

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department: Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

Programme: Combined Studies

FHEQ Level: 5

Course Title: Contemporary London Literature

Course Code: LIT 5400

Total Hours: 120

Timetabled Hours: 45

Guided Learning Hours: 0

Independent Learning Hours: 75

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits
6 ECTS credits
3 US credits

Course Description:

London has become the focus of 'ferocious imaginative energy' since the rise of Thatcherism in the 1980s. Beginning with an overview of London's historical myths and fictions, this class exposes students to a variety of writers committed to exploring the many lives of a city undergoing complex transformations. From postmodern obsessions to multicultural landscapes and post 9/11 anxieties, different voices and visions, provide insights into our understanding of contemporary London.

Prerequisites: ARW 4195 or GEP 4180

Aims and Objectives:

- To become active and perceptive readers of contemporary London literature;
- To develop an understanding of a variety ideas and themes that have shaped contemporary London fiction;
- To demonstrate knowledge of traditions and developments within contemporary London literature and the critical approaches to them.

Programme Outcomes:

5A(ii, iii); 5B(ii, iii); 5C(iii); 5D(i)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

- Students should demonstrate their understanding of key ideas, writers and historical processes that have shaped contemporary London literature.
- Students should demonstrate theoretical and critical engagement with a variety of approaches and debates related to contemporary literature and their applications to specific works.
- Students should exercise a degree of independent and informed critical judgement in analysis in relation to both writing assignments and oral presentations.
- Student should demonstrate the skills to work effectively with others in group discussions and show clear evidence of intellectual and imaginative effort.

Indicative Content:

- Modernism
- Postmodernism
- Thatcherism
- Psychogeography
- Hybridity/Transnational Identities
- London Immigration
- State of the Nation
- Post 9/11 Anxieties

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and can be found at

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

Course meetings consist of interactive lectures on assigned readings, small group discussions and reflection activities involving a psychogeography walk. Student work is assessed through a variety of ways using both formative and summative approaches.

Feedback is intended to help improved student approach to learning and achieve better results.

Bibliography:***IndicativeText(s):***

Groes, Sebastian *The Making of London*, Palgrave, 2011

Manley, Lawrence, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to the Literature of London*, Cambridge UP, 2011

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Revision – annual update	May 2023	
Total Hours Updated	April 2024	