



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

Discipline of English Visiting Students COURSE HANDBOOK 2026-27

Visiting Student Academic Co-ordinator:

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WELCOME TO UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY!

Dear Visiting Student,

Welcome to the Discipline of English at University of Galway! We hope you enjoy your time here in Galway!

Please note:

- Semester One **Lecture Modules** will begin on **Monday, 7th of September 2026**.
- Semester One **Seminar Modules** will begin on **Monday, 14th September 2026**.
- Semester Two will begin on **Monday 11th January 2027**.

Please read the registration details on the next page very carefully.

Regards,

Ms Kirry O'Brien
Visiting Student Academic Coordinator

Visiting Student REGISTRATION:

There are **two types of modules** taught within the Discipline of English:

(1) Lectures (large group teaching)

(2) Seminars (small group teaching)

How to Register for an English Lecture module:

1. Once you have registered with the university, log on to your student portal. **Log into your [student portal](#)** when online registration opens on September 7th. Note this link is only live **on or after** your opening date.

You can then choose as many lecture modules as your timetable will allow from the list of modules in the handbook.

Lecture classes begin on Monday, 7th September 2025

How to Register for an English Seminar Module:

All visiting students can choose **ONE** English seminar module in Semester 1, 2026-27. (It is **NOT** compulsory however, to take a seminar module)

Please Note: **You must be VERY CERTAIN that you wish to register for a seminar module.**

There are only 3 places per module for visiting students. Once you register for a module you have effectively taken one space.

If you find you no longer need a seminar that you have registered for, you MUST call to room 511, Third Floor, Tower 1 to change your registration.

Registration forms will be available ONLINE. The link to submit the forms will go live after Orientation.

The form must be submitted by 10am Tuesday morning, 08 September.

Seminar classes begin on Monday, 14th September 2026.

Discipline of English Guidelines for Visiting Students

Please read the following carefully:

- Each Lecture and Seminar Course is worth 5 ECTS.
- Visiting Students may take as many Lecture Courses from the options available in 2nd Year and 3rd Year English as their timetable allows. ***Please note there are limited spaces in all modules***
- Students have the option of enrolling in a seminar course if they wish. Only **ONE** Seminar Course is allowed to be taken by any student **each semester**. *** Please note there are limited spaces in all seminar modules also (3 visiting student spaces per seminar)***
- Semester 1 Lecture modules commence on **Monday, 7th September**.
- Semester 1 Seminar modules commence on **Monday, 14th September**.
- All lecture courses are assessed by a mid-term essay and a final essay.
- All seminar courses are assessed by continuous assessment and a final essay/portfolio.
- After students have registered online for their modules, they will be able to view all module information on [Canvas](#). Please be patient if you do not see all your modules straight after registering online. It may take 24-48 hours for them to appear.

List of Available Lecture Modules in Semester 1:

Semester 1					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-10:00			EN3143 Literature in the Digital Age: AC002, Anderson Theatre		EN4113 Ecology and Literature: CSB-1006 (Computer Science Building)
10:00-11:00	IS2106: Irish Environmental Studies: CSB-1007		EN2193 Stories Told and Re-Told: MRA201 The Ryan Institute Lecture Theatre		EN2193 Stories Told and Re-Told: AMB-1021 Colm O H-EOCHA Theatre
11:00-12:00				EN3142 North American Literature: AMB-1021 O'hEocha Theatre	
12:00-1:00					
1:00-2:00					
2:00-3:00			EN4113 Ecology and Literature: CSB-1006 (Computer Science Building)		
3:00-4:00		EN2157 Love and Literature: SC001, Kirwan Theatre	IS2106: Irish Environmental Studies: TBC	EN2303 Genre Studies: CSB-1006 (Computer Science Building)	EN2157 Love and Literature: AC001, O'Flaherty Theatre
4:00-5:00	EN3142 North American Literature: AC001, O'Flaherty Theatre				
5:00-6:00	EN2303 Genre Studies: AC001, O'Flaherty Theatre	EN3143 Literature in the Digital Age: CSB-1006			

****Students may also choose ONE SEMINAR online****

Lecture Courses Semester 1, 2026-2027

EN2193: STORIES TOLD AND RE-TOLD

The course examines authors' use and adaptation of folkloric and mythological material in their works. The course examines a variety of early modernist and contemporary texts alongside earlier materials alluded to or explored by those texts. Romantic Nationalism and the development of Modernism are major themes. The course considers the writing of W. B. Yeats and other authors of the Irish Revival as well as J.R.R. Tolkien, James Joyce, John Updike, and Kazuo Ishiguro. The course enables students to query the nature of literary production and reception across different time periods. It allows them to explore why authors choose to underpin their works by references to well-known narratives, and, conversely, why authors choose to revive forgotten legends.

