

English

Studying for an MPhil in English is a challenging and rewarding experience. As an MPhil student, you will join a large, flourishing Faculty that is internationally renowned as a centre of excellence for teaching and research.

The Cambridge English Faculty is exceptional in the breadth and diversity of its members' interests – from ecocriticism and digital humanities to poetics and song. Our expertise covers all periods of literary study and many different approaches.

With five MPhil programmes in English – Medieval and Renaissance Literature, Eighteenth-Century and Romantic Studies, Modern and Contemporary Literature, American Literature, and Criticism and Culture – our goal is to help you develop your knowledge and critical skills as you pursue independent research.

Each programme includes core teaching and skills training, plus a set of options shared across the MPhils, allowing you to tailor your course to your research interests. Our MPhils offer both rigorous grounding and flexibility to encourage innovative research.

Your research will be supported by expert one-to-one supervision, small graduate discussion classes, and world-class resources.

During the nine-month course, you will work closely with your supervisor to design and research your dissertation and write two or three assessed essays.

“During my MPhil, I gained skills in palaeography and early modern book studies, as well as an introduction to Literary Critical Coding which demonstrated ways of using the Python language for digital humanities projects. These rich experiences, and the wonderful people I met through them, prepared me for the job I’m in now, where I work on digital initiatives in early modern studies.”

Gabrielle Linnell

Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C.



Cambridge thrives by being open to new ideas and new people, and graduate students are central to the life of the Faculty. Intellectual activity is intense, both within the Faculty and beyond. From seminars and talks to reading groups and interdisciplinary events, there are myriad opportunities to engage with peers, teachers, visitors and the wider academic community.

Cambridge has outstanding research facilities, including a copyright library and extensive collections of rare books and manuscripts. Its nine University museums support research into visual, material and historical culture.

An MPhil in English will prepare you for further study, if that is your goal. Many of our graduates have pursued doctoral research at leading international universities. But an MPhil is also an opportunity to pursue a passion, which also equips you for a range of other careers. Our graduates have succeeded in academia, writing, media, law, journalism, secondary education and business.



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