

The University of Manchester

SCHOOL OF ARTS, LANGUAGES AND CULTURES UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES 2015

ENGLISH LITERATURE, AMERICAN STUDIES AND CREATIVE WRITING





Ranked 2nd in the UK for quality of discipline research

First department/programme of American Studies in the country

4 million books in one of the UK's best university libraries

Specialist discipline study resources in our 'special collections'

Diverse multi- and interdisciplinary options for all courses

Proactive student English Society and American Studies Society

Best careers service in the UK

Guaranteed accommodation for all first-years

The UK's largest students' union





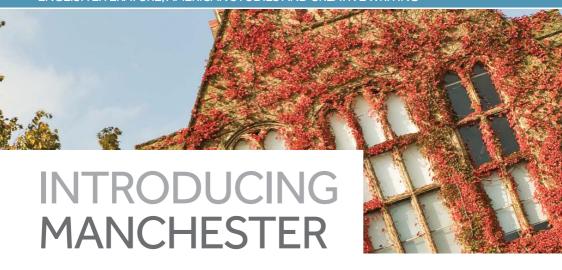


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"Manchester is a place for individuals, brilliant kids who like to do their own thing... and if you are ready it will release you to do the same..."

The Virgin Guide to British Universities



Our University Making things happen

Influential, forward-thinking and down-to-earth, we'll give you an amazing university experience rooted in a rich academic heritage. We turn enthusiasm into achievement and ground-breaking theory into innovative practice.

We accomplish feats of global significance, from splitting the atom, to giving the world graphene – the two-dimensional wonder material that is one atom thick, but 200 times stronger than steel.

With more Nobel laureates on our staff than any other UK university, and strong links to industry and public services, we vitalise our undergraduate courses with pioneering research.

Learn more about us: www.manchester.ac.uk

Our city

Always moving forward

Manchester lives on the edge of tomorrow, ever a step ahead in science, industry, media, sport and the arts. The Mancunian character – exemplified by the city's central role in the industrial revolution – strives for excellence and originality in all walks of life.

This is a city of many accents, having become a cosmopolitan magnet for students and professionals eager to experience its can-do attitude, independent spirit and cultural wealth.

Never content to live on past glories, Manchester has a passion for progress. Join us at the heart of Britain's most popular student city.

Discover what makes Manchester unique: www.manchester.ac.uk/cityofmanchester







Your experience

More than just a degree

With resources from the hi-tech 24/7 learning environment of our Alan Gilbert Learning Commons, to the countless personal development opportunities and specialist support services we offer, we will empower you to be your best.

Outstanding sport facilities, nearly 300 student societies, supported community volunteering, study abroad pathways, career development programmes, mentoring and much more all enable you to grow and develop outside of the lecture hall, giving you a well-rounded university experience that prepares you for life after graduation.

The only thing you won't experience is boredom.

Hear from some of our students:

www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/profiles

Your career

On a course to success

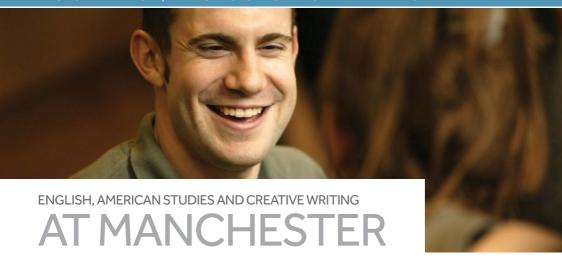
We are consistently one of the UK's most targeted universities by employers, thanks to courses and careers services designed with your employability in mind.

Our problem-based approach to learning inspires you to think critically, creatively and independently. Volunteering, personal development programmes and interdisciplinary learning could also give you a broader perspective and shape the socially responsible leaders of tomorrow.

We have the UK's best careers service, providing a wealth of advice and skills-development opportunities, and connecting you with employers to put you on a path to career success.

Take control of your career:

www.manchester.ac.uk/careers



English, American Studies and Creative Writing (EAC) boasts specialists in all areas of both disciplines and our achievements in research were ranked second in the UK in the latest Research Assessment Exercise (2008). We are responsible for five key courses: English Literature, English Literature and Creative Writing, American Studies, English Literature and American Studies, and History and American Studies.

