

Module Sign-up Brochure 2024-25

Q300: English Language & Literature

Stage 2 going into Stage 3

1. Do your research

Read through the information on the SELLL website carefully, and make sure to watch our [online video](#) which has detailed instructions on how to choose your modules, and navigate this brochure.

2. Sign up Online: Tuesday 30th April, from 9am

- Have the rules for your programme, from this brochure, with you when you log onto S3P: <https://s3p.ncl.ac.uk/login/index.aspx>
- Compulsory modules will already be selected and optional modules will be listed for you to choose.
- The portal will close on **8th May at 8:00pm**.
- Further guidance and screenshots are available here: <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/student-progress/registration/s3p/modules/>

FAQs

How do I take an outside module?

Modules not listed on your degree regulations will not appear in this brochure, and will not be available to you in S3P. Instead you will need to select 'HSS dummy module(s)'. Then you will need to fill in a module change form at the beginning of Semester 1 to change from the dummy module to your chosen outside module.

How long will module selection take?

A few minutes.

What if I suffer technical problems?

Please don't panic. You can call IT on [0191 208 5559](tel:01912085559) to log the issue. Alternatively, you can email elll@ncl.ac.uk and we will try to assist you.

Will I get my first choice of modules?

Not necessarily. We recommend that you login and submit your choices as soon as possible. We'd also recommend having back-up modules in mind, in case your first choices are full. This is why it's important to read the module descriptions and make your decisions before the portal opens.

I need further advice and guidance. Who should I ask?

If your question is in regards to a specific module, please contact the module leader listed in the module descriptions, via email. If the module leader is to be confirmed (TBC), the head of subject is listed and will also be able to answer your questions. If you don't understand your programme regulations please contact your Degree Programme Director (DPD): Daniel.Duncan@newcastle.ac.uk. If, after reading the module descriptions, you're struggling to decide which modules to take you can contact your personal tutor via email.

I had arranged to have a semester abroad next year. What should I do?

If you haven't done so already, please contact Ella Mershon (ella.mershon@newcastle.ac.uk) to discuss your options.

What if I change my mind or make a mistake?

If your choices do not comply with your regulations, they will be rejected and we will contact you to choose all your modules again – if you do not respond by the given deadline, modules will be chosen for you. If you change your mind you will be given the opportunity to change your modules at a later date. Further information will be released closer to the time.

Rules of your Programme

You must have a total of 120 credits with either a 60/60, 50/70 or 70/50 credit split across the semesters

Circle or highlight your choices, then add up your credits in the total column

Rules	Code	Module Title	Total Credits	Sem 1	Sem 2
Example	SEL1234	Example	20		20
Independent Work Pick 1	SEL3326	Short-form Dissertation 1: Linguistics and English Language	20	20	
	SEL3327	Short-form Dissertation 2: Linguistics and English Language	20		20
	SEL3329	Long-form Dissertation: Linguistics and English Language	40	20	20
	SEL3362	Dissertation: Long-Form Essay	40	20	20
	SEL3364	Independent Essay I (English Literature)*	20	20	
	SEL3365	Independent Essay II (English Literature)*	20		20
	SEL3400	Prose Portfolio**	40	20	20
	SEL3401	Theatre Script Portfolio**	40	20	20
	SEL3402	Poetry Portfolio**	40	20	20
	SEL3403	Screenwriting Portfolio**	40	20	20
	SEL3405	Dissertation: Digital Exhibition	40	20	20
Pre 1800 Literature Pick 1 or 2	SEL3417	Dissertation: Digital Edition	40	20	20
	SEL3379	Enlightened Romantics: A Revolution in Feeling	20		20
	SEL3412	Writing Liberty in the Romantic Era	20		20
	SEL3420	Fiction and the Philosophy of Terror: From the Supernatural to the Sublime	20		20
	SEL3422	War Writing: Heroic and Hostile Disclosures in Early Literature	20	20	
	SEL3444	Envious Show: Wealth, Power and Ambition in Narratives of the Country House, 1500-2000	20	20	
	SEL3451	Keats and Romantic Epic	20		20
Post 1800 Literature Pick 1 or 2	SEL3452	Shakespeare and Company: Gender, Power, Theatre	20	20	
	SEL3091	Sex and Money: Economies of the Victorian Novel	20		20
	SEL3346	Documentary Storytelling: Theory and Practice	20	20	
	SEL3347	Documentary Storytelling: Theory and Practice	20		20
	SEL3378	Landscapes of American Modernism	20		20
	SEL3395	Time, Change, and the Life Course in Literature of the Long Nineteenth Century	20		20
	SEL3397	American Poetry Now	20	20	
	SEL3409	Planetary Imaginations: Literature in the Time of Environmental Crisis	20		20
	SEL3428	Freedom and Imagination: US Literature 1850-1900	20	20	
	SEL3429	Deep North: Modern Literature of the North East	20	20	
	SEL3433	Popular Romance and Contemporary Political Discourse	20	20	
	SEL3434	Making Young Adult Literature	20		20
SEL3447	Exposing Ourselves: Privacy, Contemporary Performance and the Public Sphere	20		20	
SEL3449	Devolutionary Fictions: Literature, Politics, and the British State since 1960				



	SEL3450	Border Fictions: Migrations, Memory, Transgressions in Global Anglophone Literatures, 1900-Present Day	20	20	
<i>Language / Linguistics</i> Pick 2 or 3	SEL3005	Origins and Evolution of Language	20	20	
	SEL3056	Language in the City	20		20
	SEL3349	The History of Linguistic Ideas	20		20
	SEL3413	Language and Ageing	20		20
	SEL3430	Advanced Second Language Acquisition	20	20	
	SEL3431	Laboratory Phonology	20		20
	SEL3438	From Input to Output: The Blackbox of Child Language Acquisition	20		20
	SEL3441	Medieval and Early Modern Meaning: English Historical Semantics	20	20	
<i>Additional Options (if not already studied at Stage 2)</i> Pick 0 or 1	SEL2000	Phonological Theory	20	20	
	SEL2089	Syntactic Theory	20	20	
	SEL2091	Sociolinguistics	20	20	
	SEL2212	Early English: Texts, Patterns and Varieties	20		20
	SEL2219	Monsters, Misery & Miracles: Heroic Life in Old English Poetry	20		20
	SEL2229	Experimental Methods in Linguistics	20		20
	SEL2230	Multilingualism	20		20
	SEL2234	Pragmatic Theory	20	20	
	SEL2236	Intonation and Prosody	20		20
<i>Optional Outside Modules</i> Tick no more than 20 credits	SEL2237	Introduction to Second Language Acquisition	20		20
	SEL3005	Origins and Evolution of Language	20	20	
	NCL3007	Career Development for Final Year Students	20	10	10
	HSS3110	Outside Dummy Module: 10 credits in semester 1***	10	10	
	HSS3210	Outside Dummy Module: 10 credits in semester 2***	10		10
	HSS3120	Outside Dummy Module: 20 credits in semester 1***	20	20	
	HSS3220	Outside Dummy Module: 20 credits in semester 2***	20		20
TOTAL					

**Only available in exceptional circumstances and with the Degree Programme Director's and Module Leader's approval*

*** SEL2224, SEL2226 and SEL2227 are prerequisites, and students should see the Module Leader before choosing one of these modules*

****requires DPD approval. You will also need to complete a module change form at the beginning of Semester 1 in October 2024 to change your HSS code into your chosen outside module.*

