

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Literary & Cultural Theory
Status: Definitive
Code: **4103ENGL** (122058)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team	Leader
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Academic Level: FHEQ4
Credit Value: 20
Total Delivered Hours: 39
Total Learning Hours: 200
Private Study: 161

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	11
Seminar	22
Tutorial	3
Workshop	3

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	Annotated Bibliography - 1000 words	35	
Essay	AS2	Essay - 2000 words	65	

Aims

1. Provide students with an understanding of the basic strands of literary and cultural theories, such as feminism, Marxism, postcolonial theory, and psychoanalysis.

2. Equip students with an appropriate critical vocabulary to enable them to apply these theoretical perspectives to their study of texts, in particular literature, but also film, media, news, and popular culture.
3. Allow students to explore and evaluate these theoretical perspectives through practical application to literary texts as well as to other primary sources.
4. Give students the familiarity and confidence to use basic theoretical and critical concepts and perspectives in all areas of their degree.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Analyse and evaluate the concepts, theories, and critical practices studied on the module;
- 2 Exercise judgment about how scholars have used literary and cultural theories in their criticism;
- 3 Apply a variety of theoretical perspectives to your reading and interpretation of texts, including literature, film, and media.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

1000 words	1	2	3
2000 words	1	2	3

Outline Syllabus

- 1 *What is Literature?*
- 2 *Creating Meaning: Author, Reader, Text, & World*
- 3 *Psychoanalysis*
- 4 *Psychoanalysis in Practice*
- 5 *Marxist Theory*
- 6 *Marxist Theory in Practice*
- 7 **** Independent Study Week ****
- 8 *Postcolonial Theory*
- 9 *Postcolonial Theory in Practice*
- 10 *Feminist Theory*
- 11 *Feminist Theory in Practice*
- 12 *Summary & Essay Preparation*

Learning Activities

- Close reading exercises
- Online research tasks
- Group discussion
- Seminar presentations

Notes

Literary & Cultural Theory is a core module for all single and joint-honours English students. The aims of the module are to introduce you to the main areas of current literary and cultural theory and to make you aware of how these approaches and methodologies underpin your study of texts, literary and otherwise. It will help you to extend your critical vocabulary and enable you to apply theoretical perspectives in your academic work across modules. By focusing on two literary text (*The Turn of the Screw*) and a select number of extracts from fiction, poetry, and drama, as well as on selected films, the module allows you to test out and practice different theoretical approaches to reading and interpretation. Through seminar discussion and presentations, the module aims to give you the confidence to understand and participate in theoretical debates.