Venue/Times: Wednesday 10-11 in MRA201 Ryan Annex Theatre AND Friday 10-11 AMB-1021 Colm O H-EOCHA Theatre

Lecturer: Dr Irina Ruppo (Irina.Ruppo@universityofgalway.ie)

Texts:

W.B. Yeats, *On Baile's Strand* (1906). In *Collected Works Vol. 2* (Shakespeare Head Press, 1908) (Available online) Henrik Ibsen, *Peer Gynt* (1867). Trans. Geoffrey Hill (Penguin, 2016) Other translations (including those available online) are also acceptable. James Joyce, extracts from *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (1916) All editions except Wordsworth classics are accepted. James Joyce, *Finnegans Wake* (1939) (Available online) J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Two Towers* (1954) All editions are accepted. John Updike, *The Centaur* (1963) All editions are accepted. Kazuo Ishiguro, *The Buried Giant* (2015) All editions are accepted

Assessment: Continuous Assessment (40%); End-of-Semester Essay (60%)

EN2156: LOVE AND LITERATURE

This module interrogates 'love' not as a mere emotion, but as a dynamic cultural and aesthetic force that has been variously weaponised, subverted, and idealised to reflect changing power structures, cultural anxieties, and societal norms. Beginning with the illicit and enchanted twelfth-century courtly world of Marie de France and then reaching even further back in time to Ovid's ancient Roman myths of metamorphosis, this historically oriented survey moves through Dante's and Petrarch's fourteenth-century sonneteering to examine both the anxious, image-conscious lyrics of their sixteenth-century English imitators and the alternative seductions found in contemporaneous pastoral verse. Along the way, students will also sample the gender politics of cross-dressing comedies by Lyly and Shakespeare and the tragic excesses of Jacobean drama.

Venue/Time: Tuesday, 3-4pm, SC001 Kirwan Theatre; Friday, 3-4pm, AC001 O'Flaherty Theatre

Lecturer: Dr Lindsay Reid (lindsay.reid@universityofgalway.ie)

Texts: All required readings will be made available online via Canvas and include:

- Marie de France, selected tales from the *Lais*
- Ovid, selected tales from the *Metamorphoses*
- Dante, excerpt from the *Vita Nuova*
- Petrarch, selected poems from the *Canzoniere*
- John Lyly, *Midas* (excerpt) and *Gallathea*

- William Shakespeare, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*
- Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher, *The Maid's Tragedy*
- Nathaniel Hawthorne, 'Rappaccini's Daughter'
- Lyric poetry by: Barnabe Barnes, Samuel Daniel, John Donne, Christopher Marlowe, Walter Raleigh, William Shakespeare, Edmund Spenser, and Thomas Wyatt

Assessment: mid-term group project (20%) and final exam (80%)

EN2303 GENRE STUDIES

Reason and feeling warred for prominence during the eighteenth century, a culturally vibrant time in which many forms and genres of literature flourished against a backdrop of significant global change. Many authors worked in multiple modes of literary expression, producing poetry, drama, and prose during their careers, very often to critique their society's values and practices. This course uses the anchoring concepts of satire and sentiment to explore the various genres of literature consumed by readers during a period that straddles both the Age of Reason and the Age of Sensibility. The expansive nature of this survey of eighteenth-century genres will allow us to chart the development and progression of various key themes within the period and learn about the important political, social, and intellectual contexts out of which these texts emerged.

Venue/Time: **Monday 5-6pm AC001 O'Flaherty Theatre AND Thursday 3-4pm CSB-1006 (Computer Science Building)**

Lecturer: Jennifer Buckley (jennifer.j.buckley@universityofgalway.ie)

Texts:

All texts marked with an asterisk (*) will be provided on Canvas. Other texts can be purchased at University of Galway bookstore.

- Anne Finch, "The Dog and His Master" and "The Eagle, the Sow, and the Cat"*
- Susanna Centlivre, *A Bold Stroke for a Wife**
- Alexander Pope, "Epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot"*
- John Gay, *The Beggar's Opera* (Oxford World's Classics)
- Lady Mary Wortley Montague, "Saturday: The Small Pox"*
- Frances Brooke, *The Old Maid No. 13. [The Foundling Hospital]* *
- Jonathan Swift, "Verses on the Death of Dr. Swift, D.S.P.D."*
- Laurence Sterne, *A Sentimental Journey Through France and Italy**
- Oliver Goldsmith, "The Deserted Village"*
- Anna Letitia Barbauld, "The Mouse's Petition" and "An Inventory of the Furniture in Dr. Priestley's Study"*
- Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano**
- Charlotte Smith, *Elegiac Sonnets**

Assessment: 40% midterm assignment and 60% final examination

EN3142 NORTH AMERICAN LITERATURE

In this module, we will examine a selection of six notable North American novels: I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou; Octavia E. Butler's Kindred; Julie Otsuka's When the Emperor was Divine; Willa Cather's My Ántonia; The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck; and Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko. We will explore the aesthetic and generic development of North American writing and the way in which these novels reflect and engage with ideas such as identity, belonging, isolation, the 'American Dream', prejudice, and resilience, in different social and historical contexts, and in the context of changing ideas about America and what it means to be – and who gets to count as – American.