Module Descriptions

*Further details of each module can be found in the module catalogue:
<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/module-catalogue/>*

SEL3326/7: Extended Study: Linguistics and English Language

Module Leader: Dr Gabriel Martinez Vera

Semester 1 or 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This module aims to allow students to develop in depth a topic which may draw on but also extend material studied in one (or more) of their English Language and Linguistics modules. To foster independent thinking and develop

research skills in critical thinking, writing and presentation. These aims will be achieved by students doing independent research in an English language/linguistics topic, and writing up their results in an extended essay (5000 words). In this, they will be helped by a supervisor, i.e. a member of staff with relevant expertise in the general topic area that the student is working in.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	100	5000 words

SEL3329: Long-form Dissertation: Linguistics and English Language

Module Leader: Dr Gabriel Martinez Vera

Semesters 1 & 2, 40 credits total

No pre-requisites

- The dissertation is an extended piece of research on an English Language/Linguistics topic that:
- Gives you the opportunity to investigate a substantial topic and is led by your intellectual interests. While it doesn't need to fit within the range of a module, it may grow out of a module you've studied.
- Develops a research question informed by an awareness of scholarship in the fields of English Language/Linguistics.
- Shows an understanding of and ability to work with methods and practices appropriate to the disciplines of English Language/Linguistics.
- Is developed over a period of time in dialogue with a supervisor.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Dissertation	End	100	10,000 words (written throughout both semesters)

SEL3362: Dissertation: Long-Form Essay

Module Leader: Professor James Annesley

Semesters 1 & 2, 40 credits total

Pre-requisites: Students will have completed **SEL2210 or SEL2218**, or have permission from the module leader to enrol on this module.

This module allows students to write at length on a self-directed topic in English Literature. Students will have considerable choice in terms of how they decide to proceed and could choose to orientate their research towards the analysis of written texts, or film or theatre, or indeed to shape a project that is interdisciplinary in character.

They will be asked to identify their likely area of interest at the end of their second year and be required to produce a research plan in the first few weeks of semester 1 of their third year. In this process they will be supported by the module leader and provided with a series of guided learning activities to support them in their initial planning. They will be assigned a supervisor and be expected to work with that supervisor over the course of the dissertation module. In regular meetings, they will discuss the overall design of their dissertation and have the opportunity to receive feedback on a submitted plan and annotated bibliography at the mid-module point. Further guided learning activities throughout the year will support student reflection on academic skills, independent research, approaches to argument and scholarly presentation.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Written exercise	Mid	10	The semester 1 written assessment will be a project plan of 500 words, plus an annotated bibliography of at least 15 items
Dissertation	End	90	A dissertation of between 8,000-10,000 words.

SEL3364/5: Independent Essay (English Literature)

Module Leader: Professor James Annesley

Semester 1 or 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This module allows students to write an essay on a self-directed topic in English Literature. Students will have considerable choice in terms of how they decide to proceed and could choose to orientate their research towards the analysis of written texts, or film or theatre, or indeed to shape a project that is interdisciplinary in character.

They will be asked to identify their likely area of interest at the start of the semester. In this process they will be supported by the module leader and provided with guided learning activities to support them in their initial planning. They will then be assigned a supervisor and be expected to work with that supervisor over the remaining months of the module. In regular meetings, they will discuss the overall design of their essay. There will be further support in the form of guided learning activities relating to academic skills, independent research, approaches to argument and scholarly presentation.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Written exercise	Mid	10	The mid-module will be assessed by a 250-word project plan and an annotated bibliography containing at least 10 items.
Essay	End	90	4,500-word essay, plus or minus 10%

SEL3400: Prose Portfolio

Module Leader: Dr Lars Iyer

Semesters 1 & 2, 40 credits total

Pre-requisites: Students should have taken **either SEL2224 or SEL2226 or SEL2227 or SEL2228** to be able to take this module.

This module aims to prepare a portfolio of work which may consist of: a complete long story; or a collection of short stories; or the opening chapters of a novel (plus a synopsis of 300-350 words).

To provide a self-reflexive commentary on the processes, influences, and themes of the work.

To develop skills in revision and feedback.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Portfolio	End	100	8500 words of creative prose PLUS 1500-word commentary

SEL3401: Theatre Script Portfolio

Module Leader: Mr Andrew Thompson

Semesters 1 & 2, 40 credits total

Pre-requisites: Students should have taken **either SEL2224 or SEL2226 or SEL2227 or SEL2228** to be able to take this module.

Over the course of one to one tutorials, small group work sessions and independent research and a final workshop students will develop a self-contained play, synopsis of the same and self-reflective essay. In small group work sessions students will explore playtexts, online theatre and live theatre (if available) and discuss this with other students in order to develop their understanding of contemporary theatre and present their findings to the tutor. In the one to one and small group work sessions they will reflect on drafts of their own creative work. In the final workshop they will listen to each other's work and offer critical feedback alongside their peers and tutor. The largest

portion of the syllabus is taken up by independent research in which students will develop drafts of their plays and self-reflective essay.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Portfolio	End	100	A self-contained one act play (4500-5000 words) plus 1500-word self-reflective essay.

SEL3402: Poetry Portfolio

Module Leader: Professor Sinead Morrissey

Semesters 1 & 2, 40 credits total

Pre-requisites: Students should have taken either **SEL2224** or **SEL2226** or **SEL2227** or **SEL2228** to be able to take this module.

Students will gain an understanding of the process of selecting and planning an extended creative project, and acquire an insight into the imaginative processes of writing at length and the affective power of language. They will understand key technical aspects of poetic form and expand their knowledge of a range of contemporary poetry. They will prepare and shape a portfolio of creative work consisting of a collection of about 20 poems or equivalent, and an accompanying reflection on the processes, influences, and themes of the work.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Portfolio	End	100	20 poems PLUS 1500-word commentary

SEL3403: Screenwriting Portfolio

Module Leader: Dr Tina Gharavi

Semesters 1 & 2, 40 credits total

Pre-requisites: Students should have taken either **SEL2224** or **SEL2226** or **SEL2227** or **SEL2228** to be able to take this module.

The syllabus for SEL3403 is a focused portfolio module for Screenwriting, encompassing self-directed study and supervision. It aims students:

1. To prepare a file of work which may consist of: approx. 20 pages of script for film or television
2. To show through the file a finally shaped work or body of work along with a self-reflexive commentary on the processes, influences, and themes of the work.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Portfolio	End	100	Approx. 4000 words (approx. 20 pages) of screenplay PLUS 1500-word commentary.

SEL3405: Digital Exhibition

Module Leader: Dr Ruth Connolly

Semesters 1 & 2, 40 credits total

Pre-requisites: Students must have studied either SEL2210 or SEL2218 to enrol on this module. Pre-requisite may be waived, under certain circumstances, on application to the DPD.