Extensive subject choice

The two largest courses in the division are the single honours degrees in English Literature and in American Studies. American Studies is a multi- and interdisciplinary course taught across the fields of literature, history, politics and film. English Literature offers a broad array of course units that stretch from Anglo-Saxon literature to 21st-century contemporary Anglophone writing and film, which students can tailor to reflect their interests after the foundation year. We also offer three joint courses: two involving American Studies that can be taken with either English Literature or History over three years that offer the best of multi- and single disciplinary structures combined; and the other in English and Creative Writing. This latter programme is designed to appeal to students who wish to study the full range of English Literature but also have a particular interest in fiction and poetry writing.

If you are interested in courses in English Language, please consult our separate brochure for English Language and Linguistics.







Diverse career opportunities

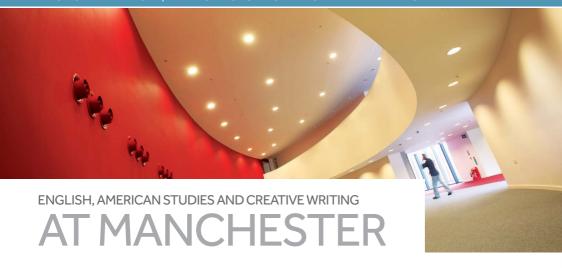
Graduates from across EAC enjoy career opportunities in a wide range of professions. Traditional careers in publishing, journalism, teaching and librarianship are still followed, but our graduates increasingly go on to pursue careers in professions such as accountancy, law, banking, advertising, business management and commerce, computing, archive studies, the media, social work and the civil service. Many continue on to postgraduate study.

Specialist library resources

The University Library is one of the largest university libraries in the country and contains an outstanding collection of subject-specific and related material. Its special collections, housed in a separate building in the centre of Manchester, include a Gutenberg Bible, all four Shakespeare folios, the Elizabeth Gaskell manuscript collection and the second-largest collection of works printed by Caxton, as well as manuscripts, documents and other holdings relating to medieval literature, Bible study, 18th- and 19th-century literature and contemporary poetry.

Manchester offers you...

- One of the UK's largest communities of English, American Studies and Creative Writing scholars, with an outstanding track record in research and publishing
- Direct access to internationally famous writers and researchers
- An excellent, comprehensive range of relevant library resources



Purposeful teaching and learning

Teaching and assessment techniques complement our syllabus by offering a mixture of the traditional and the innovative. Teaching takes the form of lectures, seminars and individual supervision and is frequently supplemented by new media, such as Blackboard.

In your first and second years, course units are usually taught by a combination of lectures and seminars. Most of the specialised course units in your third year are taught by extended seminar, offering you the opportunity to explore and develop ideas in discussion with your tutor and other students.

The principal aim of our teaching is to provide you with expert support and to encourage you to take responsibility for your own learning, with the assistance of the extensive research resources at your disposal.

Assessment takes various forms and is designed to complement the course content. Most of our course units are assessed by written examination, or by a combination of coursework essay and exam. In some cases, an oral presentation also forms part of the assessment. Written exams can, however, take a variety of forms, and might include 'seen' papers (where you are given the paper in advance, but sit the exam under controlled conditions), open-book exams and traditional 'unseen' examinations.

Dedicated student support

Every undergraduate student is allocated an academic adviser, who also acts as your tutor on the first-year Literature Tutorials course unit. Your academic adviser is there to monitor your progress through your degree, to advise on course unit choices and to help with problems or difficulties that may have an impact on any aspect of your academic career.

A peer-mentoring system provides first-year students with advice from second- and third-year students on many aspects of undergraduate life, both during registration week and throughout the year. You will have the opportunity to become a peer mentor in your second year and, as such, will be given appropriate guidance and training by qualified staff.

The University also has excellent careers, advisory and counselling services.

All our degree courses welcome mature (over 21) or non-traditional entrants. Mature students are fully integrated into the life of the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures and we offer additional support through the 'Plus-21 Group'. This group, which is co-ordinated by students and meets regularly for social and learning activities, supplements the University-wide Burlington Society, which is also aimed at mature entrants. Entry requirements for mature students differ from traditional entry requirements.







Getting involved

The English Society – run by students for students – puts on social and cultural events. Its annual programme usually includes talks, readings, parties, theatre visits and a play production. The American Studies Society is also run by students and organises social events and cultural activities with an American theme. Students on any degree course are welcome to join either or both societies.

Study abroad

You have the opportunity to study abroad, in your second year of study, at a partner university in Europe, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Singapore, or the USA. Our division has exchange agreements with universities in North America and, under the Erasmus scheme, with a range of universities across Europe.

