



Approved August 2018 for English and Creative Writing reapproval

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

### 1. General information

<b>Awarding body / institution</b>	Leeds Trinity University
<b>Teaching institution</b>	Leeds Trinity University
<b>'Parent' School</b> ( <i>ICE / SAC / SSHS</i> )	SAC
<b>Academic Group</b> ( <i>or Cluster if clearer</i> )	ENG
<b>Professional accreditation body</b> ( <i>if applicable</i> )	n/a
<b>Final award</b> ( <i>eg. BA Hons</i> )	MA
<b>Title of programme(s)</b>	Victorian Studies
<b>Subsidiary award(s)</b> ( <i>if any</i> )	PgDip Victorian Studies PgCert Victorian Studies
<b>Honours type</b> ( <i>Single / Joint / Combined</i> )	n/a
<b>Duration and mode(s) of study</b>	Minimum 12 months full-time / 2 years part-time
<b>Month/year of approval of programme</b>	May 2018
<b>Start date</b> (this version) ( <i>month and year</i> )	September 2018
<b>Periodic review next due</b> ( <i>academic year</i> )	2022/23
<b>JACS and HECoS subject code(s)</b> ( <i>Level 3</i> ) (Please refer to HESA listing on AQO website)	V144 (100310)
<b>UCAS course code &amp; route code</b> (available from Admissions)	n/a
<b>SITS codes</b> ( <i>Course / Pathway / Route</i> ) (available from Student Administration)	VICSTUD
<b>Delivery venue(s)</b>	Leeds Trinity University

### 2. Aims of the programme

**Rationale and general aims, including what is special about this programme  
(from the student's and a marketing perspective)**

The aims of the programme are:

- To enable students who have the range of skills and knowledge appropriate to honours graduates in various related disciplines to extend and deepen their knowledge and understanding of Victorian Britain.
- To introduce students to a variety of theoretical and disciplinary perspectives on the cultural history and literature of Victorian Britain, and enable them to develop the skills of interdisciplinary analysis and understanding.
- To provide the necessary foundational skills for those wishing to proceed to doctoral level postgraduate work.

### 3. Student learning outcomes of the programme

#### Learning outcomes in terms of:

- **knowledge and understanding (K)**
- **intellectual / cognitive / 'thinking' skills (I)**
- **practical skills specific to the subject (P)**
- **employability skills (E)**

The 'K1', etc codes are used in section 7b) and module descriptors to refer to each of these learning outcomes.

On successful completion of the programme students will have:

- K1 demonstrated knowledge of Victorian society, culture and literature that is at or informed by the forefront of the discipline, to generate new insights into current issues;
- K2 demonstrated comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the barriers to, and the challenges and advantages of, interdisciplinarity in the humanities;
- K3 demonstrated a thorough and detailed knowledge of a specific topic that made a creative and original contribution to current scholarship in the area;
- I1 deployed a range of theoretical and disciplinary approaches to a sophisticated standard to illuminate aspects of the Victorian period;
- I2 produced sophisticated arguments and interpretations on the basis of a critical engagement with both existing scholarship and appropriate contemporary sources;
- I3 formulated advanced research strategies in the planning, designing and undertaking of sustained research projects;
- I4 produced a substantial piece of sustained scholarly writing which made an independent contribution to its chosen field.

#### Employability skills

- E1 **Self-management** – the ability to plan and manage time; readiness to accept responsibility and improve their own performance based on feedback/reflective learning; the ability to take initiative and be proactive, flexible and resilient;
- E2 **Teamworking** – the ability to co-operate with others on a shared task and to recognise and take on appropriate team roles; leading, contributing to discussions and negotiating; contributing to discussions; awareness of interdependence with others;

Addition of Negotiated Studies module – AG Chair approval 13.12.18

Part-time route added 19.12.18

- E3 **Business and sector awareness** – an understanding of the key drivers for business success, including the importance of customer/client satisfaction and innovation; understanding of the market/sector in which an organisation operates; the ability to recognise the external context and pressures on an organisation, including concepts such as value for money, profitability and sustainability;
- E4 **Problem-solving** – a capacity for critical reasoning, analysis and synthesis; a capacity for applying knowledge in practice; an ability to retrieve, analyse and evaluate information from different sources;
- E5 **Communication** – the ability to present information clearly and appropriately, both orally and in writing, and to tailor messages to specific audiences and purposes;
- E6 **Application of numeracy** – a general awareness of mathematics and its application in practical contexts; the ability to carry out arithmetic operations and understand data, to read and interpret graphs and tables and to manage a budget;
- E7 **Application of information technology** – the ability to identify the appropriate IT package for a given task; familiarity with word-processing, spreadsheets and file management; the ability to use the internet and email effectively.
- E8 **Entrepreneurship/enterprise** – the ability to demonstrate an innovative approach and creativity, to generate ideas and to identify and take opportunities;
- E9 **Social, cultural & civic awareness** – embracement of an ethos of community and civic responsibility; an appreciation of diversity and ethical issues; an understanding of cultures and customs in the wider community.

