

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Literature and Madness
Status: Definitive
Code: **5019ENGLIS** (117958)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2012

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

Team	Leader
Joanna Croft	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ5
Credit Value: 24.00
Total Delivered Hours: 99.00
Total Learning Hours: 240
Private Study: 141

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	24.000
Online	24.000
Seminar	48.000
Tutorial	2.000
Workshop	1.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Reflection	REFLECTION	1500 WORD REFLECTION	30.0	
Essay	ESSAY		70.0	

Aims

1. To explore through analysis of a range of texts ways in which literature articulates and /or subverts western discourses of madness;
2. To understand theoretical constructions of 'self' and 'other', with particular reference to gender/sexuality/race/class;
3. To reflect upon possible links between psychic and linguistic instability as

represented in literary texts.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Analyse and evaluate key debates about the relationship between literature and madness, and show how oppositional discourses of sanity/insanity may be subverted within literary representation;
- 2 Exercise significant judgement with particular reference to gender/sexuality/race and class;
- 3 Generate ideas through the analysis of narrative and linguistic strategies employed to represent psychic instability.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

REFLECTION	3
ESSAY	1 2

Outline Syllabus

The module will be taught through lectures and workshops which will cover the following topics:

*notions of 'madness' and 'sanity' in western culture; theories of the construction of subjectivity and identity; the gendered construction of 'madness'; psychic investments in writing; theories of the carnivalesque and abjection; the relationship between psychoanalytic theory and literary writing. The key texts studied may vary each year subject to availability and the expertise of staff teaching on the module, but an example of a core syllabus would be: Gogol, Nikolai (1836) *The Diary of A Madman and Other Stories*; Hill, Selima (2004) *Lou Lou*; Ken Kesey, (1962) *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*; McCabe, Patrick (1992) *The Butcher Boy* (1992); Plath, Sylvia (1963) *The Bell Jar*.*

Learning Activities

Lectures, Seminars, Workshops, Online tutor support.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Bakhtin, M
Publishing Year	1941

Title	Rabelais and His World
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	John Wiley & Sons, (1941)
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Bentall, R
Publishing Year	2003
Title	Madness Explained; Psychosis and Human Nature
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Penguin Books
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Dellar, R et al.
Publishing Year	2001
Title	Mad Pride; A Celebration of Mad Culture
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Spare Change Books
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Felman, S
Publishing Year	2003
Title	Writing and Madness :Literature, Philosophy, Psychoanalysis
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Palo Alto: Stanford University Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Foucault, M
Publishing Year	1965
Title	Madness and Civilisation :A History of Insanity in the Age of Reason
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Vintage Books, 1965
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Kristeva, J
Publishing Year	1982

Title	Powers of Horror; An Essay on Abjection
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	New York: Columbia University Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Kristeva, J
Publishing Year	1987
Title	Black Sun :Depression and Melancholia
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	New York: Columbia University Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Laing, R.D.
Publishing Year	1960
Title	The Divided Self: An Existential Study in Sanity and Madness
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Penguin Books, (1961)
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Mitchell, J
Publishing Year	2001
Title	Madmen and Medusas; Reclaiming Hysteria
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	New York: Basic Books
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Phillips, A
Publishing Year	2005
Title	Going Sane
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Penguin Books
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Porter, R
Publishing Year	2002
Title	Madness; A Brief History

Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Oxford: Oxford University Press,
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Read, J
Publishing Year	1996
Title	Speaking Our Minds: An Anthology
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan,
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Baker, C., et. Al.,
Publishing Year	2010
Title	Madness in Post-War British and American Fiction
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Basingstoke: Palgrave
ISBN	

Notes

This 24 credit module considers notions of 'madness' and 'sanity' in western culture in order to examine the relationship between accounts of psychic structure and the processes of literature. Issues such as identity, the gendering of 'madness' and extreme states of being will be concerns of the module.