School of English

Head of School
Professor C D Corcoran

Degree Programmes

Graduate Diploma:
Creative Writing
Mediaeval English
Modern Poetries in English
Romantic Studies
Scottish Literature
Scottish Studies (not available 2001-02)
Shakespeare Studies
Women, Writing and Gender (not available 2001-02)

M.Litt.:
Creative Writing
Mediaeval English
Modern Poetries in English
Romantic Studies
Scottish Literature
Scottish Studies (not available 2001-02)
Shakespeare Studies
Women, Writing and Gender (not available 2001-02)

M.Phil.:
Mediaeval English
Modern Poetries in English
Romantic Studies
Scottish Literature
Scottish Studies (not available 2001-02)
Shakespeare Studies
Women, Writing and Gender (not available 2001-02)

Programme Requirements

Creative Writing
Graduate Diploma: EN5001 and one other 60 credit module from EN5002 or EN5003.
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words

This degree is designed to enable students to undertake a detailed study of prose and/or poetry from the perspectives of practical, creative literary skills as well as those of criticism and the historical development of literary forms. Students choose 2 modules.

Mediaeval English
Graduate Diploma: 120 credits including EN5011 and EN5100 and a further 80 credits from EN5012 - EN5014 and EN5021
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma, including EN5011 and EN5100, plus a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

This degree is concerned primarily with Middle English literature, while offering the opportunity for students to develop a knowledge of writings in Old English. It combines a core module (EN5011), taken by all candidates, with a range of options on major literary works and their traditions. The core module considers broader historical and cultural themes, mediaeval literary thought, and textual and editorial concerns, and provides the context for the optional modules focusing on specific varieties of mediaeval literature.

Modern Poetries in English
Graduate Diploma: 120 credits from EN5121 – EN5123 and EN5100
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for Graduate Diploma, including EN5100, plus a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma, including EN5100, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

This degree provides a full grounding in some of the central poetry of the modern and contemporary periods and its significant literary, textual and historical contexts.
Romantic Studies

Graduate Diploma: 120 credits from EN5100 and EN5041 - EN5043

M.Litt.: 120 credits including EN5100, EN5041, EN5042, EN5043, plus a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words

M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

The course explores Romanticism through close study of literary culture 1767-1821. It draws on the wealth of published material from this period in the University Library’s Special Collections Department. Students will study the various conceptions and dimensions of Romanticism, and Romantic criticism and theory up to the present. They will explore various debates about commonness and culture, focusing on the conflicts of the 1770s through to the 1790s and Lyrical Ballads. Close study of John Keats in his literary and political contexts enables students to reassess the work and reputation of a major Romantic poet in the light of recent criticism and scholarship. Particular attention will be given to rivalry between Edinburgh and London in the ‘Cockney School’ controversy.

Scottish Literature

Graduate Diploma: 120 credits made up of EN5100, EN5021, EN5022 and EN5023

M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma, including EN5100, plus a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words

M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

This degree is designed to provide a postgraduate-level introduction to a range of Scottish literature. To students who have studied Scottish literature as undergraduates, it offers an opportunity for study in greater depth. However, as a taught degree course it is suitable for those who have a background in literary studies other than Scottish literature.

Shakespeare Studies

Graduate Diploma: 120 credits from EN5031 - EN5033 and EN5100

M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma, including EN5100, plus a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words

M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

This degree is designed to develop critical skills through the investigation of Shakespeare’s works in different cultural contexts.

Scottish Studies (St Andrews Scottish Studies Institute) (not available 2001-02)

Graduate Diploma: EN5100, EN5902 and a further 80 credits from AH5014; AH5074; EN5021 - EN5023; SC5021, SC5022, and SC5043

M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma, including EN5100 and EN5902, plus a dissertation of an interdisciplinary nature of not more than 15,000 words

M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

This degree is offered by the St Andrews Scottish Studies Institute through the School of English. Other participating Schools/Departments are Art History and Scottish History. There are two obligatory core modules EN5100 Literary Research: Skills and Resources and EN5902 Modern Scottish Cultural History. Students select further modules to amount to 120 credits. These modules are provided from the postgraduate courses offered by the participating schools. The degree offers students an opportunity to study Scottish culture through an interdisciplinary approach.

