ENGLISH
Canterbury
ENGLISH AT KENT

How have writers in different periods and in different cultures addressed the challenges of their times? What can the written word tell us about what it means to be human? At Kent you’ll have the opportunity to experience a vast range of literatures, from Chaucer to the contemporary, to help you discover writers and texts that resonate with you.
WHY STUDY ENGLISH AT KENT?

**Expert insights**
From early manuscripts to slam poetry, whatever your interest, we are likely to have an expert to help you delve further, and perhaps introduce you to some new periods or styles you haven’t had a chance to explore yet.

**Academic support**
Starting university can be a challenge. You’ll need to be self-motivated and organised to get the most out of your time here. We will help by assigning you an academic adviser and introducing you to other students who have successfully made the transition.

**Excellent resources**
Access more than 1 million books, ebooks, databases and journals at the University’s Templeman Library. Our expert subject librarians are on hand to help you find your way around and get the most from our specialist collections.

**World-leading research**
The School of English has a vibrant research culture with a strong international outlook. Our modules are informed by our cutting-edge research, and many of the articles and books you study are written by members of the department.

**Supportive community**
The School of English is a vibrant, sociable community. We run trips to places such as the Globe Theatre in London, and much further afield. Student societies run book clubs, reading groups and writing workshops, where you can share ideas and interests.

**Lively campus**
Kent is a campus university, so everything you need is within walking distance. You can watch a play or a film at the Gulbenkian arts centre, dance at The Venue nightclub, keep fit at our sports centre and meet friends at one of many campus cafés and restaurants.

**Inspirational teaching**
Great teachers inspire enthusiasm and provoke debate. Whether lecturing on Chaucer or sparking a debate on the effects of colonialism, our staff are skilled at bringing their subject to life. They share their research and challenge you to contribute your ideas.

**Creative writers**
Our creative writers include successful novelists and poets, among them authors long-listed for the Booker and Orange prizes. They share their invaluable experience of the creative process and give you a fascinating insight into the mind of a writer.

**Career success**
A degree in English provides you with a wealth of skills and experiences that can be transferred into a wide variety of careers. Events such as our Spring Skills Conference and Writing Skills Workshops help you show off your skills to the best effect.
Research Excellence Framework
• Based on the most recent Research Excellence Framework, Kent was ranked in the top 20 for research intensity by the Times Higher Education, outperforming 11 of the 24 Russell Group universities.

Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE)
• Over 95% of Kent graduates who graduated in 2017 and responded to a national survey were in work or further study within six months.

Teaching Excellence Framework
• Kent was awarded gold, the highest rating, in the UK government’s Teaching Excellence Framework*.

Flexible programmes
Are you fascinated by Shakespeare and his enduring influence? Do you love to lose yourself in a great American novel? Are you keen to explore the diversity of writing in English from around the globe? Do you prefer to be inspired and challenged by new writing? Or is the idea of creating your own work what excites you? In the School of English we offer a range of degrees that focus on different areas of literature in English and creative writing. Throughout your studies, you develop critical analytical skills and discover new writers and texts as you tailor your programme to your particular interest.

Independent rankings

School of English
The Guardian University Guide 2019
• English and Creative Writing at Kent ranked 18th (out of 105 institutions)

University of Kent
Research Excellence Framework
• Based on the most recent Research Excellence Framework, Kent was ranked in the top 20 for research intensity by the Times Higher Education, outperforming 11 of the 24 Russell Group universities.

Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE)
• Over 95% of Kent graduates who graduated in 2017 and responded to a national survey were in work or further study within six months.

Teaching Excellence Framework
• Kent was awarded gold, the highest rating, in the UK government’s Teaching Excellence Framework*.

*The University of Kent’s Statement of Findings can be found at www.kent.ac.uk/tef-statement
Maxine Meixner is in her second year studying English and American Literature and Creative Writing*. This is what she told us about her course.

Why did you choose to study this course at Kent?
Lots of reasons! The modules are so, so varied and, in second and third years especially, you can really tailor them to what you want to do. You can also decide whether you want to focus more on creative writing or on the more academic side of literature. And then I loved Kent because the campus is so green and wonderful. There are so many places you can go – I went to the beach at Herne Bay after a lecture the other day, and it’s easy to go to London for theatre trips.

How do you think the course has developed you?
What’s crucial for me is that I’m feeling pushed without feeling like I’m pushed to the edge. I’m learning a lot and I’m really quite challenged; I have to think critically and do a lot of research. In seminars, students lead the conversation and that really helps people to not feel afraid to voice their opinions. Hearing and discussing different points of view has deepened my understanding.

What do you think of the academic support?
I emailed a very simple question to a guest lecturer who came in for my Shakespeare module and I got a massive reply back with so many books to go off and read. I found that so useful, because they were avenues I didn’t think of looking down. And my seminar leader for my fiction workshop is helping me work one of my pieces into a novel – she thinks the ideas I’ve got can be lengthened out. It’s quite scary to think about writing a novel, but really exciting!

And what are your fellow students like?
It’s nice to be with students who all do the same thing as you, which means they all love it. And they all love different parts of the subject. So last year, for instance, when we were doing romanticism, some students hated an author and others loved him, and that really informed the seminars.

What about outside lectures?
How do you spend your time?
I’m a keen member of T24, the drama society. There are weekly writing workshops, which are useful for a creative writer, looking more at screenplay. I’m appearing in a show later today and, for next term, I’m co-writing an adaptation of Frankenstein, to be performed at the Marlowe Studio in Canterbury. Over last summer, I did the Canterbury Shakespeare Festival and played Helena in A Midsummer Night’s Dream. I do lots of things connected to my course, too.

Next February I’m going on a trip to New York – I never thought I’d be able to go to New York, but the School subsidises it and we pay in instalments. I can’t wait!

What are your plans for after graduation?
I’m thinking about doing a Master’s – ideally a combination of the academic and something more creative. I’d want to do it here at Kent because I’ve established a whole little world here.

Any advice for a prospective student?
I would say don’t be afraid to ask questions, don’t be afraid to share ideas because you never know what might come out of it. Everyone feels scared when they first come to university, but take the plunge and see if it’s for you. English at Kent is great. I’m learning so much, not only about my subject, but about myself.

*now English Literature and Creative Writing.
CHOOSING YOUR DEGREE

Whether you relish the thought of tackling Chaucer or would prefer to concentrate on your own writing, our degree programmes offer diversity, flexibility and fresh approaches.

You can study full-time over three years or part-time over six years. If you choose to study abroad or spend a year on a work placement, you do this between Stage 2 and Stage 3 (between second and third year for full-time students).

You can find out more about all our programmes at www.kent.ac.uk/ug

Single honours

Contemporary Literature
On this degree, you study the literature of your own time. You explore the ways in which contemporary writers are addressing political, social, environmental and cultural change and consider what it means to produce ‘literature’ in the 21st century.

English and American Literature
In this degree, you develop your understanding of both English and American literatures through the examination of key periods and texts. Specialist modules develop your analytical skills while addressing both the historical and contemporary cultural relationship between Britain and the Americas.

English and Postcolonial Literatures
On this degree, you study a broad range of literature from different periods and genres. You focus in particular on the phenomenon of empire and its contemporary consequences, for example nationhood, diaspora and migration.

English Literature
This degree covers literature from Chaucer to the works of the present day. You study different literary traditions, genres and styles through the ages, providing rich opportunities to refine your skills of criticism and analysis.

English Literature and Creative Writing
On this degree you study literature from the medieval to the modern and also develop yourself as a writer. You study modules that explore the techniques of writing and have a range of opportunities to produce original work.

Joint honours

English Literature can be studied on a joint honours basis with a wide range of other subjects:

- Art History
- Comparative Literature
- Drama
- English Language and Linguistics
- Film
- French
- Hispanic Studies
- History
- Journalism
- Law
- Philosophy
- Religious Studies
- Sociology.

English and Postcolonial Literatures can be studied with:

- Film
- History.

Visit www.kent.ac.uk/ug to find out more about the joint honours programme you are interested in.

