



Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD000744	Version: 1 Date Amended: 03/Aug/2009
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1. Module Title
Leisure and Popular Culture in Britain, 1800 to the Present

2a. Module Leader
Rohan McWilliam

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

From the music hall to Reality TV, from Victorian melodrama to the soap opera, this course enables students to discover how popular culture has changed in Britain over a two hundred year period. In so doing, they will be able to set the cultural forms they most enjoy in an historical context. The course also looks at the growth of modern media (newspapers, magazines, film, radio, television) and presents students with ways of interpreting culture. Arguments about popular culture as social control and the emergence of mass culture in Britain will be explored. Students will discover the extent to which a popular culture (created by the common people) exists or has existed. The course would suit students interested in going into media related professions but would also suit those with a more general interest. The module is taught by a combination of lectures and seminars in which students will be asked to discuss the questions raised by each week's reading. Employing complex forms of analysis, students will apply cultural theory to historical situations. Teamwork and oral skills are promoted through group discussion and this helps to prepare students for employment as it encourages interaction with colleagues. Assessment will test out the student's ability to develop solve complex historical problems in a critical and analytical way. This module is also delivered by distance learning.

6b. Outline Content

- Popular Culture 1800-1850: A culture of the people?
- Victorian melodrama
- Music Halls
- Seaside Resorts
- Sport
- Growth of the modern media: newspapers, film, radio
- Popular Romance: The Mills and Boon novel
- Post-war Popular Culture: teenagers, Rock and Roll, television
- Historical analysis of culture

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

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	Explain the patterns of leisure and popular culture in Britain during the last two centuries, focusing on continuity and change.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Critically assess in depth the historical context of popular culture.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate a critical knowledge of concepts currently used to analyse and understand popular culture.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Evaluate from an historical point of view a range of modern media.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2025/6	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	12	1-4	1 hour lecture per week.
Other teacher managed learning	12	1-4	1 hour seminar per week.
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Reading: students will need to organise their own extensive and intensive reading and critical use of web-based information.
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Essay: 1500 words.					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	1-4	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Essay: 1500 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]