Venue: Monday 4-5pm AC001, O'Flaherty Theatre AND Thursday 11-12pm AMB-1021 O'hEocha Theatre

Lecturers: Dr Fiona Bateman (fiona.bateman@universityofgalway.ie) and Dr Dermot Burns (dermot.burns@universityofgalway.ie)

Texts:

- Maya Angelou, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings (1969)
- Octavia E. Butler, Kindred (1979)
- Julie Otsuka, When the Emperor was Divine (2002)
- Willa Cather, My Ántonia (1918)
- John Steinbeck, The Grapes of Wrath (1939)
- Leslie Marmon Silko, Ceremony (1977)

Assessment: Continuous Assessment (40%); End-of-Semester Essay (60%)

EN3143 LITERATURE IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Why bother reading literature in our digital age when we have so many other media and entertainments to absorb our time and attention? Given the effects that digital media have had on our concentration and attention spans, is the novel—or, indeed, is literature more generally—doomed? On the contrary: we find ourselves in a potentially golden age for literature. History shows that periods of transition between media are enormously fruitful times for the production of innovative literary forms and for reflection on key questions about the essential nature of literature.

This lecture module exploits our ongoing place in the media shift from print to digital to address a range of these key questions: What is literature? How is it changing, and what is it for? What happens to “the book” in an age of digital culture? By reading contemporary and historical literature, and print and born-digital texts, we will explore themes such as language and communication, form and content, creativity and originality, networks and connections, cognition and artificial intelligence, privacy and surveillance, identity and subjectivity, longevity and obsolescence. In so doing, we will explore how literary forms are transforming in our digital age.

Venue/Times: Tuesday 5-6pm AC001 O'Flaherty Theatre AND Wednesday 9-10am AC002 Anderson Theatre

Lecturer: Dr Alexandra Peat

Texts:

E. M. Forster, “The Machine Stops,” available on Canvas

Stephen Marche, Lucy Hardin's Missing Period (<https://thewalrus.ca/lucy/lucy.html>)

Kate Pullinger, Breathe, Editions at Play/Visual Editions (<https://www.breathe-story.com/>)

R. F. Kuang, Yellowface, Harper Collins ISBN 9780008626372

Kazuo Ishiguro, *Klara and the Sun*, Faber and Faber ISBN 9780571364909

Various short readings, available on Canvas

Assessment: 40% mid-term essay and 60% end-of-term assignment.

EN4113 ECOLOGY AND LITERATURE

Lecturers: Prof. Sean Ryder

Venue/Time: **Wednesday 2-3 pm CSB-1006 AND Friday 9-10am CSB-1006 (Computer Science Building)**

Using an ecocritical approach, this course examines how literary texts have represented and interpreted the relationship of humans to “nature” and to environmental change, from early mythological writings to present-day fiction. Among the texts to be studied are the ancient *Epic of Gilgamesh*, Roman pastoral poems, Romantic landscape poetry, American environmental writing, Irish nature poetry, and contemporary ecological fiction.

Required texts:

- *PDF Course Anthology* – downloadable from Canvas.
- Margaret Atwood, *Oryx and Crake* (Virago, 2003) [ISBN 9780349004068]
- Richard Powers, *The Overstory* (Norton, 2018) [ISBN 9781784708245]

Assessment:

Midterm assignment (40%)

Final Essay (60%)

IS2106: IRISH ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

This module explores how literature has shaped, and responds to, understanding of the natural environment in the Age of the Anthropocene. It traces historical modes of writing about the natural world and examines contemporary ways in which writers and artists shape our understanding of the environment today. The module will focus primarily on Irish environmental literatures in both Irish and English languages, and uncovers connections in the global context of world literatures. Irish language texts will be studied in translation. Key concepts to be considered include environment, anthropocene, climate change, petro-capitalism, sustainability, eco-social justice and decolonial practices.

Venue/Times: **Monday 10-11am in CSB-1007 AND Wednesday 3-4pm (Venue TBC)**

Lecturer: Dr. Nessa Cronin (nessa.cronin@universityofgalway.ie)

Texts:

A Reading List is available directly from the Library Reading List

Assessment: 100% Continuous Assessment

LIST OF SEMINARS FOR Semester 1.

****WHEN REGISTERING ON THE DEPARTMENT FORM, PLEASE SELECT VERY CAREFULLY THE MODULE YOU WISH TO REGISTER FOR, AS SOME MODULES HAVE VERY SIMILAR TITLES****

Semester 1 Seminars:

EN2154	Exploring Shakespeare
EN2106	Shakespearean Comedy
EN2102	Renaissance Drama
EN3172	Transformations of the Novel
EN3109	Poetry of the First World War A
EN3110	Poetry of the First World War B
EN3144	Empire Writing
EN3105	20th Century Children's Fiction
EN2306	History of the English Language
EN2191	Eighteenth Century Writing
EN2175	Postcolonial Literature
EN3152	The Sonnet
EN2181	Special Topic
EN3184	The hero's quest monomyth in medieval & modern literature & 20th C film
EN3180	Special Theme
EN3160	Autism Fictions, Autistic Writing
EN2216	Nineteenth-Century Writing
EN3154	Literature, Empathy and Estrangement
EN2121	Media Industries
EN3119	Technology & Culture
EN3159	Twentieth-Century Writing by Women (British and North American)
EN4341	Twentieth-Century Fiction
EN2308	Spenser's Faerie Queene
EN2209	Fairy Tale Adaptations
EN3136	Joyce's Ulysses

LIST OF SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS (SEMESTER 1)

You may choose ONE seminar.

Assessment for Seminar courses is 30% Continuous Assessment and 70% Final Assignment, usually a final research essay.

Code	Seminar Title	Venue
EN2102	RENAISSANCE DRAMA <u>Lecturer:</u> Ms. Kirry O'Brien This course explores four plays by four different writers from the Renaissance period: Christopher Marlowe's <i>The Jew of Malta</i>, William Shakespeare's <i>The Merchant of Venice</i>, Kyd's <i>The Spanish Tragedy</i> and Jonson's <i>Volpone</i>. We will examine the development of theatrical drama during this era and invigilate many of the concerns of the day that were addressed by said theatre: power, race, gender, revenge etc., as well as looking at these texts from present day perspectives. <u>Assessment:</u> 10% for participation, 10% for the class presentation write up, 10% for a mid-term essay and 70% for the final essay.	Monday 11-1pm TB306, Tower 2
EN2106	SHAKESPEAREAN COMEDIES <u>Lecturer:</u> Ms. Kirry O'Brien This seminar will examine, in detail, four of Shakespeare's Comedies. Shakespeare's comedies end in heterosexual marriage: however, many trials and obstacles have to be overcome along the way. We shall explore the complex issues raised on the journey towards a so-called happy ending. <u>Texts:</u> <i>As You Like It, Twelfth Night, All's Well that Ends Well, Measure for Measure.</i> <u>Assessment:</u> 10% for participation, 10% for the class presentation write up, 10% for a mid-term essay and 70% for the final essay.	Tuesday 11-1pm TB306, Tower 2
EN2175	POSTCOLONIAL LITERATURE Lecturer: Dr Henry Ajumeze This course will explore the intersecting histories of colonialism and literary texts from the postcolonial worlds. Drawn mostly from former colonies of European empires, the texts examined in the course will deal with issues of political-economic and cultural domination of indigenous peoples. It looks at the body of literature by colonized peoples which emerged following the historic struggle against European colonialism and the consequent rise of new	Monday 10-12pm CA003

	political and cultural actors on the world stage from the second half of the twentieth century onwards. These writers are concerned with colonialism and anticolonial struggles, self-determination and liberation, historical reclamation and cultural revivalism, social justice and equity, memorialization and remembering, and the restoration of the dignity of oppressed peoples. Adopting different narrative traditions and styles, the texts reveal the intrinsic violence, dehumanization, and paradoxes associated with colonisation and imperialism. Required Texts: <i>Death and the King's Horseman</i>, Wole Soyinka Amitav Ghosh, <i>Sea of Poppies</i> Tayeb Salih, <i>Season of Migration to the North</i> Okot P'Bitek, <i>Song of Latino and Song of Ocol</i> Secondary Readings: Aimé Césaire, <i>Discourse on Colonialism</i> Frantz Fanon, <i>The Wretched of the Earth</i> Edward Said, <i>Orientalism</i> Neil Lazarus, <i>The Postcolonial Unconscious</i> <i>Assessment:</i> 30% continuous assessment; 70% final essay	
EN3152	THE SONNET <u>Lecturer:</u> Dr Justin Tonra One of the most recognisable of poetic forms, the sonnet is also one of the most varied. Within its short fourteen lines, strict rhyming pattern, and specific structure, poets have contrived to address the sonnet to a wide range of themes: comic, dramatic, erotic, personal, public, religious, romantic, satiric, and many more. In this module, we will read poems in English from the Renaissance to the present day, with a view to examining the sonnet's unique features as well as more common poetic devices. Class activities will include lots of group work and a sustained focus on close reading. In the course of the semester, students will compile a practical and diverse toolbox of methods for reading and writing about sonnets and other poetic forms. Required Book: Stephanie Burt & David Mikics, eds. <i>The Art of the Sonnet</i> <u>Assessment:</u> 30% Continuous Assessment and 70% Final Assessment.	Tuesday 1-3pm TB306, Tower 2
EN2154	EXPLORING SHAKESPEARE <u>Lecturer:</u> Ms Kirry O'Brien This seminar explores in detail some of the diversity of genres to be found with Shakespeare's Plays. Engaging with four very diverse plays it will examine an extensive range of (sometimes overlapping) themes. These will be examined in the context of the	Monday 9-11am TB306, Tower 2