International students
If you need to extend your existing academic qualifications or ability in English to study at university level, Kent’s one-year International Foundation Programme (IFP) gives you the opportunity to do so. The IFP can provide progression to our literature degrees. For details, see www.kent.ac.uk/ifp

Teaching and assessment
We use a combination of seminars, lectures and tutorials. For creative writing modules, you also attend writing workshops. Assessment is by coursework and examination in Stages 1 and 2, and by coursework only in Stage 3. You must pass Stage 1 to progress to Stage 2. Your final degree classification is based on your results in Stages 2 and 3.

Further information
See www.kent.ac.uk/ug for details of all our programmes.
YEAR ABROAD/ PLACEMENT YEAR

At Kent, you have the opportunity to broaden your experience either by studying overseas or through a work placement.

All students within Kent’s Faculty of Humanities can apply to spend a year studying abroad or on placement as part of their degree programme. The year usually takes place between your two final years of study.

Year abroad
Going abroad as part of your degree is an amazing opportunity and a chance for you to develop academically, personally and professionally.

You gain confidence and independence, and further develop many of the transferable skills employers are looking for, such as the ability to communicate effectively and to plan and organise your time. You also demonstrate that you are flexible in your outlook and have the enthusiasm and drive to succeed in a new environment.

For many students, their year abroad is a life-changing and rewarding experience. Having risen to the challenge of living in another country, they have a renewed belief in their ability to succeed.

We have exciting exchange links with universities in Canada, China (Hong Kong), Singapore, South Africa, South Korea and the USA, as well as many European destinations. See the A to Z course list at www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad/opportunities/az.html for details.

Some of our programmes have a separate UCAS code for the year abroad option – see p18. (Note that you may still be able to add a year abroad to your course after you have begun studying.)

Placement year
The placement year provides the opportunity for you to gain experience in the workplace as part of your degree. The placement can be either paid work or an internship. It gives you the opportunity to increase your contacts and networks so that you can hit the ground running when you graduate.

If taken, the year is assessed on a pass/fail basis through employer feedback and a written report that you submit.

Tuition fees for the placement year are greatly reduced and some employers may offer expenses or a salary.

There are many benefits to taking a placement year: it gives you the chance to gain some knowledge of the work environment, acquire new skills and develop your confidence.

For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/humanities/studying/placement
At Kent, you choose your own pathway through your degree. Our flexible programmes provide you with a firm grounding in literary studies while enabling you to pursue your personal interests.

Please note that these module lists are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices updated yearly. The details below are correct at the time of publication (June 2019). See www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

Stage 1
At Stage 1 most of your modules are compulsory to give you the firm foundations that you need to progress with your literary studies in Stages 2 and 3.

Single honours
Contemporary Literature/English and American Literature/English Literature/English and Postcolonial Literatures
You take the following compulsory modules:
• Literary Forms (EN336)
• Mapping Identities (EN338)
• Thinking Through Theory (EN337).

You also take either:
• Reading and Writing the Everyday (EN340)
or:
• elective modules from other departments across the University.

English Literature and Creative Writing
You take the following compulsory modules:
• Creative Writing Foundations (EN339)
• Literary Forms (EN336)
• Thinking Through Theory (EN337).

You also take either:
• Reading and Writing the Everyday (EN340)
or:
• elective modules from other departments across the University.

Joint honours
If you are a joint honours student, you take:
• Literary Forms (EN336)
• Thinking Through Theory (EN337).

You take further modules as required by your other subject.
Stage 2
At Stage 2, you take modules from across our range of options as you begin to tailor your programme to your particular interests.

Single honours

Contemporary Literature
You take the following compulsory modules:
• The Contemporary (EN677)
• Modernism (EN689).

You choose a further two modules. Options might include:
• American Modernities: US Literature in the 20th Century (EN721)
• Empire, New Nations and Migration (EN695).

English Literature
You study four optional modules, at least one of which must be on literature from before 1800.

Options might include:
• Chaucer and Late Medieval English Literature (EN697)
• Declaring Independence: 19th-Century US Literature (EN675).
• Novelty, Enlightenment and Emancipation: 18th-Century Literature (EN681)
• Shakespeare and Early Modern Drama (EN694)
• Reading Victorian Literature (EN672).

English Literature and Creative Writing
You take two creative writing modules and two literature modules. At least one of your literature modules must be on literature from before 1800. See examples, above, under English Literature.

