

# The Aesthetics and Politics of Fear

## Module Information

2022.01, Approved

### Summary Information

Module Code	6105SOC
Formal Module Title	The Aesthetics and Politics of Fear
Owning School	Humanities and Social Science
Career	Undergraduate
Credits	20
Academic level	FHEQ Level 6
Grading Schema	40

### Teaching Responsibility

LJMU Schools involved in Delivery
Humanities and Social Science

### Learning Methods

Learning Method Type	Hours
Lecture	22
Workshop	11

### Module Offering(s)

Display Name	Location	Start Month	Duration Number Duration Unit
SEP-MTP	MTP	September	12 Weeks

### Aims and Outcomes

Aims	1. To explore the development of approaches in philosophy and cultural and critical theory to the study of emotions, focusing in particular on fear.2. To apply a range of contemporary theoretical approaches to case studies in fear.3. To examine the aesthetic politics at stake in the public life of private emotions.
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**After completing the module the student should be able to:**

**Learning Outcomes**

Code	Number	Description
MLO1	1	Clearly discuss how emotions have been approached within differing theoretical traditions.
MLO2	2	Employ appropriate conceptual approaches to examine the politics and aesthetics at stake in a particular case study of fear.
MLO3	3	Situate both the shifting politics and aesthetics of fear and changing approaches to affect and emotions within the humanities and social sciences within broader cultural, political and epistemic contexts.

**Module Content**

Outline Syllabus	Emotions in history from the ancients to the modern Approaches to emotions within philosophy and the social sciences Variegating fear: fear and its forms The public life of fear The aesthetics of phobia Case studies in phobia
Module Overview	In this module you will begin by examining major philosophical and theoretical approaches to the study of emotions. Thereafter you will examine a series of case studies in fear, focusing in particular on phobias, tracing out etymologies and genealogies of phobia, and examining the aesthetic politics of phobia in historical and epistemic contexts. This section of the syllabus will be organised alphabetically in the manner of popular psychologies of phobias. In this main part of the module, you will begin with agoraphobia, the canonical modern classification of phobia, and conclude with xenophobia, a non-canonical phobia - the coining of which is subject to a problematic and disputed historiography.
Additional Information	This module will begin by examining major philosophical and theoretical approaches to the study of emotions. Thereafter the module will examine a series of case studies in fear, focusing in particular on phobias, tracing out etymologies and genealogies of phobia, and examining the aesthetic politics of phobia in historical and epistemic contexts. This section of the syllabus will be organised alphabetically in the manner of popular psychologies of phobias. In this main part of the module, students will begin with agoraphobia, the canonical modern classification of phobia, and conclude with xenophobia, a non-canonical phobia the coining of which is subject to a problematic and disputed historiography. Along the way students will engage with a range of other uses of phobia, including the aesthetics and gender politics of claustrophobia in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; kalliphobia and the politics of beauty in twentieth century art; and logophobia and the politics of Foucault's critique of modernity and representation. Along the way students will also unpick the relationships between phobia and other modalities of fear, including horror and terror, and will also consider the relationships between phobias, humour, and the ironisation of fear.

**Assessments**

Assignment Category	Assessment Name	Weight	Exam/Test Length (hours)	Module Learning Outcome Mapping
Presentation	Poster Presentation	25	0	MLO1
Essay	Essay	75	0	MLO2, MLO3

**Module Contacts**

**Module Leader**

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings

David Tyrer	Yes	N/A
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**Partner Module Team**

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
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