



07 August 2018

Welcome to Corpus English. We are writing to let you know something about your First Year course, what you might expect when you arrive, and what we, that is your English Tutors, expect of you now.

Your First Year studies lead to an examination (Prelims in English Language and Literature) at the end of Trinity (Summer) Term 2019. There are four papers to prepare in three terms.

1. Introduction to Language and Literature
2. Early Medieval Literature 650 - 1350
3. Literature in English 1830 - 1910
4. Literature in English 1910 – present day

In your first (Michaelmas) Term you will be working on Papers 1, 2, and 3, which will involve 2 or 3 regular meetings with tutors per week.

Paper 1 will be taught across two terms, Michaelmas and Hilary, through a mixture of lectures in the English Faculty by various faculty members and College classes and tutorials. The examination for this paper will not be in the same form as for the other 3 papers, i.e. sit-down papers at the end of Trinity Term, but through a portfolio of essays handed in halfway through Trinity term. For some preparatory advanced reading see the reading lists enclosed.

The other three papers will all be taught in College – supplemented, as ever, by Faculty lectures.

Paper 2, **Early Medieval Literature**, will be taught by Prof Andy Orchard and spread over into your second (Hilary) and third (Trinity) Term. See Prof Orchard's reading list (enclosed).

Paper 3, **Literature in English 1830-1910**, will be taught in Michaelmas and the first half of Hilary by Dr Eleanor Lybeck, for whose reading see the enclosed sheet.

Paper 4, **Literature in English 1910-present** day, will also be taught by Dr Lybeck. The transition to Paper 4 will take place in the middle of Hilary Term, and work on it will carry on over the Easter Vacation into Trinity Term.

Dr Helen Moore **Fellow & Tutor in English**

It is important that you do a lot of advance reading now. The quantity of reading required by the Oxford English course from week to week in term is undoubtedly considerable. Your first term will, in particular, involve some rather hefty Victorian texts. If you were to leave all of these until you arrived you would rapidly fall behind. The same is true of all subsequent terms. In Oxford we regard the vacation as an essential part of your reading time, and it is key to your success here. Do make good use of the next few weeks before your arrival in October.

We are also enclosing the English Faculty advice sheets about essay writing, including the Faculty style-sheet. Keep the style-sheet safe: it's an important guide.

We wish you well in your preparation for what we are sure will be a very stimulating and exciting time ahead. If you want to know anything further that might be helpful in advance of your arrival in October, or need anything clarified, don't hesitate to ask. You can contact us via email to the College office (college.office@ccc.ox.ac.uk).

Best wishes,

Helen Moore
David Russell