	time of their construction and how they are read/performed today. Texts: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>, <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>, <i>Henry V</i>, <i>The Winter's Tale</i> Assessment: 10% for participation, 10% for the class presentation write up, 10% for a mid-term essay and 70% for the final essay.	
EN2209	FAIRY TALE ADAPTATIONS Lecturer: Andrew Levie This seminar explores the fairy tale not as a fixed inheritance but as a living, endlessly rewritten form. Beginning with foundational tales by Apuleius, Charles Perrault, Jeanne Marie Leprince de Beaumont, and the Brothers Grimm, we examine how a selection of twentieth- and twenty-first-century writers such as Shirley Jackson, Helen Oyeyemi, and Deirdre Sullivan have transformed inherited plots to interrogate issues including gender, power, desire, and family. Class meetings exclusively take the form of small and large group discussions and activities: students should come prepared to talk, argue, and think aloud together. The module culminates in the creation of a creative-critical portfolio, in which students will write and critically situate their own (very short) fairy tale adaptation, joining a tradition of transformation that stretches back centuries and shows no signs of stopping. Texts: All required texts will be made available via Canvas. Assessment: 6% in-class group activities; 2% participation in a 'Flash Fiction Showcase'; 22% in-class quiz; 70% final fairy tale adaptation portfolio.	Monday, 10-12pm, TB303
EN2181	SPECIAL TOPIC Literature of Migration and Displacement Lecturer: Dr Alexandra Peat This module considers representations of migration and displacement from the beginning of the twentieth century to the present day and from writers across the world. The twentieth and twenty-first centuries have witnessed a wealth of literary production that responds to and reflects shifting ethnic and national communities, and a modern world put in motion by — among other things — global conflict, the effects of decolonization, and the climate crisis. We will explore questions of displacement (both forced and voluntary), exile, border crossing, diasporic community, anxieties about strangers, and changing definitions of home. As we examine the narrative strategies and forms that displaced writers use to represent their experiences, we will discuss whether writing by and about immigrants is a transnational literary movement that requires new frameworks of analysis that extend beyond the study of national cultures and languages. Texts: Andrea Levy, <i>Small Island</i>, Tinder Press ISBN 978-0755307500 Moshin Hamid, <i>Exit West</i>, Penguin ISBN 978-0241979068 Thi Bui, <i>The Best We Could Do</i> ISBN 978-1419718786 Colm Toibín, <i>Brooklyn</i>, Penguin ISBN 978-0241972700 Selected short texts provided on Canvas	Wednesday 1-3 AC203, Arts/Science Building

	Assessment: 15% participation, 15% mid-term assignment and 70 % end-of-term assignment	
EN2306	HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE <u>Lecturer:</u> Dr Frances McCormack The History of the English Language? Or maybe not... The idea of “the English language” doesn’t manage to capture the richness and variation of Englishes that we’ll encounter and may come to appreciate over the course of the semester. It presupposes a “correct English”, a “proper English” – something that is fundamentally at odds with the diversity and dynamism of language itself. Over the course of this semester, we’ll think about language change and variation, working backwards from our own point in time to the prehistory of English. We’ll think about regional and social variations of English with particular attention to Hiberno-English (the variety of English that we speak in Ireland). We’ll explore some general linguistic principles, examine our own attitudes to linguistic difference, and try to untangle some of the peculiarities of English (not least its apparently unfathomable spelling rules!). And we’ll ponder what might happen to Englishes in the future. <u>Reading:</u> TBD <u>Assessment:</u> 30% continuous assessment and 70% final essay	Tuesday 9-11 TB306, Tower 2
EN2191	EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY WRITING <u>Lecturer:</u> Dr Jennifer Buckley The eighteenth century, a period when notorious rakes, libertines, and saucy jades indulged their appetites with seeming abandon, is remembered for its freedom of sexual expression. Narratives of courtship and seduction, marriage and estrangement, as well as voyeurism and assault abounded. In this module, students will consider the ways in which this transformative age has influenced modern attitudes towards sexuality, and gender, and discuss the complicated legacy of eighteenth-century literature regarding issues such as the construction of gender, the commodification of the female body, the shifting definition of consent, the disruptive potential of the erotic, and the power relations between the sexes. Far from being a straightforward celebration of sex, these texts reveal the complex negotiations of agency and identity that characterise eighteenth-century literature. <u>Texts:</u> All texts marked with an asterisk * below will be provided on Canvas. Lady Mary Chudleigh, “To the Ladies”* Anne Finch, “The Unequal Fetters”* Alexander Pope, <i>The Rape of the Lock</i>*	Tuesday 12-2 TB305, Tower 2