This module allows students to select a topic of their choice and to develop an online exhibition based on that topic. Students may draw on text, image, sound files and film clips to develop their exhibition. Students will learn:

1. how to choose and develop a topic suitable for an exhibition.
2. how to compose a narrative appropriate for the audiences accessing an exhibition.
3. how to use web-publishing platforms to create an online exhibition.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Design / creative project	End	85	Online exhibition: 30-60 items with accompanying word count of 3500-4500 words
Report	End	15	Project outline including research bibliography -1000-1500 words

SEL3417: Dissertation: Digital Edition

Module Leader: Dr James Cummings

Semesters 1 & 2, 40 credits total

No pre-requisites

This module gives students the opportunity to work with the Special Collections archive and to produce their own scholarly digital edition. In undertaking a digital edition students will learn:

1. how to work with archival primary sources
2. how to transcribe, edit, markup, and publish an edition
3. how to convey their editorial process to readers

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Research proposal	End of Sem 1	Formative	Edition plan including information about the student's choice of text, a summary of editorial work to be undertaken, and an annotated research bibliography. (500 words)
Portfolio	End	100	A Portfolio consisting of an Editorial Introduction to the Digital Scholarly Edition (4-5000 +/- 10% in length), and a Scholarly Digital Edition (4-5000 words +/- 10% worth of work).

SEL3379: Enlightened Romantics: A Revolution in Feeling

Module Leader: Dr Jennifer Orr

Semester 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a pre-1800 Literature module.

Since the Covid pandemic, psychological research has shown that although we are more likely to remember negative events than positive ones, in our day-to-day interactions, there is much more kindness in the world than we think (Hammond, 2022). The discipline of the Humanities demands that we consider life's 'big' questions from the perspective of different voices, asking critically why some voices have been, and continue to be, heard above others.

While the past might seem like a foreign country, writers were asking very similar questions in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth centuries. The Eighteenth Century did not see a global pandemic, but it was a period of revolutionary change, inspired by the philosophical ideas of Enlightenment which put the study of the common man at the centre of its philosophical world. It also saw the creation of the United Kingdom of Britain and Ireland out of the emerging British Empire, the consequences of which we are still living with today. It was one of the most exciting periods in the expansion of literacy and print culture; newspapers, lending libraries and sociable gatherings extended opportunities for people across society to read, debate ideas and to demand change. City merchants in coffeehouses, artisan weavers gathered in cottage bookclubs, and working people gathered in the local pub not only

engaged with these conversations but could see themselves become fitting subjects as writers sought to capture real life and local character.

Yet until recently, the version of Romanticism taught in schools was mostly confined to poetry written by middle class, white, English men. While we don't exclude these writers, we want to look at British Romanticism as a transnational movement where the idea of being a corner of an emerging Empire with a global reach was looked at critically. Some embraced it, some resisted it, and others engaged with it whilst seeking to preserve and animate their own local cultures on the page.

A growing literary marketplace which included larger numbers of middle- and working-class readers, as well as the wealthy, desired to hear an 'authentic' voice emerge from the page, one that engaged with the deepest human questions and echoed their own human desires and aspirations. The labouring-class poet took the marketplace by storm, particularly in the glamorous ploughman-poet figure of Robert Burns whose 'heaven-taught' poetic skill seemed to offer the British public a taste of the deepest feelings of the human heart in the real language of men. But there is more to the labouring poet than meets the eye. Engaged with the philosophy and politics of their day, they took ideas to the widest possible audience, subverting audience expectations to set their own literary agenda and paving the way for the marginalised voices for centuries to come.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Written exercise	End	100	4000-word essay
Written exercise	Mid	Formative	1000-word exercise

SEL3412: Writing Liberty in the Romantic Era

Module Leader: Professor Michael Rossington

Semester 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a pre-1800 Literature module.

The aim of this module is to examine the ways in which a selection of writings from the late 1790s to the early 1820s engage with the idea of liberty in the public sphere (Britain and continental Europe in the Napoleonic era) and the private sphere (the family, local attachments, the natural environment).

The focus of the module will be on a variety of writings by four authors: William Wordsworth, Dorothy Wordsworth, Percy Shelley and Mary Shelley. The genres studied include poems, journals, a travel narrative, a tragedy and a novella.

Attention will also be given to 'writing', that is, the manuscripts and early editions of the writers we study. Students will get to handle such objects in Newcastle University Library's Special Collections and, it is hoped, during an in-person field trip to Dove Cottage (Wordsworth Grasmere), and see others through a live, virtual talk by the Curator of Keats-Shelley House, Rome.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	85	Final essay (2750 words)
Reflective log	End	15	Reflection on participation and engagement with module (250 words)
Essay	Mid	Formative	Formative essay (1000 words)

SEL3420: Fiction and the Philosophy of Terror: From the Supernatural to the Sublime

Module Leader: Dr Leanne Stokoe

Semester 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a pre-1800 Literature module.

The aim of this module is to explore how the link forged between terror and inspiration in Edmund Burke's philosophy of the sublime, impacted the rise of supernatural (or 'Gothic') fiction during the late Enlightenment. Students will read a range of canonical and non-canonical texts, including literature written by authors whose Gothic influences are less well-known. We will focus particularly on the process through which Burke's philosophy illuminates contemporary unease towards gender, class, race, and nationhood, and examine how these concerns evolved throughout the eighteenth-century, Romantic and Victorian eras.

Students will gain a thorough knowledge of the historical and cultural contexts which shaped the emergence of Gothic fiction. They will also combine this knowledge with some key philosophies of the human mind, in order to question whether the supernatural is 'real', or whether it can be 'explained' via the lens of patriarchal anxiety, forbidden desire, or fear of 'the Other'. We will connect these historical and cultural changes with formal and generic developments in the literature of the period, paying particular attention to the way that writers re-imagined Gothic tropes to reflect upon their own age. The module culminates by considering the extent to which the sublime not only generates terror, but also drives us to channel this sensation into enlightenment and reform.

The syllabus may vary year to year, but key authors may include Horace Walpole, Ann Radcliffe, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Lord Byron, Jane Austen, John Keats, John William Polidori, Emily Brontë, Joseph Thomas Sheridan Le Fanu, Rudyard Kipling and William Butler Yeats.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	85	3500-word essay
Written exercise	End	15	500-word reflective piece on learning and participation
Portfolio	Mid	Formative	1000-word research plan and annotated bibliography for final essay preparation

SEL3442: War Writing: Heroic and Hostile Discourses in Early Literature

Module Leader: Dr Caoimhe Whelan

Semester 1, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a pre-1800 Literature module.

War Writing asks students to think about who medieval literature belongs to today. It examines ideas of patriotism, national identity, and the intersection of religion and race in narratives of 'us' and 'them'. It therefore revisits dialogues of warfare but, moreover, storytelling and the power of the narrative to manipulate readers and to create biases that still have influence today. The module gives students the opportunity to develop detailed knowledge of Medieval Literature and to broaden their understanding of the wider themes and contexts, the conceptual and contextual approaches, and the critical methods germane to the study of the literature of this period.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Research proposal	Mid	15	c. 600 words or equivalent
Written exercise	End	85	c. 3400 words or equivalent

SEL3444: Envious Show: Wealth, Power and Ambition in Narratives of the Country House, 1500-2000

Module Leader: Dr Ruth Connolly

Semester 1, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a pre-1800 Literature module.

The module traces the history and impact of the country house and estate in Britain and Ireland over five hundred years. This interdisciplinary module will consider how the country house forms a crucible in which ideologies of gender, race and class intersect with money, power and ambition. The country house's economic, political and cultural impact will be analysed using a diverse range of genres including but not limited to poetry, the eighteenth-century novel, estate papers, the boy's adventure story, tourist guides, the detective story, the crime novel and the Gothic memoir. Students will also study the history and fabric of a specific country house through estate papers and a field trip.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Portfolio	Mid	40	Choice of written or spoken assessment. Students taking the presentation option may opt to submit a video of their presentation if a live presentation (in-person or remotely) is not possible
Written exercise	End	60	2500-word written exercise which will assess students' overall understanding and develop their intellectual independence whilst supporting student choice and interests

SEL3451: Keats and Romantic Epic

Module Leader: Dr Meiko O'Halloran

Semester 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a pre-1800 Literature module.