You can also apply to other locations in the University-wide exchange schemes run by the Study Abroad unit. These programmes offer an exciting and valuable opportunity to enhance your understanding of culture and working practices in other countries as a fully credited part of the degree course. Find out more by emailing goabroad@manchester.ac.uk or visit the website:

www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/courses/studyabroad

English Literature BA 3yrs UCAS Code Q320

English Literature with Creative Writing BA 3yrs UCAS Code Q3W8

Typical offer

A-level: AAA-BBB IB: 37-35

For full entry requirements see www.manchester.ac.uk/ugcourses

English Literature

English, American Studies and Creative Writing staff include specialists in all areas of these disciplines: in all periods of modern literature, from the Renaissance to the contemporary; in American literary and cultural studies; in Anglo-Saxon and Middle English; in cultural theory; in creative writing.

Your first year is designed to introduce you to university-level study and to provide you with skills that will be important in your second and third years.

As you move through the course, you may select from an increasing range of options, culminating in the diverse specialist course units offered in your third year. At the same time, we ensure that by the end of your degree you have acquired a broad chronological knowledge of the discipline.

English Literature with Creative Writing

This is a specialised pathway for students who have a particular interest in fiction and poetry writing. Students on the pathway take five creative writing modules over the three years of the degree. (Students on the standard English Literature degree have the option of taking two creative writing modules over the three years.)





Course structure

Year 1

You take six level-one course units (20 credits each):

- Literature Tutorials
- · Reading Literature
- Literature and History
- · Theory and Text
- · Mapping the Medieval
- A free choice course unit, which may be in a subject other than English

Students on the Creative Writing pathway will take "Introduction to Creative Writing" in place of one of the above options.

Year 2

You take six level-two course units (20 credits each). The list below is indicative of the range on offer at this level:

(Students on the Creative Writing pathway will take both Creative Writing options).

- English Literature to 1750
- English Literature from 1750
- Medieval Metamorphoses
- Chaucer: Texts, Contexts, Conflicts
- Shakespeare: Gender, Text and Performance
- Forms of Poetry
- Gender, Sexuality and the Body: Theories and Histories
- · Writing, Identity and Nation
- Creative Writing: Poetry
- Creative Writing: Fiction
- American Film: Theory and Practice
- American Literature and Social Criticism
- From Jamestown to James Brown

Year 3

You take six course units (20 credits each), including a long essay (compulsory) and five other options from a choice of course units offered annually. The following list is indicative of the range on offer at this level:

(Students on the Creative Writing pathway must take one or both of the Creative Writing options).

- Revenge Tragedy: Wild Justice on the English Renaissance Stage
- The Word: Performing, Writing, Reading the Bible, c1380-c1611
- Writing the Supernatural in the Age of Shakespeare
- Early Modern Identities: Bodies, Selves and Life Writing, 1590-1690
- Crime and Law in 18th- and 19th-century Literature
- Pox and Plague: Disease and illness in 18th Century Satire
- Writing Workers/Workers Writing
- · Kipling, Forster and India
- Improper Modernisms: Samuel Beckett and Djuna Barnes
- Post-Colonial Literature and Theory
- Contemporary Irish Poetry and Fiction
- Radical Turns: Culture and Politics in the 1930s
- Futuristic Fictions
- Gothic: Politics, Sexuality and Identity in British Gothic Writing, 1789-1900
- Creative Writing: Fiction
- Creative Writing: Poetry
- American Self-Representations
- Film and Politics in America
- · Hip-Hop and Hollywood
- · Love American Style
- Society and Culture in the Slave South
- · Cities of Dreadful Delight
- Beat Writing

Course unit details

Year 1

- Literature Tutorials This course develops practical skills important to the discipline. In particular, it focuses on developing your close reading skills. In addition, you will acquire advanced essay-writing and research skills.
- Reading Literature In Reading Literature we aim to develop your close-reading and other analytical skills through an engagement with a range of literary and other texts. The course unit provides you with a grounding in critical approaches to prose, poetry, drama and popular culture.
- Literature and History This course explores the various relations between literature and its historical and social contexts. The course adopts a 'case study' approach, i.e. it will consider a range of literary texts produced during a significant historical moment or period.
- Theory and Text In this course we will introduce you to literary and cultural theory. This will be done by looking at key issues associated with interpretation, textuality and authorship.
- Mapping the Medieval This course is designed to introduce you to the earliest periods of English literature. It is structured around two central texts. Each is read in translation, but there will also be consideration of key passages in the original.
- Free choice unit You are given the opportunity to choose from a range of options on offer from different disciplines across the University. You may take a further course unit in English, a subject closely related to the arts, or one less obviously so (eg. Social Anthropology). Alternatively, you may welcome the chance to study further a subject in which you already have an interest.

