



BISHOP  
GROSSETESTE  
UNIVERSITY

# English

BA (Hons)



# Why study English at BGU?

This course offers an exciting and wide-ranging exploration of the power of human creativity and literary expression.

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Module options enable you to shape your own learning experience through a wide variety of literary styles, periods, themes, and approaches.

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No exams, as the course takes a contemporary and innovative approach to teaching. The course combines a student-centred learning experience (small-group teaching and personalised support) with a diverse and modern range of assessments.

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A degree that fosters critical thinking, modern communication, employability skills and opportunities, to help prepare you for successful graduate life.

# Hello

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# English at BGU

Studying English at BGU provides an exciting and wide-ranging engagement with the power of human creativity and the rich heritage of literary expression. You will study great works of literature from Sophocles to Ali Smith, directing your own path of learning through module options such as creative writing and crime fiction, American and World literature, Restoration drama and trauma narrative, Victorian, Romantic and contemporary literature.

At BGU you will study an exciting range of writers, texts and topics. You will be able to study works in their historical and genre contexts, explore literary concepts and themes (identity, memory, gender and adolescence), make intertextual and creative connections (myth, adaptation, film, creative writing) and develop your critical independence and career prospects with extended research and work-based projects (English@Work, Research Project and Dissertation). Throughout your studies you can follow your own

interests through optional modules, and choose your own focal points and textual examples for assessment tasks.

You will acquire key academic and transferable skills such as critical thinking and evaluation, analysis, research and high-level communication skills through diverse methods of assessment, which blend established critical and communication skills with up-to-date digital literacies and platforms. You will develop expressive and creative skills fit for the 21st century, combining written essays and oral presentations with e-portfolios, multimodal video, posters, hypertext, digital publication, and independent research projects. You will benefit from an innovative and flexible approach to teaching and learning that promotes student participation and engagement. With the close academic support you will receive here at BGU, you will have the opportunities and guidance to fulfil your full potential.



For full details of all of our courses, including combinations, module details, entry requirements and much more, visit [bishopg.ac.uk/courses](https://www.bishopg.ac.uk/courses)



“

I really enjoy the multidisciplinary aspects of the course – there are options to look at history, culture and identity within literature.”

**Sian**  
English Literature

## KEY FACTS

**AWARD:** BA (Hons)  
Single or Joint Honours

**DURATION:** 3 years full-time

**START DATE:** September

**TYPICAL OFFER:**  
96 – 112 UCAS tariff points

**INSTITUTION CODE:** B38



I enjoy looking at the different aspects and I think it's really vibrant. There's lots of opportunities to pursue specific interests."

**Sian**  
English Literature

## English modules

At BGU you can study English as a **single** or **joint** honours degree, giving you an in-depth knowledge of the subject. Depending on your year of entry, options and any potential course combinations, you may study some or all of the following modules in English at BGU.

For full details of all of our courses, including combinations, module details, entry requirements and much more, visit [bishopg.ac.uk/courses](http://bishopg.ac.uk/courses)



## Year 1

### **Introduction to Literary Studies**

During this module, you will be introduced to the literacy-critical skills and approaches that are fundamental to the study of English. It will equip you with specialist analytical terminology and techniques, and reinforce and develop your existing skills of analysis.

### **The Gothic: Transgressive to Shock**

This module is an introduction to Gothic effects, such as suspense, mood, eeriness, the weird, fantasy and horror. It covers texts from the eighteenth century to the present and aims to build your knowledge of the rise of the Gothic as well as its different manifestations in different genres and creative outputs, such as the novel, poetry and film.

### **States of Dreaming: Modern American Literature**

This module will introduce you to some of the literary works, frameworks, and cultural developments in modern American literature. The primary texts will be drawn from a variety of genres and forms of writing, and will cover a period from the emergence of modern literature in the early twentieth-century through to the diversification of American cultural voices in the post-war period.

## Year 1 (continued)

### **Myth, Adaptation & Transformation**

You will be introduced to important foundational myths, legends, fables and stories which have informed English-speaking cultures and societies, as well as those across Europe. Primary texts range from classical works to the Bible and later literary examples of the redeployment and recirculation of foundational myths in works from John Milton's *Paradise Lost* to 21st-century retellings.

### **Poetic Licenses: Lines and Lyrics**

This foundation module will equip you with the necessary skills to analyse and evaluate poetry as a text. It will give you an idea of the breadth and range of poetry in English by developing intertextual connections and recognising its relation to changing contexts.

### **Shakespearean Worlds**

During this module, you will study Shakespeare's timeless work and investigate the ways his texts are repeatedly rewritten and performed today. You will engage in current debates about the nature and function of Shakespeare's work by reading the work of the Elizabethan bard in relation to changing contexts through a range of production instances.

### **Graphic Relations: Literature & Film**

This module offers a broad examination of the longstanding and multifaceted relationship between literature and film. It examines formal strategies and ideological implications of literary adaptation; the potential synergies and divergences of different literary forms and genres; the cultural translation of adapted texts over time; the parallel development of form in both mediums; and the cinematic framing of specific authors, characters or genres.

### **The Literary Globe**

Through this module you will embark on a journey to discover world literatures by exploring a range of texts written or translated into English. Its range embraces novelists, poets and dramatists from around the world and encourages you to appreciate today's intertwined global cultures by looking at, for example, the Booker Prize List.



Unlike a lot of university academics, the lecturers at BGU get to know you personally and take a real interest in your progression and the things you enjoy.”

**Sian**

English Literature

## Year 2

### **Literature & Identity: Self or Subject?**

This module is organised around key frameworks for the understanding of human and cultural identity; likely to include gender, sexuality, nationality, ethnicity, subculture and social class. The exploration of such frameworks will be supported by theoretical materials designed to introduce you to key literary and cultural concepts (such as ideology, patriarchy, heteronormativity, performativity, otherness, diaspora, and hybridity). (core module)

### **Explorations in Literary Genre**

During this module, you will be empowered to read, analyse, and discuss literature by having literary genres in mind. By connecting genre to political, social, and historical contexts you will examine how patterns and arrangements generate, as well as unsettle, conventional analytical models in literary studies. (optional module)

### **Creative Writing**

This module allows you to develop writing skills in a number of genres, and understand and apply a range of techniques required for the craft of writing. It will encourage you to consider the wider social, cultural and ethical implications of literary praxis, and to assume agency through your creative contributions to important cultural conversations. (optional module)

### **Literature & Childhood: Grimm Neverlands**

In this module, you will specialise in literature written for children, starting in the eighteenth century to the present and explore a range of genres, such as fairy tales, picture books, fantasy and animal stories as well as poetry for and about children. It provides you with knowledge and understanding of cultural contexts, origins of literary form as well as constructions and appropriations of childhood. (optional module)



## Year 2 (continued)

### **Victorians Unbound**

In this module, you will be introduced to the generic and thematic diversity of the Victorian period (1837-1901). This module emphasises the specific historical, socio-cultural contexts of the Victorian era to reflect on the ways in which Victorian writers negotiated groundbreaking ideas and discoveries, and significant events. (core module)

### **Modern Drama: The Inconstant Stage**

This module offers a survey of the development of western drama from the late 19th century to the present day. You will be introduced to dramatists such as Ibsen, Brecht, Williams and Beckett, alongside key developments and debates in dramaturgical theory and practice. (optional module)

### **Becomings: Women & Writing**

You will examine the impact of women in literature through transnational parallels and contrasts. This module highlights identity politics and the ways in which women have fought to change discriminations based on race, gender, class, age, and sexuality. (optional module)

### **English@Work**

This module provides you with opportunities to apply your subject-specific skills and knowledge, being developed throughout the programme, in a transferable manner. Suggested projects could take the form of a publication project (print or web), targeted writing project (such as brochure, newsletter or resource pack), or a project relating to a particular industry (such as arts, heritage, education, journalism, etc.), although this is not proscriptive. (optional module)



