



Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD000422	Version: 6 Date Amended: 30/Oct/2023
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1. Module Title
Writing and the Present

2a. Module Leader
Tory Young

2b. School
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
6

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	None		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

In this module you will look at a range of texts written in the last 10 years, examining formal and thematic issues and the relationships between them. You will consider narrative experimentation and the recycling of old stories and forms; the representation of and return to history; posthumanism and the limits of the human; globalization and technology.

The module will invite you to consider the power and role of literature in contemporary society and the impact of literary prize culture on publishing and publicity. It will encourage you to reflect upon literary developments that have led to 21st-century writing and thus the texts' relationship to those studied on other modules on the degree. Since there is inevitably an absence of established critical texts on the contemporary works studied, you will consider alternative sources of critical opinion (academic journals, the internet, broadsheet and broadcast journalism), existing relevant theoretical material and the ways in which new novels demand and shape new criticism.

Each seminar will begin with one or more student presentations incorporating close reading, a thematic focus and critical issue. The presentations will be followed by close reading and discussion of related texts in the seminar group. These activities will allow you to develop your analytical skills as well as your abilities in communicating the research and analysis that you will apply to the literatures under discussion. Working with other students in class you will develop your social capital and critical skills in whole and small group discussions. You will develop your sense of identity as a critical and adaptable thinker, problem-solver, researcher and creative agent as you apply theoretical material to the primary literatures under discussion.

6b. Outline Content

- Introduction to 21st-century writing
- Introduction to trends in contemporary writing and its social context such as posthumanism and globalization
- Consideration of criticism available on 'new' texts
- Detailed study of key texts
- PowerPoint presentation skills
- Essay preparation

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Lecture and seminar rooms with screening facilities

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of some contemporary texts and an awareness of general trends in contemporary writing.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the relationship between fiction and its social context.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of selected secondary material and critical independence of thought.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2024/5	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	0	None	None
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-3	12 x 2 hour seminars = 24 hours
Student managed learning	126	1-3	126 hours of Private Study
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Practical	1-3	30 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
10 minute Individual Presentation					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	1-3	70 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Essay - 2,000 words					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above**
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements**

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]