See also the learning outcomes for subsidiary awards set out in section 4 below.

### 3a External benchmarks

#### Statement of congruence with the relevant published subject benchmark statements

*(including appropriate references to any PSRB, employer or legislative requirements)*

There is no published subject benchmark statement relevant to the study of this subject at Level 7.

### 4. Learning outcomes for subsidiary awards

<b>Guidance</b>	
The assessment strategy is designed so that each of these outcomes is addressed by more than one module.	<p><b>Learning outcomes for the award of <u>Postgraduate Certificate in Victorian Studies</u>:</b></p> <p>On successful completion of 60 credits at Level 7, students will have demonstrated an ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) develop new skills in interdisciplinary study to a high level and advance knowledge in Victorian Studies;</li> <li>(ii) approach complex interdisciplinary topics in a systematic and creative manner and make sound judgements in the absence of comprehensive information/data;</li> </ul>

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<p>The assessment strategy is designed so that each of these outcomes is addressed by more than three modules.</p>	<p>(iii) communicate judgements and conclusions to different audiences;</p> <p>(iv) develop the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment including the ability to exercise initiative and personal responsibility.</p> <p><b>Learning outcomes for the award of <u>Postgraduate Diploma in Victorian Studies</u></b></p> <p>On successful completion of 120 credits at Level 7, students will have demonstrated, <b>in addition to the outcomes for a Postgraduate Certificate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the ability to utilise knowledge that is at, or informed by, the forefront of the discipline and/or area of professional practice in Victorian Studies to evaluate critically new insights and/or current issues;</li> <li>(ii) comprehensive knowledge of interdisciplinary research techniques and how these can be critically applied to existing knowledge in Victorian Studies;</li> </ul> <p>Further development of the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment including autonomous decision-making in complex situations.</p>
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## 5. Content

<p><b>Summary of content by theme</b> (providing a 'vertical' view through the programme)</p>
<p>The programme comprises three complementary elements: core foundation modules, option modules and the dissertation. Each element is designed to contribute in specific ways to achieving the programme aims and objectives. The programme has been designed so that full-time students experience the three elements simultaneously to complete the degree in 12 months. The degree follows the structure of one core module that is year-long and one that is delivered in semester 1; 60 credits from the option modules, distributed across semesters 1 and 2, according to the modules chosen; and the Dissertation over semester 2 and the summer vacation. Part-time students will split these modules over 2 years, normally saving one option module and the Dissertation for the second year.</p> <p>The function of the <b>core foundation modules</b> is as follows. The semester 1 module, VIC 7003 <i>The Victorians</i>, is designed to enable students to move beyond the traditional single-disciplinary approach which is likely to have been their undergraduate experience, and to provide an introduction to the central material and key issues of literary and historical study of the period. The year-long module, VIC7013 <i>Approaches and Methods for Victorian Studies</i>, is intended to provide students with the opportunity to develop key practical skills to support autonomous learning at postgraduate level in semester 1 and to foster an advanced understanding of theoretical approaches and an ability to apply such approaches in semester 2.</p> <p>The <b>four option modules</b> are designed both to encourage students to range across and between disciplines, and also to help them develop particular sets of skills that are relevant to the wider topic of Victorian Studies. <i>Victorian Literature</i> aims to develop skills in close textual analysis and the application of literary theory, alongside knowledge of a specific writer or group of writers. <i>Victorian Culture</i> aims to develop skills in close reading of artefacts, the application of cultural theories, and the use of archives, collections and museums, alongside knowledge of a specific development in visual, sensory or material culture. <i>Victorian Society</i> will enable students to</p>

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Part-time route added 19.12.18

develop skills in synthesis, including identifying trends and developments across the period. They will also develop knowledge of a particular trend, e.g. religion or gender identity. Each of these modules is offered in a 15-credit and 30-credit version: students must take one of these as a 30-credit module. The fourth option module, the 30-credit *Professional Development and Practice* module (VIC7055), gives students the opportunity to develop knowledge and expertise in a particular topic within Victorian Studies and to apply it in a specific project in a workplace setting.

