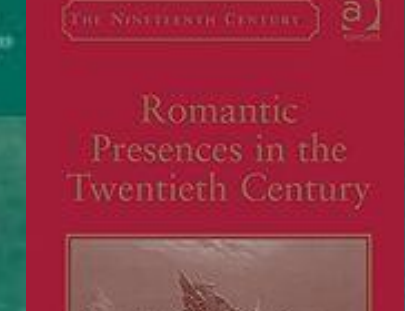
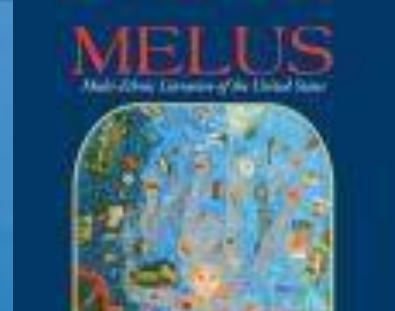
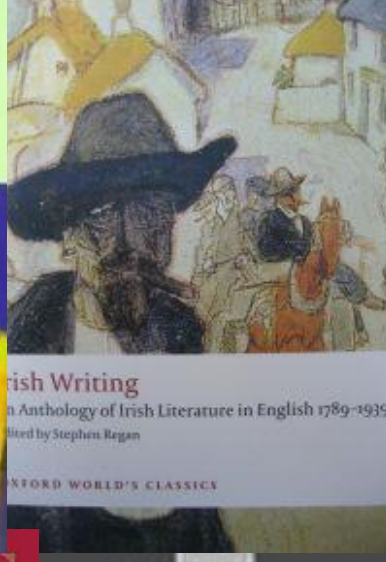
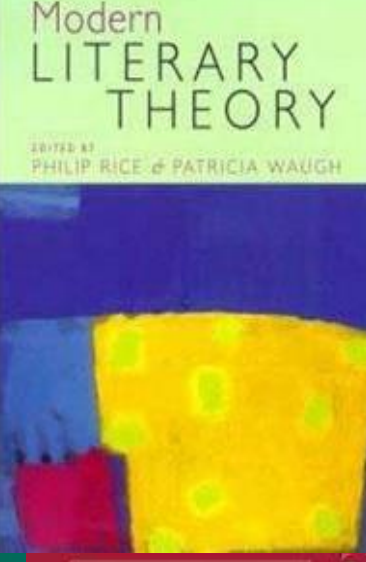
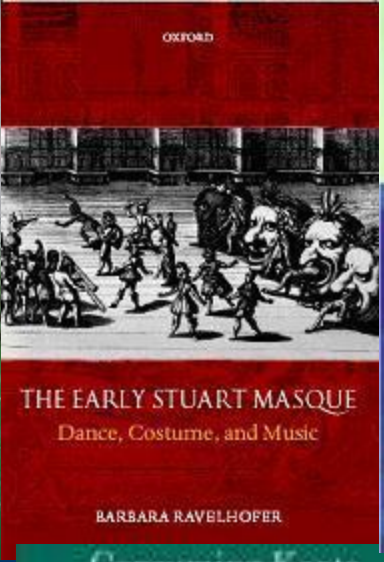
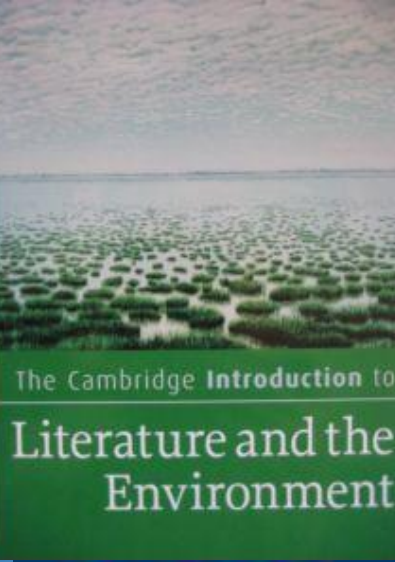
