

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	INTRODUCTION TO RENAISSANCE LITERATURE		
MODULE CODE	EN1217 (L4)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK / 10 ECTS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT		

MODULE AIMS

This module aims to:

- Encourage you to evaluate and analyse a range of Renaissance literature encompassing drama, poetry and non-fictional writing.
- Explore the importance of cultural, economic, historical and religious contexts in the study of literature of this period.
- Engage with a range of theoretical models as they apply to such issues authority, gender and class
- Engage with different literary genres and to recognise generic conventions.

MODULE CONTENT

This module will examine a range of Renaissance texts from the different genres of poetry, drama and prose. We will explore some of the key features of the period including the engagement with classic literature and myth, the representation of court and country, and the emergence and exploration of new learning and the impact on travel and religious thinking. In your study of this literature you will be encouraged to focus on such issues as the relationship between literary form and cultural, economic and historical circumstances, and to recognise the specific generic contexts for poetry, drama and prose. Description of intent, intellectual challenge and skills development and relationship to other modules to build upon or complement previous knowledge.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this module a student will be able to:	
1.	Analyse and explore a range of Renaissance literature, and the critical debate surrounding it.
2.	Recognise the importance of the relationship between Renaissance literature and its particular cultural, economic, historical and religious contexts.
3.	Analyse the meaning and formal qualities of individual texts and groups of texts, and the linguistic diversity they contain.
4.	Undertake research both individually and with others
5.	Use, with understanding, an appropriate scholarly discourse.
6.	Demonstrate an increased precision and thoroughness in written and oral communication through coursework assignments.

TEACHING METHODS

This module is delivered through lectures and seminars. 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.

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, as well as providing the opportunity to acquire key employability skills. In seminars, therefore, you also develop key skills in debating, critical thinking, close reading, analysis, comparative studies, diplomacy as well as subject-specific knowledge and understanding.

Assessment

Your first assessment will be a formative, in-class test, which will enable you to evaluate your progress through the module. This assessment takes place in your seminar and you will receive feedback from your tutors about your understanding of the module content. This is held in the early stages of the module, to give you plenty of time, within the structured learning environment, to develop and hone your skills. Your second assessment is a review of a performance of a Shakespeare play which is an opportunity to develop different skills of analysis and also a different register of expression. The next formative assignment asks you produce a plan for your final assessment, a longer essay. These two assignments expect 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 the final essay, make sure you respond to the comments given to you in your planning exercise, 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; working under pressure.

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.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through a Performance Review (30%) and an essay (70%).