Examples of creative writing modules include:
• Contemporary Poetry: Context and Innovation (EN686)
• Contemporary Poetry: Tradition and Innovation (EN674)
• Elements of Fiction (EN685)
• Writing Fiction: Tradition and Context (EN679).

Joint honours
If you are a joint honours student you take two modules from the School of English, one of which must be on literature from before 1800.
Stage 3
In Stage 3 you have the opportunity to move into specialised areas of study, with modules exploring specific authors, genres or topics. You can also opt to complete a supervised dissertation on a subject of your choice.

Single honours
Contemporary Literature
You choose four modules, either from the range of ‘special modules’ (see right) offered by the School of English or from the elective modules offered across the University. As one of your choices, you can opt to do a dissertation.

English and American Literature
You choose four modules from those offered by the School of English, two of which must focus on American literature. As one of your choices, you can opt to do a dissertation.

English Literature and Creative Writing
You can choose whether to give more emphasis to creative writing or the study of literature at this stage. From the range offered by the School of English, you select either:
• one creative writing module and three literature modules
or:
• two creative writing modules and two literature modules.

You can opt to do a dissertation as one of your literature modules.

Joint honours
If you are studying joint honours, you take two special modules from the list offered by the School of English.

Special modules
Some of the special modules we offer depend upon the current research and specialisms of our lecturers; as a result they change from year to year. The list below is an indication of the range typically available.

Modules marked * are usually only available to students taking Creative Writing; it may be possible for literature students to take these modules but places are subject to availability.

- Animals, Humans, Writing (EN709)
- Bodies of Evidence: Reading the Body in 18th-Century Literature (EN633)
- The Book Project (EN663)*
- The Brontës in Context (EN657)
- Charles Dickens and Victorian England (EN580)
- Contemporary Dickens and Victorian England (EN580)
- Creative Writing Long Project (EN718/EN719)*
- Cross-Cultural Coming-of-Age Narratives (EN676)
- English Dissertation (EN593/EN594)
- The Global 18th Century (EN701)
- The Graphic Novel (EN717)
- Harlem to Hogan's Alley: Black Writing in North America (EN667)
- Innovation and Experiment in New York, 1945-1995 (EN588)
- The Love Poem: Wyatt to Charlie XCX (EN706)
- Marriage, Desire and Divorce in Early Modern Literature (EN669)
- Marxism, Literature and Culture (EN716)
- The New Women: 1880-1920 (EN713)
- Places and Journeys (EN655)
- Postcolonial Writing (EN583)
- The Stranger (EN661)
- Thomas Hardy (EN702)
- A Throw of the Dice: Gambling, Gaming and Fiction (EN691)*
- The Unknown: Reading and Writing (EN604)
- Utopia: Philosophy and Literature (EN714)
- Virginia Woolf (EN708)
- Wrestling with Angels: Writing the Prose Poem (EN664)*
SUPERB STUDY SUPPORT

We’ll support you throughout your time at Kent, from helping you adjust to university study to discussing module choices and essay topics with you.

You are assigned an academic adviser in your first year, and they help you get the most from your degree programme. They meet you regularly to discuss general academic issues or specific assignments. They will assist you in developing academic skills and refer you to other sources of help if you need it.

Peer support
The best advice often comes from people who have been in your situation, and in the School of English we operate a student mentoring programme to help you settle into university life. Our trained mentors are students in their second or third year, keen to provide support and assistance to our new students through the first weeks of term. Every School of English student is allocated to a mentor before the new term begins.

Study skills advice
Successful students take control of their own learning. Kent’s Student Learning Advisory Service (SLAS) can help you to increase your competence and confidence and fulfil your potential. You can request a one-to-one appointment or attend workshops on a diverse range of topics, from making the most of lectures to writing well and avoiding plagiarism.

Student support and wellbeing
You might need extra help to get the most from university. If you have a medical condition, specific learning difficulty, mental health condition or disability, the Student Support and Wellbeing team is there to support you.

The team is committed to improving access to learning for all students at Kent and can assist with many things, including:
• talking to your lecturers about any help you need in lectures or seminars
• arranging note-takers, signers and other support workers for you
• discussing exam access arrangements
• helping you with emotional, psychological or mental health issues
• applying for relevant funding to support you.

