

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

Academic School:	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
Programme:	Contemporary Literature and Creative Writing
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	British Literature from 1945 to 2000
Course Code:	LIT 5205
Course Leader:	Sara Chetin
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	22.5
Seminar / Tutorials:	22.5
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
Semester:	Fall/Spring/Summer
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

This course introduces the key writers, genres and movements from the immediate post-WWII period to the end of the twentieth century. Students consider a range of literary texts placed in relevant historical and cultural contexts and investigate how the writing of the period responds to changes in post-war and contemporary culture such as the decline of empire and the migrant experience, the impact of feminism, the development of media society and consumer culture. The legacies of Modernism, the challenges posed to the tradition of realism, as well as a variety of experiments and innovations in forms are explored, as students engage with the critical debates and emerging theories from the period.

Prerequisites: ARW 4195

Aims and Objectives:

- To provide a critical, historical, literary, and cultural framework for the understanding and analysis of post-war and contemporary British literature, and to encourage critical reading and research in the subject
- To explore key authors, texts, and themes of the period, and to consider these in key literary, theoretical, and historical contexts
- To encourage a critical appreciation of the ways in which British literature operates in the decline of Empire, and to explore a variety of intercultural and intertextual approaches
- To develop the critical skills with which to analyse, assess, and respond to postmodern generic experimentation.

Programme Outcomes:

5Ai; 5Aii; 5Bi; 5Bii; 5Ci; 5Cii; 5Ciii; 5Dii

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at:

<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of a representative range of post-1945 British literary texts and genres within their historical and cultural contexts
- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the salient features and approaches to literary realism, postmodernism, feminism, post-colonialism
- Use appropriate critical skills and independent judgment to debate texts, perform a close reading of a passage, and undertake a comparative analysis of at least two texts
- Deliver work with limited supervision demonstrating the capacity to evaluate their own work within the context of relevant critical approaches

Indicative Content:

Students will be invited to relate their study of individual authors and works to questions about gender, class, race, and national identity, and about belief and authority, as well as issues of canonicity.

- post-war realism
- the legacy of modernism
- postmodernism

- genre fictions
- experimentation and textual practices
- the decline of the British Empire/ the migrant experience
- post-colonialism and globalisation
- changing notions of 'Englishness'
- the impact of feminism

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Learning and Teaching Policy Committee found at:
<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-affairs/academic-standing.aspx>.

Teaching Methodology:

Course meetings consist of interactive lectures on assigned readings, small group discussions and reflection activities. Some audio visual material is included. Student work is assessed through a variety of ways using both formative and summative approaches.

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

Indicative Text(s):

- Allen, Nicola and David Simmons, eds. *Reassessing the Twentieth-Century Canon*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2014
- Bentley, Nick. *Contemporary British Fiction*. Edinburgh University Press, 2008.
- Brannigan, John. *Orwell to Present: Literature in England, 1945-2000*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2002
- Cockin, Katharine and Jago Morrison eds. *The Post-War British Literature Handbook*, Bloomsbury, 2009
- Head, Dominic. *Modern British Fiction, 1950-2000*. Cambridge University Press, 2002
- King, Bruce. *The Internationalization of English Literature*. Oxford University Press, 2005
- Lane, Richard J, Mengham R, Tew, P, eds. *Contemporary British Fiction*. Polity, 2007.

Journals

Contemporary Literature
Modern Fiction Studies
Twentieth-century Literature

Web Sites

