

**THE
UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH**

**is pursuing
redundancies in
English Literature
that are ill-conceived,
unfair, and
unnecessary...**



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

WE PROPOSE A BETTER WAY.

On the basis of inaccurate modelling and incorrect calculations, and without considering any alternatives, the University of Portsmouth proposes slashing the English Literature team from 13 lecturers to 5.

The University's proposals would drastically increase class sizes, remove all choice for English Literature students, and place Portsmouth Literature programmes at the bottom of the UK league tables.

The Literature team believes that such a move would be disastrous for students and staff.

We also believe that this is not a time to close down provision: with COVID-19, universities need to think in new and creative ways and rise to the challenges the pandemic creates, in a way that provides increased opportunities for the people of the city of Portsmouth.

Therefore, in place of the redundancy scheme, we propose the following positive vision that will respond to these challenges and the opportunities arising from the post Covid context, continue to provide for current and future students, enhance the university's reputation, and fulfil the university's commitment to engage with the diverse heritage and communities of Portsmouth and the wider local area.

- A foundation-year programme to help make the University's humanities degrees accessible to a wider range of students.
- A new, interdisciplinary Liberal Arts degree with a focus on Digital Humanities that will support both English Literature and several other degree courses.

- An English with Initial Teacher Training degree, designed to support our local community, by meeting the current shortfall of teachers in Portsmouth and Southern England.
- A series of short courses for the general public to build on our already excellent relationship with schools and cultural centres in the Portsmouth area, making Portsmouth a truly civic university.

The University's current proposals ignore the subject's good and increasing intake over the last four years, and will produce low quality, undesirable degree programmes that can only render English Literature an unviable subject within the institution.

By contrast, the English Literature team's Alternative Business Case will:

- Secure the long-term future of English Literature at Portsmouth;
- Ensure our students continue to receive internationally recognised, innovative education;
- Enable the subject area to extend its sector-leading teaching, research and community engagement work.

UCU Save English Literature at Portsmouth Campaign

Fund the Future, Protect education for all: www.fundthefuture.org.uk

Join UCU: www.ucu.org.uk/join