

School of Education

BA (Hons) English Language  
and Literature in Education

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Language and literature  
– the tools for learning.

Shape ideas.

The BA (Hons) in English Language and Literature in Education allows you to combine the study of English Language and Literature within the framework of Education.

You will explore a wide range of literary and cinematic texts, as well as linguistic material, using different theoretical perspectives and approaches.

This programme provides ideal preparation for students who want to pursue careers as English teachers, as well as enabling you to progress to postgraduate study in literature and linguistics, or to a wide variety of careers requiring an Arts-based degree.

The course draws on the specialist expertise of lecturers in the School of Education in the areas of late 18th to 21st century literature, drama, film, linguistics, early years, primary and secondary teaching, literacy and bilingualism.

You will also have the opportunity to complete a period of work placement in an educational setting which enables you to put the knowledge and skills you have learned into practice in a real-life setting. You also conduct a research project and dissertation on a subject of your choice in the final year of study.

At Birmingham you will be taught by academics who are working at the frontiers of their subject areas to enhance our knowledge of issues such as childhood and education. The School of Education's research interests are at the heart of its mission and the School consistently scores highly in the Research Assessment Exercise which is held every 5–6 years. In each of the last three Research Assessment Exercises,

conducted nationally to assess the quality of UK research, we have achieved a rating of 5, indicating research of international significance

We act as consultants to schools, local education authorities, charities, businesses and Government departments with in the UK and are involved in research and consultancy in many countries

This research influences the teaching that takes place at Birmingham as you are taught by academics who are global experts in their fields and whose research interests directly influence the content of our programmes. Our teaching was also rated excellent by the Higher Education Funding Council for England in their assessment of teaching quality in UK universities.

### Areas of staff research interest

The University of Birmingham has been a pioneer in much contemporary research in English Language and Literature. The ELLIE staff are currently involved with projects and research in the following areas:

- Language and Society
- Language and Education
- Twentieth and Twenty-first Century Literature
- Film Studies
- Gender and Sexuality
- Literacy
- Bilingualism
- Post Colonial Literature
- Representatives of pedagogy in Science Fiction
- Women's modernist writing
- Children's Literature

### Dedicated Education library

In addition to the central university library the School has its own dedicated education library in the Education building that subscribes to about 300 specialist periodicals and contains approximately 75,000 volumes.

### Academic programme

The programme is composed of a number of compulsory and optional modules in English Language and Literature. These may include:

- Introductory modules in English Literature, English Language and Drama
- Novel in Transition (19th Century Literature)
- Children's Literature
- Theories of Education and Learning
- Modernism and Modernity
- Coming of Age (20th and 21st Century Literature)
- Post-colonial Literature
- Grammar, Text and Discourse
- Language Acquisition
- Language and Learning
- English in Education
- Introduction to Practical Drama
- Contemporary Shakespeares
- Introduction to Contemporary Critical Approaches
- Introduction to Language and Society
- Introduction to Drama: Text and Performance
- Movements in British Poetry
- Language, Gender and Sexuality
- Comparative Education
- Exploring Autistic Spectrum Disorders

This programme seeks to enable students to develop knowledge, practical skills and understanding of English in a range of contexts.



### Preparing for your future career

From your first week here it's never too early to start planning your future career. You will have opportunities to work with our dedicated careers team, meet Education alumni, develop skills and put your learning into practise

### Student volunteering

The Guild co-ordinates over 100 different volunteering opportunities: you could teach reading to local children, teach English in Cambodia, help to organise events, work for a charity in the local community, or work for a charity at a national level. There really is something to suit everyone's interests and availability.

### Career opportunities

English Language and Literature in Education opens doors to a number of career possibilities. The degree facilitates students' development of skills in analysis, critical thinking, communication, oral presentation, professional documentation, group work and the use of information technology. This enables students to go on to work in a wide variety of professions.

### What can I do when I leave?

English Language and Literature in Education graduates have a wide variety of English and Education career routes open to them. Some may use their degree to enter careers related to their degree, for example in; Education, Education Management, Journalism, Librarianship, Publishing, Public relations and Teaching whilst others move into areas as diverse as Accountancy, Banking, IT, Law, Marketing, Public Services.

### Further study

Many graduates go onto take the Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE), or a Masters or PhD in a wide range of subjects.

### How much practical work will I do?

In the second year, students do a practical placement module in an educational workplace of their choice. This enables them to gain some professional experience and to critically reflect on their own academic development.

### What grades to I need for ELLIE?

We consider students with a range of qualifications, which typically include: A levels, Access, BTEC, GNVTQ and International Baccalaureate. A typical offer for this programme is 3 A level grade B's, including English Language or Literature. Please contact our Admissions team for further advice.

### Learn more

Careers and Employability Centre  
[www.as.bham.ac.uk/study/support/cec](http://www.as.bham.ac.uk/study/support/cec)  
Housing services  
[www.has.bham.ac.uk/studentaccom/housingservices](http://www.has.bham.ac.uk/studentaccom/housingservices)  
Student Support Services  
[www.undergraduate.bham.ac.uk/support](http://www.undergraduate.bham.ac.uk/support)  
Guild of Students  
[www.guildofstudents.com](http://www.guildofstudents.com)  
University Sport Birmingham  
[www.sport.bham.ac.uk](http://www.sport.bham.ac.uk)

University switchboard 0121 414 3344

Dr Andrea Peterson on 0121 415 8187,  
email: [a.f.peterson@bham.ac.uk](mailto:a.f.peterson@bham.ac.uk)  
or Dr Nic Dunlop on 0121 415 8228,  
email: [n.r.dunlop@bham.ac.uk](mailto:n.r.dunlop@bham.ac.uk)  
Admissions Coordinator  
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[www.bham.ac.uk](http://www.bham.ac.uk)

This leaflet was written several months in advance of the start of the academic year. It is intended to provide prospective students with a general picture of the programmes and courses offered by the School. Please note that not all programmes or all courses are offered every year. Also, because our research is constantly exploring new areas and directions of study some courses may be dropped and new ones offered in their place.