



Module Specification

Contemporary American Narrative

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Contemporary American Narrative

Module code: UGPPA-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2025-26

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Arts, Technology and Environment

School: CATE School of Arts

Partner institutions: None

Field: English

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: Through literary analysis the module will examine the social and cultural shifts in America from the post-Vietnam era to the present, particularly in relation to the move from “Full” to “Flexible” Fordism, or the generalisation of consumption as an available way of life.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes.

Outline syllabus: The course will develop a theoretical understanding of narrative structure, focusing on the changing representation of war and its aftermath; the effects of commodification on everyday life; the city as a spectacle and location of commodity aesthetics; the acknowledgment of, and resistance to, regional change, and the reaction of marginalised voices to increased consumerism. Students will explore these issues through a variety of mediums, including filmic adaptations of literary texts and visual representations of the contemporary American scene.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: There will be a total of 72 contact hours for each student over the course of the module. Teaching will take place in rooms designed for interactive activities including group work.

Scheduled learning will take place through lectures, workshops and seminars.

The delivery will include technical training in tools such as Adobe Desktop Publishing and the Photoshop suite

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Demonstrate critical understanding of the social, cultural, economic and political contexts that shape contemporary American literature.

MO2 Demonstrate critical knowledge of the reception and/or marketing of contemporary American literature.

MO3 Demonstrate advanced research into theoretical debates about contemporary American literature.

MO4 Write advanced arguments demonstrating critical and/or creative engagement with the texts studied on the module.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/upgppa-30-3.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/upgppa-30-3.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assignment 1 enables students to demonstrate critical understanding of the reception and/or the marketing of a text on the module. This assignment requires students to discuss their selected text in relation to wider marketplace concerns.

Assignment 2 enables students to demonstrate their advanced knowledge and research into contemporary American Literature. This assignment asks students to discuss texts in relation to each other and to show advanced knowledge of wider socio-economic, cultural and political contexts. It asks students to develop their own research question with guidance from staff.

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Critical Intervention -2000 words

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO4

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Independent Study - 3000 words

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO4

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Critical Intervention - 2000 words

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO4

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Independent Study - 3000 words

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

English Literature [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

English Literature with Writing [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

English and History [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

English Literature with Writing [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

English Literature [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

English Language and Literature [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

English and History [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] - Withdrawn BA (Hons) 2021-22

English and History {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] - Withdrawn BA (Hons)
2021-22

English Literature [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

English Literature {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

English Language and Literature [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] - Withdrawn BA (Hons)
2021-22

English Language and Literature {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] -
Withdrawn BA (Hons) 2021-22

English Literature with Writing [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

English Literature with Writing {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons)
2021-22

English Literature with Writing [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

English Literature [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

English Literature {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

English Literature with Writing {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23