OPEN UNIVERISTY OF MAURITIUS

Undergraduate Programme Specification

BA (Hons) English

Academic Year: 2022 -2023

1. PROGRAMME INFORMATION	
Title of final award	**BA (Hons) English**
Code	**OUba015N**
Awarding Body	**Open University of Mauritius**
Disciplinary Division	**Humanities**
Programme Manager	**Suniti Nundoo-Ghoorah**
Programme duration	**Minimum 3 years** **Maximum 6 years**
Total Credits	**180**
Credits per year	*60 credits per academic year*
MQA NQF level	**Level 8**
EHEA EQF evel	**Level 6**
External Accreditors	**Not applicable**
Collaborative Partners	**Not applicable.**
Programme approval date	**2021**
Last revision	**Not applicable**
Last update	**Not applicable**

2. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	
General:	General Entry Requirements under Direct Entry to Undergraduate Programmes applicants should fulfil the following conditions: OPTION 1: Cambridge School Certificate with at least three credits (including English) or equivalent and either Two passes at Principal Level (A-Level) in conducive subjects or An appropriate equivalent Diploma/Certificate/Foundation programme approved by the Open University of Mauritius. Learners who do not qualify under option I may register for Foundation Courses offered by OU. Learners must successfully complete eight modules at the level of foundation in order to be eligible to apply for undergraduate programmes. OPTION 2: Submission of a comprehensive portfolio for possible recognition of prior learning/experience (RPL/RPE) as an alternative to above along with evidence for the language/numeracy/ICT skills required for the programme of study with a minimum of Cambridge School Certificate with at least three credits or equivalent.
Programme specific:	None

3. PROGRAMME OVERVIEW	
Aims and objective of the programme:	This programme is designed for learners who wish to study diverse aspects of English Language and Literature. The syllabus covers communication, phonology, popular culture and media, translation, pedagogy, literature, and diaspora studies. This multifaceted, practical and competency-based approach to learning English focusses on graduate attributes, and opens pathways to various career options. The inclusion of other languages such as French, Spanish and German enhances professional prospects.
Intended Learning outcomes: After completion of the programme student will be able to:	
Knowledge and	K1: Demonstrate understanding of academic literacies K2: Identify characteristics of literary movements K3: Describe and appreciate general themes in English literature

understanding	K4: Demonstrate understanding of literary genres and their features K5: Demonstrate understanding of syntax, semantics, lexis and phonology K6: Explain literary theories K7: Demonstrate elementary understanding of German or Spanish K8: Demonstrate understanding of approaches to the teaching of English and/or literature K9: Show insight into the principles of translation. K 10: Explain field-related concepts clearly.
Cognitive Skills	C1: Analyse literary and/or non-literary texts. C2: Apply theories to analyse texts or discourses. C3: Undertake research, analyse and synthesise information into a meaningful written work. C4: Analyse contextual specificities of texts; C5: Critically examine textual/media discourses C6: Discuss approaches to teaching. C7: Process French or German or Spanish words into meaningful content and functions.
Practical/Professional Skills	P1: Write effectively P2: Communicate effectively orally. P3: Write for certain types of media (radio, TV, adverts) P 4: Discuss themes and other aspects of texts/discourses. P5: Write poems, short stories and short plays P6: Translate texts from French to English P7: Use functional French or German or Spanish. P8: Develop appropriate strategies for teaching English and literature P9: Conduct meaningful research and report findings.
Transferable Skills	T1: Effectively communicate ideas and arguments in writing T2: Effectively communicate ideas and arguments orally T3: Collaborate with others and contribute effectively to the achievement of common goals; T4: Work independently demonstrating initiative and self-management; T5: Apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills

4. PROFESSIONAL, STATUTORY AND REGULATORY BODIES (where applicable)
Not applicable

5.   LEARNING AND TEACHING STRATEGY

Learning and teaching methods:

Students will be provided with opportunities to engage in a diverse range of learning environments so as to maximise their learning. For this programme students will interact with their tutor and their fellow students mostly through blended learning.

- **Independent study: Independent study forms an essential part in the development of your knowledge and understanding. We will guide you, via the e-platform, on the reading and reflection of primary and secondary texts. Students should use this independent study time to link knowledge with e-class and face-to-face activities and develop their own understanding and critical perspective on the topics they are studying.**

- **The face-to-face sessions are an opportunity to untangle complex concepts and provide students with an opportunity to apply the knowledge acquired in the preceding weeks. During the face-to-face sessions students can be expected to:**
- **Engage in problem solving activities**
- **Engage with reading material to engage in class discussions**
- **Review core/complex concepts through applied work.**
-

Activities on moodle

Forum discussion, group work, videos etc.

Research supervision:

In the final part, students will undertake a dissertation in a relevant field supervised by one of our tutors with expertise in the area of the dissertation topic. Students will have the opportunity to meet with the supervisor to explore the topic, receive guidance on the research and receive feedback on the work as it progresses.