The option modules enable students to take a wide-ranging approach to the subject. They aim to appeal to two kinds of learners: the student who wants to explore Victorian Studies before choosing a dissertation topic, and the student who comes with a particular project in mind. The latter student will benefit from: (a) expanding their knowledge and understanding of the context for their particular topic; (b) gaining experience of interdisciplinarity; and (c) honing particular academic skills needed for the Dissertation.

The final element of the programme is the *Dissertation* (VIC7076), a 60-credit module requiring the production of a substantial thesis of 12,000 words. Completion of the dissertation will enable students to demonstrate their ability to present a substantial piece of sustained scholarly writing which makes an independent contribution to its chosen field. It gives students transferrable skills that could be used in any workplace environment that requires investigation and presenting information, as well as the obvious route of progression into a PhD.

Field visits to museums, galleries, etc. may be used to support learning and teaching, and we will work with community partners to explore the possibility of holding some evening classes off-site.

## 6. Structure

### MA VICTORIAN STUDIES

**Duration:** minimum 12 months full-time / 2 years part-time

**Total credit rating:** 180 (90 ECTS)

**Subsidiary awards:** PGDiploma (120 credits)  
PGCertificate (60 credits)

With effect from 2018/19

#### **Full Time**

**Core:** Students are required to take:

VIC7003	The Victorians	Sem 1	30 credits
VIC7013	Approaches to Methods for Victorian Studies	Sem 1 & 2	30 credits

**Option:** Students are required to select 60 credits from:

VIC7005	Negotiated Study	Sem 1	15 credits
VIC7063	Victorian Literature	Sem 1 & 2	30 credits
VIC7073	Victorian Culture	Sem 2 & 1	30 credits
VIC7083	Victorian Society	Sem 2 & 1 (Spanning)	30 credits
VIC7093	Professional Development and Practice	Sem 1 & 2 Or Spanning	30 credits
VIC7025	Victorian Literature	Sem 1	15 credits
VIC7035	Victorian Culture	Sem 2	15 credits
VIC7045	Victorian Society	Sem 2	15 credits

\* Candidates may not take both a 30-credit module and a 15-credit module in the same topic (eg. VIC7063 and VIC7025 are mutually exclusive).

For the award of MA candidates are required to take:

VIC7076	Dissertation	Sem 1 and 2	60 credits
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Addition of Negotiated Studies module – AG Chair approval 13.12.18

Part-time route added 19.12.18

## Part-Time

### Year 1

<b>Core:</b>	<b>Students are required to take:</b>		
VIC7003	The Victorians	Sem 1	30 credits
VIC7013	Approaches to Methods for Victorian Studies	Sem 1 & 2	30 credits
<b>Option:</b>	<b>Students are required to select 30 credits from:</b>		
VIC7005	Negotiated Study	Sem 1	15 credits
VIC7063	Victorian Literature*	Sem 1 & 2	30 credits
VIC7073	Victorian Culture*	Sem 2 & 1	30 credits
VIC7083	Victorian Society*	Sem 2 & 1 (Spanning)	30 credits
VIC7093	Professional Development and Practice	Sem 1 & 2 or Spanning	30 credits
VIC7025	Victorian Literature*	Sem 1	15 credits
VIC7035	Victorian Culture*	Sem 2	15 credits
VIC7045	Victorian Society*	Sem 2	15 credits

\* Candidates may not take both a 30-credit module and a 15-credit module in the same topic (eg. VIC7063 and VIC7025 are mutually exclusive).

### Year 2

<b>Core:</b>	<b>Students are required to take:</b>		
VIC7076	Dissertation		
<b>Option:</b>	<b>Students are required to select 30 credits from:</b>		
VIC7005	Negotiated Study#	Sem 1	15 credits
VIC7063	Victorian Literature*#	Sem 1 & 2	30 credits
VIC7073	Victorian Culture*#	Sem 2 & 1	30 credits
VIC7083	Victorian Society*#	Sem 2 & 1 (Spanning)	30 credits
VIC7093	Professional Development and Practice#	Sem 1 & 2 Or Spanning	30 credits
VIC7025	Victorian Literature*#	Sem 1	15 credits
VIC7035	Victorian Culture*#	Sem 2	15 credits
VIC7045	Victorian Society*#	Sem 2	15 credits

\* Candidates may not take both a 30-credit module and a 15-credit module in the same topic (eg. VIC7063 and VIC7025 are mutually exclusive).