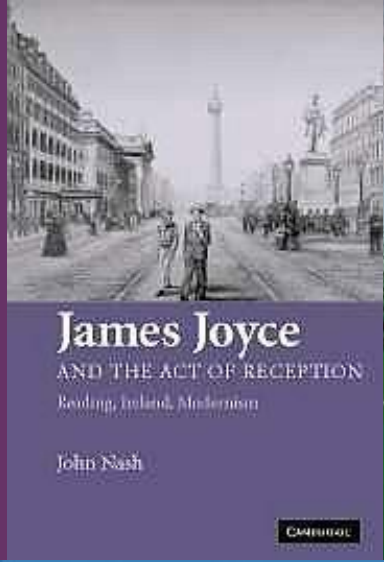
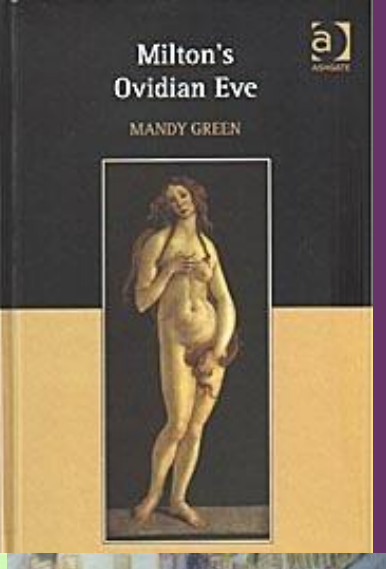
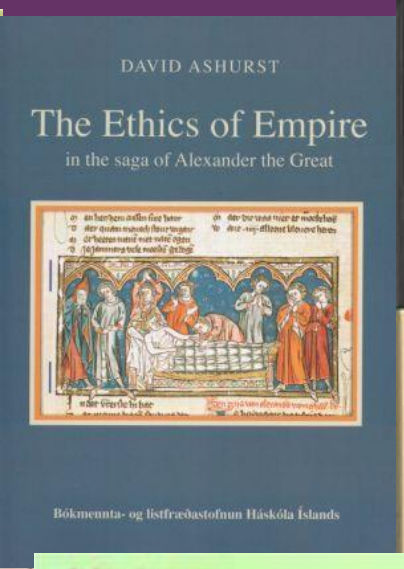
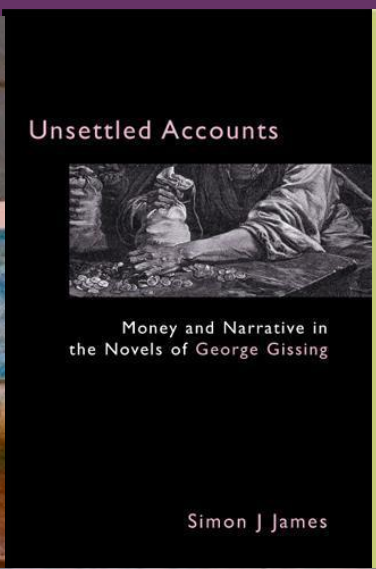
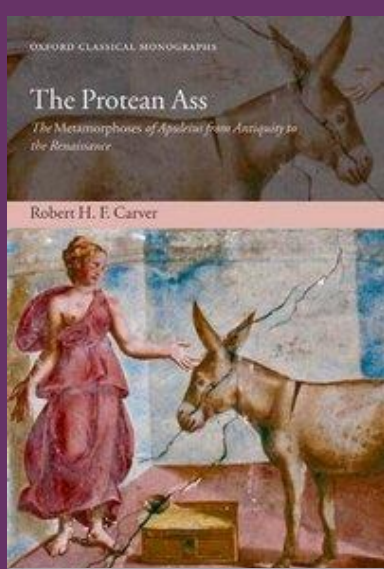


