

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: NOVELS OF EMPIRE AND ADVENTURE
Status: Definitive
Code: **5013ENGLIS** (110589)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

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

Team	Leader
Gerry Smyth	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ5
Credit Value: 24.00
Total Delivered Hours: 46.00
Total Learning Hours: 240
Private Study: 194

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	11.000
Online	12.000
Seminar	22.000
Tutorial	1.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	AS1	1500 word commentary / analysis	25.0	
Essay	AS2	3000 word essay	75.0	

Aims

1. To study a number of English novels from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.
2. To familiarise students with some of the contemporary contexts within which these novels might be located, specifically: imperialism, adventure, masculinity, overseas travel, and evolutionary theory.

3. To introduce some of the theoretical discourses through which the study of such texts and contexts might be conducted.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Analyse and evaluate the literary and historical contexts from which the studied texts emerge.
- 2 Exercise judgement with reference to the theoretical issues attending the literary representations of imperialism and adventure within the given time frame.
- 3 Generate ideas based on an understanding of the different formal characteristics of 'literary' and 'popular' genres.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

1500 word commentary	2	
3000 word essay	1	3

Outline Syllabus

Imperialism and its attendant socio-political discourses;
Adventure fiction as a response to British imperial identity;
The growth of travel, tourism and mapping;
Changes in the nature and function of masculinity;
Evolutionary theory.

Learning Activities

Lectures and seminars, private study and written work.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Conan Doyle, A
Publishing Year	1912
Title	The Lost World (1912)
Subtitle	
Edition	1998 ed.
Publisher	Oxford: OUP
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Kipling, R.
Publishing Year	1901
Title	Kim (1901)
Subtitle	
Edition	1989 ed.
Publisher	Penguin
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Rider Haggard, H
Publishing Year	1885
Title	King Solomon's Mines
Subtitle	
Edition	1989 ed.
Publisher	Oxford: OUP
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Stevenson, R.L.
Publishing Year	1883
Title	Treasure Island (1883)
Subtitle	
Edition	1995
Publisher	Penguin
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Wells, H.G.
Publishing Year	1897
Title	The Island of Dr, Moreau (1897)
Subtitle	
Edition	2007
Publisher	Penguin
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Bivona, D.
Publishing Year	
Title	Desire and Contradiction
Subtitle	Imperial Visions and Domestic Debates in Victorian Literature
Edition	1990
Publisher	Manchester: MUP
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
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Author	Green, M.
Publishing Year	
Title	Dreams of Adventure, Deeds of Empire
Subtitle	
Edition	1979
Publisher	London: Routledge
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Mackenzie, J.
Publishing Year	
Title	Imperialism and Popular Culture
Subtitle	
Edition	1989
Publisher	Manchester: MUP
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Rutherford, J.
Publishing Year	
Title	Forever England
Subtitle	Reflections on Race, Masculinity and Empire
Edition	1997
Publisher	London: Lawrence & Wishart
ISBN	

Notes

By the late Victorian period, Britain was the foremost imperial power in the world, and this had a number of profound effects on contemporary British culture. This module focuses on six novels from that period (and just after) in which a range of issues related to British imperialism are addressed. Stories about adventure in far-flung corners of the empire, stories about what 'English' men were capable of, stories about the relationship between races at supposedly different points on the evolutionary ladder- these and other issues filtered into the 'artistic' and the popular imagination. Some of the issues to be considered on this module include the role of map-making and overseas travel, the impact of Darwinism and evolutionary theory, and the relationship between imperialism and gender.