

MA IN ENGLISH STUDIES FROM 2022

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Basic information: training and degree requirements

Name of the foundation training: English Studies major

Level of qualification: Master of Arts degree (MA)

Orientations: Literary and Cultural Studies track; Linguistics track

Qualification in English: Philologist in English

Area of training: humanities, modern philology

Mode of study: full time

Faculty responsible for training: Faculty of Humanities

Duration: 4 semesters

Number of credits required for a degree: 120

Number of contact classes: 840

Launch date of the program: 2009.

Participants of the MA in English Studies programme – depending on which track they choose – will have the opportunity to acquire extensive and high-level knowledge of linguistics or British (Irish, Canadian, Australian, South African, and so forth) culture and history.

Objectives

The general goal of the MA in English Studies programme is the training of experts who, besides a full mastery of the English language, possess an extensive and in-depth knowledge of the language, culture and history of English-speaking countries. Rather than mere passive receivers of information, students graduating from this MA programme will be specialists fully capable of undertaking independent and original investigations in a wide range of topics. The Literary and the Cultural Studies track aims to train highly educated experts who will become players in the social and cultural field occupying positions where their views will influence other people. It is, therefore, indispensable that they be capable of applying and developing the skills acquired here in areas as diverse as international relations, tourism, the press and the media, business, publishing, municipal and national administration, the political and diplomatic spheres, in cultural life (taken in its broadest sense) and, of course, in the academic field. To facilitate this we provide our students with a comprehensive and up-to-date knowledge of modern British (Irish, Canadian, Australian, South African, and so forth) culture and history, and develop in them a generally critical stance, tolerance for any kind of otherness as well as a democratic conception of culture. The Linguistics track offers students an in-depth insight into major disciplines of the study of language (including syntax, morphology and semantics) and

it also offers a viable route towards becoming an expert in one or more linguistic fields. We discuss many interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and applied topics. Graduates of the MA programme may want to pursue a PhD (doctoral) degree, too. The following programmes are offered by the Institute of English and American Studies: PhD in British Studies, PhD in North American Studies and PhD in English Linguistics.

FINAL EXAM TOPICS

ENGLISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE PROGRAM

Students select two courses from the compulsory elective subjects (thematic blocks) belonging to the differentiated training component of the English Literature and Culture master's programme. The written part of the state examination covers the material of one selected course from each of these thematic blocks. The written exam therefore consists of one summary essay question per selected course, focusing primarily on how well the student has mastered the broader conceptual and thematic connections. The only requirement for choosing the two compulsory elective courses is that they must not belong to the same subject area.

The topics and their corresponding required readings

Gender studies

Butler, Judith. *Gender Trouble. Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. London: Routledge, 1990. Mills, Sarah, ed. *Language and Gender – Interdisciplinary Perspectives*. Harlow: Longman, 1985.

Post-1945 British Fiction and Film

Ashby, Justin – Andrew Higson (ed.). *British Cinema, Past and Present*. London: Routledge, 2000. Sinfield, Alan. *Literature, Politics and Culture in Postwar Britain*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1989.

Post-1945 British Poetry, Drama and Theatre

Acheson, James and Romana Huk, ed. *Contemporary British Poetry: Essays in Theory and Criticism*. New York: State U of New York P, 1996. Shellard, Dominic. *British Theatre Since the War*. New Haven and London: Yale UP, 2000.

Postcolonial Literatures and Cultures

Said, Edward W. *Culture and Imperialism*. New York: Vintage, 1994. Young, Robert. *Postcolonialism: An Historical Introduction*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2001.

Advanced Topics in Literary and Cultural Theory

Culler, Jonathan. *On Deconstruction. Theory and Criticism after Structuralism*. London: Routledge, 1989.
During, Simon, ed. *The cultural studies reader*. New York: Routledge, 1999.

Advanced Topics in British and Irish Literature and Culture

Connolly, Claire, ed. *Theorizing Ireland*. New York: Palgrave, 2003. Waugh, Patricia (ed.). *Postmodernism: A Reader*. London: Arnold, 1996.

Advanced Topics in Postcolonial Literatures and Cultures

Lane, Richard. *The Postcolonial Novel*. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2006. Aschcroft, Bill, Gareth Griffiths és Helen Tiffin: *The Empire Writes Back*. London: Routledge, 1994.

Advanced Topics in Popular Literature and Culture

Huysen, Andreas. *After the Great Divide: Modernism, Mass Culture, Postmodernism*. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1986. Storey, John. *Cultural Theory, Popular Culture : An Introduction*. New York : Longman, 2000.

