

Information about Literature, 1500 to the Present teaching and research in the School of English

We have research strengths in early modern literature (including Shakespeare), the eighteenth century, Romanticism, nineteenth-century literary and cultural studies, and in twentieth-century and contemporary literature and film. Several colleagues have research interests in textual editing and many of us are involved in major editing projects (on early modern drama and poetry, the writings of Jonathan Swift and Oscar Wilde, and on the letters of Robert Southey, several of which are supported by major research council funding). The University has particularly rich resources – manuscripts and special collections – relating to the Cavendish family in the seventeenth century and eighteenth centuries (the Portland Papers) and to the study of DH Lawrence.

Staff with Specialisms in Literature 1500 to the Present

In the early modern period, **Dr Jem Bloomfield**, **Dr Alison Bumke** and **Professor Nicola Royan** all have research interests encompassing prose, poetry, drama, and historiography. Nicola Royan has particular interests in late medieval and Scottish literature and history. The research interests of **Dr Matt Green**, **Professor Lynda Pratt**, and **Dr Adam Rounce** cover the long eighteenth century and Romanticism. Adam Rounce specialises in Restoration and 18th-century poetry and literature, particularly Dryden, Swift, Samuel Johnson and mid-century poetry. He is an editor on the Cambridge University Press edition of Swift. Lynda Pratt specialises in Robert Southey and directs a major, externally funded edition of his letters. She also has interests in 'recovery' research and in Romantic period manuscript and print cultures. Matt Green is an authority on Blake and works extensively in the field of adaptation studies, researching a range of genres under that heading including film, graphic novel, and music. Matt also has research interests in literary theory and the permeable boundaries between politics, philosophy and literature as disciplines. **Dr Carina Hart**'s research is in the global gothic, folklore and fairy tale literature, and particularly the relationships between these fields. **Dr Kate Kim McLean**'s research interests include manuscripts and the history of the book, the depiction and agency of women in late medieval literature, the construction of display and the presentation of self.

The research interests of **Professor Josephine Guy** and **Professor Máire ní Fhlathúin** centre on nineteenth-century literature. Josephine Guy studies the interconnections between Victorian literary and intellectual culture and is a specialist on Oscar Wilde. She also has an interest in the history of English as a discipline of knowledge. Máire ní Fhlathúin works on the literature of British India from the late eighteenth century to 1947, and also has research interests in the areas of Romanticism, travel-writing and crime fiction. **Dr Rebekah Scott** has research interests that bridge the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and her research focuses on English and American literature from the Victorian and Modernist periods; transatlantic literary and philosophical relations; music and literature.

In the field of twentieth-century and contemporary literature, we have several staff actively researching a range of areas, topics, and writers. Several focus on literary modernisms, both in regional and international contexts. **Dr Sarah Davison**'s research is in the field of James Joyce and genetic criticism, with a special interest in modernist forms of parody. **Dr Joel Evans** has research interests in modern and contemporary literature and cinema; cultural theory and criticism; and contemporary theories and philosophies of media. **Dr Andrew Harrison** (who directs the D.H. Lawrence Research Centre) works on D.H. Lawrence, twentieth-century literature and biography. **Dr Joe Jackson**'s research focuses on postcolonial theory, and race, nationhood and citizenship in contemporary British fiction. **Dr Ben Masters**' research encompasses prose writing (especially the novel form) from the nineteenth century to the present day, with a particular focus on the long post-war to present

period. **Dr Sean Matthews** has research interests in modern and contemporary literature and culture, including transnational education. **Dr Steven Morrison** has research interests in James Joyce; Modernism; Irish Modernism, fiction of the Cold War and nuclear fiction; modern Irish poetry; modern and contemporary British fiction; postmodern fiction; prize culture. **Dr Vicky Sparrow's** writing and research focus is on poetry and poetics, with an emphasis on women's writing and the politics of creative practice.

Our **Centre for Regional Literature and Culture (CRLC)** oversees a series of fresh initiatives relating to regional cultures at both local (i.e. East Midlands) and national levels. The Centre encompasses work on Byron, Southey, the interdisciplinary Landscape, Space, Place Research Group, and the D. H. Lawrence Research Centre. Further information is on our website www.nottingham.ac.uk/crlc/index.aspx

Several of our teaching and research team contribute to the multidisciplinary Landscape, Space, Place research group at the University. Research in Literature 1500 to the Present has generated successful grant applications to the AHRC, Leverhulme Trust and the British Academy in recent years.