This module explores John Keats's ambitions to revolutionise the highest literary form: epic poetry. We examine the personal motivations and broader cultural forces driving Keats's and his contemporaries' desire to write an epic poem for the Romantic age and for posterity—and the work they produced as part of their epic projects.

How did Keats negotiate the educational and professional class barriers that determined who could create great literature? In what ways does he respond to poetic forefathers who include Homer, Dante, and Milton? How and to what end did Keats and other poets of his day—like Wordsworth, Byron, and Shelley—rethink the role of the poet in society?

The focus of the module will be on Keats's poetry and selected letters—examined in relation to the work of other writers. Primary texts may include 'On First Looking into Chapman's Homer', 'When I have fears that I may cease to be', 'Sleep and Poetry', 'Endymion', the Odes, 'Hyperion' and 'The Fall of Hyperion'.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	85	3500-word essay

Prof Skill Assessment	End	15	Participation in seminar and study group discussions
Essay	Mid	Formative	1000-word practice essay

SEL3452: Shakespeare and Company: Gender, Power, Theatre

Module Leader: Dr Emma Whipday

Semester 1, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a pre-1800 Literature module.

This module explores performances of gender and power on the early modern stage and page. In a world where your clothes signalled your status, men were expected to rule the household, and women were expected to be chaste, silent, and obedient, the theatre turned societal expectations upside down: boy players performed women, rulers and tricksters disguised themselves, and Shakespeare's female protagonists frequently cross-dressed. On this drama-centred module, we will examine how masculinity, femininity, and social status were performed on- and off-stage in early modern playhouses. In so doing, we will situate plays in their wider theatrical, social, cultural, and political contexts, exploring the rich, complex, and often troubling world of Shakespeare and his contemporaries.

Possible module plays include plays by Shakespeare (e.g. Measure for Measure, Twelfth Night, Winter's Tale), by other prominent early modern dramatists (e.g. Thomas Middleton, Ben Jonson, John Webster, John Ford), and by counter-canonical writers (possibilities include 'anonymous' and elite female playwrights).

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Written exercise	Mid	25	Close reading (1000 words)
Essay	End	75	Essay (3000 words)

SEL3091: Sex and Money: Economies of the Victorian Novel

Module Leader: Dr Ella Dzelzainis

Semester 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

This module explores the Victorian period as a time of social and political turbulence – an era of contested gender relations and rapid commercial expansion – and considers how key Victorian novelists used fiction to examine the relationship between sex and money. Notable now for its plaiting together of a range of genres – including realism, melodrama, satire, gothic – the Victorian novel was, in its own time, often seen as a formal repository of social 'truth' and many novelists acquired the status of cultural commentators. We study a range of literary bestsellers from the period, roaming across a range of subgenres such as the silver-fork novel, satirical realism, Chartist fiction, the Bildungsroman, and the sensation novel. In addition to the idea of the Victorian marriage market, we will typically be considering the sexual and commercial connotations of topics such as women and luxury; homosexuality, homosociality and consumption; prostitution; counterfeiting and the idea of the gentleman; gender and speculation.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	75	3000 words
Written exercise	Mid	25	1000-word commentary linking text to context

Portfolio	Mid	Formative	Essay plan and bibliography to prepare for final essay submission
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SEL3346/7: Documentary Storytelling: Theory and Practice

Module Leader: Dr Tina Gharavi

Semester 1 OR 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

Through lectures, screenings, technical workshops, production practice and a short series of visiting lecturers, students will have the experience of studying documentary as a genre and becoming aware of its various strands. Students will give presentations on a range of filmmakers whose work will be introduced through the course of the semester, they will analyse methodologies including codes and conventions and be able to make some practical experiments with the medium.

Students will be required to give oral presentations, create a short documentary, and write an essay on an aspect of contemporary documentary practice or, alternatively, will be able to make a proposal to create one of a select number of final projects which can be practice based.

All practice-based final submissions (in lieu of a formal essay) will also have a written element in which students are expected to reflect on their experience of practice, self-analyse their completed production and place their work in a historical and contemporary context.

Not all students may be allowed automatically to follow the practice-based option. There may be a selection process for this according to the quality of applications and the availability of resources.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Design/creative project	End	80	Essay (of 3200 words) or Documentary Practice Film of 4 minutes (plus 2000-word reflective commentary)
Oral presentation	Mid	20	10-minute in class/on-line oral presentation and participation throughout the semester

SEL3378: Landscapes of American Modernism

Module Leader: Dr Fionnghuala Sweeney

Semester 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

What is modernity? Where does it happen? Who experiences it and what are the aesthetics of its expression?

This module explores a range of American literary responses to what it meant to be a 'modern' subject in the early 20th century. We will be looking at American modernist writers' attitudes to contemporary politics, to history, Europe and to transnational and regional landscapes in the United States.

There will be a dual emphasis on form and theme in this module, which aims to develop a vocabulary for critical analysis of both in the works studied. We will therefore consider the ways in which the asymmetries of modernity are expressed through focused reading of writers including Larsen, Faulkner, Fitzgerald, Cather, Hurston and

Steinbeck. We will explore the 'newness' of much of the work that emerged in the period, its interest in experimentation, its narrative concerns, its expression of the uneven experiences of American modernity.

We will also consider the ways in which these writers engage with debates around region, conflict, gender, migration, labour and race.

Texts could include:

F Scott Fitzgerald, *Tender is the Night*
 Nella Larsen, *Quicksand* and *Passing*
 William Faulkner, *The Sound and the Fury*
 Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
 Willa Cather, *The Professor's House*
 John Steinbeck, *The Grapes of Wrath*

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	60	2700-word essay
Essay	Mid	40	1800-word essay

SEL3395: Time, Change, and the Life Course in Literature of the Long Nineteenth Century

Module Leader: Dr Jacob Jewusiak

Semester 2, 20 credits

Pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

This module examines how characters mature and develop (or fail to do so) in the Victorian novel. As we will see, the way an individual is represented as growing up reflects deeply held beliefs about the value of societal progress and reform. Through a detailed analysis of Victorian novels, we will reflect upon how the human lifespan changes in response to the burgeoning modernity of the nineteenth century. We will explore how the novel form contributes to the construction of subjectivities across the life course and consider a broad range of questions, including the following: How did social expectations about gender and sexuality change with age? How did industrialisation create and shut down opportunities for young and elderly workers? What role did race and empire play in the perception of ageing? How was the concept of the life course informed by the partitioning of the novel into a beginning, middle, and end?

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	Mid	25	Close reading essay (1000 words)
Research paper	End	75	Research essay (3000 words)
Portfolio	Mid	Formative	Essay plan and bibliography to prepare for final essay

SEL3397: American Poetry Now

Module Leader: Dr Mark Byers

Semester 1, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

This module explores American poetry from 2000 to the present. Placing an emphasis on innovative and/or experimental writing, the module examines the ways recent American poetry has confronted the public concerns and social crises of the United States in the period, notably those of identity, technology, racism, inequality, and the environment.

Over the course of the module, we will consider a range of forms and techniques associated with American poetry in the twenty-first century: its emphasis on the materiality/visuality of the text; its use of ‘found’ texts and procedural techniques; the emergence of documentary writing and ecopoetics, and its concern with the politics of literary form. We will also ask how American poetry responded to the major social and political events and transitions of the period, including the arrival of social media, the Financial Crisis and Occupy movement, and ongoing ecological crisis.