Find out more at: www.kent.ac.uk/studentsupport

“The teaching and welfare staff made sure everybody knew where to go if we needed help and made it clear that there is an abundance of support in place if we should ever need it.”

Eve Mitchell
English and American Literature and Creative Writing (now English Literature and Creative Writing)
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

What do you hope to do once you have your degree? Whether you have a specific career path in mind or haven’t yet thought much beyond university, we can help you to plan for success in the future.

Build your CV
Your degree studies help you to develop skills such as thinking critically, expressing yourself clearly, solving problems and working independently and as part of a team. These transferable skills are valued by employers and will also be vital if you go on to further study.

At Kent, you have lots of other great opportunities to enhance your skills. For instance, you could:
• join a society or sports club (even better – get involved in running it)
• volunteer in the community
• work in a part-time job or take up a summer internship
• represent your fellow students as a student rep, or become a student ambassador
• learn a new language or skill with Study Plus.

Getting involved like this means that you can earn Employability Points, which you can exchange for employability rewards. The more points you earn, the more valuable the rewards: we work with local, national and international employers to offer internships, work experience and a range of other activities that prepare you for the world of work.

Experience work
Choosing to spend a year on professional placement can be a great way to make yourself more employable. Visit www.kent.ac.uk/humanities/studying/placement to find out more about the opportunities available.

Find a great job
Your degree can lead to a wide range of fascinating careers – our graduates work in a variety of media roles, including journalism, broadcasting, publishing and writing, as well as in teaching, banking, marketing and project management.

Your School supports you with employability events tailored to literature students, from exploring career options to presenting your skills and experience effectively to employers.

Visit our careers fair to talk to potential employers and use our award-winning Careers and Employability Service for advice on preparing your CV. Our track record speaks for itself: just six months after graduating in 2017, more than 95% of Kent graduates who responded to a national survey were in work or further study (DLHE, 2017).
Laura Brockbank graduated with a first class degree in English and American Literature with Creative Writing* in 2017. Here’s what she told us about her studies and life after Kent.

I always knew I wanted to study literature, having been passionate about writing and storytelling since I learned to read. What attracted me to Kent specifically was the amazing flexibility of their English courses, the opportunities to study abroad – which was the best thing I ever did – and the beautiful campus. I liked the thought of walking out of the library and seeing Canterbury Cathedral in the distance.

I always felt supported at Kent. The courses are taught brilliantly, and the lecturers’ enthusiasm for their subject is infectious. I loved that I could take a module studying Shakespeare and his contemporaries, and, in the same semester, analyse the way that literature in America has developed over the last 300 years.

My favourite modules were more focused on American literature and culture, and I developed a real interest in the writings of the transcendentalist movement. I left university feeling that I had explored the modules that most appealed to me, but also found I was passionate about things that were completely new to me.

In my final year – that time when every student begins to get jittery – I threw myself into every CV workshop and lecture available. The support at Kent is amazing; you can speak to the careers service about upcoming interviews, have someone review your CV and gain exceptional work experience placements. Even three years after your degree finishes, you can still speak to the Careers and Employability Service at Kent about interview techniques and CV tips.

At the moment, I’m working for the NHS in a management position as a senior records officer. A typical day involves organising and collating all requests that the NHS trust receives for medical records and public information.

The University is always a hub of activity and it’s exciting to be part of that. I spent just as much time socialising as studying! There are hundreds of societies to join, bars and restaurants on campus to meet friends, and events constantly taking place. My experience of meeting amazing people at Kent was extended to America during my year abroad, and I would encourage anyone who is thinking of studying abroad to do so.

In the future, I hope to return to studying in some capacity, either by learning to teach or by further pursuing my passion for American literature with a Master’s degree. I also plan to work in a more creative sector within charity organisations, as I would love to unite my creativity with my passion for environmental causes.

Advice for someone thinking of studying English at Kent? Do it! It’s the best thing I ever did. You get to meet some amazing people – who will love reading as much as you do – and you have access to a culture that will change your life.

*now English Literature and Creative Writing.
Choosing a university is a big step, so it’s important to find out as much as you can before you make your decision. Come and visit us to see what we can offer you.

