

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	THE SHOCK OF THE NEW: MODERN & CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE		
MODULE CODE	EN3005 (L6)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK / 10 ECTS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT		

MODULE AIMS

- This module aims to:
- Extend knowledge of the chronology of English Literature developed in core level four and five modules into the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries.
- Encourage wide and varied reading, and an appreciation of imagination and creativity in the production of texts.
- Develop skills in close reading across a diverse range of texts with distinct historical, social and cultural origins.
- Examine formal and thematic aspects of modernist and later twentieth-century and twenty-first-century texts.
- Foreground the significance of cultural and historical contexts in twentieth-century and twenty-first-century literature.
- Examine the construction of gender, class and race in twentieth-century and twenty-first-century texts.
- Consider intertextuality within and across a range of twentieth century literary texts.
- Enhance critical thinking.

MODULE CONTENT

This first part of this module takes in canonical texts from the modernist period, ensuring that students acquire an understanding of the work of major figures in early twentieth-century literature. Students examine the cultural and historical contexts in which the texts are produced, focussing on British, Irish, American, South African and New Zealand Anglophone texts. The module goes on to explore major transitions that occurred in the mid- and late Twentieth Century, weighing up the usefulness of terms such as 'postmodernism'. Students are encouraged to think comparatively, attending to connections between the texts on the module: myth and history; gender; the complexities of racial and ethnic identities; formal fragmentation; and the representation of the city are among the recurring topoi.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this module a student will be able to:	
1.	Analyse and evaluate a range of twentieth- and twenty-first century literary texts.
2.	Understand formal developments in prose, poetry and drama across the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries.
3.	Recognise the importance of cultural and historical contexts in the production of meaning.
4.	Use, critically and reflectively, an appropriate scholarly discourse.
5.	Use, with precision and thoroughness, written and oral communication in seminars and through coursework assignments.

TEACHING METHODS

This module will be delivered on campus through a weekly lecture and seminar, with occasional tutorials. The lectures will outline the main critical and theoretical debates surrounding the texts. The seminars will provide the opportunity for the more detailed application and discussion of this material. Lectures and seminars will pay close attention to formal developments and innovations in the fiction, poetry and drama under examination. Seminar presentations will enable students to take an active role in their own learning.

Employability Skills:

In common with all other English 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.

The first two assessments test students' ability to conduct research, and to build independently on what they have learned in lectures and seminars. The literature report requires students to engage in preliminary evaluations of secondary criticism, which they can then make use of in their research essay. The exam tests students' ability to synthesis knowledge and understanding of all of the texts on the module, as well as their close reading skills.

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.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through an assignment (60%) and a written exam (40%).