

APPROVED

By Laura Harris at 11:01 am, May 22, 2020

University of Plymouth

Academic Partnerships

The Dartington Hall Trust

Programme Specification

MA Poetics of Imagination 6878 (ft) 6881 (pt)

February 2020

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1. MA Poetics of Imagination

Final award title	MA Poetics of Imagination
Level 7 Intermediate award title(s)	PGDip Poetics of Imagination
Level 7 Intermediate award title(s)	PGCert Poetics of Imagination
UCAS code	N/A
HECOS code	100314 Humanities, 100319 English Literature, 101037 Comparative Literature, 100046 Creative Writing, 101273 Combined Studies

2. **Awarding Institution:** University of Plymouth

Teaching institution(s): The Dartington Hall Trust. Registered in England as a company limited by guarantee, Company No. 1485560. Registered charity, Charity No. 279756. Registered office: The Elmhirst Centre, Dartington Hall, Dartington, Totnes, Devon TQ9 6EL.

3. **Accrediting body(ies)** None

4. Distinctive Features of the Programme and the Student Experience

- The MA Poetics of Imagination develops Narrative tracking capabilities. Students travel through the geography of a number of folktales including those of Dartmoor. They will experience a storied landscape, embodied with mnemonic triggers. This narrative tracking practice is something they will be able to develop in their own home regions, whether urban or rural, coastal or riverine.
- Development of knowledge and understanding of Western and indigenous mythic narratives. From the ancient to the contemporary. From both oral tellings and reading, we will examine myths that underpin much Western thought, especially the role of the individual. From the indigenous worlds we encounter very different dynamics within their stories. Comprehension of both similarities and difference is crucial in these encounters between traditions.
- Exploration of the role of orality within literature, words crafted for the tongue and for the page.

- Reflection on your critical engagement with ancient stories through your own creative practice. Assessments place the primary focus on critical engagements with a range of stories and texts, but also evaluate the creative practice you develop alongside your critical studies.
- Critical evaluation of literature and orality in relation to historic and cultural contexts, and its relevance to contemporary issues: ecology, feminism, relationship to place.
- Short intensive teaching and learning approach based in the living and working community on the Dartington estate, with its distinctive topography and histories of progressive education, politics, performance and art
- Potential for interactions with students and staff on other programmes at Dartington including MA Arts and Place, master’s students enrolled at Schumacher College and participants enrolled on short courses.
- Development of research techniques through a dissertation or practice-led research project presented in the public domain.

5. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Group(s)

The programme has been developed with reference to the SEEC level 7 Descriptors (2010) and QAA guidance. Whilst there are pertinent QAA subject benchmarks for bachelor’s study in English, Creative Writing and Art and Design, there are no directly applicable QAA subject benchmarks for this programme at master’s level. However, reference has been made to the QAA Master’s Degree Characteristics Statement.

6. Programme Structure

Students can take the course full-time over one year, or part-time* over two years.

(*The terms of our current UKVI Tier 4 License mean that we are unable to enrol part-time international students.)

a) Full-time

MA Poetics of Imagination									
<i>SCH5459</i> <i>Oral Thought</i> (30 credits)		<i>SCH5460</i> <i>Negotiating Fables</i> (30 credits)		<i>SCH5461</i> <i>Glorious Distortions</i> (30 credits)		<i>SCH5462</i> <i>Contemporary Romanticism</i> (30 credits)		<i>SCH5463</i> <i>Major Project/ Dissertation</i> (60 credits)	
R	Non-residential	R	Non-residential	R	Non-residential	R	Non-residential	R	Non-residential
PG Cert 60 credits <i>term 1</i> FHEQ Level 7				PG Dip 120 credits <i>term 2</i> FHEQ Level 7				MA 180 credits <i>term 3</i> FHEQ Level 7	

MA Poetics of Imagination is a low residential programme with 4 x 30 credit modules and 1 x 60 credit (Major Project/Dissertation) module, all at FHEQ Level 7.

It is proposed that each of the first four (30 credit) modules will include:

- A 2-week residential element at Dartington followed by
- 4 weeks supported e-learning.

The Major Project begins with a 1-week residential element at Dartington followed by 11 weeks supported e-learning and online or face to face tutorials.

b) Part-time

Part-time students would gain their 180 M credits as follows:

MA Part-time pathway (24 months): Students complete three core modules in Academic Year 1, and the fourth core module and Major Project/Dissertation in Academic Year 2 for the full masters, all at FHEQ Level 7. Modules 2-4 can be taken in any order to allow for flexible study options for part-time students with other demands on their time. The following is an indicative diagram of a chronological selection of modules. Alternatively, modules 1, 3 and 4 can be taken in year 1, and modules 2 and 5 in year 2.

