World Literature: Writing from the Periphery

Module Information

2022.01, Approved

Summary Information

Module Code	6117ENGL
Formal Module Title	World Literature: Writing from the Periphery
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	11
Seminar	22
Tutorial	2

Module Offering(s)

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

Aims and Outcomes

Aims	1. To introduce students to the concept of 'world literature' through a selection of texts from the twentieth to the twenty-first centuries in relation to the rise and expansion of a global modernity2. To examine on-going critical debates around key areas of research in the global humanities: a singular modernity, the politics of translation, the periphery and the world system3. To compare literary and critical perspective on the political and aesthetic stakes of the concept of world literature in relation to current global affairs

After completing the module the student should be able to:

Learning Outcomes

Code	Number	Description
MLO1	1	To understand and contribute to on-going debates on the concept of world literature.
MLO2	2	To develop independent intellectual interests in relation to the main areas of interest of this module: global modernity, the periphery, the politics of translation and the world system.
MLO3	3	To adopt secondary material and critically engage with theoretical perspectives on world literature.

Module Content

Outline Syllabus	A Singular Modernity? (Peripheral Views)1. Fredric Jameson, A Singular Modernity2. I, Rigoberta Menchu' / David Damrosch, What is World Literature3. Ama Ata Aidoo, Anowa / Pascale Casanova, Literature as World4. Saadat Hasan Manto, Bombay Stories / Walter Mignolo, The Darker Side of Western ModernityGlobalism and Translation5. Ghassan Kanafani, Men in the Sun / Franco Moretti, Distant Reading6. Ngugi, I Will Marry When I Want / Ngugi, The Language of African Literature7. Mahasweta Devi, Imaginary Maps / Gayatri Spivak, Translator's Preface8. Ousmane Sembene, God's Bits of Wood / Emily Apter, UntranslatableRepresenting the System9. Lu Xun, Diary of a Madman / Fredric Jameson, Third World Literature in the Era of Multinational Capitalism10. Alex La Guma, A Walk in the Night / WReC, Combined and Uneven Development11. Arundhati Roy, Capitalism: A Ghost Story / Toni Negri and Michael Hardt, Multitude
Module Overview	This module will introduce the concept of 'world literature' through a selection of texts from the twentieth to the twenty-first centuries in relation to the rise and expansion of a global modernity. You will examine on-going critical debates around key areas of research in the global humanities: a singular modernity, the politics of translation, the periphery and the world system.
Additional Information	The periphery is where the future reveals itself' (JG Ballard). This module draws on recent debates on the concept of world literature and the relationships between centre and periphery in global modernity. It considers how a world-system perspective can shed light on literary representations of an uneven and unequal world. The module focuses on the key debates that animate this field of research: the concept of a singular modernity and its links with capitalism, the problem of distant vs close reading, the politics of translation, the ideology of globalism, the position of the cosmopolitan writer, and the representation of the 'unrepresentable' totality of capitalism beyond Europe and North America.

Assessments

Assignment Category	Assessment Name	Weight	Exam/Test Length (hours)	Module Learning Outcome Mapping
Essay	Short position paper	30	0	MLO1, MLO2
Essay	3000 word essay	70	0	MLO2, MLO3

Module Contacts

Module Leader

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
Filippo Menozzi	Yes	N/A

Partner Module Team

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings