

## MODULE SPECIFICATION

**Code:** UPGPPP-30-3      **Title:** Moving Words: Travel Writing and Modernity      **Version:** 1

**Level:** 3      **UWE credit rating:** 30      **ECTS credit rating:** 15

**Module type:** Standard

**Owning Faculty:** CAHE      **Field:** English

**Faculty Committee approval:** CAC Chair's Action      **Date:** 16/06/11

**Approved for Delivery by:** *indicate name of affiliated institution if module will only be delivered by them*

**Valid from:** September 2011      **Discontinued from:** N/A

**Contributes towards:** Awards up to BA

**Pre-requisites:** UPGPFV-60-1 Writing about Reading/Reading about Writing

**Co-requisites:** None

**Entry requirements:** N/A

**Excluded combinations:** None

### Learning outcomes:

On successful completion of the module the student will be able to demonstrate:

1. a critical awareness of the diversity of travel experience, and modes of travel writing, in the modern era; (Components A and B)
2. a critical understanding of the relationship between travel writing and other types of writing such as autobiography, ethnography, various modes of fiction and political treatises; (Components A and B)
3. a sophisticated understanding the evolution of travel writing as a literary genre and a form of publishing; (Components A and B)
4. a deep understanding of the historical, political, and cultural contexts that have shaped the development of the literature of travel and exploration; (Components A and B)
5. the ability to articulate in critically and theoretically sophisticated ways, the links between representations of travel experience and forms of modern subjectivity; (Components A and B)
6. an ability to work continuously, through formative opportunities. (Component B)

### Syllabus outline:

This module is designed as a specialised level 3 module in travel writing and related genres with the flexibility to vary from year to year according to the research interests and expertise of individual tutors. Consistency and commonality will be assured by selecting texts and readings with reference to certain key themes expressive of the historical varieties of travel experience. Thus students will follow a path through writings under the following headings: Exploration (land- or sea-based, scientifically or economically driven), Empire (as in early settler narratives from North America, India, or Australasia), Emigration (voluntary or involuntary), Exile (including the particular forms of homelessness and self-exile characteristic of the modern world), Encounters (with indigenous peoples), and Excursion (thus encapsulating the multiple forms of recreational and aesthetic travel, and of mass tourism, that have provided most citizens of developed countries with their first-hand experience of the foreign). Students will therefore gain an understanding of some of the principal causes of human mobility, the power dynamics

involved in writing about travel and of the diverse ways in which writing and travelling have served each other.

### Teaching and learning methods:

The module will be delivered through a weekly programme of lectures and seminars/workshops, as appropriate, with embedded one-to-one tutorials and formative work opportunities.

### Reading Strategy

The primary reading for this module will consist of a mixture of whole texts and excerpts. The latter will be provided by one or more anthologies, such as the Bohls/Duncan and Morris anthologies listed under "Indicative Reading" below, which students will be expected to purchase, along with digitised materials accessed via Blackboard. Advice on recommended secondary reading will be provided in a module handbook, which will also list useful websites for accessing resources on travel writing. Students will be made aware that the Library's stock of printed books on travel literature is valuably supplemented by the specialist journal *Studies in Travel Writing*, available in print form, and by the many hundreds of relevant full-text articles downloadable from databases like LION, JSTOR, and Project Muse.

### Indicative Reading List: (see guidance notes)

- Buzard, James. *The Beaten Track: European Tourism, Literature, and the Ways to "Culture," 1800-1918*. Oxford: Clarendon P, 1993.
- Chard, Chloe, and Helen Langdon, eds. *Transports: Travel, Pleasure, and Imaginative Geography, 1600-1830*. New Haven: Yale UP, 1996.
- Clifford, James. *Routes: Travel and Translation in the Late Twentieth Century*. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1997.
- Clark, Steve, ed. *Travel Writing and Empire: Postcolonial Theory in Transit*. London: Zed Books, 1999.
- Elsner, Jaś, Joan-Pau Rubiés, eds. *Voyages and Visions: Towards a Cultural History of Travel*. London: Reaktion, 1999.
- Gilroy, Amanda. *Romantic Geographies: Discourses of Travel 1775-1844*. Manchester: Manchester UP, 2000.
- Holland, Patrick, and Graham Huggan. *Tourists with Typewriters: Critical Reflections on Contemporary Travel Writing*. Ann Arbor: U of Michigan P, 1998.
- Leask, Nigel. *Curiosity and the Aesthetics of Travel Writing, 1770-1840*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2002.
- Morris, Mary, ed. *The Virago Book of Women Travellers*. London: Virago, 1994.
- Pratt, Mary Louise. *Imperial Eyes: Travel Writing and Transculturation*. London: Routledge, 1992.

### Assessment

**Please state which element of assessment should be recorded as the final assessment for the purposes of submitting data on non-submissions to HEFCE. (For further information please contact Academic Registry.)**

Weighting between components A and B (standard modules only)    A: 25%            B: 75%

#### ATTEMPT 1

#### First Assessment Opportunity (Sit)

##### Component A

Description of each element	Element weighting
1      Exam (1.5 hours)	25%

##### Component B

Description of each element	Element weighting
1      Portfolio            (6000 words) <b><u>FINAL</u></b>	75%

**Second Assessment Opportunity (Resit) (further attendance at taught classes is not required)**

**Component A**

Description of each element	Element weighting
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1 Exam (1.5 hours)	25%
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**Component B**

Description of each element	Element weighting
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1 Portfolio (6000 words)	75%
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**EXCEPTIONAL SECOND ATTEMPT (Retake): Attendance at taught classes is required.**

Specification confirmed by .....Date .....  
(Associate Dean/Programme Director)