Major Figures in British and Irish Literature and Culture

Drabble, Margaret, ed. *The Oxford Companion to English Literature*. 6th ed. Oxford; New York: Oxford UP, 2006. Connor, Steven. *The English Novel in History, 1950-1955*. London: Routledge, 1996.

Alternative Approaches to British and Irish Literature and Culture

Butler, Judith. *The Psychic Life of Power. Theories in Subjection*. Stanford, Cal.: Stanford UP, 1997. Mulhern, Francis. *Culture/Metaculture. The New Critical Idiom*. London: Routledge, 2000.

Visuality and Literature

Mirzoeff, Nicholas, ed. *The visual culture reader*. London : Routledge, 2002. Stam, Robert, and Toby Miller. *Film and Theory*. Oxford, Malden: Blackwell, 2000

LINGUISTICS / APPLIED LINGUISTICS PROGRAM

For the written component of the final examination, the student prepares **eight topics** in total. During the exam, the student receives **two summary essay questions**, which primarily assess the extent to which they have mastered the general conceptual frameworks characteristic of the discipline, as well as their ability to apply the acquired knowledge in practical contexts.

The topics and their corresponding required readings:

Language Acquisition

Saville-Troike, Muriel. 2012. *Introducing Second Language Acquisition*. Second Edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. pp. 1-70.

Sociolinguistics

Wardhaugh, Ronald & Janet M. Fuller. 2015. *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*. Seventh Edition. Chichester, UK: Wiley Blackwell. pp. 1-61.

Computational Linguistics

Mani, Inderjeet. 2006. *Computational Linguistics*. In: Fasold, Ralph W. & Jeff Connor-Linton (eds.) *An Introduction to Language and Linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 465-492.

Perspectives on the Lexicon

Bauer, Laurie & Rodney Huddleston. 2002. Lexical word-formation. In: Huddleston, Rodney & Geoffrey K. Pullum. (eds.) The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. pp. 1623-1674.

Jackson, Howard & Etienne Zé Amvela. 2007. Words, Meaning and Vocabulary: An Introduction to Modern English Lexicology. Second Edition. London and New York: Continuum. pp. 65-79; pp. 105- 135.

Atkins, B. T. & Michael Rundell. 2008. The Oxford Guide to Practical Lexicography. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 385-439.

Syntax

Koeneman, Olaf & Hedde Zeijlstra. 2017. Introducing Syntax. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. pp. 1-109.

Morphology

Lieber, Rochelle. 2009. Introducing Morphology. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. pp. 87-140.

Semantics

Wechsler, Stephen. 2015. Word Meaning and Syntax. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 56-134. Dobrovol'skij, Dmitrij & Elisabeth Piirainen. 2005. Figurative Language: Cross-Cultural and CrossLinguistic Perspectives. Amsterdam: Elsevier. pp. 79-105.

Pragmatics

Horn, L. R. & G. Ward (eds.) 2004. The Handbook of Pragmatics. Oxford: Blackwell. pp. 3-29; pp. 53- 74.

CREDIT LIST FOR THE MASTER'S PROGRAMME IN ENGLISH STUDIES

Foundation courses (18 credits)

Code	Course	Hours	Requirement	Credits	Prerequisite	Semester
BTAN1001MA-K4	The English Language	2	exam	4	--	3.
BTAN1002MA-K4	Modern British Society and Language	2	exam	4	--	2.
BTAN1003MA-K5	Terms and Concepts in Literary and Linguistic Studies	4	exam	5	--	1.
BTAN1004MA	Advanced Academic Writing	2	sem	5	--	1.

Core modules (12 credits)

Code	Course	Hours	Requirement	Credits	Prerequisite	Semester
BTAN1005MA-K4	Trends in Linguistic, Literary and Cultural Studies	2	exam	4	--	2.
BTAN1006MA-K4	Historical Aspects of English Linguistics, Culture and Literature	2	exam	4	--	1.