	Eliza Haywood, <i>Fantomina</i> (Online, UPenn Digital Library) Jonathan Swift, "The Lady's Dressing Room"* Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, "The Reasons that Induced Dr. Swift to write a Poem called 'The Lady's Dressing Room'""* Elizabeth Griffith, <i>The Platonic Wife</i> (Online, U of Michigan Library Digital Collections) Assessment: 30% continuous assessment and 70% final essay.	
EN2308	SPENSER'S FAERIE QUEENE Lecturer: Dr Clíodhna Carney This is a course in reading a great work of literature together with other people, talking about it, writing about it, and learning from each other. The book is Edmund Spenser's <i>Faerie Queene</i> (1590). It's a long narrative poem. We read Book I and Book II. Each of these books revolves around a particular hero and a particular virtue. There are giants, dragons, witches, fights. There is also religion, sex, gender, marriage, vice and virtue, and the burning questions of how to live well, how to regulate the body and the emotions, and how to understand the relationship between God and human beings. Each week, we come to class, bringing our copy of the book with us (important: please get the edition below). We will do a variety of things in class, including close reading, group work, and creative writing. We will also consider Spenser's sources, including Ariosto, Virgil and Aristotle. Assessment: A combination of continuous assessment (six short pieces of writing, worth altogether 30%) and a longer final assignment, worth 70%. Reading: You only need to own one book for this course: Edmund Spenser, <i>The Faerie Queene</i>, ed. A. C. Hamilton, revised edition (Pearson Longman, 2007).	Wednesday 1-3pm TB306, Tower 2
EN2216	NINETEENTH-CENTURY WRITING Lecturer: Professor Sean Ryder The writers of the Romantic period (1780-1830) formulated many of the ideas that still shape our cultural debates today - ideas about the value of nature, about freedom, revolution and human rights, about human psychology, and about the risks of unregulated technology. In this seminar we will discuss a selection of influential poets like William Wordsworth, Anna Laetitia Barbauld, Percy Shelley and John Clare alongside philosophers like Mary Wollstonecraft and Edmund Burke. We'll also read one of the most impactful novels ever written, Mary Shelley's <i>Frankenstein</i>. Required Texts/Resources: PDF Course Anthology (available on Canvas) Mary Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> (1818 edition; Oxford University Press paperback).	Wednesday 4-6pm AMB-G010

	Assessment: 30% continuous assessment, 70% final essay	
EN2121	Media Industries Lecturer: Dr Andrew Ó Baoill How do issues of ownership, funding, and organisation shape our media environment? This course will provide an introduction to study of media industries, through a critical political economic lens. We will examine a variety of models, including commercial, political economic and alternative; identify the institutional pressures shaping media texts; and discuss the role of a number of interventions aimed at disrupting 'business as usual' in the mass media. Reading List: Full reading list on library reading list System. Likely to have additional changes in advance of semester. Assessment Type: 10% Participation, 20% Group Project, 10% Collegiality Activities, 60% Final Paper	Monday 11-1pm CSB-1003
EN3113	Modernist Fiction Dr Adrian Paterson This seminar course considers the radical prose of two of the twentieth century's finest writers, Katherine Mansfield and Virginia Woolf. Their innovations in technique and in perception revolutionized the short story while their rivalry and mutual influence spurred Woolf to conceive a new shape for the novel. While reading closely and conducting a detailed analysis of the fictions' narrative form and prose style, we attempt to consider key influences such as aesthetics, war, ego, science, time, sex, gender, audience, and empire, and their effect on the modernist revolution in the arts more generally. We also consider the place of genre in bringing about change in modernist fiction, and the role of short stories, essays, and diaries in forming new kinds of narrative. Active class participation is encouraged and demanded. Reading list: ALL required reading texts must be READ IN PRINT FORM, so borrowed from the library or purchased. · Katherine Mansfield, <i>Selected Stories</i> (Norton) [preferred, or look at <i>Collected Stories</i> (Penguin)] · Virginia Woolf, <i>To The Lighthouse</i> (Oxford), · Virginia Woolf, <i>Orlando</i> (Oxford) see also Modernist Fiction ESSENTIALS and EXTRAS available online Assessment Type: Assessment will take into account the quality of reading & participation by means of continuous assessment (30%) and a longer final essay (70%).	Thursday 1-3pm O'Donoghue Centre - Seminar Room 1 (MY123 15/10 & 19/11)