MA Poetics of Imagination part-time year 1									
<i>SCH5459</i> <i>Oral Thought</i> <i>(30 credits)</i>		<i>SCH5460</i> <i>Negotiating Fables</i> <i>(30 credits)</i>		<i>SCH5461</i> <i>Glorious Distortions</i> <i>(30 credits)</i>					
R	Non-residential	R	Non-residential	R	Non-residential				
PG Cert 60 credits <i>term 1</i> FHEQ Level 7				60 credits <i>term 2</i> FHEQ Level 7					

MA Poetics of Imagination part-time year 2									
				<i>SCH5462</i> <i>Contemporary Romanticism</i> <i>(30 credits)</i>		<i>SCH5463</i> <i>Major Project/ Dissertation</i> <i>(60 credits)</i>			
						R	Non-residential	R	Non-residential
				60 credits <i>term 2</i> PG Dip 120 credits FHEQ Level 7				MA 180 credits <i>term 3</i> FHEQ Level 7	

PG Dip Part-time pathway (24 months): Students complete two core modules in Academic Year 1, and two core modules in Academic Year 2 for the PG Diploma, all at FHEQ Level 7.

PG Dip Poetics of Imagination part-time year 1							
<i>SCH5459</i> <i>Oral Thought</i> <i>(30 credits)</i>		<i>SCH5460</i> <i>Negotiating Fables</i> <i>(30 credits)</i>					
R	Non-residential	R	Non-residential				
PG Cert 60 credits <i>term1</i> FHEQ Level 7							

PG Dip Poetics of Imagination part-time year 2							
		<i>SCH5461</i> <i>Glorious Distortions</i> <i>(30 credits)</i>		<i>SCH5462</i> <i>Contemporary Romanticism</i> <i>(30 credits)</i>			
		R	Non-residential	R	Non-residential		
60 credits <i>term 2</i> PG Dip 120 credits FHEQ Level 7							

OR

PG Dip Poetics of Imagination part-time year 1							
<i>SCH5459</i> <i>Oral Thought</i> <i>(30 credits)</i>				<i>SCH5461</i> <i>Glorious Distortions</i> <i>(30 credits)</i>			
R	Non-residential						
30 credits <i>term1</i> FHEQ Level 7				30 credits <i>term 2</i> PG Cert 60 credits FHEQ Level 7			

PG Dip Poetics of Imagination part-time year 2							
	<i>SCH5460</i> <i>Negotiating Fables</i> <i>(30 credits)</i>				<i>SCH5462</i> <i>Contemporary Romanticism</i> <i>(30 credits)</i>		
		R	Non-residential	R	Non-residential	R	Non-residential
60 credits <i>term 2</i>							

7. Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

- a) Critically engage with a range of Western and indigenous narratives, both oral and literate. We will particularly address the roles of the storyteller, creation myths, from animism to civilisation, folk tales in relation to wildness and domesticity.
- b) Develop skills in research, critical reading and writing, creative writing or practice, performance and presentation, fieldwork and documentation.
- c) Analyse the journey from the mythological to the psychological within the Arthurian and courtly romances of the 12th and 13th century. This multicultural endeavour draws upon a changing relationship to love, gender and spirituality, and the influence of Persian culture, especially poetry, on the medieval mind.
- d) Enable students to undertake a substantial investigation that addresses significant areas of literary theory and practice.
- e) Critically evaluate what romanticism could mean in the face of the contemporary concerns of climate change, feminism, class, and racial divisions.

8. Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

Graduates from the programme should demonstrate:

8.1 Knowledge and understanding

8.1.1 A critical understanding of the field of ancient to contemporary Western and non-Western narrative, especially the oral tradition, studied in the programme and a knowledge of intercultural influences in literature.

8.1.2 An understanding of the social, historical, and cultural contexts of the narratives studied and the pertinence of past narratives for contemporary society and issues

8.1.3 An ability to articulate the differing nuance between oral and literate cultures, its implications, opportunities and losses

8.1.4 A coherent appreciation of a range of literary genres.

8.2 Cognitive and intellectual skills

8.2.1 A comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research

8.2.2 Conceptual understanding that enables the critical evaluation of current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline and the evaluation of methodologies

8.2.3 A critical engagement with the theoretical literature relevant to the context they are working in, demonstrating the ability to analyse, evaluate, compare and contrast, and synthesise solutions for the given context

8.2.4 Desk research and critical writing skills.

8.3 Key and transferable skills

8.3.1 An ability to lead and/or work in a team

8.3.2 Written and verbal presentation skills

8.3.3 Performance skills

8.3.4 An ability to engage with peers and give constructive feedback.

8.3.5 Ability to recognise their own creativity and rigorous creative practice and how it informs their lives and has impact.