The module aims to give students a firm grounding in the formal practices and theoretical issues associated with recent American poetry. In particular, the module will give students an opportunity to explore the much-debated relationship between literary form and social experience.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	60	2500-word critical essay
Written exercise	Mid	40	1500-word close reading

SEL3409: Planetary Imagination: Literature in the Time of Environmental Crisis

Module Leader: Dr Ella Mershon

Semester 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

This module examines the entanglement of human and earth histories on an increasingly imperilled planet. While this entanglement has prompted geoscientists to speculate that we have entered a new geological epoch—the Anthropocene—this term also raises significant questions for literary studies as it suggests that we can no longer decouple “culture” from “nature.” Taking up the intervention of the human into earth systems, this module will use the provocation of the concept of the Anthropocene to consider how literature can help us understand, imagine, and interpret our relationship to geo-histories that eclipse the scale of human life.

This module will begin in the nineteenth century, when the widespread use of fossil fuels launched modern industrialization, when imperial powers “scrambled” to seize natural resources across the globe, and when the scientific discoveries of geological and evolutionary timescales revolutionized historical consciousness. We will discuss Victorian literature and scientific thought to understand how emerging generic and narrative conventions shaped representations of the human’s place in inhuman timescales. In the latter half of the module, we will turn to the twenty-first century and consider how postcolonial, Black, and Indigenous writers address these Victorian legacies that continue to shape the contemporary literary imagination.

Readings from Victorian literature, such as H. G. Wells, *The Time Machine* and Joseph Conrad, *The Heart of Darkness*, will be read alongside excerpts from nineteenth-century geology and evolutionary biology as well as contemporary environmental literature and ecocriticism. Readings from contemporary literature will include N. K. Jemisin, *The Fifth Season* and Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner, *Iep Jaltok: Poems from a Marshallese Daughter*.

KEYWORDS: Anthropocene; climate crisis; nature/culture; literature/science; environmental justice; race and environmental racism; Indigenous literature and traditional knowledge; science fiction and speculative fiction; poetry

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	75	Final project. Students choose one of three options: critical, creative or editorial project

Oral presentation	Mid	25	Group presentation (prepared as a group or, where appropriate & only with prior agreement from the module leader, individually)
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SEL3429: Deep North: Modern Literature of the Northeast

Module Leader: Dr Alex Niven

Semester 1, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

This module will chart the development of a distinctive cultural imaginary in the North East of England from 1900 to the present, through study of its novels, poems, plays, films and political writings.

The North East is one of the historic birthplaces of literacy in the British Isles, though it has also often been marginalised from the centralised culture of the English literary establishment. This module will explore the fate of North East writing (in the broadest sense) from the post-Victorian era to the twenty-first century, a time when the region's slow industrial decline was offset by a series of experiments in imaginative idealism, energetic realism and countercultural eccentricity.

We will try to assess whether the modern history of North East cultural production offers any clues as to how the region and its people might move forward in the socially, environmentally and constitutionally vexed climate of the twenty-first century. We will also try to work out how such subjects affect our own status as temporary, putative or permanent citizens of Newcastle and its environs.

NB: For the purposes of this module, "the North East of England" is defined as the historic counties of Northumberland (plus Newcastle/Tyneside), County Durham (including modern Wearside and parts of modern Teesside) and the Teesside portion of Yorkshire (i.e. Middlesbrough and its environs).

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	100	4000-word comparative and critical essay
Written exercise	Mid	Formative	Preparation for final assessment

SEL3428: Freedom and Imagination: US Literature 1850-1900

Module Leader: Professor James Annesley

Semester 1, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

Freedom and Imagination will give students the chance to develop their knowledge of US literature from the second half of the 19th Century by reading texts in terms mediated by an account of the social and historical contours of US society in the period, particularly the pressures created by Slavery/Post Slavery, the American Civil War, Westward Expansion and the annexation of territories from Native Americans, First Wave Feminism in the US (following the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848) and other relevant social contexts. Through the course of the module, we will be reading Henry David Thoreau's, Walden, Kate Chopin's, The Awakening, Charles Chesnut's, The Marrow of Tradition, Frederick Douglass', Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass and other texts from the period.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	85	3000-word critical essay

Prof skill assessment	End	15	Participation in class activities
Essay	Mid	Formative	1500-word essay

SEL3433: Popular Romance and Contemporary Political Discourse

Module Leader: Dr Rosalind Haslett

Semester 1, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

This module will explore how popular romance (novels, plays, performances, films, pop songs) reflect and respond to current events. Students will consider the role that narrative, performance and imagination play in our everyday lives, using a range of research methods to analyse performance events and reading communities and/or to respond creatively to the texts we encounter.

The module has three central characteristics:

1. It is based in the idea that narrative tropes and dramatic scenarios provide social scripts that inform the way that people interact in personal, social and/or political contexts
2. It considers a range of different kinds of texts comparatively, including: plays, performances, novels and audiobooks; oral histories and personal testimonies; political speeches and debate; government and academic reports; social media campaigns and podcasts.
3. It requires students to participate in weekly research activities and to maintain an independent critical/creative writing practice.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Portfolio	End	100	A research portfolio of 4000 words or equivalent
Portfolio	Mid	Formative	A draft of work intended for the end-of-module portfolio. 1000 words or equivalent

SEL3434: Making Young Adult Literature

Module Leader: Dr Lucy Pearson

Semester 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

Teenage literature, books for new adults, YA... while the name may have changed, specialist publishing for adolescent readers has existed in the UK since (at least) the 1950s. But how have people thought about this category of literature, and how has it been marketed, circulated and read? This module will explore the history of young adult books in the UK. It will consider:

- How ideas about adolescents and their relationship to literature have changed since the early twentieth century
- The poetics of young adult literature: do these books have distinctive literary characteristics, or is this just a marketing category?
- The ways in which books for this age group have been published and marketed

We will consider the influence of publishing traditions from elsewhere, but will focus on texts first published in the UK.

Students will have the opportunity to use archives and special collections to support the book history / publishing dimensions of the module. We will consider what the material book can tell us about attitudes to books for adolescents, and examine how publishers and authors have approached the field.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Written exercise	End	75	2500 words
Oral presentation	Mid	20	25 minutes group activity / presentation. Alternative assessment (in case of PEC): 5 minutes individual recorded activity / presentation
Computer assessment	Mid	5	Multiple choice quiz

SEL3447: Exposing Ourselves: Privacy, Contemporary Performance and the Public Sphere

Module Leader: Dr Helen Freshwater

Semester 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

How do theatre and performance help us establish what can be shared in public and what cannot? What role do they play in the maintenance and negotiation of the boundary between public and private realms? How does contemporary performance address the tension inherent in a form which has often involved sharing representations of intimate and highly personal experiences with groups of strangers? How does contemporary performance engage with concerns about data capture, state surveillance and unwanted public exposure?

This module explores these questions and many others as it reflects on theatre's capacity to expose and to conceal. It offers an overview of the way that theatre negotiates the distinctions between private and public realms, and explores how contemporary performance addresses and expresses growing concerns about privacy. It develops skills of performance analysis and provides opportunities to make direct connections between theories of privacy and recent productions of performance, enabling reflection on performance's role and function in contemporary culture.