Year 2

This year gives you the opportunity to build on your first year by studying particular genres, historical periods or theoretical approaches to literary and cultural study in greater detail.

Our commitment to undergraduate teaching means that we are constantly updating and improving our courses. This means that the best way of getting up to date information about courses is to visit our online Course Unit Database which you will find at the following website:

http://courses.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/ undergraduate/modulelist.html?department=35



Year 3

In your third year you have a range of options available to you which allows you to take specialised course units in those areas of the discipline that most interest you.

- The long essay A 7,000-word research project on a topic devised by you in consultation with your personal tutor, produced under the supervision of a member of academic staff.
- **Five course units** Selected from those on offer. The lists of course units may vary from year to year.

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American Studies BA 3yrs UCAS Code T701

Typical offer A-level: ABB

IB: **33**

For full entry requirements see www.manchester.ac.uk/ugcourses

American Studies

Manchester was the home of the first Department of American Studies in this country and has been offering degrees in the subject for nearly 60 years. Our current degree retains the traditional strengths of American Studies at Manchester in areas such as American literature, politics and history, while also taking account of recent developments in the discipline by offering courses in American cultural studies and film.

This course emphasises interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches – you select from options in history, literature, politics, cultural theory, popular culture and film

The three-year course also features an optional year or semester abroad at a US university; we exchange with a number of US institutions, all of which match our own high academic standards.

Course structure

Year 1

You take six level-one course units (20 credits each):

- Introduction to American Studies
- American History to 1877
- From Reconstruction to Reagan: American History 1877-1988
- · American Literature to 1900
- Aspects of Contemporary America
- A free choice course unit, which may be in a subject other than American Studies.

Your first year is taught mainly by lecture and tutorled sessions, which gives you a solid grounding in debates about the character, nature and purpose of America, introducing you to key issues in US literature and history, as well as exploring recent social, political and cultural issues.



Year 2

You can apply to study abroad for one semester, or for the whole year or you can stay in Manchester (grades will be counted in your final degree calculation). There are also limited places to study for the whole year at the University of California. Students in Manchester select from a range of course units covering 20th century American history, literature, film and politics, as well as taking the compulsory African-American history and culture unit, From Jamestown to James Brown.

Students who go abroad may select from the wide range of American Studies courses offered by the US university at which they are studying.

Course units on offer may include:

- 20th Century African American Literature
- · American Film: Theory and Practice
- Southern Crossings: Gender, Race and Sexuality in the American South
- American Literature and Social Criticism, 1900-1950
- Aspects of American Political Culture
- Sports, Leisure and Recreation in Modern American Culture, 1880-2000

Year 3

You complete a compulsory long essay on a subject of your own choosing, under the supervision of an academic tutor. You also select five other course units from a range of specialised options. These units vary from year to year, but there will always be a range of options in history, literature and film, and a number of course units that combine the study of these and other relevant disciplines.

Course units on offer may include:

- Conspiracy Theories in American Culture
- Film and Politics in America
- Beat Writing
- Occupy Everything: Revolution in American Memory
- American Slavery
- Cities of Dreadful Delight: Gender, Race and Sexuality in the Americas, 1800-1950
- Love American Style
- Hip-Hop and Hollywood

Career opportunities

American Studies graduates pursue a variety of careers in education, business, charitable and social work, the media and many other fields. It is increasingly common for students to go on to postgraduate study, having completed their BA.

Our commitment to undergraduate teaching means that we are constantly updating and improving our courses. This means that the best way of getting up to date information about courses is to visit our online Course Unit Database, which you will find at the following website:

http://courses.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate/modulelist.html?department=35

English Literature and American Studies BA 3yrs

UCAS Code QT37

Typical offer

A-level: AAA-AAB

For full entry requirements see

www.manchester.ac.uk/ugcourses

English Literature and American Studies

Course structure

Year 1

You are required to take 60 credits from English Literature course units and 60 credits from American Studies units, including:

Autumn:

- American Literature to 1900
- Literature Tutorials / Introduction to American Studies
- Reading Literature
- One other American Studies or English Literature unit

Spring:

- Either Theory and Text, or Literature and History
- · One free choice unit



Year 2

You will be eligible for the US exchange programme, with the same regulations as for Single Honours American Studies (grades will be counted in your final degree calculation). Most students will travel to the US in the spring; however, if selected to go to California, you will go for the whole year (please note places are limited).

