

Liverpool John Moores University

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Title: Bodies
Status: Definitive
Code: **7101ENGLIT** (125834)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

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

Team	Leader
James Whitehead	Y
Sondeep Kandola	

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

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Seminar	24
Workshop	4

Grading Basis: 50 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	AS1	Critical analysis of a theoretical text - 1500 words	30	
Essay	AS2	Essay on a topic of the student's choosing, with reference to primary texts - 4000 words	70	

Aims

1. To critically explore and understand the diversity of representations of the human body across a broad range of different historical periods and literary-historical

genres.

2. To undertake advanced study of historical examples and contemporary theories of the body and somatic experience, drawing both on literary theory and related disciplines.

3. To achieve a mastery of new and emergent ways of writing the history of the body.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate advanced skills in locating and analysing bodily representations in a wide range of literary-historical texts.
- 2 Examine critically the history of the body in relation to connected historical trends in gender and sexuality, medicine and health, law and politics, and life sciences.
- 3 Display a sophisticated grasp of the nature of a 'somatic turn' or broader 'material turn' in contemporary humanities and social sciences disciplines.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Critical Analysis 1500 words	1	3
Essay 4000 words	1	2

Outline Syllabus

This module traces the literary and cultural history of the body from the Early Modern period to the present day. Exploring changing experiences of human embodiment in modernity, the module deploys a variety of theoretical perspectives, from gender theory to the medical humanities, to analyse sexuality, race, and class at a corporeal level. Recuperating the haptic, affect, and jouissance in the human, the centrality of the body in debates as diverse as those on regicide, slavery, and transgender identity will be explored in relation to key theorists such as Michel Foucault, Judith Butler and Donna Haraway; the module will also trace the central role of the feminist tradition in focusing scholarly attention on the history of the body. Using these critical theories on the body, the module will examine a range of primary texts, from Renaissance tragedy to Gothic monstrosity and on to the post-human bodies of contemporary speculative fiction, and historical figures from the Renaissance period to the modern day, to examine fundamental questions about the relationship of the corporeal to culture, society and self.

Learning Activities

Seminars and Workshops.

Notes