The module involves analysis of live and recorded performance as well as scripts, engaging with a number of productions and plays across a range of genres and forms. It places these 'primary texts' in dialogue with broader theoretical issues including the definition of privacy and our understanding of the constitution of the public sphere. These theories provide a framework for viewing, reading and analysing a range of contemporary plays and performances that enable us to reflect on the ways in which theatre and performance shape and are shaped by changes in cultural conventions relating to the public presentation of personal and intimate experience. The module is designed to enable creative as well as critical explorations of these issues. Students are given the opportunity to select between critical and creative options for their final assessment submission.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Reflective log	Mid	15	The reflective log documents participation and engagement, such as contributions to study group presentations and peer review
Portfolio	End	85	Either individual performance presentation and commentary or essay (3500 words)

SEL3449: Devolutionary Fictions: Literature, Politics, and the British State since the 1960

Module Leader: Dr Chloe Ashbridge

Semester 2, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

This module traces the relationship between the British state and literary production since 1960. Placing an emphasis on ideological contexts of literary publication, marketisation, and reception, Devolutionary Fictions considers the political function of literary texts during a period of national instability. The module will therefore ask how challenges to the British state have been registered culturally. Students will pay close attention to developments in narrative style and form - including social realism, the demotic mode, the historical novel – as well as the ways in which the cultural industries have been inflected with government agendas. In doing so, students will gain in-depth knowledge of the intertwining of literature and politics in Britain since 1960. Topics may include but are not limited to: Scottish devolution and the post-Thatcher novel; multiculturalism and Black British writing; English regionalism and book prize culture; and the cultural and creative industries (particularly Northern publishing).

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Presentation	Mid	15	25-minute group activity / presentation (to be delivered in class) Alternative assessment (in case of PEC): 5 minutes individual recorded activity / presentation.
Essay	End	85	3500-word comparative essay

SEL3450: Border Fictions: Migration, Memory and Transgression in Global Anglophone Literatures, 1900-1960

Module Leader: Dr Shalini Sengupta

Semester 1, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

This is a post-1800 Literature module.

This module examines how borders have been imagined, narrated, resisted, and rewritten in global Anglophone literature since the late twentieth century. Far from creating a borderless world, contemporary globalisation has generated a proliferation of borders. Borders begin with us, long before they are ever inscribed in the land. They are, instantaneously, points of arrival and departure: equally a beginning and an end; equally crucial and immaterial. Every border is—as we shall see—its own story, bestowed with new contemporary relevance.

At the heart of this module lies an attempt to interrogate what a border really is and understand its relevance in the context of ongoing migration and the current intensification of border regimes. Students will begin with an understanding of political borders, or the racial ordering of geographical space, and gradually move on to an understanding of how borders are felt internally in the body. We will look at diverse material to study borders that are interpersonal, inter-species, affective, psychological, and linguistic. Topics may include, but are not limited to: the Partition of the Indian Subcontinent in 1947 (one of the largest instances of border-crossings in human history); the unacknowledged traumas of the Partition that diffuse into the lives of a scattered diaspora; border control, surveillance, and passports; linguistic borders; gender/caste/race/sexuality as methods of bordering; human-nonhuman borders or thresholds.

The module will maintain a postcolonial and global (particularly diasporic and/or Black British) focus throughout, which means that students will get the opportunity to step beyond Anglo-American literary borders in their research and writing.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	80	One essay of 3000 words (that can be based on a self-created question)
Written exercise	Mid	20	A creative assessment (a design for a book cover/research poster/zine); OR 1000 words of close reading of a primary text in the module that critically reflects on the concept of borders.

SEL3005: Origins and Evolution of Language

Module Leader: Dr Christine Cuskley

Semester 1, 20 credits

No pre-requisites

Aims: To examine recent theories of language origins and evolution from a linguistic perspective; to examine work on the physical evidence concerning the origins of language, especially from a linguistic perspective; to consider additional evidence from a biological, anthropological, neurological and palaeontological perspective.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	50	2000 words
Written exercise	Mid	50	1500 words (short answer)
Written exercise	Mid	Formative	Formative quizzes throughout the semester including built in feedback, allowing students to assess their comprehension of readings.

SEL3056: Language in the City

Module Leader: Dr Daniel Duncan

Semester 2, 20 credits

Pre-requisites: SEL2091: Sociolinguistics

The module aims to:

- Examine the role of demographics, development, and public policy in driving language variation and change in metropolitan areas
- Introduce advanced terms, concepts and premises underlying sociolinguistic research, with particular respect to the variationist paradigm
- Give a broad understanding of sociolinguistic fieldwork techniques
- Apply the terminological distinctions, principles, methods and concepts used within these sub-disciplines to actual and novel case studies that explore the inter-relationships between language and society.
- Further explore specific topics at the community and national level.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Reflective log	Mid	33	Reflective photojournal – 1000 words
Essay	End	65	2500 words
Prof skill assessment	Mid	2	Submission of DECTE Access form

SEL3349: The History of Linguistic Ideas

Module Leader: Dr Geoff Poole

Semester 2, 20 credits

Pre-requisites: SEL1027 & SEL2000

Aims:

1. Familiarize the student with different approaches to the study of human language from antiquity to the present.
2. Examine the major intellectual and cultural trends of the societies in which these approaches were formulated.
3. Enable the student to appreciate both the role that intellectual and cultural contexts play in the development of theories of language and the impact that theories of language can have on intellectual and cultural trends.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Written exercise	End	75	3000-word final essay on a topic of the student's choice
Written exercise	Mid	25	1000-word essay
Written exercise	Mid	Formative	500-word essay
Written exercise	Mid	Formative	250-word peer feedback exercise

SEL3413: Language and Ageing

Module Leader: Dr Heike Pichler

Semester 1, 20 credits

Pre-requisites: SEL1032 - Students who did not take SEL2091: Sociolinguistics at Stage 2 are strongly advised to consult the module leader before registering for this module.

Incoming exchange students need a good foundation variationist sociolinguistics (esp. in terms of fieldwork methods & data analysis).

This advanced module in sociolinguistics takes a multi-disciplinary approach to examining patterns of language variation and change in later life. It teaches students the key methodological challenges and theoretical imperatives for studying the language use of older adults, and explores with them how insights from gerontology, geriatrics and cognitive psychology can enrich our understanding of the mechanisms underpinning language variation and change in older adults. Students will learn to apply the following to the analysis and interpretation of vernacular speech data from older adults: advanced methodological tools from variationist sociolinguistics; ongoing discoveries about language and ageing from across the language sciences; and multi-disciplinary insights into the complexity of age and ageing from the health and social sciences. Students will also participate in reciprocal intergenerational learning activities with older community members, which will enhance their intergenerational communication skills and support their development as socially responsive and responsible citizens in age-friendly communities. These activities will also ensure that students' findings from their project work reach a wider audience of non-linguists.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Research paper	Mid	75	2750-word essay reporting results of data analysis exercise
Report	End	25	500-word report (prepared as a group or, where appropriate, individually)
Written exercise	Mid	Formative	500-word research paper outline or abstract

SEL3430: Advanced Second Language Acquisition

Module Leader: Dr Sujeewa Hettiarachchi

Semester 1, 20 credits

Pre-requisites: SEL1027: Introduction to the Structure of Language 1 & (TBC)