## Year 3

### Dissertation

During this module, you will be required to devise and undertake a dissertation on a subject of interest to you, and to prepare in written form a substantial literary critical essay, including, for example, a proposal and reference list. It asks you to practice and develop all of the research skills imparted earlier as part of research-led modules, applying them in a more independent and critically advanced manner. (core module)

### Modernism: Make it New!

You will explore a range of literary and other texts associated with the cultural and artistic developments of Modernism during the early decades of the twentieth-century. You will be introduced to the diverse strands of Modernism, as exemplified by writers such as Conrad, Joyce, Hemmingway, Woolf, Eliot, Pound, Yeats, Mansfield and Faulkner. (optional module)

### Pleasure & Profit: 18th Century Literature & Culture

This module introduces you to a range of fiction, poetry, drama and periodical writing from eighteenth-century Britain. The module emphasises two major strands: on the one hand, it engages with the diverse and vibrant popular culture of the period, as a space where public and personal ideologies are contested; on the other, it considers the multiple models of value (moral, social, intellectual and economic) brought under scrutiny by Britain's mercantile and imperial expansion. (optional module)

### Romantic Horizons

This module promotes detailed knowledge of the major developments in English Literature occurring during the Romantic period. With its emphasis on the cultural contexts of literary, poetic and dramatic language this module enables you to discuss critically changing modes of expression in relation to political, philosophical, aesthetic and social contexts. (optional module)

### Research Project

In this module, you will be asked to undertake an independently-conceived research project, on a subject of your choosing and to work on and prepare a substantial literary critical essay. The module will continue to deepen and refine your knowledge of a specialist area, as well as offering insight and supervisory guidance in the construction of longer pieces of analytical written work. (core module)

### The Future Unwritten: Late 20th and 21st Century Literature

This module offers a final opportunity for you to extend your critical engagement with modern writing through an examination of some of the most significant writers, movements, and innovations in literature since the end of the second world war. Central strands of investigation will likely include: challenges to realism and aesthetic experimentation; the rise of apocalyptic imaginaries and the arrival of the Anthropocene; multiculturalism and globalisation; and the deconstruction of self and subjectivity. (optional module)

## Year 3 (continued)

### **Adolescence in Literature: Why Grow Up?**

This module introduces and discusses texts from the nineteenth century through to the present day. It explores the meaning and origins of the concept of adolescence by investigating its functioning in works of literature written for and about adolescents and in relation to relevant social or cultural contexts. (optional module)

### **Research Project**

This module asks you to undertake an independently-conceived and researched research project, on a subject of your choosing and to work on and prepare a substantial literary critical essay. The module will continue to deepen and refine your knowledge of a specialist area, as well as offering insight and supervisory guidance in the construction of longer pieces of analytical written work. (core module)

### **Writing Back: Literature and Memory**

During this module, you will consider the role of memory as topic and method in the production of literary texts from the Victorian period to the 21st century. You will explore current issues in memory studies, including (for example) trauma theory, the ethics of memorialisation, and the role of memory in cultural consciousness and heritage. (optional module)



# What we offer

## Delivery

There is no one-size-fits-all method of teaching at BGU – we shape our methods to suit each subject and each group, combining the best aspects of traditional university teaching with innovative techniques to promote student participation and interactivity.

You will be taught in a variety of ways, from lectures, tutorials and seminars, to practical workshops, coursework, work-based placements or even field visits. Small group seminars and workshops will provide you with an opportunity to review issues raised in lectures, and you will be expected to carry out independent study.

## Assessment

We recognise that individuals come from a wide range of backgrounds and

experiences, so we use a variety of assessment strategies on our courses.

Assessments in English are designed to give you the oral, written and digital skills to be confident and successful in the 21st-century world. Through a staged process of development, you will learn how to express yourself persuasively and reflectively across a range of media and platforms: you will write short essays and a long dissertation, deliver oral arguments and create presentations, build digital portfolios and develop personal projects. Instead of time spent in examination rooms, you will experience a diversity of assessment methods, and acquire a broad platform of transferable skills that will prepare you for your future life.