8.4 Employment related skills

8.4.1 Understanding of a number of technologies in relation to the narratives studied – from ancient to digital

8.4.2 An ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements, and communicate conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences

8.4.3 The independent learning ability required for continuing professional development, self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and acting autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level

8.4.4 A knowledge and understanding of pertinent professional practice contexts, the ability to develop professional practice project proposals and an ability to engage with social media for professional practice.

8.5 Practical skills

8.5.1 Originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline

8.5.2 Introduction to creative practical skills (which might include creative writing, image, editorial)

8.5.3 An ability to design and undertake fieldwork

8.5.4 An ability to design and produce project documentation.

9. Admissions Criteria, including APCL, APEL and Disability Service arrangements

Qualification(s) required for entry to the MA	Comments
BA (Honours) Degree	A first degree in a humanities subject. Where the first degree is not

	humanities-related, a portfolio of work will be required in support of the application or experience that is equivalent.
Other non-standard awards or experience	A willingness to engage with the fields of Poetics of the Imagination. Candidates will be considered with appropriate APCL and APEL subject to interview.
Interview requirements	All applicants are required to attend an interview, either at the School, or by skype.
IELTS or equivalent to an average score of 6.5	All overseas students requiring a Tier 4 visa who normally do not have an undergraduate degree awarded in English.
Independent Safeguarding Agency (ISA) or Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) clearance required.	Not required.

Candidates who declare a disability upon admission will be referred to disability support for assessment and further recommendations regarding study support. The programme includes a number of fieldtrips. Some of these are to museums or other publicly funded sites that already provide good access for visitors with disabilities. Other fieldtrips may involve walking on Dartmoor or at the coast. We will take all possible measures to ensure that students with disabilities can participate in these activities but cannot guarantee that this will always be possible. This is clearly communicated to applicants during their admission interviews so they can make an informed decision on whether to accept the offer of a place. Where students are not able to take part in organised fieldwork, we will ensure that alternative activities are put in place to allow every student to meet the learning outcomes of the module concerned.

Dartington Hall Trust's application for registration with Office for Students is pending a decision. We have been informed that our application is complete and we should not expect any further queries to be raised. In the meantime, under transitional arrangements, we continue to hold a valid UKVI Tier 4 License enabling us to enrol full-time international students. We currently have no plans to recruit part-time international students. Our website and marketing materials make this clear.

10. Progression criteria for Final and Intermediate Awards

PGCert Poetics of Imagination: successful completion of modules:

- SCH5459 Oral Thought (30 credits) +
- SCH5460 Negotiating Fables (30 credits).

PGDip Poetics of Imagination: successful completion of modules:

- SCH5459 Oral Thought (30 credits) +
- SCH5460 Negotiating Fables (30 credits) +
- SCH5461 Glorious Distortions (30 credits) +
- SCH5462 Contemporary Romanticism (30 credits).

MA Poetics of Imagination: successful completion of modules:

- SCH5459 Oral Thought (30 credits) +
- SCH5460 Negotiating Fables (30 credits) +
- SCH5461 Glorious Distortions (30 credits) +
- SCH5462 Contemporary Romanticism (30 credits) +
- SCH5463 Major Project/Dissertation (60 credits).

11. Non-Standard Regulations None

12. Transitional Arrangements None

Appendix 1: Programme Specification Mapping: module contribution to the meeting of Award Learning Outcomes

Module	Credits	Core or elective C - E																					Compensation Y - N	Assessment element(s) and weightings [use KIS definition] E1 - exam E2 - clinical exam T1 - test C1 - coursework A1 - generic assessment P1 - practical		
			8.1 Knowledge & understanding				8.2 Cognitive & intellectual skills				8.3 Key & transferable skills					8.4 Employment related skills				8.5 Practical skills						
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4			
SCH5459 Oral Thought FHEQ Level 7	30	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X					X	X	X	Y	C1 100%	
SCH5460 Negotiating Fables FHEQ Level 7	30	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X					X	X	X	Y	C1 100%	
Learning Outcomes 60 credits			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	2			
SCH5461 Glorious Distortions FHEQ Level 7	30	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X				X	X		X	X	X	Y	C1 100%	
SCH5462 Contemporary Romanticism FHEQ Level 7	30	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X				X	X		X	X	X	Y	C1 100%	
Learning Outcomes 120 credits			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	2			
SCH5463 Major Project /Dissertation FHEQ Level 7	60	C	X	X			X	X	X	X	X				X			X	X	X	X				N	C1 100%
Learning Outcomes 180 credits			1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0			
Confirmed Award LOs			5	5	2	4	5	5	4	5	1	4	2	4	1	2	1	3	3	1	4	4	4			

