

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE		
MODULE CODE	EN1221 (L4)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK / 10 ECTS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT		

MODULE AIMS

This module aims to:

- Introduce all students to English literary studies at undergraduate level.
- Provide all students with an initial encounter with the study of the principal literary genres: poetry, fiction and drama.
- Introduce students to models of literary theory and to consider ways of reading texts
- Facilitate the assessment of each student's potential to progress in the study of Literature
- Enable students to recognise the importance of historical and cultural contexts.
- Enable students to acquire skills and confidence in reading, speaking, and writing about 'literature', however that is defined.

MODULE CONTENT

Students will read and discuss a selection of poems, prose fiction and drama, from the early modern period to the present day. The introduction to drama may include the viewing and discussion of film texts.

The module will compare and contrast a range of literary works and introduce various significant contexts for the study of literature. The module will also provide the opportunity to discuss the construction and constitution of the subject 'English Literature'.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this module a student will be able to:	
1.	Use appropriate scholarly terminology in the description and analysis of literary texts.
2.	Interpret the meanings of literary texts, and understand the importance of precision and thoroughness in such interpretations.
3.	Read texts closely and construct formal analysis of literary texts at an appropriate level
4.	Understand the concept of cultural and historical context, and the concept of genre, in literary studies.
5.	To show an understanding of some basic issues of theory within literary studies for intellectual progression in the study of literature.
6.	Use relevant digital resources to support learning
7.	Present learning in effective and clear formats

TEACHING METHODS

Learning and Teaching

This module is delivered through a range of lecture, seminars, workshops and review session, including film showings and documentaries. We will also make use of online resources, including digital archives as primary resources, as well as scholarly articles for your research. Lectures will foreground the wider theoretical and generic issues appropriate to the module, and seminars will follow up these issues with reference to specific texts (both primary and secondary), providing the opportunity for more detailed application and discussion of these debates. Workshops will be an opportunity for you to participate in the delivery of learning information, through your own presentations and through informal exercises set by your tutor. In seminars and workshop sessions, you will be expected to offer opinions, listen to the opinions of others, and debate key points that enhance your understanding of the literary texts and its importance to academic study. In seminars, therefore, you develop key skills in debating, critical thinking, close reading, analysis and negotiation, as well as subject-specific knowledge and understanding.

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS: In common with all other Literature modules, this module is designed to foster an active, participatory, independent approach to learning, to develop critical faculties and to consolidate and develop written and oral communication skills, and to develop a considerate cultural awareness and sensitivity to the backgrounds and beliefs of those around you.

Assessment

Assessment provides you with opportunities to reflect on your practice learning. Assessment methods are chosen to measure your progress throughout this module.

You will complete two essays. The first is a shorter piece of 1500 words that will ask you to produce a close reading of one aspect of English literary history. This is an opportunity for you to find out where you might need additional support for developing your writing skills.

The second essay, of 2500 words, expects you to demonstrate your ability to conduct extra research, to build on the learning sessions and begin to assess the value of digital resources. You should, in this essay, make sure you respond to the comments given to you in your previous work, to ensure that your writing improves.

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS: research; close reading and attention to detail; construction of logical, sustained argument; proof-reading (for both oral and written communication); consideration of audience.

As is common in all literature modules, you will be expected to show cultural sensitivity in all your assessed work as well in your taught sessions.

All assessment briefs will be delivered in teaching sessions.

Attendance:

We keep very clear records of attendance and are keen to encourage you to attend your session: attendance at taught sessions will enable you to develop the key skills you need to progress on to the next stage of your career. You should remember that employers expect you to keep to agreed hours in work, and we consider ourselves to be offering you a professional approach to develop good employability skills. As a third year student, you should now have developed an understanding that managing your time effectively is of significant benefit to you.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through a Critical commentary (40%) and a research essay (60%).