Overall Workload:

Your overall workload as a student consists of independent learning, e-learning activities and face to face sessions. The following gives you an indication of how much time you will need to spend on the different components of your programme at each level. Each ECTS credit taken equates to 25 hours of study time.

The expected study time for this programme will be as follow:

Year 1: 1,500 hours for 60 ECTS credits.
Year 2: 1,500 hours for 60 ECTS credits.
Year 3: 1,500 hours for 60 ECTS credits.

Typically, for each year of your degree you will spend 0-10% of your time in face to face session, 30-40% of your time engaging with e-learning activities and 60% of your time in independent study time.

A typical study week for a student will involve some optional face to face sessions, required engagement in online discussion forum, the completion of online activities and independent study time to review attached readings, textbooks and relevant sections of the module document. Students should expect to devote 8 to 12 hours of study time per week per module.

These are indicative and may vary from student to student.

6. ASSESSMENT STRATEGY
Assessment Methods
A range of formative and summative assessment exercises are designed to enable you to demonstrate and apply your knowledge and understanding. **Most modules will consist of a Tutor Marked Assessment component and an examination.** **TMAs include:** • **Tests** • **Essays** • **Projects** • **Oral practicum** • **Portfolio** • **Team projects**   **In addition to TMAs, this programme includes final examination for most module except the Final year dissertation module and few others** **Assessment mapping: See Appendix.**
Academic Feedback
Throughout the course of your studies, tutors will provide informal feedback on your activities and class contributions. Feedback may be individual or provided to the class as a whole.

Each summative assessment will be accompanied by detailed marking criteria and marking scheme detailing the expectation of the assessment at each grade classification level. Feedback on assessment will be provided along the marking criteria. Marking criteria will be made available to the student at the same time as the assessment details. **Students will receive written individual feedback on all TMA components.**   **The university policy on assessment feedback and guidance on provisional marks can be found in the rules and regulation/undergraduate handbook.**
Late submission, Extension and Re-sit Policy
The university policy on late submission, Extension and re-sits can be found in section [insert] respectively of the Rules and Regulation/undergraduate handbook: insert link
Special Circumstances
The university policy on special circumstance can be found in section [insert] of the Rules and Regulation/undergraduate handbook: insert link
Continuous assessment and Exam Regulations
The university regulations on continuous assessment and examination can be found in section [insert] of the Rules and Regulation/undergraduate handbook: insert link

7. ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

As a safeguard to the quality and standard of Open University's qualifications and awards, the university takes any incidence of academic misconduct seriously and will investigate any reported case.

Academic Misconduct refers to any activity where a student, through unpermitted means, seeks to gain an advantage in the completion of an assessment. Any unpermitted action will be considered as academic misconduct when occurring during a formal examination, a TMA, or any other form of assessment considered by the Board of Examiners and undertaken in pursuit of a University qualification or award.

Plagiarism (using, intentionally or unintentionally another's person work and presenting it as its own) will be systematically checked through an automated plagiarism detection software: Turnitin.
See section 30 http://www.open.ac.mu/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/2nd-version-General-rules-OPEN-UNIVERSITY-of-MAURITIUS-2015.pdf

For a list of all academic misconducts see section 23.3 of the University Regulations.

Any suspected cases of academic misconduct will be reported and investigated. Academic misconduct offences, may lead to suspension or expulsion from the University.

The university regulations on Academic Misconduct can be found [section 17 {http://www.open.ac.mu/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/2nd-version-General-rules-OPEN-UNIVERSITY-of-MAURITIUS-2015.pdf}

8. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE
C= Core i.e. modules which must be taken to be eligible for the award **E = Electives i.e. module chosen by student from a range of listed optional modules** **S1 = Semester 1** **S2 = Semester 2**

Year 1 – Level 6 (NQ-MQA) – Short cycle Introductory (QF-EHEA)
All core modules must be taken

Code	Module Title	Type	Semester	Credits
OUba015N111	**Academic Literacies**	**C**	**S1**	**4.5**
OUba015N112	**Effective Communication**	**C**	**S1**	**7.5**
OUba015N113	**Studying Literature**	**C**	**S1**	**7.5**
OUba015N121	**Linguistics 1**	**C**	**S2**	**8.5**
OUba015N122	**Exploring Literature**	**C**	**S2**	**7.5**
OUba015N123	**Understanding Prose**	**C**	**S2**	**7.5**
OUba015N124	**Literary Theory and Criticism**	**C**	**S2**	**9.5**
Students may choose 7.5 credits from the following:				
Spanish 1	**OUba015N114**		**S1**	**7.5**
German 1	**OUba015N115**		**S1**	**7.5**
Techniques d'Expression Orale et Ecrite	**OUba015N116**		**S1**	**7.5**
		E		
			Credit Total	**60**

Year 2 – Level 7 (NQ-MQA) – Short cycle Intermediate (QF-EHEA)
All core modules must be taken

