



Module Specification

Victorian Frictions

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Victorian Frictions

Module code: UGPPL-30-2

Level: Level 5

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: Pre-requisites: students must take one out of UGPPT-30-1 Creativity, Critique and Literature OR UGPPU-30-1 Literature and Ideas OR UPCN9P Liberal Arts in Society: Past, Present and Future

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See learning outcomes.

Outline syllabus: This module will introduce students to a number of key Victorian texts. They will read some major novels and poems which articulate central conflicts, or frictions, of the period, for example the problematic relationships between rich and poor, men and women, and faith and doubt. Fiction from different genres within the period will be considered, such as the Newgate novel, the Condition-of-England novel and the Sensation novel. Poetic genres studied may include the dramatic monologue, the sonnet and the elegy. The texts will be studied in relation to contextual issues such as industrialisation, crime, the rise of psychology, marriage, the woman question, faith and evolutionary ideas. Issues of publication, readership and reception will be explored.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: There will be three hours of contact time per week, which will most likely comprise interactive 2-hour lectures and 1-hour seminars. Lectures will typically include visual support, i.e. PowerPoint; seminars will usually involve detailed close analysis of the primary texts.

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

MO1 Undertake close critical analysis of selected British texts of the Victorian period, paying close attention to such matters as voice, perspective and imagery

MO2 Appreciate the depth and diversity of literary genres, acquired through a knowledge of some major nineteenth-century literature

MO3 Understand a range of contexts that inform writing of the period, from, for example, relevant cultural debates to publication issues

MO4 Critically engage with further reading that is relevant to the primary texts they study

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/upgppl-30-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/upgppl-30-2.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessment for this module will enable students to achieve the learning outcomes as detailed in Part 4 of this specification. The assessment will test students' skills of critical analysis and research in keeping with the aims of the English Programme. Assessment will consist of two elements:

Component A will be a 2-hour seen examination. The exam will test students' understanding of the primary texts studied in semester one. Typically, it will involve close textual analysis and a choice of thematic questions. Students will be able to display their understanding of a selection of the core texts studied in relation to some further reading.

Component B will be a 3500-word essay. The extended essay will test students' ability to select and synthesise relevant core reading from the module in relation to a chosen topic. Students will select primary texts by several writers and construct a sustained argument in response to the question. Students will be expected to engage meaningfully with relevant further reading. Students will combine close analysis with an understanding of genre, context and criticism as appropriate.

Self-plagiarism will be avoided on the module because students will not be allowed to write on the same primary text twice. Students will be advised on good referencing practice in preparation for the extended essay. Students will be given guidance on both assessments at appropriate points during the teaching cycle.

Assessment tasks:

Examination - Component A (First Sit)

Description: Seen exam - 2 hours

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Written Assignment - Component B (First Sit)

Description: Essay 3500 words

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Examination - Component A (Resit)

Description: Seen exam - 2 hours

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Written Assignment - Component B (Resit)

Description: Essay 3500 words

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: