

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: CONSCIOUSNESS, NARRATIVE AND THE NOVEL  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **5511MEDCUL** (115007)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science  
Teaching School/Faculty: St Helens College

Team	Leader
Clare Horrocks	Y

**Academic Level:** FHEQ5  
**Credit Value:** 12.00  
**Total Delivered Hours:** 44.00  
**Total Learning Hours:** 120  
**Private Study:** 76

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	21.000
Seminar	21.000

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	One 2000 word essay based on independent research; students will be asked to explore the representation of consciousness in a modern novel of their own choosing. (Week 12)	50.0	
Exam	AS2	Students will be asked to analyse, compare and contrast 3 extracts from novels of different eras in terms of the representation of consciousness.	50.0	2.00

### Aims

*To explore a variety of approaches to the representation of human consciousness.  
 To introduce literature as a vehicle for the representation of consciousness.  
 To examine the relationship between point of view analysis and the representation of consciousness in literature.  
 To explore the historical development of the novel and its relationship to the representation of consciousness.*

## **Learning Outcomes**

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Describe, explore and evaluate some approaches to the definition of consciousness.
- 2 Demonstrate an understanding of key concepts and analytical tools in approaching representations of consciousness in narrative.
- 3 Appraise and analyse significant developments in narrative technique over time from eg Homer, to Defoe to Fielding to George Eliot.
- 4 Discuss and analyse trends in the representation of consciousness from the emergence of modernism to the present.
- 5 Pursue own interests in the representation of consciousness in modern fiction through independent study.

## **Learning Outcomes of Assessments**

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

One 200 word essay	1	2	3
EXAM	4	5	

## **Outline Syllabus**

*The module starts with a discussion of the meaning of consciousness and a consideration of a variety of approaches to it including the perspectives of philosophy, psychology and neuroscience. The issue of dualism versus materialism is debated and the work of materialists such as Daniel Dennet is discussed. The meaning of consciousness is given a historical context through a consideration of its relationship to the rise of a more individualist ideology from the 17th century onwards. This historical context is related to the emergence of the novel as a popular form of literature. The novel is discussed as an important site for the articulation and representation of consciousness which can be seen as having as much veracity as eg philosophy or psychology. The development of the novel from the 18th century onwards can be seen in terms of the development of new techniques for the representation of consciousness. Narrative is considered as a significant element in the concept of self and narrative techniques are explored through a consideration of analytical tools such as point of view analysis and the presentation of thought and speech. Mimesis and diegesis are explored in terms of their impact on the representation of consciousness. The impact of modernism and post-modernism on the novel is considered with particular reference to the effects on the representation of consciousness.*

## Learning Activities

Lectures, small and large group discussion, worksheet exercises, independent research, essay writing.

## References

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Booth, W.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1991
<b>Title</b>	The Rhetoric of Fiction
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Penguin
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Cohn, D.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1978
<b>Title</b>	Transparent Minds: Narrative Modes for Presenting Consciousness in Fiction
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Princeton University Press
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Dennet, D.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1993
<b>Title</b>	Consciousness Explained
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Penguin
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Edelman, G. and Tononi, G.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2001
<b>Title</b>	Consciousness: How Matter becomes Imagination
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Penguin

<b>ISBN</b>	
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<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Leech, G. and Short, M.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1981
<b>Title</b>	Style in Fiction
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Longman
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Lodge, D.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2002
<b>Title</b>	Consciousness and the Novel
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Secker and Warburg
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Nelson, K.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2003
<b>Title</b>	"Narrative and the Emergence of a Conscious Self" in Fireman G. et al (Eds) Narrative and Consciousness. Literature, Psychology and the Brain
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	OUP
<b>ISBN</b>	

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## Notes

This module is concerned with the nature of consciousness and the way in which literature, especially the novel, may be seen as a particularly rich source of data about the nature of consciousness. The evolution of narrative forms in the novel allows us an insight into changing attitudes towards the nature of consciousness. This module looks at some of the analytical tools which enable a detailed examination of representations of consciousness in a variety of texts.