This module will advance students' understanding of different aspects and theories of Second Language Acquisition (SLA). It will explore how different acquisition contexts (e.g. classroom learning vs. community acquisition), different external factors (e.g. cognitive, psychological, social), and different literacy levels affect second language development. It will also examine how universals and first-language transfer affect second language acquisition across different linguistic domains (morpho-syntax, phonology, lexicon). Students will acquire advanced knowledge of SLA theories and develop advanced skills in analysing second language data.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	Mid	30	1500 words
Essay	End	70	2500 words
Report	Mid	Formative	500-word report on an aspect of SLA

SEL3431: Laboratory Phonology

Module Leader: Dr Niamh Kelly

Semester 2, 20 credits

Pre-requisites: SEL1027 & SEL2000

This module aims to develop students' research skills by bringing together phonological theory and experimental techniques. The module will cover skills related to reading literature in Laboratory Phonology, becoming familiar with experimental techniques in the field, and designing experiments.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Research paper	End	75	2500-3000 words
Lab report	Mid	25	1000 words

SEL3438: From Input to Output: The Blackbox of Child Language Acquisition

Module Leader: Dr Emma Nguyen & Dr Rebecca Woods

Semester 2, 20 credits

Pre-requisites: SEL2235: CHiLD: Current Hypotheses in Language Development

Language is an incredibly complex system of knowledge. Not only are there multiple levels of representation - sounds and words and phrases and whole utterances and meanings - but within a given level, even simple forms can be derived from multiple interacting pieces of knowledge. Yet as speakers of any given language, we are often blissfully unaware of how much we need to know in order to be able to communicate with language.

One of the most striking things about language is that all typically-developing children learn their native language flawlessly, especially when compared to adults trying to accomplish the same task. This is true despite adults' superior cognitive skills. Children of the world seem somehow suited for language acquisition in a way that adult humans - and other animals - are not.

In this module, we will consider theoretical approaches and empirical methodologies to child language development and evaluate major empirical findings in the field. A broader aim of this module is to prepare students for conducting

independent child language research, including identifying research gaps, formulating research questions and hypotheses, developing methods of data collection and analysis.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Written examination	Mid	40	In-person exam to objectively test student understanding of foundational notions of learning strategies and empirical discoveries in Child Language Acquisition.
Research proposal	End	60	Experimental research proposal: 2500 words (or equivalent) written exercise expanding upon a chosen topic in child language acquisition and detailing a proposed experiment

SEL3441: Medieval and Early Modern Meaning: English Historical Semantics

Module Leader: Dr Adam Mearns

Semester 1, 20 credits

Pre-requisites: SEL1028: Introduction to the Structure of Language 2

Students whose degree programme did not involve the pre-requisite module SEL1028 at Stage 1 will be able to take SEL3441 if they completed at least two of the other introductory Language/Linguistics modules at Stage 1: i.e. SEL1027 plus either SEL1008 or SEL1032. For incoming exchange students: basic introductory courses in linguistics and some experience in language change or the history of the English language would be useful.

This module gives you the chance to explore a fundamental aspect in the history of the English language: the meanings of words and the ways in which they have changed across the centuries, from Old English (c.500-1100 AD), through Middle English (c.1100-1500), and into Early Modern English (c.1500-1750). We will examine both the evolving meanings of individual words and the crucial issue of how groups of related words work together in lexical and semantic fields, with changes in individual terms often having much wider implications for the way in which certain areas of life and human experience were conceived, discussed, and represented in the literature of earlier periods. To add depth to our investigation of these issues, we will also consider the sociohistorical contexts and their impact, e.g. in terms of the way in which key events established channels for loanwords from other languages to enter, and change, the vocabulary of English. As well as helping you to develop a detailed understanding of the English lexicon in its historical context, this module provides an opportunity for you to enrich your understanding and skills in the wider study of language and linguistics in two key areas. First, it will introduce you to current frameworks that inform not only the study of English historical semantics, but of lexical semantics in general and linguistic features more broadly, encouraging you to make a critical evaluation of their strengths and weaknesses as you apply them to the study of medieval and early modern English words. Second, with the module's focus on empirical data, you will be further enhancing your general analytical skills and your familiarity in working with cutting-edge digital resources, in the form of the online dictionaries, thesauruses, databases, and corpora of historical English texts that will be at the heart of your research.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Written exercise	Mid	20	750-word 'lexical sketch'
Essay	End	80	3000-word essay

SEL2000: Phonological Theory

Module Leader: Dr Rory Turnbull

Semester 1, 20 credits

Students may take up to one stage 2 module, students may not take the same module twice.

Pre-requisites: Students must have completed **SEL1027** or have the permission of the module leader to enrol on this module. Erasmus students and transfers in from other universities must have an appropriate background, i.e. an understanding of basic phonetics.

A course in intermediate phonology, this module builds on the foundations laid in SEL1027, introducing theoretical models of phonology. The aim is for students to investigate a number of phonological models, including both derivational and optimality theoretic, in order for them to come to an understanding of how evidence and argumentation are used in phonological theory building.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Problem solving exercise	Mid	20	This will consist of a data analysis problem set
Essay	End	80	2000-word essay

SEL2089: Syntactic Theory

Module Leader: Dr Geoffrey Poole

Semester 1, 20 credits

Students may take up to one stage 2 module, students may not take the same module twice.

Pre-requisites: Students must have completed **SEL1027**, or have the permission of the module leader to enrol on this module.

Following on from SEL1027, this module provides a more comprehensive and deeper understanding of the syntax of natural language with modern English as the main object of study. It is a required course for students on Linguistics degrees, but is open to any student who has taken SEL1027. Topics to be addressed include phrase structure (X'-Theory), argument structure (theta-roles), Case, agreement, noun phrase structure, binding, various kinds of movement, ellipsis, locality, Logical Form, architecture of grammar, syntactic variation. Not necessarily all of these are covered every year.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Written exam	End	75	24 hr take-home exam. Any notes, books, materials, internet, etc. may be used (3000 words)
Essay	End	25	1000-word précis
Written exercise	Mid	Formative	Portfolio of semi-weekly problem sets (pre and post seminar)

SEL2091: Sociolinguistics

Module Leader: Dr Daniel Duncan

Semester 1, 20 credits

Students may take up to one stage 2 module, students may not take the same module twice.

No pre-requisites

This module builds on the knowledge of language variation & change and data analysis skills obtained in SEL1032 in order to develop a fuller understanding of sociolinguistics. It introduces this domain of linguistics from two perspectives:

- Microsociolinguistics, the study of language variation and change at the level of individuals, groups, and communities. With particular emphasis on the framework of variationist sociolinguistics, the module explores how linguistic variation is influenced by societal factors like social class and ethnicity.
- Macrosociolinguistics, the study of language at the societal level. With particular emphasis on the sociology of language, the module explores how society shapes broader linguistic outcomes like language maintenance or shift, language endangerment, and the development of pidgins and creoles.

This module refines data analysis skills by further developing quantitative reasoning skills. It adds basic inferential statistics to the analytical toolkit and explores how these are used to refine and test linguistic hypotheses.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Reflective log	Mid	20	Sociolinguistic interview and reflection, 500 words in total
Portfolio	End	80	Quantitative and qualitative research write up, 3000 words in total
Problem solving exercise	Mid	Formative	N/A

SEL2212: Early English: Texts, Patterns and Varieties

Module Leader: Dr William Van der Wurff

Semester 2, 20 credits

Students may take up to one stage 2 module, students may not take the same module twice.

Pre-requisites: Students must have completed **SEL1032**, or have the permission of the module leader to enrol on this module. For incoming exchange students: basic introductory course(s) in linguistics.

