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Title: Contemporary Literary Studies  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **7101ENGL** (124550)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

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

Team	Leader
Colin Harrison	Y

**Academic Level:** FHEQ7      **Credit Value:** 30      **Total Delivered Hours:** 28  
**Total Learning Hours:** 300      **Private Study:** 272

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	12
Seminar	12
Workshop	4

**Grading Basis:** 50 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	Analysis of primary material, 2000 words	70	
Essay	AS2	Reviews of secondary material, 2x500 words	30	

### Aims

*To give students a broad awareness of the current state of literary studies, introducing them to new approaches and ongoing debates in the field;  
To help students develop strategies for identifying and exploiting relevant resources*

*for research;*

*To encourage reflection on the nature and limits of primary sources in the students' projects, and to develop relevant critical and analytical skills.*

## **Learning Outcomes**

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Present a rationale for the selection of key primary sources relating to their project
- 2 Perform an analysis of selected primary material that addresses key problems of interpretation and relates them to a wider critical context
- 3 3. Show an awareness of recent debates and critical discourses in the field

## **Learning Outcomes of Assessments**

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

Analysis of primary material	1	2
Reviews of secondary material	3	

## **Outline Syllabus**

*Students will be introduced to current debates and new approaches within the field of literary studies through a series of readings of critical and theoretical literature on topics such as posthistoricism, new materialism, affect theory, queer theory, ecocriticism, literature and medical humanities.*

*In addition, they will be given workshop sessions to help them develop their thinking about their project and situate it within developments in the field. These include presentations on the history of the discipline, library resources for researchers, sessions on key critical terminology and evaluating critical approaches.*

*The first assignment is designed to give students early feedback on their analytical skills and help them explore the full range of possibilities in their primary material. The second assignment asks students to produce short summaries of the weekly reading for a group blog: this will give them practice in evaluating critical perspectives and considering its application to their own work.*

## **Learning Activities**

Presentations, seminars, workshops, one-to-one tutorials.

## **Notes**

This module is designed to help students situate their research project within a wider

field of contemporary literary studies. It equips them with skills for working with primary and secondary sources through presentations and seminars covering textual analysis and critical interpretation followed by a series of readings representing new theoretical and methodological approaches in the field.