Gothic	UG Spring Term	15.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)
EN2401	The American Century	UG Autumn-Spring Term	30.00	Syllabus Information (royalholloway.ac.uk)



royalholloway.ac.uk/English



**ROYAL
HOLLOWAY
UNIVERSITY**
OF LONDON

EN2***	Roots of Jane Austen	UG Autumn Term	15.00	<p>The century before Jane Austen’s birth witnessed enormous changes in culture, religion, literature, philosophy, and relations between the sexes. It was the era of ‘the rise of the novel’, of the establishment of modern theatre and journalism, and the path from neoclassical to Romantic poetry, as well as political revolutions and Atlantic slavery. This module introduces a range of the most interesting and rewarding late 17th and 18th century texts on their own terms, as well as through the lens of their relationship to Jane Austen, the most celebrated novelist in English.</p> <p>Assessment: 2 x assessed essays (1500 words and 2500 words)</p>
EN2***	New Ways of Doing English	UG Spring Term	15.00	<p>This module uses Laurence Sterne’s <i>Tristram Shandy</i> (1759-1767) – the most spectacularly inventive and hilariously weird novel in English – as a case study for applying some of the most exciting new work in material culture studies, ‘Thing Theory’, Object Oriented Ontology, book history and Lacanian psychoanalysis. It will give you a grounding in Sterne’s wonderful text and the 18th century discourses he was in dialogue with, via some of the newest ways of doing English studies.</p> <p>Assessment: 2 x assessed essays (1500 words and 2500 words)</p>