The taught Masters related to this area of our work comprise one generalist MA in *English Studies*, the highly successful MA in *English Literature* and several pathways through the Applied English distance learning Masters programme.

General Information

School of English

Our School is organised internally across four sections, covering Drama and Creative Writing, English Language and Applied Linguistics, Literature 1500 to the present and Medieval Language and Literature. Our undergraduate degrees are taught across these areas, ensuring that all Nottingham students have the opportunity for the widest possible education in English language, linguistics, literature and culture. This broad, rich coverage is a strong characteristic of our teaching ethos.

We were one of the first departments to be established when the University was formally opened in 1881 and we are located in the Trent Building at the heart of the University Park Campus. The Schools of English in Ningbo and in Malaysia are an integral part of our English provision, with many specific courses in common and a joint undergraduate degree taught between Nottingham and China.

At present, there are currently 59 staff in the research and teaching job family.

We offer both Single and Joint Honours courses at BA level, a range of taught postgraduate Masters courses (many through web-based Distance Learning) and research supervision in all areas. We have approximately 950 undergraduate students, 95 undertaking on-site Masters programmes and 200 on distance learning Masters. There are approximately 70 full- and part-time research students working towards the higher degrees of PhD within a range of topics, with most members of our academic staff engaged in postgraduate supervision.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) in the School of English

We endeavour to create an environment that allows our staff and students to thrive and excel in their education and career alike. We support equality, diversity and inclusivity in the school and are working hard to ensure a better representation of staff and students across all of our activities.

We are engaged in a number of EDI initiatives including decolonising the curriculum in English studies, please see further details at this webpage:

<https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/about/equality-diversity-and-inclusion/decolonising-the-curriculum-in-english-studies-at-uon.aspx>

We welcome candidates who are interested in equality, diversity and inclusion and supporting the School in this work.

Teaching in the School

Undergraduate teaching

Creative Writing

Drama and Performance

English Language and Applied Linguistics

Literature from 1500 to the present day (including literary theory)

Medieval Studies (including the history of the language)

Our curriculum emphasises a wide range of disciplines within the general areas of English, in which Year 1 operates as a foundation year introducing the students to these disciplines, while in Years 2 and 3 students progressively select a range of specialist modules.

Masters Programmes - onsite

We offer a number of specialist on-campus taught Masters programmes including Applied Linguistics, Applied Linguistics and English Language Teaching, Creative Writing, English Literature, Literary Linguistics and Viking and Early Medieval English Studies. In addition, the MA in English Studies allows our students to combine modules from different areas, particularly language, literature and medieval studies. We also have a joint Masters programmes with the Nottingham University Business School, the MSc in Communication and Entrepreneurship and offer an MRes in Medieval Languages and Literatures.

Masters Programmes - web-based distance-learning

Over the last few years, we have invested in the development of web-based learning materials. Within the MA Applied English scheme we offer 'pods' of study that can be configured into one of 10 possible Masters programmes, including MA English Literature, MA Modern and Contemporary Literature, MA Applied Linguistics and MA Medieval Englishes and many others. We currently have over 200 distance students based in over 40 countries.

Research in the School

We are delighted to have retained our place in the top 10 universities for English in the 2021 Research Excellence Framework. Our exceptionally diverse research has placed us 10th for GPA among 92 universities and 7th in the Russell Group. We were placed highly on all three main criteria of assessment. 63% of our research was ranked as 'world leading' and a further 30% as 'internationally excellent'. This result recognises outstanding expertise and commitment to excellence across our School, and is a measure of the research and engagement partnerships we have developed nationally and internationally.

The following research groupings in our School form a focus for lectures, conferences, seminars, grant applications and other collaborative activities:

Centre for Research in Applied Linguistics (CRAL) is an interdepartmental research unit with colleagues from our school and Computer Science, Mathematics, Psychology, and Education. We house a number of spoken and multimodal corpora, the development of which has been funded by Research Councils and industry partners. Our academic and research staff form part of a recently established professional communication research cluster and business unit, *Linguistic Profiling for Professionals* (LiPP), based in CRAL to provide bespoke consultancy and training.