BTAN1007MA-K4	Advanced Research Methods	4	sem	4	--	4.
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(a. a) Disciplinary courses (60 credits): Linguistics track (when specializing in Applied Linguistics)

Code	Course	Hours	Requirement	Credits	Prerequisite	Semester
BTAN5000MA	Syntax	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN4011MA	Language Acquisition	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN4007MA-K5	The social and discourse aspects of language	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN4004MA	Information and Communication Technologies in Language Learning	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN4003MA	Research Issues in Language Testing and Assessment	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5012MA	Empirical Linguistics	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5013MA	Morphology	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5006MA	Computational Linguistics	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5005MA	Pragmatics	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5014MA	Perspectives on the Lexicon	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN4013MA	Current Issues in Language Studies	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5004MA	Semantics	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5018MA	The mental lexicon and L2 vocabulary acquisition	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5017MA	Language Test Construction and Evaluation	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5011MA	Advanced Topics in Syntax	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5015MA	Advanced Topics in Semantics	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5016MA	Argument Structure	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5019MA	Issues in biolinguistics, psycholinguistics and neurolinguistics	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5020MA	Advances in linguistic research	2	sem	5	--	1-4.

(a. b) Disciplinary courses (60 credits): Linguistics track (when specializing in Theoretical Linguistics)

Code	Course	Hours	Requirement	Credits	Prerequisite	Semester
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BTAN5000MA	Syntax	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5012MA	Empirical Linguistics	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5014MA	Perspectives on the Lexicon	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN4011MA	Language Acquisition	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5004MA	Semantics	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5005MA	Pragmatics	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5006MA	Computational Linguistics	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5013MA	Morphology	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN4007MA-K5	The social and discourse aspects of language	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5011MA	Advanced Topics in Syntax	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5015MA	Advanced Topics in Semantics	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5016MA	Argument Structure	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN4013MA	Current Issues in Language Studies	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5019MA	Issues in biolinguistics, psycholinguistics and neurolinguistics	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN5020MA	Advances in linguistic research	2	sem	5	--	1-4.

3.(b.) Disciplinary courses (60 credits): Literary and the Cultural Studies track

Code	Course	Hours	Requirement	Credits	Prerequisite	Semester
BTAN2110MA	Gender Studies	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN2100MA	Post-1945 British Fiction and Film	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN2112MA	Post-1945 British Poetry, Drama and Theatre	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN2102MA	Postcolonial Literatures and Cultures	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN2111MA	Advanced Topics in Literary and Cultural Theory	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN2108MA	Advanced Topics in British and Irish Literature and Culture	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN2105MA	Advanced Topics in Postcolonial Literatures and Cultures	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN2106MA	Advanced Topics in Popular Literature and Culture	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN2113MA	Major Figures in British and Irish Literature and Culture	2	sem	5	--	1-4.

BTAN2108MA	Alternative Approaches to British and Irish Literature and Culture	2	sem	5	--	1-4.
BTAN2109MA	Visuality and Literature	2	sem	5	--	1-4.

OPTIONAL MODUL (10 credits)

To complete optional courses for the sum of 10 credits, students may choose from the full range of courses on offer in the Institute of English and American Studies, as well as courses from elsewhere in the University of Debrecen.

(a) Thesis: Linguistics track (when specializing in Applied Linguistics)

Code	Course	Hours	Requirement	Credits	Prerequisite	Semester
BTAN1407MA-K5	Thesis Writing 1	2	sem	5	--	3.
BTAN1408MA-K5	Thesis Writing 2	2	sem	5	--	4.
BTAN1409MA	Thesis	-	grade	10	--	4.
	Thesis defence	-	exam	0	--	

(b.) Thesis: Linguistics track (when specializing in Theoretical Linguistics)

Code	Course	Hours	Requirement	Credits	Prerequisite	Semester
BTAN1507MA-K5	Thesis Writing 1	2	sem	5	--	3.
BTAN1508MA-K5	Thesis Writing 2	2	sem	5	--	4.
BTAN1509MA	Thesis	-	grade	10	--	4.
	Thesis defence	-	exam	0	--	

(c.) Thesis: Literary and the Cultural Studies track

Code	Course	Hours	Requirement	Credits	Prerequisite	Semester
BTAN1207MA-K5	Thesis Writing 1	2	sem	5	--	3.
BTAN1208MA-K5	Thesis Writing 2	2	sem	5	--	4.
BTAN1209MA	Thesis	-	grade	10	--	4.
	Thesis defence	-	exam	0	--	

ASSESSMENT

The exact details of the grading and evaluation policy are always found in the relevant syllabi of the courses that should be downloaded from the institute website.

1. A SEMINAR is evaluated with a GRADE on a scale from 1 to 5.
2. A LECTURE is evaluated with an oral or a written EXAM.

3. At the end of the fourth semester the MA training concludes with a comprehensive final exam that consists of the following parts. a) state exam b) thesis defense