

Course Changes for the academic year 2020-21

There has been no change to the undergraduate course structure for the English BA. All of the papers that you were expecting to be able to study in your first year at Cambridge will be available as planned, and at the end of your first year you will sit Part IA of the Tripos, and be examined on two elements (Practical Criticism/Critical Practice and Shakespeare).

Due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and government guidance, however, we have had to make some changes to the way we teach in the Faculty, in order to mitigate against risks to health. The University will continue to monitor and respond to the changing public health situation.

The current changes are as follows:

- All Faculty lectures for the academic year 2020-21 will be delivered remotely/online.
- Faculty seminars and classes will, where possible, be given in-person – but due to current uncertainty regarding space-constraints in Faculty rooms, we cannot yet confirm which seminars will be able to be delivered in-person, and which will need to be delivered remotely. For health reasons, some staff may also choose, or be required, to teach certain seminars and classes remotely. In your case, as first-year students studying Part IA, you are unlikely to be taught in Faculty classes until Easter Term 2021, when all first years take part in Shakespeare classes.
- Your supervisions (small-group or one-on-one teaching scenarios) are organised by your College Director of Studies. It is presently expected that these will take place in person where possible and when safe for both staff and students. You will hear about arrangements for these directly from your Colleges in due course.
- In addition, we are organising an online welcome/orientation afternoon for you shortly after you arrive, and a programme of 'study skills' teaching for you, to help with the transition from school to university at this time.