Code	Module Title	Type	Semester	Credits
OUba015N211	**Linguistics 2**	**C**	**S1**	**7.5**
OUba015N212	**Poetry**	**C**	**S1**	**7.5**
OUba015N213	**Drama**	**C**	**S1**	**7.5**
OUba015N214	**Media and Popular Culture**	**C**	**S1**	**7.5**
OUba015N221	**Reading the Novel**	**C**	**S2**	**7.5**
OUba015N222	**Teaching English as a Second Language**	**C**	**S2**	**7.5**

OUba015N223	Research Methodology	C	S2	7.5
Students may choose 7.5 credits from the following:				
OUba015N224	Principles of Journalism	E	S2	7.5
OUba015N225	Teaching Literature	E	S2	7.5
OUba015N226	Spanish 2	E	S2	7.5
OUba015227 German 2			Credit Total	60

Year 3 – Level 8 (NQ-MQA) – 1st Cycle Honours (QF-EHEA) All core modules must be taken				
Code	Module Title	Type	Semester	Credits
OUba015N311	Diaspora Studies I	C	S1	7.5
OUba015N312	Screenwriting	C	S1	7.5
OUba015N313	Dissertation	C	S1 and 2	15
OUba015N321	Media Literacy	C	S2	7.5
OUba015N322	Diaspora Studies 2	C	S2	7.5
OUba015N323	Sociolinguistics	C	S2	7.5
	Students may choose one module from the following:			
OUba015N314	Translation	E	S1	7.5
OUba015N315	Spanish 3	E	S1	7.5
OUba015N316	German 3	E	S1	7.5
OUba015N317	Creative Writing	E	S1	7.5
		E	S1	7.5
			Credit Total	60

Overall Programme Credit Total	180

9. GRADING

Grading system:

Assessments are graded in percentage and correspond to a letter grade and a grade point.

To pass a module, students need an overall of 40% weighted average of their combined continuous assessment (TMA) and examination.

Marks (x) %	Description	Letter Grade	Grade point
X ≥ 70	Excellent	A	5
60 ≥ X ≤ 69	Very Good	B	4
50 ≥ X ≤ 59	Good	C	3
40 ≥ X ≤ 49	Satisfactory	D	2
40 < X	Ungraded	U	0
Non-graded/pending	See section 17.1.1 in assessment rules and regulation for pending grades letter codes		

University general marking criteria for undergraduate exams and undergraduate dissertations can be found in the Undergraduate Handbook.

Cumulative Point Average (CPA):

CPA will determine the classification of your degree. Your CPA is the weighted average of your overall mark in each module. The weight being the number of credit attached to each module and your average module mark being the weighted average of the continuous assessment and final exam.

Example:

Module	Score % (weighted average continuous assessment and exam)	Credit Unit	Module score = Credit x score
BAXX1	64	4	64*4=256
BAXX2	71	3	71*4=213
BAXX3	44	4	44*4=176
BAXX4	59	3	59*3=177
BAXX5	82	4	82*4=328
BAXX6	62	8	62*8=496
Total		26	1646
CPA = 1646/26=63.31			

9. PROGRESSION, EXIT POINTS AND AWARD	
Progression	If a student fails to achieve 60 credits at the end of a year level, the board of examiners will make a decision with regard to the student's progression. At its discretion, the board of examiners may: - allow a student to carry forward up to 15 credits in the following year level in order to retake these units in attendance; - require the student to repeat the year; - award of an exit award once you've exhausted all the opportunities to retrieve failed assessment.
Classification of Awards	For the award of the Honours degree, all modules of the programme must be completed. The Certificate of Higher Education and the Diploma of Higher education are awarded as possible exit points in the programme as indicated in the table below:

Award	Title	Level NQ-MQA	Total required Credits	Classification Based on Cumulative Point Average (CPA)
BA (Hons)	ENGLISH	8	180	1st Class Honours (First): CPA ≥70 2nd Class 1st Division Honours (2:1): 60 ≤ CPA ≤ 69 2nd Class 2nd Division Honours (2:2): 50 ≤ CPA ≤ 59
Ordinary BA	English	7	180	3rd Class: 45 ≤ CPA ≤ 49 Pass: 40 ≤ CPA ≤ 44
Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)	English	6-7	120	Distinction: CPA ≥ 70 Pass: 40 ≤ CPA ≤ 69 No Award: CPA < 40
Certificate of Higher Education (CertHe	English	6	60	Distinction: CPA ≥ 70 Pass: 40 ≤ CPA ≤ 69

					No Award: CPA < 40

10. STUDENT SUPPORT
List student support available through: To be populated with -link to career's office when created - Welfare office when created - Learning and Teaching unit when/if created Learning and teaching Unit - Admin enquire contact including IT support and facilities - Personal Tutor system or equivalent

11. Have your say
Open University values student feedback and students will be given opportunities to have their say on their learning experience in the following way: • Student programme and module evaluation surveys; • Acting as student representative and participate in a range of committees such as the staff-student consultative committee; • Participate in programme validation processes. The University will respond to student feedback through the following channels: • Response and action taken following the module evaluation survey will be posted on the e-platform; • Action from minutes will be monitored by the chair of the relevant committees; • Annual programme monitoring process will take into account student feedback; • Programme review process (every five years).