Centre for Regional Literature and Culture (CRLC) involves a series of initiatives relating to regional cultures at both local (i.e. East Midlands) and national levels. Colleagues in the Centre work on Byron, Southey, the interdisciplinary Landscape, Space, Place Research Group, and the DH Lawrence Research Centre.

Centre for the Study of the Viking Age (CSVA) fosters, develops and coordinates research into all aspects of the Viking Age, with special emphasis on Scandinavian contacts with the British Isles, and on literary and linguistic sources for the period.

Institute for Name-Studies (INS) is an umbrella for the various research activities of the *English Place-Name Society* (founded 1923) and the *Centre for English Name-Studies* (established 1992). The Institute for Name-Studies houses the library and research resources of the *English Place-Name Society*.

We have been successful in attracting substantial funding from The Leverhulme Trust, the AHRC, the British Academy, ESRC, EPSRC, the Wellcome Institute, JISC and other external bodies. The University has a number of internal research funding schemes and support for both internal and external funding applications is provided by the Faculty of Arts based research development staff.

Careers and Employability

We were awarded a prestigious Teaching Development Grant by the Higher Education Academy for our project, 'Embedding Employability in English: work related learning in the creative industries', to address two key challenges:

- How we can create opportunities for our students to develop vocational skills and experience work-related learning in the context of the particular skills and knowledges being developed through their subject-based study of English
- How we can ensure that such work-related activity is appropriately framed and supported to ensure 'learning' takes place, particularly as the numbers of students involved increases.

Our Director of Employability oversees our work to develop placements, volunteering and employability opportunities for all students. The School's volunteering programme includes community and dementia reading groups, and the Literacy Support Project and the Viking and Anglo Saxons for Schools projects working with local secondary and primary schools.

The City of Nottingham

Nottingham is an attractive, vibrant and prosperous city, that attracts people from all over the UK. Culturally, it was awarded UNESCO City of Literature status and has great theatres, an arena which attracts both national and international performers and a range of historical interests including those related to the lace industry, Lord Byron and DH Lawrence.

Nottingham is also known for sport, being the home of Trent Bridge Cricket Ground, Nottingham Forest and Notts County Football Clubs, the National Water Sports Centre and the Nottingham Tennis Centre. There is excellent public transport with buses and a tram service, a good network of roads with easy access to the M1 and the A1, a fast frequent rail service to London and other major cities. East Midlands Airport is 18 miles away.

The city is set within a county of outstanding natural beauty which includes Sherwood Forest, Wollaton Park, lively market towns and wonderful historic buildings, and is close to the southern Peak District. Housing is relatively inexpensive by UK standards and, in addition to the two Universities, there are excellent local schools and colleges.

To find out more about Nottingham, please use the following links:

Nottingham County Council – Tourism <http://www.experiencenottinghamshire.com/>

University of Nottingham <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk>

Nottingham City Council - schools, local transport etc.) <http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk>

The University and the Faculty

The University of Nottingham has award-winning campuses in the United Kingdom, China and Malaysia and hosts a truly global academic community in all three countries. The University was placed 103rd in the world (2022 QS World University Rankings) and placed 7th in the UK for research power (REF2021).

The Faculty of Arts is a large and diverse Faculty encompassing the School of Cultures, Languages and Area Studies (CLAS), School of English, and School of Humanities. The Faculty is home to associated Centres and Institutes, is a lead member of the Midlands4Cities AHRC Doctoral Training Partnership and the Midlands Graduate School ESRC Doctoral Training Partnership.

REF2021 recognised the quality, range, and depth of research and impact across our Faculty. Overall, 48.1% of the Faculty's research was graded as 4* ('world-leading in terms of originality, significance, and rigour') with a further 40.3% classified as 3* ('internationally excellent'). Five of the Faculty's nine Units of Assessment are in the top ten by GPA for their subject areas nationally

We place a high value on research-led teaching and are committed to excellence in education and student experience.

For further information about the University, see:
<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk>

For campus maps and other information, see:
<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/about/campuses/maps.php>

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