Open Days
Open Days are a great way to find out what life as a student at Kent is like. For instance, you can:

- learn more about the course you are interested in at a subject presentation
- ask questions – talk to the academic teams at the information stands
- experience our teaching at a taster lecture*
- find out about student finance, opportunities to study abroad and extracurricular activities such as Kent Sport.

Explore the campus at your own pace on the self-guided walking tour. You will be able to visit different types of accommodation, chat to current students and enjoy the stunning views over the city of Canterbury.

Open Days are held in the summer and autumn. Book your place at www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

Applicant Days
If you apply to Kent and we offer you a place (or ask you to come for an interview), you will usually be invited to an Applicant Day. Applicant Days run in the autumn and spring terms and are an opportunity to find out about the course in more detail. You spend time with your academic school meeting staff and current students, and take part in activities that give you a flavour of your prospective course and university life.

Informal visits
If you can’t make it to an Open Day or Applicant Day, you can still visit us. We run tours of the campus throughout the year.

If you live outside Europe, we appreciate that you might find it difficult to attend our scheduled events, so we can arrange a personal campus tour for you and your family.

Let us know you’re coming
Scheduled tours and personal campus tours (for international students) need to be booked in advance – you can do this via www.kent.ac.uk/informal

Meet us in your country
Our staff regularly travel overseas to meet with students who are interested in coming to Kent.

We also have strong links with agents in your home country who can offer guidance and information on studying at Kent. Find out more at www.kent.ac.uk/courses/international

Self-guided tours
If you prefer to explore on your own, you can download a self-guided walking tour at: www.kent.ac.uk/informal or pick up a copy from us.

A self-guided audio tour is available too, which allows you to learn about Kent without even leaving home. See www.kent.ac.uk/courses/visit/informal/audio-tour.html

Explore online
If you can’t come and see us, you can find out more about the academic team, the course and events in the School online at: www.kent.ac.uk/english or email us: englishug@kent.ac.uk

Keep in touch with us via social media:
- www.facebook.com/unikentenglish
- www.twitter.com/unikentenglish

Contact us
If you would like more information on Kent’s courses, facilities or services, please contact us on: T: +44 (0)1227 768896
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

* Programme of events varies according to subject.
Location
Canterbury

Award
BA (Hons)

Degree programmes

Single honours
• Contemporary Literature
• English and American Literature
• English and Postcolonial Literatures
• English Literature
• English Literature with an Approved Year Abroad
• English Literature and Creative Writing
• English Literature and Creative Writing with an Approved Year Abroad

Joint honours
English Literature and...
• Art History
• Comparative Literature
• Drama
• English Language and Linguistics
• Film
• French
• Hispanic Studies
• History

• Journalism
• Law
• Philosophy
• Religious Studies
• Sociology

English and Postcolonial Literatures can be studied with:
• Film
• History.

Programme type
Full-time and part-time

Offer levels

Single honours
A level: BBB including English Literature or English Language and Literature grade B.
IB Diploma: 34 points overall or 15 points at HL, including HL English A1/A2/B at 5/6/6 OR English Literature A/English Language and Literature A (or Literature A/Language and Literature A of another country) at HL 5 or SL 6.

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma: applicants are assessed on an individual basis; a typical offer would be DMM plus A level English Literature or English Language and Literature grade B. Please contact us for more information.

Access: applicants are assessed on an individual basis; please contact us for more information.

Joint honours
Please go to the appropriate course page at www.kent.ac.uk/ug for offer levels for joint honours programmes.

Year abroad/placement year
For more information, see p9.

Scholarships and bursaries
For details of scholarships and bursaries, please see www.kent.ac.uk/ugfunding

Offer levels and entry requirements are subject to change. For the latest course information, see: www.kent.ac.uk/ug

This brochure was produced in June 2018; course information was updated in June 2019. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug and for full details of our terms and conditions, see www.kent.ac.uk/termsofandconditions

For the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer we make to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is a requirement in order for you to be registered as a student. All students must agree to abide by the University rules and regulations at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations
COME AND VISIT US

To find out more about visiting the University, see our website:
www.kent.ac.uk/visit