# Candidates may not re-select modules taken in Year 1 of the part-time route

## 7. Learning, teaching and assessment

### 7a) Statement of the strategy for learning, teaching and assessment for the programme

The programme has a clear assessment strategy. The overwhelming weight of assessment is assessed essays, the most appropriate form for assessing ability to operate at level 7 in the Humanities.

The use of a take-away paper for VIC7003 *The Victorians* helps students develop skills in applying their knowledge and understanding of concepts, by responding to questions and textual extracts

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in a time-limited exercise. The use of skills-based exercises in VIC7013 *Approaches and Methods for Victorian Studies* is appropriate to the particular skills-based aims of this module.

The general use of 3,000-word essays for 15-credit modules and 6,000-word essays for 30-credit modules facilitates the students' development of high-level essay-writing skills. The 30-credit module additionally requires students to present one piece extended piece drawing on a wider range of examples or sources, and thus provides a useful bridge to the demands of the dissertation.

The *Professional Development and Practice* module (VIC7093) allows students to exercise independence by undertaking a work-based project that allows them to apply knowledge and understanding developed on the MA. This is in line with the focus on employability at Level 7 advocated in the University's Learning and Teaching Strategy. The project, the blog-post and the reflective report are geared towards developing students' ability to transfer their knowledge and skills into workplace-based practice.

The Dissertation (VIC7076) requires the production of a substantial thesis of 12,000 words. Completion of the dissertation will enable students to demonstrate their ability to present a substantial piece of sustained scholarly writing which makes an independent contribution to its chosen field. It gives students transferrable skills that could be used in any workplace environment that requires investigation and presenting information, as well as the obvious route of progression into a PhD.





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## 8. Entry requirements

### Postgraduate programmes

Applicants should normally have achieved the following prior to registration for the programme:

A good honours degree in a relevant subject (or equivalent) (usually 2.2 or above).

*For PG ITT:* GCSE English Language and Mathematics at grade C or 4 (or equivalent) are required; for Primary GCSE Science is also a requirement.

For students whose first language is not English, a pass in an approved test in English is needed, e.g. the International English Language Testing Service (IELTS) at 6.0 as a minimum with no component below 5.5, or accepted equivalent test.

*Other non-certificated requirements:* applicants are required to demonstrate knowledge of, and commitment to, the interdisciplinary study of the Victorian period, especially when their academic qualifications do not include a substantial element of study of relevance to the Victorian period.

Applications are welcome from those with few or no formal qualifications. Any previous relevant work experience and learning will be assessed and, where appropriate, accredited as part of the application process. Specifically, successful participation in the LCVS Victorian Studies Summer School will fulfil entry requirements for the programme and carry 15 credits APL. Please see Leeds Trinity's Principles and Guidelines for the Recognition of Prior Learning.

## 9. Progression, classification and award requirements

### Details of requirements for student progression between levels and receipt of the award(s)

(A certain level of attainment which must be achieved in a specific module; any modules exempted from condonement, any deviation from the standard institutional stipulations for award classification, e.g. exclusion of Level 4 module marks from Foundation Degree classification)

Postgraduate Taught Course Academic Regulations apply.

To be eligible for the award of MA, candidates must attempt and achieve 180 credits, which must include VIC7003 *The Victorians* and VIC7013 *Approaches and Methods for Victorian Studies*, and VIC7076 *Dissertation*.

All students failing VIC7003 must resit and pass the module before proceeding to their second year. Full-time students failing VIC7003 will therefore be required to change to part-time mode.

Candidates who fail a module twice will not be permitted to proceed on the MA programme but may be allowed to work towards a Postgraduate Diploma.

To be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma candidates must accumulate 120 credits, including 60 credits from the core modules.

To be eligible for a Postgraduate Certificate, candidates must accumulate 60 credits, including 30 credits from one of the core modules.

## 10. Prerequisites

### Details of modules which must be passed before enrolment on a module at a higher level

All students failing VIC7003 must resit and pass the module before proceeding to their second year. Full-time students failing VIC7003 will therefore be required to change to part-time mode.

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11. Additional support needs

Arrangements made to accommodate students with additional support needs and any unavoidable restrictions on their participation in the programme/scheme

Students with disabilities or other support needs are welcome and are expected to be able to participate fully in this programme. Arrangements will be made, via the normal University support systems, to accommodate students with additional support needs wherever possible, with reasonable adjustments made to accommodate individual needs.