Introduction to the Department of English Studies



Department of English Studies

- 60 academic staff – In the last Research Excellence Framework (2014), 90% of the research activity in the Department was judged to be “internationally excellent” or “world-leading”
- 700 Undergraduates
- 60 MA students
- 50 PhD students
- 10 administrative staff
- Who’s Who? <https://www.dur.ac.uk/english.studies/staff/>



Rankings by Subject

Consistently rated top-five or higher in national guides.

Complete University Guide 2022 – 4th

Guardian University Guide 2022 – 4th

QS World Ranking 2021 – 44th

National Student Survey: overall satisfaction
consistently around 90%

English Studies at Durham

- committed to the full historical range and the widest cultural range of literature in English, from the early medieval period to the present day and anglophone literature from across the globe
- methods combine conceptual and theoretical reflection, analysis of historical and cultural contexts, close attention to literary texts and primary sources, and the imaginative creation of new writing
- aim to inspire students to become independent, rigorous and creative readers and writers, part of an inclusive community and collectively among the best in the subject on a global level

English at University

The Big Differences –

Research-led Teaching

Range of study – *many texts per module*

Timetable – *independent learning*

Reading – *prioritise! “active reading”*

Intensity – *one or two hours per text*

Methods – *close analysis, historical contexts, contemporary theory e.g. postcolonial, queer theory*



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Curriculum overview

MY LIBRARY.



TOM GAULD

L1 – 6 broad-based lecture-tutorial modules across all genres and periods. Exams.

L2 – Shakespeare, Theory, seminar option, period-based lecture-tutorial modules. Mixed assessment – exams and essays

L3 – Independent dissertation, research-based seminar options, lecture-tutorial modules. Choice; mostly coursework.

Single Hons: Up to 2 modules in other departments at L1; 2 at L2-L3 combined. Pre-1800 rule.

Teaching

- All modules are year-long
- Lecture-tutorial modules L1-L3: lectures, plus tutorials of 8, formative essays and 1-to-1 feedback sessions
- Seminar modules L2 and L3 (groups up to 20) – specialist topics – assessed by essays
- Compulsory L2 modules: Shakespeare, The Theory and Practice of Literary Criticism
- Compulsory dissertation in L3: a double-weighted, individually designed, supervised, independent research project
- Wide range of module-choice at L2 and L3
- Assessment moves from mainly exam at L1 to mainly coursework (essays / dissertation) at L3

First Year 2022-23

Lecture-Tutorial modules:

Intro to the Novel

Intro to Drama

Intro to Poetry

Ancient Worlds

Romance and Chivalry

Epic and Literature of Legend

Up to two outside modules

Example Modules L2

Lecture-Tutorial Modules

Theory and Practice of Literary
Criticism*

Shakespeare*

Postcolonial and World
Literatures

Renaissance Literature

Victorian Literature

Literature of the Modern Period

Old English / Old Norse

American Poetry

Chaucer

Seminar Modules

Modern Poetry

Literature of Emotion, 1740-1814

Romantic Plays and Players

Contemporary US Fiction

Writing Women: Gendering
Literature c.800-1600

Jane Austen

Toni Morrison

John Milton

Evelyn Waugh

George Eliot

Reading the Digital

Example L3 Modules

Dissertation**

Lecture-Tutorial modules:

American Fiction

Post-War Fiction and Poetry

Restoration and 18th Century Literature

Literature of the Romantic Period

Old English / Old Norse

Medieval Literature

L3 – example ‘special topics’

The Politics of Style

Renaissance Sensations

Resistance in South Asian Postcolonial
Literature

Writing Mountains in the Early Twentieth
Century

Reading Games, Playing Books

Medieval Orientations: World, Space,
Histories

Creative Writing Poetry / Writing Prose
Fiction

Shakespeare’s Afterlives

Paradise Lost as Science
Fiction

Embodied Victorians

Black Lives, pre-1900

Literary Institutions

Contemporary Short Fiction

Reading Joyce’s *Ulysses*

Literary Psychoanalysis

Who to turn to?

Academic Advisors meet students regularly, individually and in groups

Department Office; Director of Education; HoD

L1 Induction programme – study skills, using the library, essay writing

Staff ‘Office Hours’ – 1 hr p.w. in term

Module Convenors / tutorial leaders

Peer Support: Informal - DUELS, Formal – SSCC

PoC Assoc. - <https://www.durhamsu.com/groups/people-of-colour-association-dpoca>

First Gen. Scholars - <https://www.dur.ac.uk/firstgeneration.scholars/>

English at Durham

- Staff: Student ratio of 1:15
- Study abroad options (Turing Scheme)
- Libraries incl. online databases and archives – Bill Bryson University Library, Colleges, Palace Green
- Wider Student Experience e.g. theatre, arts week, Durham Book Festival
- DUELS (English Literature Society) – largest academic society in the university
- Very employable: a Durham English degree is highly respected, and employment rates are excellent. Complete University Guide Graduate Prospects is excellent (rank of 7th for employability in the 2022 Complete University Guide)

Location

Hallgarth House
(77 Hallgarth St.)

Elvet Riverside

42 Old Elvet (exp.
From 2023-24)

