

Module Title	Contemporary Fiction
Programme(s)/Course	English with Creative Writing
Level	6
Semester	1
Ref No:	
Credit Value	20
Student Study hours	Contact hours: 48 Student managed learning hours: 152
Pre-requisite learning	Levels 4 and 5 Modules
Co-requisites	
Excluded combinations	
Module Coordinator [Name + e mail address]	TBA
Parent Department	Arts and Performance
Parent Course	English with Creative Writing
JACS Code	
Description [100 words max]	This module offers students the opportunity to examine in detail a selection of late twentieth-century and twenty-first century fiction. The texts selected reflect different cultural contexts and represent a range of stylistic, structural and linguistic responses to popular, theoretical and cultural issues. All the texts studied are, in different ways, ground breaking and innovative. An important focus of the module is the study of critical and cultural theory that includes or reflects contemporary responses to the postmodern, a preoccupation with globalization, transnationalism, cosmopolitanism, trauma and contemporary theories of affect. Students will be asked to appraise texts which engage with these theoretical approaches and concerns.
Aims	This module aims to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extend students' understanding of the range and diversity of prose fiction in English • encourage students to use critical and theoretical studies to engage with debates about the death of the novel • facilitate students' understanding of sophisticated theoretical and critical material used to analyse contemporary fiction.
Learning outcomes	<p>Knowledge and Understanding: At the end of the module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate a critical understanding of recent developments in prose fiction • Problematised the act of reading in order to reflect critically on textual reception • Examine critically a range of theoretical approaches to contemporary fiction • Demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of how fictional forms and the language and style of literary texts contribute to their meaning • Critically analyse representations of culture, class and gender in contemporary and innovative fiction and in relevant critical and theoretical texts <p>Intellectual Skills:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interrogate current critical and theoretical responses to contemporary fiction • Draw on material acquired through independent research in oral and written assignments • Critically analyse the linguistic, stylistic and formal features of a range of contemporary fictional texts <p>Practical Skills: N/A</p> <p>Transferable Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a sophisticated and theoretically engaged oral presentation • Produce accurately written and coherently structured written essays that engage with complex critical and theoretical concepts
Employability	Teaching, Publishing and Bookselling, Administration, Journalism and other media-related professions. This degree also equips students to enter employment as librarians and archivists and curators
Teaching & Learning Pattern	1 x 2hour lecture 1 x 2hour seminar
Indicative content	Students will be reading short fiction and novels from a wide range of contemporary writers such as: Kazuo Ishiguro, Deborah Levy, Salman Rushdie, Marilynne Robinson, Jonathan Franzen, David Mitchell, Ali Smith, A.L. Kennedy, Rachel Seiffert and Alan Hollinghurst.
Assessment method (Please give details – of components, weightings, sequence of components, final component)	CW1: Oral Presentation (25%) CW2: 4,000 word essay (75%). Pass Mark: 40%
Indicative Reading	<p>CORE READING:</p> <p>Levy, Deborah (2011) <i>Swimming Home</i> Rushdie, Salman (1999) <i>The Ground Beneath Her Feet</i> Ishiguro, Kazuo (2007) <i>When We Were Orphans</i> Mitchell, David (2014) <i>Bone Clocks</i> Kennedy, A.L (2015) <i>All the Rage</i> Seiffert, Rachel (2002) <i>The Dark Room</i> Franzen, Jonathan (2001) <i>The Corrections</i> Hollinghurst, Alan (2004) <i>The Line of Beauty</i> Robinson, Marilynne (2004) <i>Gilead</i></p> <p>OPTIONAL READING:</p> <p>Acheson, James and Sarah C.E. Ross eds. 2005. <i>The Contemporary British Novel</i> Edinburgh, Edinburgh University Press Ashcroft, B. et al, 1989. <i>The Empire Writes Back</i>, London, Routledge, Bentley, Nick ed. 2005. <i>British Fiction of the 1990s</i> London, Routledge Currie, Mark, ed. 1996.<i>Metafiction</i>,London, Longman Foster, Hal 1985. <i>Postmodern Culture</i>, London, Pluto</p>

	<p>Greaney, Michael 2006. <i>Contemporary Fiction And the Uses of Theory: the Novel from Structuralism to Postmodernism</i></p> <p>Art, Stephen M. and Ouyang Wen-chin 2004. <i>A Companion to Magical Realism</i> Woodbridge, Tamesis.</p> <p>Haffenden, John, 1985. <i>Novelists in Interview</i>, London, Methuen</p> <p>Hutcheon, Linda, 1988. <i>A Poetics of Postmodernism</i>, London, Routledge</p> <p>Lane, Richard J. et al. 2003. <i>Contemporary British Fiction</i>, Cambridge, Polity</p> <p>Lee, Robert A. ed. 1995. <i>Other Britain, Other British: Contemporary Multicultural Fiction</i> London, Pluto</p> <p>McHale, Brian 1989. <i>Postmodernist Fiction</i>, London, Routledge</p> <p>Mengham, Rod, ed. 2000. <i>An Introduction to Contemporary Fiction</i>, Cambridge, Polity</p> <p>Morrison, Jago. 2003. <i>Contemporary Fiction</i> London, Routledge</p> <p>Nicol, Brian 2002. <i>Postmodernism and the Contemporary Novel: A Reader</i> Edinburgh, Edinburgh University Press</p> <p>Students have access to the journal <i>Studies in the Novel and Contemporary Literature</i>, available on line through LISA</p>
<p>Other Learning Resources</p>	<p>VLE</p> <p>Literature and the spoken Word sessions at the South Bank Centre</p> <p>Guest writers and speakers</p> <p>Field trips to readings by contemporary writers and academic/public lecturers.</p>