



MA Critical Theory and Cultural Studies

This innovative MA provides a comprehensive introduction to the critical tradition that shapes today's human and social sciences, and an opportunity to apply theories to contemporary cultural phenomena.

The programme draws on an interdisciplinary teaching team with expertise in areas such as literary theory, continental philosophy, psychoanalysis, cultural studies and political theory. The course will appeal to students, especially those graduating from cultural studies or general humanities degrees, who are interested in further studies that emphasise theoretical approaches while maintaining a focus on their application to cultural events and practices.

This MA combines the Centre for Critical Theory's expertise in the key critical theoretical discourses in the humanities with its interests in concrete cultural and creative practices, with further expertise being provided by the Department of Culture, Film and Media. Cultural studies has grown out of the various theoretical approaches taught in the Centre for Critical Theory, but also finds specific application in the focus on the cultural industries in the Department of Culture, Film and Media. This combination makes this the perfect environment to put cultural studies approaches to work on diverse social, cultural and political texts, and to situate the discipline in the critical tradition upon which it continues to draw.

The largely seminar-based teaching allows you to actively engage with thinkers as diverse as Raymond Williams and Stuart Hall, Pierre Bourdieu and Donna Haraway, while lectures provide the philosophical background to such theorists' work. As a member of this course, you will join a thriving postgraduate community which offers reading groups, work-in-progress seminars, visiting speakers and research seminars, creating a lively, intellectually stimulating and supportive learning environment.





MA Critical Theory and Cultural Studies

Course structure and assessment

The MA Critical Theory and Cultural Studies is normally followed full-time over one year or part-time over two years. Full-time students take four modules in all, two core modules in the first semester and two optional modules in the second semester. You will also complete a 20,000-word dissertation over the summer to be submitted in September.

There are no examinations for this course. Each taught module is assessed by a 5,000-word assignment and your dissertation will also be assessed.

Core modules may include:

- Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice
- Material Cultures and Everyday Life
- Research Skills
- Social and Political Theories
- Subject and Sign after Freud and Saussure

Optional second semester modules may include:

- Mass Media
- Postcolonialism
- Culture Industries
- Visual Culture

You may also choose one optional module from any other relevant MA programme offered by the University, such as:

- 20th-Century French and Francophone Literatures
- American Studies
- Architecture and Critical Theory
- Cultural Policy
- Film Studies
- Landscape and Culture
- Technology, Science, Life

You will be assigned a personal tutor as well as a dissertation tutor to guide you through your coursework. Information about staff research interests and publications can be found at www.nottingham.ac.uk/cfm/staff

Careers

Many of our graduates go on to do PhDs. Others embark on careers in the media, advertising and public relations.

Entry requirements

To apply for this course, you would normally be expected to hold a single or joint honours degree in a related subject at 2:1 level or above, or its international equivalent.

If your first language is not English, you must achieve an overall score on the British Council IELTS test of at least 7 with no less than 6 in each element; or a TOEFL score of 600 with at least 4.5 in the Test of Written English (TWE); or a TOEFL iBT score of 100, with no less than 19 in any element. Test results should be no more than two years old.

Funding

There are a number of potential funding sources for well-qualified applicants. The School of Cultures, Languages and Area Studies offers a range of studentships and smaller bursaries for postgraduate study. These are funded either by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) or by the school. Part-time students may be eligible to apply for a WH Revis Grant. Further information about funding opportunities can be found at www.nottingham.ac.uk/clas/pgfunding

If you are an international student, you can find out about a range of funding opportunities at www.nottingham.ac.uk/internationalfunding

How to apply

You can apply online at pgapps.nottingham.ac.uk

Find out more

For further information, please contact:

Postgraduate and Research Office
School of Cultures, Languages and Area Studies
The University of Nottingham
University Park
Nottingham
NG7 2RD
UK

t: +44 (0)115 846 8316
e: pg-clas@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/clas

To request this information in an
alternative format:

t: +44 (0)115 951 4591

e: alternativeformats@nottingham.ac.uk