

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Cultural and Critical Theory
Status: Definitive
Code: **5103SOC** (124438)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

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

Team	Leader
David Tyrer	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ5
Credit Value: 20
Total Delivered Hours: 33
Total Learning Hours: 200
Private Study: 167

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	22
Workshop	11

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	1000 Words Annotated Bibliography	30	
Essay	AS2	2500 Word Essay	70	

Aims

1. To explore the development of cultural and critical theory in historical and epistemic contexts.
2. To develop students' theoretical literacy and their ability to identify appropriate sources, both primary and secondary.
3. To examine and apply critical and cultural theory to questions relating to subjectivity and the constitution and experiences of modern subjects.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate the use of approaches within critical and cultural theory to explore a specific social issue.
- 2 Assess competing perspectives within critical and cultural theory.
- 3 Understand the emergence of key strands within critical and cultural theory within their historical and epistemic contexts.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Annotated Bibliography	2	
Essay	1	3

Outline Syllabus

Theory and the challenges of modernity

Situating cultural theory

What is critical theory?

Key thinkers including:

Lukacs

Benjamin

Adorno

Gramsci

Foucault

Lacan

Butler

Agamben

(Thinkers covered might be subject to change)

Learning Activities

Students will attend lectures to stimulate interest and provide information and workshops to allow active learning and debate.

Notes

This module will introduce students to a series of key thinkers in order to trace out the emergence of key strands in contemporary cultural and critical theory in relation to particular challenges associated with modernity and the conceptual, ethical, and political questions these presented. A particular emphasis will be placed upon the constitution and experiences of modern subjects in relation to what might be termed

the violence and trauma of modernity. The thinkers covered might well be subject to change, but might indicatively include writers such as Adorno, Horkheimer, Benjamin, Gramsci, Foucault, Lacan, Butler, and Agamben, among others.