

Module code: MOD005872	Version: 3 Date Amended: 27/Apr/2022
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1. Module Title
Elizabeth Gaskell and the Brontes

2a. Module Leader
Elizabeth Ludlow

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:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module will introduce you to the work of Elizabeth Gaskell and the Brontë sisters and to literary and cinematic adaptations of their fiction. You will begin by reading Gaskell's *The Life of Charlotte Brontë* alongside Lucasta Miller's *The Brontë Myth* and by assessing the way in which the 'Brontë myth' has been sustained by different generations of readers.

The second part of the module will include a detailed survey of the diverse literary outputs of Gaskell and the Brontës. Through this, there will be a focus on the ways in which the four writers engage with their cultural contexts. In addition to thinking about the issues involved in debates about religion, education, social change, gender and familial and romantic relationships, you will be asked to consider the novels through the lens of disability theory and to assess their treatment of Imperialism and Empire.

The final part of the module will involve an introduction to theories of adaptation and to rewritings and cinematic adaptations of Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*, Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights* and Elizabeth Gaskell's *North and South*.

6b. Outline Content

- An introduction to the aims and objectives of the module
- Analysis and discussion of life-writing, biography and the 'Brontë Myth'
- Analysis and discussion of the novels, shorter fiction and non-fiction of Elizabeth Gaskell
- Analysis and discussion of the juvenilia, poetry and novels of Charlotte, Emily and Anne Brontë
- Analysis and discussion of literary and cinematic adaptations of the novels
- Critical reflection on what has been learned, summative work and preparation for the formative assessments

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	Demonstrate a critical engagement with the complex relationship between each text and its literary and historical context.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Understand the processes through which a writer and her work is assessed and interpreted in different cultural contexts. You will be encouraged to think particularly about the strategies of life-writing and the implications of myth-making.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate a capacity for the critical analysis of juvenilia, fiction, poetry, journalistic non-fiction and life-writing.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Apply an accurate understanding of contextual issues, adaptation theory, and critical developments in Bronte and Gaskell studies to the analysis of the selected texts in seminar discussions and in summative and formative assessments.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	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	1,2,3,4	Seminar 2 hr x 12 weeks
Student managed learning	126	1,2,3,4	This includes essential and background reading, engaging with the pre-recorded lectures on CANVAS before each seminar, and preparing for the assessments.
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence

The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	20 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Total of 1,000 word contribution to discussion boards between weeks 2-12. Two assessment components: 010/1: 500 Word Discussion Post; 010/2: 500 Word Discussion Post.

Assessment components for Element 010

Component No.	Assessment Title	Submission Method	Weighting (%)	Components needed for Mark Calculation?
010/1	500 Word Discussion Post	Canvas	50 (%)	All
010/2	500 Word Discussion Post	Canvas	50 (%)	

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	1-4	80 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

2,000 word final essay.

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]