

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

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

Academic School/Department:	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
Programme:	BA Contemporary Literature and Creative Writing
FHEQ Level:	6
Course Title:	Senior Seminar in Contemporary Literature 1
Course Code:	LIT 6296
Course Leader:	Dr. Sara Chetin
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures	
Seminar/Tutorials:	45
Independent / Guided learning:	75
Semester:	Fall, Spring
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

This research intensive course for the major is the first part of a two semester sequence taken in the Senior year. Students produce a research proposal, a literature review and a substantial draft that feeds directly into Senior Seminar 2 which culminates in an 8,000 - 10,000 word dissertation. Students are guided through the various stages of proposal and dissertation writing, and draft work is supervised regularly in a process of continuous feedback.

Prerequisites: LIT 5200 Literary Influences on Contemporary Writing

Aims and Objectives: The course aims to help students develop research strategies focusing upon the development of critical thinking and reading skills, the identification of a viable research project, the generation of a literature review, the clear articulation of a thesis/argument, and the selection of appropriate theoretical and methodological frameworks.

Programme Outcomes :

6Ai; 6Aii; 6Bi; 6Bii; 6Biv; 6Ci; 6Cii; 6Ciii; 6Civ; 6Di; 6Dii; 6Div

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 the ability to design a research question, describe the aims of the research and conduct research using evidence, data and information from a range of primary and secondary sources.
- Demonstrate the ability to write a proposal and a draft section/chapter of their paper that sets out an argument and integrates a systematic understanding of specific theoretical and methodological frameworks relevant to their topic.
- Demonstrate the ability to critically appraise several sources in a literature review.
- Complete a draft section/chapter which critically engages with the sources discussed, and demonstrates an understanding of the key debates, and the relationship between theoretical perspectives and empirical evidence, as they are relevant to the topic.
- Take responsibility for their own learning, demonstrating an ability to work independently, meet strict deadlines and use feedback effectively.
- Complete assigned work with a degree of clarity, contextualisation, critical thinking, and reflexive normative understanding appropriate for a 6000 level course.

Indicative Content:

- Designing a research proposal
- Conducting a Literature Review
- Drawing up an Outline
- Formulating a thesis
- Producing a Rough Draft

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Intensive Writing 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 a few interactive group discussions but weekly meetings primarily revolve around individual tutorial supervision. The course is student