Appendix 2: Module Learning Outcomes

SCH5459 Oral Thought, FHEQ Level 7
1.Critically reflect on a range of Western and non-Western myths and stories, specifically creation, trickster and fairy tales.
2.Articulate a comprehensive understanding of relationship between place, nature, spirit and human world in at least one tradition.
3.Compare and contrast relationships between belief systems, and how they interact through themes such as desire, betrayal and the supernatural.
4.Demonstrate desk research and critical writing skills.
5.Utilise creative practice skills.
6.Engage with peers in information exchange, critical evaluation of materials studied and giving and receiving constructive feedback.

SCH5460 Negotiating Fables, FHEQ Level 7
1.Articulate the differing nuance between oral and literate cultures, its implications, opportunities and losses.
2.Display a coherent appreciation of the difference between an epic story and a wonder, folk or tribal tale.
3.Communicate changes of ambition in the genre, but also areas where some essential thread is maintained.
4.Demonstrate field research and documentation skills.
5.Demonstrate performance/presentation skills.

SCH5461 Glorious Distortions, FHEQ Level 7
1.Identify the move from the mythological to the psychological in the arc of the stories examined. To compare and contrast narrative motives.
2.Coherently demonstrate the diffusion of both Celtic and Persian influences within the study materials.
3.Articulate the heretical tensions between societal conduct and the romantic urgings of the troubadours.
4.Demonstrate field research and documentation skills.
5.Demonstrate creative practice skills.

SCH5462 Contemporary Romanticism, FHEQ Level 7
1.Articulate cultural and historical changes that have altered our perception of what romanticism could be in contemporary culture.
2.Demonstrate the conceptual versatility to tell a family narrative and equate elements to the mythic and psychological structures of previous modules.
3.Critically evaluate the work of one contemporary writer studied in relation to the

Romantic tradition.
4.Demonstrate advanced desk research skills.
5.Utilise creative practice skills.
6.Demonstrate a knowledge of pertinent professional practice contexts and professional practice skills.

SCH5463 Major Project/Dissertation, FHEQ Level 7
1.Make a contribution to the development of poetics of imagination theory and/or practice.
2.Critically develop and systematically test, analyse and appraise their own inquiries, drawing original conclusions and displaying methodological and theoretical rigour.
3.Critically engage with the theoretical literature relevant to the context they are working in, demonstrating the ability to analyse, evaluate, compare and contrast, and synthesise solutions for the given context.
4.Demonstrate advanced research skills and academic writing and/or creative writing skills.
5.Demonstrate team work in the production of a public end of year event and/or publication.

Appendix 3: Additional costs to students

The tuition fees for the programme are posted on our webpage:

<https://artsschool.dartington.org/postgraduate-programmes/>

under Programme Tuition Fees.

In addition to tuition fees, students can choose to pay for onsite accommodation and board in the Dartington Learning Community for two weeks for each of the first four modules @ £299 per week (2020/21 rate) as posted on the webpage above under Student Accommodation. They may, alternatively, opt to rent accommodation nearby or commute in and out of the campus if they live locally.

Other costs that students will incur on the programme are:

- Books and journals. All books and journals to be studied on the programme are available either in the Dartington Library or in University of Plymouth Library, but students may wish to purchase their own copies of a selection of key texts.

- Fieldtrips travel. These vary from year to year, but might include travel to Dartmoor, the south Devon coast, Tintagel or other similar site, a local museum, and the British Museum (students should budget for around £150 with a student railcard)
- Creative practice materials, specialist workshop facilities, final project production and presentation. These costs will vary depending on the type of creative practice students pursue and the final project that they present. Students should budget for these costs.
- Travel to and from Dartington for face-to-face teaching weeks. There are four two-week periods of teaching at Dartington for the first four modules. Unless students are living onsite or locally they will need to budget for the cost of travel to and from Dartington.
- If an international student, students will need to budget for the cost of a Tier 4 visa.