

Module title	Introduction to Film and Literary Studies
Module code	INT0027
Academic year(s)	2015/6
Credits	20

Basic module details

Module staff	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Convenor 	
Duration (weeks) - term 1	
Duration (weeks) - term 2	12
Duration (weeks) - term 3	
Number students taking module (anticipated)	10

Description - summary of the module content

Module description

This module introduces the skills needed to study literature and film. Using examples from the time of Shakespeare to modern Hollywood movies, you will consider how writers have used poetry, stories, plays, novels, and film to explore the rich variety of human experience. Combining elements of history, psychology, philosophy, and language you will uncover the different levels of 'meaning' in a range of selected texts. You will see language used in new ways and practice critical and analytical skills as you learn to study literature and film in terms of form, content, and cultural context. Some of the questions this course investigates may include:

- o What is literary language and how is it used?
- o What is literature's relationship to the culture in which it is produced?
- o Is 'meaning' created by the writer or the reader?
- o How have film and literature developed over time?

This module typically features a range of study methods which include extensive self-study (research, reading and film viewing), seminars, and mini-lectures. Sessions may also involve visits to Exeter University's literary archives and the Bill Douglas Centre for the History of Cinema and Popular Culture.

Module aims - intentions of the module

Module aims

This module aims to provide you with a good foundation in the study of film and literature in English. We do this by:

o Providing an overview of the main types of English literature (poetry, short stories, drama, and novel) from a range of different historical periods, English-speaking cultures, and writers. Using these texts we look at how language is used to create imagery, metaphor, symbolism, ambiguity, themes, mood, character, and setting.

o Considering some of the most influential film movements of the twentieth Century and, we see how film has developed and we look at how films use editing, camera movements, camera angles, and “mise-en-scène” to tell stories and meet audience expectations.

o Examining some important critical theories which are commonly used to interpret film and literature. By combining these formal and stylistic aspects of literary and film texts with awareness of their socio-cultural context you will learn how to communicate your own close reading of them.

Feedback will be provided throughout this course, and all students will be encouraged to think critically, reason logically, communicate clearly, and read, listen, and watch carefully. These are valuable skills, not only in the study of film and literature, but also in the wider work environment.

Intended learning outcomes (ILOs)

ILO: Module-specific skills

1. Identify, interpret, and distinguish formal and stylistic aspects of literary and film texts
2. Show an awareness of theoretical issues, including narration, authorship, and genre
3. Demonstrate a basic understanding of cultural and/or historical issues that arise from the study of literature and film

ILO: Discipline-specific skills

4. Analyse literature/film and relate its concerns and modes of expression to its historical context
5. Show an ability to refer to and apply relevant theoretical ideas to literary and/or filmic texts and use these analytical tools as a framework for a personal interpretation/response
6. Use appropriate discourses specific to the study of literature and film and show awareness of relevant issues in the wider context of cultural and/or intellectual history

ILO: Personal and key skills

7. take responsibility for your own learning and work independently
8. work co-operatively with others
9. show an ability to reflect on your individual learning processes and the effectiveness of different learning strategies (through response to feedback)
10. communicate effectively in the written and/or spoken form

Syllabus plan

Syllabus plan

Typically, this module consists of four, interconnected strands:

- **Strand A – Literature in History** – introduces students to the development of literary forms from the middle ages to the early twentieth century. It considers the relationship between selected poetic, literary, and dramatic texts and their socio-historical context. It also introduces the formal and stylistic elements and terminology required to give a close textual analysis.
- **Strand B – Directors and Spectators** – introduces some of the formal and stylistic terminology required to ‘read’ films through macro (e.g., genre and stardom) and micro (e.g., camera angles and editing) methods. It briefly considers some influential movements in film since 1900 and discusses issues and debates around film adaptation. This strand usually involves a visit to the Bill Douglas Centre for the History of Cinema and Popular Culture.

- Strand C – **Critical Perspectives** – considers certain areas of critical theory (including critical debates around ‘authorship’) and their application to texts and films.
- Strand D – **Novels and Adaptations** – combines aspects of all previous strands into the study of a novel and its adaptation. This strand includes preparation sessions for the final written exam.

Learning and teaching

Learning activities and teaching methods (given in hours of study time)		
Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities	Guided independent study	Placement / study abroad
60	140	0

Details of learning activities and teaching methods		
Category	Hours of study time	Description
Scheduled Learning & Teaching activities	60	Seminars focusing upon student-led discussion; short lecture-style workshop sessions; group and individual presentations; guided scene analysis of films; 1:1 tutorials
Guided independent study	140	Individual and group preparation for scheduled sessions; extensive self-study reading and film-viewing for discussion and written assessment

Assessment

Formative assessment			
Form of assessment	Size of the assessment (eg length / duration)	ILOs assessed	Feedback method
Weekly response, written comprehension, oral presentation, and creative exercises as response to literary passages/film sequences	(Written response length approx. 200 – 250 words)	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10	Group + written + tutorial
Essay	1,000 words	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9,10	Written
Student-led workshops on selected passages/ film sequences for group discussion		1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10	Group

Summative assessment (% of credit)		
Coursework	Written exams	Practical exams
50	50	0

Details of summative assessment

Form of assessment	% of credit	Size of the assessment (eg length / duration)	ILOs assessed	Feedback method
Essay	50	2,000 words	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9,10	Written
Exam: two essay questions: Analysis of unseen text + / or film essay question. Response to prepared text	50	2 hours	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,10	Written

Re-assessment

Details of re-assessment (where required by referral or deferral)

Original form of assessment	Form of re-assessment	ILOs re-assessed	Timescale for re-assessment
Exam and essay	Exam	1,2,3,4,5,6,10	As soon as possible and before Exam Board

Re-assessment notes

Referral will constitute a second formal examination and a second piece of coursework.

Summative coursework must be completed before entitlement to a referral. The grade for the referred exam or coursework, and therefore the module grade, will be capped at 40%.

Deferred exams will not be capped and will include summative coursework marks in the final module grade.

Resources

Indicative learning resources - Basic reading

Bordwell, D. & Thompson, K. 2010. Film Art: An Introduction, 9th Edition. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Eaglestone, Robert., 2009. Doing English – A Guide for Literature Students, 3rd Edition. Abingdon: Routledge

Additional material will be provided by the teaching centre for strands 1-3 of the course. For strand 4 you will be provided with a copy of the novel(s) to be studied.

A list of films will be provided by the module convener during the course.

Module has an active ELE page?

Yes

Indicative learning resources - Web based and electronic resources

ELE: <http://vle.exeter.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=3037>

Indicative learning resources - Other resources

Other details

Module ECTS	10
Module pre-requisites	
Module co-requisites	
NQF level (module)	3
Available as distance learning?	No
Origin date	22/11/2011
Last revision date	08/08/2014
Key words search	

Film, English, literature, adaptation, poetry, drama, fiction, short story, novel, Hollywood, film form, Britain, America, New Zealand, critical theory, film theory, film movements, authorship, narrative, genre, , production, reception, writing, reading, textual analysis, Romanticism, Blake, Scott Fitzgerald, Hemingway, Hitchcock, Hughes, Luhrmann, Mansfield, Poe, Shakespeare, Steinbeck, Wordsworth, French New Wave, Modernism