Women, Writing and Gender (not available 2001-02)

Graduate Diploma: 120 credits from EN5111 – EN5113 and EN5100

M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma, including EN5100, plus a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words

M.Phil.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma, including EN5100, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words

This degree will introduce students to key issues in the contemporary discussion of gender, through the detailed exploration of theoretical and fictional writing.
Modules

AH5014 Contemporary Scottish Painting 1950-Present

Credits: 40.0  Semester: 2
Availability: 2001-02
Programme(s): Optional module for Scottish Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: The course will study themes, subjects and issues in recent Scottish painting. It will explore the renaissance of Scottish art during the mid-1980s and examine the role of the marketplace in the construction of taste and fashion. Artists studied will include “The Edinburgh School”, Bellany, Finlay, Campbell, Currie, Howson etc. It is hoped to include talks by these artists, and others, on the course.
Class Hour: 11.00 am - 1.00 pm Tuesday and either 11.00 am or 12.00 noon Friday. One additional class to be arranged.
Teaching: Three classes.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

AH5074 Scottish Photography and its Context

Credits: 40.0  Semester: 1
Availability: 2002-03
Programme(s): Optional module for Scottish Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module will examine Scottish photography between c.1860 and the contemporary period. It will be divided into three areas of study; the landscape tradition, the documentary tradition, and issues in ‘art’ photography. These themes will be studied independently, but also in relation to a number of relevant contexts. These will include: the influence of Scottish art on photography, the relationship between photography in Europe and America and photography in Scotland, the aesthetic debates surrounding the status of the photograph as art object.
Class Hour: 11.00 am - 1.00 pm Tuesday and either 11.00 am or 12.00 noon Friday. One further class to be arranged.
Teaching: Three classes.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5001 The Short Story

Credits: 60.0  Semester: 2
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Creative Writing Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: Short stories and their authors will be studied, from the 19th century to the present day. Particular attention will be paid to literary method, as well as the historical development of the form. Discussion of students’ writing is an integral part of the course.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One seminar/workshop.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5002 Craft and Technique in Poetry

Credits: 60.0  Semester: 1
Programme(s): Optional module for Creative Writing Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: There will be a strong focus on the study of versification — metre, stanzas, rhyme, and poetic forms such as the sonnet. The poetry studied will be chosen from modern and contemporary writers, British, American and Commonwealth. Discussion of students’ writing is an integral part of the course.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One seminar/workshop.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5003 Fiction: The Novel
English - 5000 Level modules

EN5011 Texts and Traditions
Credits: 20.0 Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Mediaeval English Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This core module is required of all candidates for Mediaeval English. It provides a foundation for postgraduate work in mediaeval English and is concerned with key themes and contexts, including mediaeval literary thought, manuscript culture, approaches to textual criticism, the transition from heroic Anglo-Saxon elegiac and martial poetry to the more personal sensibility of Middle English chivalric, moral and penitential literature.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One tutorial.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5012 Old English Literature
Credits: 40.0 Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Optional module for Mediaeval English Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module concentrates on heroic, elegiac and scriptural poetry of the Anglo-Saxon period, providing a study of the central works of Old English literature, many of which will be provided in specially edited glossed editions prepared by the School. Introductory classes will be provided for students who have not already studied Old English.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One tutorial.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5013 Middle English Spiritual Literature
Credits: 40.0 Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Optional module for Mediaeval English Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module, focusing on key selected texts, such as Piers Plowman, Pearl, Patience, The Cloud of Unknowing, The Revelations of Julian of Norwich, The Book of Margery Kempe and Ancrene Wisse, reflects the rich diversity of mediaeval English spiritual literature. It encompasses highly imaginative dream-poems, allegory, Biblical reworkings, and meditative and mystical works.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One tutorial.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5014 Chaucer
Credits: 40.0 Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Optional module for Mediaeval English Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: In this module close textual analysis of Chaucer’s works will be related to larger moral, cultural and spiritual themes. There will be a focus on the following topics: Chaucer and narrative form; Chaucer and literary authority; Chaucer and courtly love.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One tutorial.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5021 The Literature of the Scottish Kingdom
EN5022  The Contest for Cultural Authority