Module aims:

- To develop students' competence in reading texts from a variety of periods in the history of English;
- To develop students' ability to analyse linguistic features of texts;
- To build on the knowledge and skills relating to language change gained in SEL1032 (Language Variation and Change);
- To enhance students' knowledge of the processes by which the English language has evolved into its present-day state;
- To develop competence in using dictionaries, historical corpora and other electronic resources.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	Mid	40	1500 words
Written exercise	End	60	Section 1: text analysis. Section 2: essay (c.2500 words total)

SEL2219: Monsters, Misery & Miracles: Heroic Life in Old English Poetry

Module Leader: Dr Adam Mearns

Semester 1, 20 credits

Students may take up to one stage 2 module, students may not take the same module twice.

No pre-requisites

This module introduces you to the poetry of the early middle ages in the original Old English, thereby giving you the opportunity to study the very beginnings of literature in the English language.

Old English poetry covers a wide range of genres, including wisdom literature, religious verse, heroic and elegiac poetry, and innuendo-laden riddles. From this range of material, we will explore literature that negotiates between the Germanic, heroic, Christian, and quotidian cultures that pervaded the age and were especially relevant to the North of England. As such, this module is uniquely placed to address topics of race, gender, and othering, which have a deep and sometimes troubling association with an English past.

We will focus on three main poetic texts in their original language. We will start by examining the earliest dream poem in English, instrumental in establishing the conventions for describing religious experience, *The Dream of the Rood*. This will be followed by a deeply moving poem about loss and loneliness, *The Wanderer*. Finally, we will examine one of the greatest poems about heroes, monsters, and warfare, *Beowulf*.

You will 'slow read' these texts by creating your own translations of the original Old English. Through this process, you will gain an understanding of the key features of the language and its poetics and, in doing so, you will have the opportunity to examine and reflect on your own poetic impulses. You will also situate these texts in their literary contexts by reading a wider range of other Old English poetry in translation, as well as reflect on the place of Old English literature today.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Essay	End	100	3000-word essay
Written exercise	Mid	Formative	N/A

SEL2229: Experimental Methods in Linguistics

Module Leader: Dr Christine Cuskley

Semester 2, 20 credits

Students may take up to one stage 2 module, students may not take the same module twice.

Pre-requisites: Students must have completed **SEL1027** and **SEL1032**, or have the permission of the module leader to enrol on this module.

This course provides a broad overview of the foundational issues with respect to experimental methodology in linguistics. Lectures will cover theoretical and philosophical considerations, methodological approaches and issues, and tools used in data collection. By the end of the course, students will be able to critically evaluate experimental research in linguistics, from both theoretical and methodological points of view. Alongside this, students will learn the basic skills necessary for carrying out their own experimental research project, including experimental design, data wrangling, and statistical analysis.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Practical	Mid	30	Data wrangling and analysis
Essay	End	70	2000-word novel experimental design
Research proposal	Mid	Formative	Experimental design proposal

SEL2230: Multilingualism

Module Leader: Dr Rebecca Woods

Semester 2, 20 credits

Students may take up to one stage 2 module, students may not take the same module twice.

Pre-requisites: Students must have taken **SEL2235** in semester 1 to enrol on this module.

This module focuses on the acquisition and use of two or more languages throughout the lifespan of an individual. It considers how two or more languages are represented in one mind, how languages interact in use, as well as building on and extending students' knowledge of child language acquisition and language change. It also considers issues around the role of languages in shaping identity and society.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Practical/lab report	Mid	40	Creation of a small scale multilingual dataset using CHILDES/SLAN with explicit description and discussion of methods employed and decisions made. 1500 words
Written exercise	End	60	Detailed analysis of a provided dataset, linking to broader issues in multilingual language acquisition and/or use. 2000 words

SEL2234: Pragmatic Theory

Module Leader: Dr Gabriel Martinez Vera

Semester 1, 20 credits

Students may take up to one stage 2 module, students may not take the same module twice.

Pre-requisites: SEL1027 & SEL1028

This module concentrates on the study of meaning at the level of pragmatics, i.e., on how we create meaning from the linguistic expressions that we utter in context (e.g., in exchanges). It introduces foundational notions in pragmatics and provides tools to analyse phenomena in the field. It further discusses pragmatics and its relation to other domains of grammar and introduces different research methods to collect and annotate data.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Written exercise	Mid	25	1000-word written exercise
Essay	End	75	2500-word essay

SEL2235: CHiLD Current Hypotheses in Language Development

Module Leader: Dr Emma Nguyen & Dr Rebecca Woods

Semester 1, 20 credits

Students may take up to one stage 2 module, students may not take the same module twice.

Pre-requisites: SEL1027

Language is an incredibly complex system of knowledge. Not only are there multiple levels of representation - sounds and words and phrases and whole utterances and meanings - but within a given level, even simple forms can be derived from multiple interacting pieces of knowledge. Yet as speakers of any given language, we are often blissfully unaware of how much we need to know in order to be able to communicate with language.

One of the most striking things about language is that all typically-developing children learn their native language flawlessly, especially when compared to adults trying to accomplish the same task. This is true despite adults' superior cognitive skills. Children of the world seem somehow suited for language acquisition in a way that adult humans - and other animals - are not.

In this module, we survey the broad topic of language acquisition, focusing not only on children's developmental trajectory, but also on what knowledge of language is, how language acquisition relates to cognition in general, and acquisition of language by speakers with sensory or cognitive deficits.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Written exam	Mid	60	In-person exam to objectively test student understanding of foundational notions and empirical discoveries in Child Language Acquisition
Written exercise	End	40	Abstracts written exercise: Students will write two conference-level abstracts distilling two linguistic studies reporting on child language acquisition. 1000 words or equivalent

SEL2236: It's not what you say, it's how you say it: Prosody and intonation

Module Leader: Dr Niamh Kelly & Dr Rory Turnbull

Semester 2, 20 credits

Students may take up to one stage 2 module, students may not take the same module twice.

Pre-requisites: SEL1027

This module provides an overview of the functions of prosody and intonation in English and other spoken languages. Students will develop an understanding of both the abstract theory and practical methods used in investigating this multifaceted aspect of spoken language.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Written exercise	Mid	25	1000-word report
Written exercise	End	75	3000-word research project

SEL2237: Introduction to Second Language Acquisition

Module Leader: Dr Sujeewa Hettiarachchi

Semester 2, 20 credits

Students may take up to one stage 2 module, students may not take the same module twice.

Pre-requisites: SEL1027

To provide students with an introduction to the main theories, questions, methods of investigation and discoveries in second language acquisition. To prepare students for independent research projects in second language acquisition.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Problem solving exercise	Mid	50	2000-word problem-solving exercise
Essay	End	50	2000-word essay

NCL3007: Career Development for Final Year Student

Module Leader: Dr Darrin Beattie

Semesters 1 & 2, 20 credits total

Pre-requisites: Details of pre-requisite requirements can be found at:

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/careers/modules/cdm/registration/>

This is a Careers module offered as an optional / additional module.

The Career Development module offers students the opportunity to undertake work-related learning in a variety of environments, both on and off the University campus. Through engagement with the module, students will learn about themselves, enhancing their employability and personal enterprise skills as well as contributing towards meeting the aims of the host organisation.

Component	When Set	%	Comment
Portfolio 1	Mid	50	N/A
Portfolio 2	End	50	N/A