

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title: Modernism and Culture	Level: 6	Credit Value: 20
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Module code: HUM604	Cost Centre: GAHN	JACS3 code: Q321
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Trimester(s) in which to be offered: 1	With effect from: September 2014
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Office use only: 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: Dr Deniz Baker
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Module duration (total hours): 200 Scheduled learning & teaching hours: 60 Independent study hours: 140 Placement hours: 0	Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate): Core for English and Optional for all other programmes
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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:

- Examine some of the key figures involved in literary and artistic experimentation from 1880-1930 and to explore developments in the style and content of their work
- Enable students to extend their knowledge of literary and cultural history 1880-1930 within the context of diverse theoretical and critical approaches to that period
- Explore the historical, social, cultural, philosophical and literary factors that may have given rise to the development of modernism
- Consider the legacy of modernism and formalism in literary and artistic developments after 1930
- Develop individual students' skills in detailed reading, analysis and discussion of poetry, prose and the visual arts

Intended Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Interpret and critically analyze the texts studied on the course, and respond independently and intelligently to issues raised by those texts. (KS 1,2,5,6)
2. Explain some of the characteristic techniques and thematic concerns associated with the development of modernist writing and other cultural expressions. (KS 1,5,6)
3. Critically evaluate the concept of modernism and its legacy through sustained discussion of individual works and writers as well as through discussion of key movements and manifestos. (KS 1,5,6,9)
4. Critically analyze the relationship between individual works and broader historical and cultural contexts in order to explore the ways in which writing/culture mediates these discourses. (KS 1,5,6,7)

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:

The assessment will take the form of 100% coursework and will comprise two analytical essays requiring students to discuss specific texts chosen from the range covered and respond to questions designed to demonstrate understanding of the ideas and issues covered, and analytical and interpretative ability.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1,2,3	Essay	50%		2500
2	1,3,4,	Essay	50%		2500

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

The first session will provide an overview of key terms, concepts and figures in the module. The following sessions will take the form of two, two hour blocks in which the first session will be a lecture providing some historical and contextual context, a reading of the work/ works and a general introduction to critical reception and debate about the work. The second session will be a seminar in which students will be asked to consider an aspect of the text or issues raised by the text or to read and think about specific secondary reading. The seminars will focus on core set texts (supplemented by additional material as appropriate), but will encompass social and literary contexts as well as text-based critical analysis.

All texts will be studied in weekly seminar groups with students being encouraged to engage in close analysis of individual passages and discussion of particular issues and questions. There will be analysis of painting, sculpture and structured screenings of films (many are very brief) or film clips in order to broaden the concept of culture and to encourage a sense of the relationship between written texts and visual ones.

Individual study time will be used for the reading of texts, critical works and the preparation of seminar activities.

Indicative Syllabus outline:

- Representation: changing conceptions of the subject and object- Chekov, *The Lady with the Little Dog*; Katherine Mansfield, *The Daughters of the Late Colonel*.
- Narrative Innovations and gender Dorothy Richardson, *Pointed Roofs*; Kafka, *The Metamorphosis*; Faulkner, *As I Lay Dying*.
- The metropolitan city and spaces of modernity - T S Eliot *The Waste Land*; Virginia Woolf, *Street Haunting*; Dziga Vertov, *Man With A Movie Camera*.
- Montage, speed, shock, violence and War (cinema and modern technologies) David Jones *In Parenthesis*; Cubism, Vorticism; Eisenstein, *Strike*.
- Psychoanalysis, myth and symbolism (stream of consciousness and film language) WB Yeats selected poems; HD selected poems; DH Lawrence, *Women In Love*.
- Legacies of modernism (Maya Deren) *Meshes of the Afternoon*, *At Land*, *Ritual In Transfigured Time*, (Stan Brakhage) *Dog*, *Star Man*, *Window Water Baby Moving*, *Moth Light*; Toni Morrison *Sula*; Louise Erdrich *A Plague of Doves*.

Bibliography:**Indicative reading**

Armstrong, T. *Modernism: A Cultural History*, (Cambridge: Polity, 2005)

Benjamin, W. *The Arcades Project* (Cambridge MA: Harvard UP, 1999)

Bradshaw, D. *A Concise Companion to Modernism* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2003)

Brakhage, S. *Film At Wit's End: Essays on Independent American Filmmakers* (Edinburgh: Polygon, 1989)

Childs, P. *Modernism (New Critical Idiom Series)* (London: Routledge, 2007)

Trotter, D. *Cinema and Modernism* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2007)

Electronic Resources

Voice of the Shuttle – <http://vos.ucsb.edu/>