You will only be required to take 60 credits from each subject if you remain in Manchester for the whole year. All students will be required to take From Jamestown to James Brown in the autumn. You will take a balance of English Literature and American Studies options, depending on whether or not you go to the US.

Our commitment to undergraduate teaching means that we are constantly updating and improving our courses. This means that the best way of getting up to date information about courses is to visit our online Course Unit Database, which you will find at the following website:

http://courses.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/ undergraduate/modulelist.html?department=35

Year 3

You are required to take a minimum of 40 credits in American Studies or English Literature, allowing you a 40-80% split, if you wish.

You can choose between either an English Literature or American Studies coded long essay. You must choose one of these, but not both.

You will also take a balance of English Literature or American Studies options, depending on your choice above.

Our commitment to undergraduate teaching means that we are constantly updating and improving our courses. This means that the best way of getting up to date information about courses is to visit our online Course Unit Database, which you will find at the following website:

http://courses.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/ undergraduate/modulelist.html?department=35

History and American Studies BA 3yrs UCAS Code VT17

Typical offer

A-level: AAB IB: **33**

For full entry requirements see

www.manchester.ac.uk/ugcourses

History and AmericanStudies

Course structure

Year 1

You are required to take 60 credits from English Literature course units and 60 credits from American Studies units, including:

Autumn:

- Introduction to American Studies
- American History to 1877

Spring:

- From Reconstruction to Reagan
- Two History units
- An optional third History unit, or a free choice unit



Year 2

You will be eligible for the US exchange programme, with the same regulations as for Single Honours American Studies (grades will be counted in your final degree calculation). Most students will go the US in the spring; however, if selected to go to California, you will leave for the whole year.

There will only be a requirement of 60 credits from each subject if you remain in Manchester for the whole year.

You will be required to take From Jamestown to James Brown in the autumn. You will be required to take the long essay in History if remaining in Manchester. If going to the US, you will be required to take an 'independent study' unit at your host institution. You will take a balance of History and American Studies options, depending on whether or not you go to the US.

Year 3

You are required to take a minimum of 40 credits in American Studies or History, allowing you a 40-80 split if you wish.

You must choose between the Long Essay (20 credits) in the spring, OR the History Thesis (20 credits) OR the History Thesis (40 credits, runs across both semesters) – you must choose only one of these options.

You will take a balance of History and American Studies options, depending on your choice above.



Welcome to the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures. With around 5,500 undergraduate students, 1,000 postgraduate students and 350 academic staff, we are the largest grouping of arts, languages and humanities scholars and students in the UK.

Although we are a big School, we have a common set of interests in the fields of human cultures, languages, beliefs and institutions. Put simply, we are interested in 'meaning'. How do human societies make meaning and what kinds of meaning do they make? These are the questions that interest us, and in order to answer them our work explores the material, visual, linguistic, textual, social and performative dimensions of human society past and present.

www.manchester.ac.uk/alc

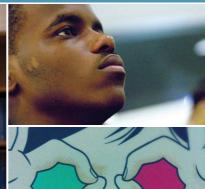
We teach and research in all of the following areas:

- American Studies
- Archaeology
- Art History and Visual Studies
- Classics and Ancient History
- Drama
- East Asian Studies
- English Literature and Creative Writing
- French Studies
- German Studies
- Linguistics and English Language
- History
- Italian Studies
- Middle Eastern Studies
- Music
- Religions and Theology
- Russian and East European Studies
- Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies
- Translation and Intercultural Studies

The School is also home to the University Language Centre.

Our degree programmes are designed to teach people how to think for themselves, and our students tell us they find them challenging and rewarding. Our programmes also provide a good preparation for careers or further study. We integrate work-related skills and experience into our degree programmes, and we encourage our students to think about and







develop their career interests, aims and abilities, through both academic and extra-curricular activities. Our award winning Careers Service will work with you throughout your degree to improve your employability and prepare you for the competitive jobs market.