### **Support**

Studying at BGU is a student-centred experience. Staff and students work together in a friendly and supportive atmosphere as part of an intimate campus community. You will know every member of staff personally and feel confident approaching them for help and advice, and staff members will recognise you, not just by sight, but as an individual with unique talents and interests. We will be there to support you, personally and academically, from induction to graduation.

“

I think that, with all the skills this course has given, I could go into lots of different areas - it's not limiting at all. I have the freedom of choice which is quite nice.”

**Emma**  
English Literature





## Your future

Our students have excellent rates of employability when they graduate from BGU, which is great news for you as it means that you can study for a degree knowing that your future is in safe hands. Our employability rates are extremely important to us here at BGU, which is why we offer placement opportunities as an integral part of our courses.

Studying English at BGU equips you to succeed in a diverse range of professions, including journalism, creative and professional writing, publishing, marketing, librarianship, public policy, teaching and a range of creative and media industries. The highly

transferable skills embedded in the English course focus on the creative thinking, flexibility, communication skills and problem solving abilities that are consistently sought after by graduate employers. English staff work closely with BGU's Careers and Employability department and a range of community partners to find ways of engaging students in real-world projects, and putting those transferable skills to use in a way that builds your CV. As an approachable, supportive team, we get to know our students well, so we can help you identify and develop your individual strengths, and build your confidence in areas where you want to improve.



Take a look at what qualities and skills you'll develop as a BGU student  
[bishopg.ac.uk/graduate-attributes](https://bishopg.ac.uk/graduate-attributes)

“

My friends on my course want to go into lots of different careers from publishing to teaching, and a couple are going on to do further study in creative writing. For me, I think I'd like to stay on here to do a Master's degree.”

**Emma**

English Literature



# Why BGU?

Here at BGU we've been providing first-class education to students for over 150 years. We're based in the heart of historic Lincoln, a beautiful and extremely student-friendly city.

Navigating around Lincoln on foot is simple, from the cobbled streets uphill to the modern city centre and waterfront downhill.

We're located uphill on an attractive, leafy campus just a few minutes' walk from Lincoln's medieval Cathedral, Castle and Bailgate area.

With plenty of live entertainment, cultural attractions and nightlife hotspots, there's plenty to keep you entertained, uphill and downhill.

Visit [bishopg.ac.uk/lincoln](http://bishopg.ac.uk/lincoln) to find out what's on offer in Lincoln.



“

BGU was always my first choice when considering universities. Everything about it is beautiful, from the leafy green trees to red brick buildings – and everything on the inside is just amazing.”

**Sian**

English Literature

As a single-site campus, just about everything you need is close by, whether it be your tutors, your friends, your lectures or the places in which you like to relax.

Our students are some of the happiest in the UK, which is incredibly important to us. We really care about our students and aim to support them all of the way through their studies, from application to graduation.

People often say that there's something special about BGU, that the people really care. There's a warm and friendly feel to life here, and we do everything possible to look after our students however we can.

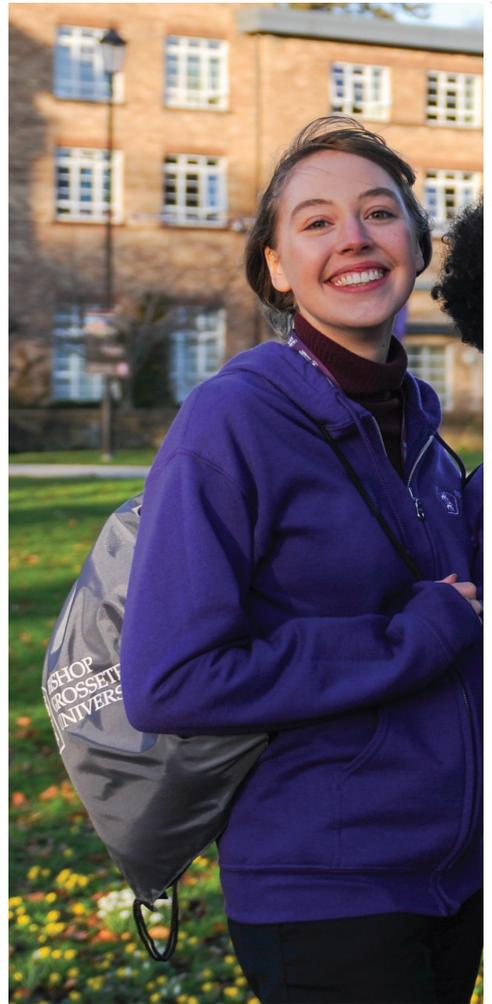
Studying as part of a close-knit community, you'll get to know staff personally and feel confident in being able to approach them for help and