Credits: 20.0  Semester: 2
Prerequisite: EN5100
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Scottish Literature Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Optional module for Scottish Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: Concentrating on the struggle between demotic Scots-language culture and Anglocentric high culture, the module presents not a simple opposition but a series of negotiations between these cultures, often taking place within individual works by writers such as Fergusson, Scott, MacDiarmid and Tom Leonard. Parallel to this reading is a series of seminars on Scottish Literary institutions, and on research skills or resources pertinent to graduate work on Scottish Literature.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5023  Highland Representations

Credits: 40.0  Semester: 2
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Scottish Literature Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Optional module for Environmental History and Policy and Scottish Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: The first part of this module will consider the invention of modern images of the Highlands in the eighteenth century, concentrating on the Ossianic poems and the visit of Boswell and Johnson; the second part will discuss nineteenth-century representations, concentrating on Scott, Stevenson, and the visual arts; and the final section (on the twentieth century) will include Gaelic work in translation, and will involve both prose and poetry.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5031  Shakespeare and the English Renaissance

Credits: 40.0  Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Shakespeare Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: The module examines a variety of Shakespeare’s texts in the following contexts: Shakespeare’s classical inheritance; theories of authorial revision; the history play; the tragedy of state; the Elizabethan sonnet sequence; Renaissance attitudes to women; pastoral; and the literature of folly.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One tutorial per fortnight.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
English - 5000 Level modules

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Shakespeare Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: The module investigates over two centuries of adaptations and criticism of Shakespeare’s plays. Among the adaptations are those by Dryden, Davenant, Otway and Garrick. Critical writing studies will include works by Dryden, Johnson and Morgan, in conjunction with material on stage conditions. Nineteenth-century critical writing will include texts by Coleridge, Lamb and Hazlitt.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One tutorial.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5033 Shakespeare in the Twentieth Century
Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Shakespeare Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: Among the work studied on this module will be adaptations by Brecht and Bond, and work by Marowitz and Wesker. Generic adaptations of Shakespeare on film will also be studied, using the School’s video collection as a basis for seminar work. Recent critical theories as applied to Shakespeare will also be studied.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One tutorial.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5041 The Idea of a Common Culture (1767-1797)
Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Romantic Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module will explore debates about commonness and culture, taking as its focus the conflicts of the 1770s through to the 1790s as to whether ‘the People’, vulgar speech and popular customs were to be considered as worthy of serious representation in polite literature and society at large. We will look at: popular antiquarianism and constitutional reform; debates about good linguistic usage; common land and common rights, and 1790s defences of poverty; and common law and codification. These debates raise questions about toleration, nation and non-conformity, questions which can be shown to centre around the contested idea of a common culture.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5042 John Keats and Cockney Culture
Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Romantic Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: In this module close study of Keats’s poetry and letters will be related to study of writers associated with the ‘Cockney School’, including Leigh Hunt, John Hamilton Reynolds, and William Hazlitt. The ‘Cockney School’ essays published in Blackwood’s Magazine, and cultural rivalry between Edinburgh and London, will also form a focus of study.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5043 Representing Romanticism
Credits: 40.0 Semester: Whole Year
EN5100  Literary Research: Skills and Resources

