

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: English DISSERTATION
Status: Definitive
Code: **6000ENGLIS** (110596)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2019

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

Team	Leader
Jonathan Cranfield	Y
Ross Dawson	
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Academic Level: FHEQ6
Credit Value: 24
Total Delivered Hours: 12

Total Learning Hours: 240
Private Study: 228

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	6
Tutorial	6

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	AS1	proposal 1500 words	10	
Dissertation	AS2	dissertation 8000 words	90	

Aims

- 1. To enable students to work independently, in depth and at length, on an appropriate English topic which falls within areas of expertise in the department.*
- 2. To produce a substantial piece of written work setting out a research question, argument and conclusion.*

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 critically evaluate and integrate a field of discussion of appropriate size and critical depth, and select a range of primary and secondary materials through which to explore it.
- 2 apply a particular methodology or approach towards the chosen material that enables him / her to generate an informed critical position.
- 3 accept complete accountability for the presentation of ideas and findings in a scholarly fashion; the whole dissertation possessing an intelligible structure pertinent to the project, a clearly stated, developing argument, and conforming to the correct procedures for presentation, referencing and bibliography.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

proposal	2	
dissertation	1	3

Outline Syllabus

The dissertation topic will be negotiated between student and staff, on the basis of the student's proposed ideas and the stated interests of all staff circulated in advance.

Students will attend three group sessions in the opening weeks of the module, on the following topics:

- 1. What is a dissertation? Defining the scope of a dissertation topic, identifying research questions*
- 2. How to undertake the research? Identifying sources, developing a methodological approach*
- 3. Writing proposals: students to present / review one another's research projects in preparation for the first assignment*

The allocation of supervisors will be confirmed by the end of the second week. Across the whole year students will attend a number of individual supervision meetings (totalling a minimum of 3 hours), and four group supervision meetings (minimum 8 hours).

Learning Activities

Group workshops, Individual tutorials, Private study and Writing / editing of drafts.

Notes

This is a year-long module, at the end of which students will have produced a dissertation of approximately 8,000 words. As such, it offers them the opportunity to investigate a topic of personal interest within the field of English Studies: they might wish to revisit something studied on a previous module, with a fresh approach or in greater detail, or choose an area as yet unexplored.

Students will be given guidance by a supervisor through the different stages of researching and writing, but above all they will be expected to work independently in the formulation of ideas, selection of key texts, and production of the final piece. An extended proposal, requiring students to assess the material they have so far researched and begin to construct a main argument, is to be submitted around the middle of the first term, with the deadline for the final piece usually lying in March-April the following year. A good dissertation should have clearly defined the extent of the topic under consideration, identified key issues relating to the topic and compared critical positions, in order to arrive at an informed assessment or interpretation by the end.