Explore what we have to offer on our campus at [bishopp.ac.uk/campus](https://bishopp.ac.uk/campus)

“

I came here on an Open Day and really loved it. My first impression at the Open Day was that I really liked it because it was smaller – you go to some universities and they are really massive, scary big city campuses, but here I felt really comfortable.”

**Hayley**  
Education Studies



advice. Staff will recognise you - not just by sight but as an individual with unique talents, interests and needs. We'll be there to support you, academically and personally, from the day you start until long after you leave.

Life after BGU is extremely important and we offer many different methods

of support for your future career. This, alongside our talented graduates, is one of the reasons that we consistently achieve impressive employability figures.

This is great news for you as you'll be able to study at BGU knowing that your education is in safe hands!

There's no better way to really get a feel for what BGU has to offer than by coming to visit us. To book your place now visit [bishopp.ac.uk/opendays](https://www.bishop.ac.uk/opendays)



The family feel is exactly why people should study at BGU. BGU becomes your home regardless of your age or background. In fact, I felt such a connection with the University on my first visit that I went to five Open Days before I started my BA. I wanted to be part of BGU straight away and I know it will stay with me forever.”

**Kate**

Drama in the Community  
& MA in Education

# What happens next?

## Open Days

So you've found a course you're interested in - what next? We feel very strongly that coming along to visit us on an Open Day is the very best way to find out everything about BGU.

A BGU Open Day is designed with you in mind, to give you a taste of what it's like to live, study and work here. We try to make everything as easy as possible for you, so you can relax and enjoy the day. You'll have the chance to explore the campus and surrounding area,

and speak to members of academic staff about the courses you're interested in, look around our accommodation, and get any questions you may have answered.