At Manchester you will belong to a specific subject community but will also have the extensive choice that a large and diverse School can offer. We use a wide range of teaching methods, both traditional and innovative. These include lectures, small-group seminars, and tutorials as well as various on-line activities which draw on the latest technology.

Our size allows us to foster a rich intellectual culture led by world-renowned scholars with a diversity of expertise, from analysts to creative artists, from formal linguists to cultural critics, from historians to cultural theorists. Our commitment to research enriches our teaching, by ensuring that our curriculum is continually refreshed. At Manchester you will be taught by leading academics working at the cuttingedge of their specialist areas. Our School has an outstanding research profile. In the government's 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, more than 50% of our research was rated 'world leading' or 'internationally excellent'. In addition, two of our subject areas were ranked first in the UK and a further two subject areas were ranked in the top 3.

Teaching and research in the School of Arts. Languages and Cultures are supported by rich resources within the University. These include the John Rylands University Library, with its unique Special Collections; the University Language Centre, with

its own language multi-media resource library; the Race Relations Archive; the Manchester Museum; the Whitworth Art Gallery, as well as other distinguished Manchester archives and museums. Other cultural assets at the University of Manchester include the Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama, Jodrell Bank Observatory, and, new for 2012, the Alan Gilbert Learning Commons.

The University and the city also offer superb facilities for almost any academic or recreational interests you might wish to pursue. High profile festivals are a major part of Manchester's cultural life, and the School is involved in many of these, including the Manchester Literature Festival Manchester Histories Festival and Manchester International Festival

Conclusion

We want the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures to become a global beacon for the study of Arts and Languages. Our objective is to create a top quality educational environment within which all our students will thrive. Through our research we seek to create and develop knowledge that makes a positive difference in the world; through our teaching we want to inspire our students to achieve their full human potential.

We have a strong commitment to social responsibility and public engagement. We not only want our graduates to be highly sought after by employers but we also want them to play a constructive role as citizens in wider society.



ACCOMMODATION

Discover your new home:

www.manchester.ac.uk/accommodation

ADMISSIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Everything you need to apply:

www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/howtoapply

ALAN GILBERT LEARNING COMMONS

Our hi-tech 24/7 independent learning space:

www.manchester.ac.uk/library/learningcommons

CARFFRS

Take control of your career:

www.manchester.ac.uk/careers

CHILDCARE

Balancing learning and caring:

www.manchester.ac.uk/childcare

DISABILITY SUPPORT

Talk to us about any support you need:

www.manchester.ac.uk/dso

FUNDING AND FINANCE

Fees, loans, scholarships and more:

www.manchester.ac.uk/studentfinance

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Prepare for life at Manchester, UK:

www.manchester.ac.uk/international

IT SERVICES

Online learning, computer access, IT support:

www.manchester.ac.uk/itservices

LIBRARY

One of the UK's largest and best-resourced: **www.manchester.ac.uk/librarv**

MAPS

Campus, city and accommodation::

www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/travel/maps

PROSPECTUS

Download or order a copy:

www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/prospectus

SPORT

Get active with clubs, classes, leagues and facilities:

www.manchester.ac.uk/sport







SUPPORT

Help with academic, personal, financial and administrative issues:

my.manchester.ac.uk/guest

STUDENTS' UNION

The UK's largest student hub: manchesterstudentsunion.com

VIDEOS

Our University on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/user/universitymanchester

CONTACT DETAILS

For further information about the courses, or about qualifications, please contact:

The Admissions Co-ordinator

The Admissions Office School of Arts, Languages and Cultures Room A20, Samuel Alexander Building The University of Manchester Oxford Road Manchester M13 9PT United Kingdom

Please go to: www.manchester.ac.uk/ undergraduate/courses/search2015/atoz and choose your course; current contact details are given in the Fact File for the course.

Disclaimer

This brochure is prepared well in advance of the academic year to which it relates. Consequently, details of courses may vary with staff changes. The University therefore reserves the right to make such alterations to courses as are found to be necessary. If the University makes an offer of a place, it is essential that you are aware of the current terms on which the offer is based. If you are in any doubt, please feel free to ask for confirmation of the precise position for the year in question, before you accept the offer.

English Literature, American Studies and Creative Writing Admissions School of Arts, Languages and Cultures Room A20, Samuel Alexander Building The University of Manchester Oxford Road Manchester M13 9PL United Kingdom

www.manchester.ac.uk/englishamericanstudies

