

**MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM**

Module Title: Introduction to Narrative	Level: 4	Credit Value: 20
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Module code: HUM482	Cost Centre: GAHN	JACS3 code: Q320
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Trimester(s) in which to be offered: 2	With effect from: September 2014
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<b>Office use only:</b> To be completed by AQSU:	Date approved: July 2014 Date revised: - Version no: 1
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Existing/New: Existing	Title of module being replaced (if any): N/A
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Originating Academic Department: Creative Industries	Module Leader: Debbie Hayfield
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Module duration (total hours): 200	Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate): Core for English and Optional for all other programmes
Scheduled learning & teaching hours: 60	
Independent study hours: 140	
Placement hours: 0	

Programme(s) in which to be offered: BA (Hons) English BA (Hons) English & Creative Writing BA (Hons) English and History	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels): None
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### **Module Aims:**

This module aims to:

- introduce the student to a wide range of narratives from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present day
- develop the skills of close reading and enable analysis and discussion of literary texts, both orally and in writing
- identify and describe methods of narrative employed in literary texts
- place narratives within a cultural and historical context

### **Intended Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of this module, students will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast a wide range of texts, describing the ways authors achieve specific effects through writing (KS1,5)
2. Recognise and interpret kinds of narrative they will encounter in literary studies, and respond independently to examples(KS1,5,9)
3. Explain the influence of historical and cultural factors on narrative styles and evaluate texts accordingly (KS1,5,7)
4. Describe and compare some of the major developments in narrative (KS 1,5)

#### *Key skills (KS) for employability*

1. *Written, oral and media communication skills*
2. *Leadership, team working and networking skills*
3. *Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills*
4. *Information technology skills and digital literacy*
5. *Information management skills*
6. *Research skills*
7. *Intercultural and sustainability skills*
8. *Career management skills*
9. *Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)*
10. *Numeracy*

**Assessment:**

In Assessment One the students will be required to carry out a critical analysis of narrative methods in one of the texts studied to date. Assessment Two requires students to write an essay which will consist of a critical analysis of two texts, in response to one question selected from a range designed to elicit and demonstrate their knowledge of narrative strategies and themes, and the ways in which narratives are historically situated.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1,2	Essay	40%		1500
2	1,2,3,4	Essay	60%		2500

**Learning and Teaching Strategies:**

Depending on the text being studied, they will be taught in either 1 or 2 sessions. When a text is being studied in the one session, it will consist of a lecture of 50 minutes, followed by guided student discussion. When a text is taught across two sessions, the first will consist of a lecture and the second will consist of a seminar for which the students will be asked to prepare their own (guided) response to the text, during private study. The lecture will introduce the student to key concepts, cultural and historical context, narrative form and style and ways of interpreting the text.

**Indicative Syllabus outline:**

- A consideration of narrative styles and concepts such as: text, novel, novella, short story, fairy tale, prose, author, narrator, protagonist, character, plot, point of view
- Social, cultural and literary contexts of various kinds of narrative.
- Major developments and innovations in the narrative form from the 18<sup>th</sup> onwards such as, realism, modernism and postmodernism

**Specific Texts:**

This module is designed to give students an introductory overview of narrative since the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the texts are chosen to illustrate a wide variety of form, styles, themes and major literary developments. Although specific texts may vary slightly from year to year, they can include:

Daniel Defoe, *Moll Flanders* (1722)

Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice* (1813)

Thomas Hardy, *The Mayor of Casterbridge* (1886)

H G Wells, *The Time Machine* (1895)

Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *The Yellow Wallpaper* (1892)

Henry James, *The Turn of the Screw* (1898)

Virginia Woolf, *Mrs Dalloway* (1925)

Katherine Mansfield, *Selected Stories* (1920-24)

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, 'The Speckled Band', *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* (1892)

Agatha Christie, *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* (1926)

Angela Carter, *The Magic Toyshop* (1966)

**Bibliography:****Indicative reading:**

Abbs, P., *The Forms of Narrative : A Practical Guide*, (CUP, 1990)

Hawthorne, J., *Studying The Novel: An Introduction*, (Edward Arnold, 1992)

Eagleton, T., *An Introduction to Literary Theory*, (Blackwell, 1983)

Halperin, J., *The Theory of The Novel: New Essays*, (OUP, 1974)

Peck, J. & Coyle, M., *Literary Terms and Criticism*, (Macmillan, 1984)

Bennett, A and Royle, N, *Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory* (Longman, 2004)