EN3154	Literature, Empathy and Estrangement Dr Emily Ridge How and why do literary texts draw readers into forms of emotional identification with their subjects and characters? By contrast, what are the effects of a deliberate withholding of identification? This seminar course will introduce and contextualise critical debates on the moral efficacy of empathy as this pertains to the question of narrative approach. Can an empathetic reading process foster more ethical modes of engagement within the real world or does the experience of catharsis lead to a withdrawal from greater responsibility? Are distancing effects an alternative response to empathy's failure? The course will consider representations of and perspectives on empathy and estrangement within a selection of literary and critical texts, demonstrating the often complicated co-existence of these conflicting impulses across literary history more broadly and even within a single text. We will examine techniques both for closing the gap between reader and character (free indirect discourse, stream of consciousness) and for creating distance (frame narratives, exteriority, irony). We will further explore the ways in which such techniques can be mapped onto genre, from sentimental literature to satire, and how expectations, on the level of genre and emotional response, can also be radically overturned. Reading List: Joseph Conrad's 'Amy Foster' (1901) – to be circulated Katherine Mansfield's 'The Garden Party' (1922) – to be circulated Claire Keegan's <i>Small Things Like These</i> (2021) – Faber ISBN: 9780571368686 Naomi Mitchison's <i>Memoirs of a Spacewoman</i> (1962) – Kennedy and Boyd ISBN: 9781849210355 Muriel Spark's 'The Girl I Left Behind Me' (1957) – to be circulated James Baldwin's 'Previous Condition' (1948) – to be circulated Ottessa Mosfegh's <i>My Year of Rest and Relaxation</i> (2019) – Vintage ISBN: 9781784707422 Charles Yu's <i>Interior Chinatown</i> (2020) – Vintage ISBN: 9780307948472 Viet Thanh Nguyen's 'Fatherland' (2017) – to be circulated Assessment Type: 30% continual assessment and 70% end-of-term assignment	Thursday 11-1pm TB306 Tower 2
EN3172	TRANSFORMATIONS OF THE NOVEL Dr. Jennifer Buckley Tobias Smollett defines the novel as "a large diffused picture, comprehending the characters of life." When Smollett set down these words, the novel was still in its formative years. Those studying this period regularly describe the novel as having "risen" in the eighteenth century, as if its development was a smooth and effortless process. As students on this module will learn, however, the birth of the novel was messy and complicated, and early examples of the form are far more experimental than the three-volume novels of the nineteenth century would have us expect. Reflecting the attitude of the rollicking eighteenth century, when	Thursday 9-11am TB306, Tower 2

	the ideas of the Enlightenment, the birth of consumer culture and the discoveries of medical science were remaking what it meant to be human, the texts on this module reveal a world of shifting constructions of gender, power, and the individual. <u>Texts:</u> Eliza Haywood, <i>The Fatal Secret: or, Constancy in Distress</i> (Online, UPenn Digital Library) Selections from Jonathan Swift, <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> (Oxford World's Classics) Horace Walpole, <i>The Castle of Otranto</i> (Oxford World's Classics) <u>Assessment:</u> Continuous assessment 30% and final essay 70%.	
EN3184	THE HERO'S QUEST MONOMYTH IN MEDIEVAL AND MODERN LITERATURE Andrew Levie A lone hero embarks on a sudden and unexpected journey. Peril and adventure await. His courage, resolve, and skill are tested before the ultimate battle takes place. Finally, he returns home in triumph, having saved the day and undergone an important personal transformation. Sound familiar? The narrative archetype, known as the quest, has framed countless adventure narratives, from Beowulf to Bond. It has been termed the 'monomyth', or 'hero's journey'. This module employs narratology and close reading/analysis to examine literature and film ranging from Old English epic poetry to modern adventure novels and science fiction movies. We will attempt to answer the questions: how and why does this narrative archetype resonate so profoundly throughout the history of English story-telling? Texts · R. M. Liuzza 2012, <i>Beowulf</i> (Second Edition), Broadview [ISBN: 9781554810642] · John Ronald Reuel Tolkien 2012, <i>The Hobbit, Or, There and Back Again</i>, Harper Collins publishers [ISBN: 9780007458424] · J. D. Salinger 2010, <i>The Catcher in the Rye</i>, Penguin Books Limited [ISBN: 0241950430] · Peter Benchley 2012, <i>Jaws</i>, Pan Publishing [ISBN: 9781447220039] Assessment 30% continuous assessment and 70% final essay.	Wednesday 3-5pm AC203 Arts/Science Building
EN3105	TWENTIETH-CENTURY CHILDREN'S FICTION Dr. Coralline Dupuy	Wednesday 11-1pm TB306 Tower 2