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Mediaeval English, Modern Poetries in English, Romantic Studies, Scottish Literature, Scottish Studies, Shakespeare Studies, and Women, Writing and Gender Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module is compulsory for all School of English M.Litts, except Creative Writing. It aims to initiate students in the understanding and use of the essential skills and resources of research in English Studies. It provides preparation for the M.Litt. dissertation. Elements of this course include Use of Library Resources (Printed, Electronic and Remote); Textual Criticism and the Principles of Editing; History of Book Production and the Institutions of Publishing; the Book as Artefact; Currents in Critical Theory; Writing and Giving Academic Papers; Writing a Thesis Successfully, and Getting your Work Published. This general module leads on to the more specialist core modules of each individual M.Litt.

Class Hour: 3.00 - 5.00 pm Monday and Thursday

Teaching: Two seminars.

Assessment: One Bibliographical Exercise/Literature Review, OR one Editorial Exercise, OR one Approved Written Exercise/Essay of (normally) not more than 3,000 words on an appropriate topic = 75% and one Exercise in Critical Theory of not more than 2,000 words, related to the candidate’s subject area = 25%

EN5111  Gender, Conflict and Creativity: Women’s Writing of Two World Wars

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Women, Writing and Gender Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: Although focused primarily upon the neglected area of women’s war writing, this module will also consider the relationship between women’s literary responses and those of the largely androcentric canon. The course will examine the impact of conflict on constructions of masculinity and femininity, and explore the contrasting strategies through which writers made sense of the radical dislocations of war. Comparisons will be drawn between the First and Second World Wars, and issues considered might include the construction of national identity, the conflict between pacifism and patriotism, the implications of fascism, the guilt of the survivor and the paradoxical liberation sometimes associated with war. The module will also explore writing of the inter-war years on the grounds that the responses to war are seldom contained within the actual period of hostilities. The course encompasses a variety of genres including poetry, fiction and autobiography, suggesting that the traces of war can be found across the whole range of twentieth century texts, from popular fictions to modernism. Writers considered might include Rebecca West, Vera Brittain, Virginia Woolf, Stevie Smith, Naomi Mitchison and Elizabeth Bowen.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
**English - 5000 Level modules**

Availability:  2002-03

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Women, Writing and Gender Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description:  The module would aim to provide an introduction to key debates in contemporary feminist and gender theory, alongside an overview of the historical and cultural context within which these theories have developed. By drawing on the teaching resources available within the school, the module will be able to cover a considerable range of writers and their ideas, and students might expect to encounter the work of writers as diverse as Mary Wollstonecraft and Judith Butler. However, the emphasis will be upon the course as a point of departure, and the seminars will be accompanied by an extensive reading list through which the students will be encouraged to explore those areas of enquiry that most interest them.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

**ENS5113 Myth and Contemporary Women’s Fiction**

Credits: 40.0  Semester: 2

Availability: 2002-03

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Women, Writing and Gender Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: Myths are at once a reflection of prevailing social and personal identities and a powerfully coercive template for their formation. Unravelling such mythic constructions as the Madonna and Medusa has comprised an important element of feminist debate over the past three decades, and arguably constitutes one of the most vital aspects of women’s fiction-writing today. This module will begin with an investigation into myth from a number of theoretical viewpoints, consider relevant feminist interventions into the debate on myth, and reflect on the nature of rewriting, before moving on to study a number of contemporary fictional reworkings of myth by such important and diverse writers as Margaret Atwood, A.S. Byatt, Angela Carter, Emma Tennant and Fay Weldon. Hélène Cixous’ *The Book of Promethea* will be included in the course and will be studied in English translation.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

**ENS5121 Modernisms**

Credits: 40.0  Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Modern Poetries in English Taught Postgraduate Programme.

Description: Focusing on key texts by a range of the major writers of international Modernism in the English language, this module aims to explicate and discuss some difficult poems, paying particular attention to questions of form and structure among predominantly experimental writers. It analyses some of the central, and still deeply influential, principles of Modernism and addresses some of its most significant internal debates, tensions and arguments. It also situates Modernist poetry in the context of contemporary critical and theoretical debates about cultural and national identity and gender.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

**ENS5122 Post-War Poetries in English**

Credits: 40.0  Semester: 2
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Modern Poetries in English Taught Postgraduate Programme.

Description: This module considers some of the most notable American, Australian, Irish and British poetry of the post-war period. Questions of value in relation to poetry are raised in relation to a number of crucial themes and critical debates, particularly those to do with cultural, national and ‘regional’ identity and gender and class difference. A strong sense of the chronological development of poetry in this period, from the immediately post-war ‘Movement’ work of Philip Larkin to the postmodernism of such writers as Paul Muldoon, is also conveyed.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5123 Contexts for Poetry

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Modern Poetries in English Taught Postgraduate Programme.

Description: This module sets the texts of poetry (which have been the material of the other two modules) within various relevant contexts. The module therefore raises, at a primary level, the issue of how we might establish contexts ‘relevant’ to the study of modern and contemporary poetry, and how we might defend a sense of the significance of particular context to particular text in literary criticism. Hence the idea of ‘historicising’ the literature is prominent here, notably in relation to the first publication of poetry in little magazines, and to its later appearance in sometimes taste-creating, canon-forming or age-defining anthologies. Some theoretical issues, aired at various stages throughout the syllabus, are made explicit here, since literary theory is now one of the primary contexts into which the literary text is received. And the new contexts of reception and interpretation created by digital technology, to which poetry publishers have been quick to respond, are also examined.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

EN5902 Modern Scottish Cultural History

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2
Availability: 2002-03
Prerequisite: EN5100
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Scottish Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: The class will meet weekly over eleven weeks for a two-hour seminar. In addition to a session dealing with the writing on an interdisciplinary postgraduate dissertation (to be followed up by individual consultations as appropriate) there will be five postgraduate-only sessions on pre-twentieth century material covering the following topics: Writing and History of the Scottish Reformation; the Scottish Parliament pre-1707; Burns and the Scottish Enlightenment; landscapes and cityscapes in eighteenth and nineteenth-century Scottish art and culture; new developments in pre-twentieth-century historiography and literary canon formation. These will be supplemented by engagement with five related modern topics. This will provide a postgraduate core module which offers students historical depth as well as a stimulating breadth of topics.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One 2 hour seminar per week.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

SC5021 Survival and Stability: the Foundations of the Stewart Dynasty 1371-1460

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 1
Programme(s): Optional module for Scottish Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This course examines the nature of late mediaeval Scottish kingship by way of an analysis of the reigns of the first four Stewart kings. The dramatic changes in the style of royal government - ranging from a shaky beginning in 1371 to the spectacular success of James II by 1455 - are studied in detail, and an effort is made to understand why the Scots found such changes acceptable. The module is based on study of original sources.

Class Hour: 11.00 am Tuesday.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar, one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

**SC5022 Kingship and Tyranny: Scotland in the Age of Reform 1513-1603**

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for Scottish Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: The module examines the changing nature of Scottish political culture in the sixteenth century, with particular emphasis on the changes wrought by Renaissance ideas of citizenship, the Reformation’s focus on a godly community, and the socio-economic transformation associated with the rise of the “middling sort”. Particular attention is paid to literary and related sources pertaining to changing perceptions of the relationship between the crown and the political community.

Class Hour: 3.00 - 5.00 pm Thursday.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar, one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

**SC5043 Scottish Social Problems 1800-1990**

Credits: 40.0 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Optional module for Scottish Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: The aim of the module is to examine the reasons behind the deep-seated social problems in Scotland in spite of the growth in wealth and prosperity since 1800, and how society, the state and local authorities have responded to this. Topics analysed include housing, poverty, health and sectarianism, as well as others dealing with the peculiar problems faced by minority and ethnic groups.

Class Hour: 11.00 am Tuesday.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar, one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%