



## Module Definition Form (MDF)

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| <b>Module code: MOD009599</b> | <b>Version: 1    Date Amended: 30/Oct/2023</b> |
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| <b>1. Module Title</b> |
| Life Writing           |

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| <b>2a. Module Leader</b> |
| Tory Young               |

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| <b>2b. School</b>                        |
| School of Humanities and Social Sciences |

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| <b>2c. Faculty</b>                                         |
| Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences |

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| <b>3a. Level</b> |
| 6                |

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| <b>3b. Module Type</b> |
| Standard (fine graded) |

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| <b>4a. Credits</b> |
| 15                 |

|                        |
|------------------------|
| <b>4b. Study Hours</b> |
| 150                    |

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

## LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

### 6a. Module Description

In this module, you will examine biographical and autobiographical writings from St Augustine to the present day. You will consider the history of biography; from early hagiographic accounts of revered men (largely) and (some) women to irreverent portraits of celebrities or glimpses into the lives of “ordinary” people in the present day. You will examine auto/biographical theory in which the forward slash denotes the relationship between the self and the other, the private and the public, and consider the inevitability of the impact of the biographer on the biography. You will look at source material such as letters when considering the choices made by biographers. You will consider the impact of social and historical contexts on whose lives are written and how generic conventions impose structures onto the lives written. You will learn the difference between an autobiography and a memoir and think about the variety of methods used to write a life, including those which blur fact and fiction, and those which disrupt linear chronology.

### 6b. Outline Content

Topics for study may include:

- The New Biography
- Poetry and Biography
- Auto/biography
- Writing the body
- Slave narratives
- Queer lives

### 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 detailed knowledge of a range of autobiographies, biographies and memoirs.                            |
| 2   | Knowledge and Understanding                                 | Demonstrate critical understanding of the issues faced by those writing lives, and of theories of auto/biography. |
| 3   | Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills | Analyse critical questions with well-structured and supported arguments, written in clear and coherent English.   |

| 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     | N/A               | N/A                                                                            |
| Other teacher managed learning                          | 24    | 1-3               | 12 X 2-hour seminars                                                           |
| Student managed learning                                | 126   | 1-3               | Reading, seminar preparation and research, planning and writing of assignments |
| 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        | 1-3               | 100 (%)       | Fine Grade              | 30 (%)              |
| 3000-word essay                               |                   |                   |               |                         |                     |

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| <p>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*).</p> <p>In addition, students are required to:</p> <p>(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above</p> <p>(b) pass any pass/fail elements</p> <p>[* 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]</p> |
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