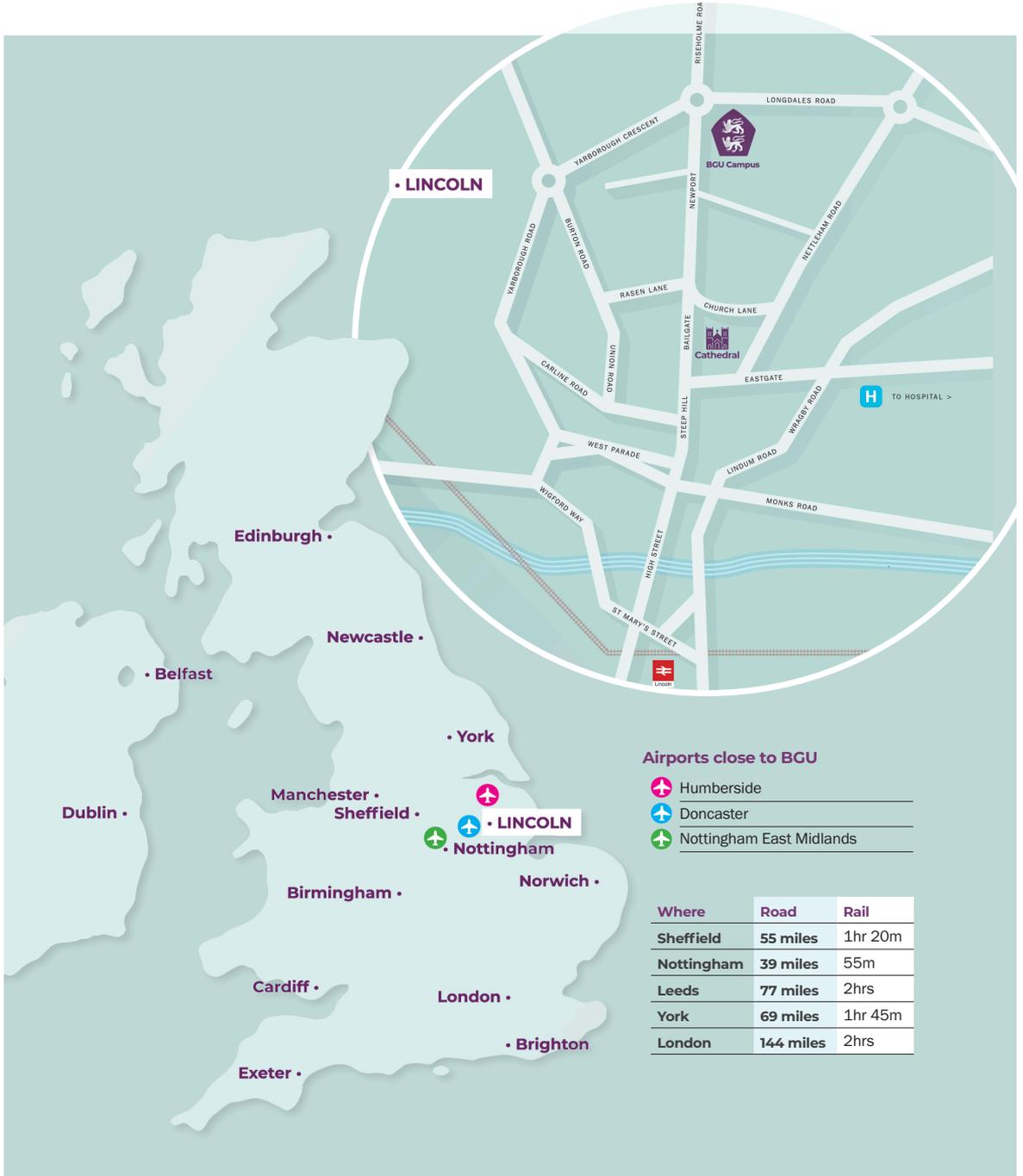
Book your place on our next Open Day now - visit **www.bishopg.ac.uk/opendays**

If you think you'd like to apply, need more information or just want to speak to somebody about your options, contact our Enquiries team by calling **01522 583658** or emailing **enquiries@bishopg.ac.uk**

**Ready to apply?** Brilliant. We can't wait to receive your application! For the majority of our courses you will apply through UCAS – visit **www.bishopg.ac.uk** for all the information you will need. And don't worry – if you need help with anything, from UCAS scores to personal statements, we're here to help. Our dedicated team are ready to answer your queries and questions.

The contents of this booklet are correct at the time of going to print (January 2020). For full and up-to-date information on all of our courses, visit **bishopg.ac.uk**

# Where are we?



• LINCOLN

Edinburgh •

Newcastle •

• Belfast

Dublin •

Manchester •  
Sheffield •

• York

• LINCOLN  
• Nottingham

Birmingham •

Norwich •

Cardiff •

London •

• Brighton

Exeter •

## Airports close to BCU

- Humberside
- Doncaster
- Nottingham East Midlands

Where	Road	Rail
Sheffield	55 miles	1hr 20m
Nottingham	39 miles	55m
Leeds	77 miles	2hrs
York	69 miles	1hr 45m
London	144 miles	2hrs

**BISHOP GROSSETESTE UNIVERSITY  
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enquiries@bishopg.ac.uk

“

**Everyone at BGU  
– the academics, staff  
and students – are so  
helpful, you get to know  
everyone which creates  
a real community. The  
learning facilities are  
brilliant as well, especially  
the library and its archive  
which is packed full of  
incredible resources.”**

**Sian**

English Literature

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