	The focus of this course is an in-depth analysis of modern texts for children and young adults written in the last three decades. Through this course, the students will appraise each text individually and to look at the global issues pervading the genre. The proposed method of study is comparative analysis. • Dahl, Roald. <i>The Witches</i>. London: Puffin, 1988. • Sachar, Louis. <i>Holes</i>. London: Bloomsbury, 1998. • Said, S. F. <i>Varjak Paw</i>. 2003 London: Corgi, 2014. • Crossan, Sarah. <i>The Weight of Water</i>. London: Bloomsbury, 2011. <u>Assessment</u>: continuous assessment 30% and final essay 70%.	
EN3160	AUTISM FICTIONS, AUTISTIC WRITING Dr. Frances McCormack This course examines writing, both fiction, and non-fiction, that tells or claims to tell stories about autism and/or Autistic experiences. We'll think about how these texts construct and respond to changing and contested understanding of the same. Examining fiction and non-fiction from medical texts to "autiebiography", we will explore the politics of shared knowledge and representation. <u>Texts</u>: Viktoria Lloyd-Barlow, <i>All the Little Bird Hearts</i>, 2023. Other texts will be available on Canvas. <u>Assessment</u>: 30% continuous assessment; 70% final essay.	Friday 9-11am TB306 Tower 2
EN3109	POETRY OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR Ms Kirry O'Brien The approach of this seminar will be thematic. We engage with a wide variety of material by both poets who have only one poem of substance, to others whose body of work from this very short time period is remarkable. We begin with some of the poetry that helped create the climate for war. We also look at the (now all but forgotten) poetry that was written and read during the war by both combatants and non-combatants, both male and female. Male soldier poets examined include, amongst others, Rupert Brooke, Siegfried Sassoon, Ivor Gurney, Edward Thomas, Issac Rosenberg, and Wilfred Owen. Female writers to be studied include, amongst others, Jessie Pope, Vera Brittain and May Wedderburn Cannan. <u>Assessment</u>: 10% for participation, 10% for the class presentation write up, 10% for a mid-term essay and 70% for the final essay.	Monday 2-4pm TB306 Tower 2
EN3110	POETRY OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR Ms Kirry O'Brien The approach of this seminar will be thematic. We engage with a wide variety of material by both poets who have only one poem of substance, to others whose body of work from this very short time period is remarkable. We begin with some of the poetry that helped create the climate for war. We also look at the (now all but	Tuesday 3-5pm TB306

	forgotten) poetry that was written and read during the war by both combatants and non-combatants, both male and female. Male soldier poets examined include, amongst others, Rupert Brooke, Siegfried Sassoon, Ivor Gurney, Edward Thomas, Issac Rosenberg, and Wilfred Owen. Female writers to be studied include, amongst others, Jessie Pope, Vera Brittain and May Wedderburn Cannan. <u>Assessment</u>: 10% for participation, 10% for the class presentation write up, 10% for a mid-term essay and 70% for the final essay.	
EN3144	EMPIRE WRITING Dr. Muireann O’Cinneide This seminar explores the relationship between Britain and India as represented in nineteenth-century fiction. India, often hailed as the ‘Jewel in the Crown’ of the British Empire, came to symbolise in the Victorian popular imagination the deepest desires and fantasies of imperial conquest. In the aftermath of the Indian Uprising of 1857-58, however, it also came to represent the terrifying possibilities of imperial overthrow. British writers projected cultural anxieties about civilisation, race, and knowledge into narratives about Indian mystery and violence, even as Indian writers turned fiction in English into complex expressions of national, colonial and/or anti-colonial identity. The texts on this module include a sensational Orientalist bestseller; one of the first detective novels in English literature; short stories promising intimate revelations from the Indian home; and an imperial bildungsroman of adventure and espionage from the writer whose work became emblematic of British India. <u>Texts</u>: • Wilkie Collins, <i>The Moonstone</i> (1868) (pref. 2019 Oxford UP ed. O’Gorman) • Arthur Conan Doyle, “The Adventure of the Speckled Band” (1892) • Rudyard Kipling, <i>The Jungle Books</i> (1894/95) (pref. 2008 Oxford UP ed. W.W. Robson); Cornelia Sorabji, extracts from <i>Love and Life Behind the Purdah</i> (1901) • Rabindranath Tagore, extracts from <i>Stories by Tagore</i> (1918); • Philip Meadows Taylor, extracts from <i>Confessions of a Thug</i> (1839). • Online versions of all texts will be available via the Library catalogue and/or Canvas. Students are recommended to purchase the Collins and Kipling editions specified; those wishing to read ahead should start with Collins’s <i>The Moonstone</i>. • Online versions of all texts will be available via the Library catalogue and/or Canvas. Students are recommended to purchase the Collins and Kipling editions specified; those wishing to read ahead should start with Collins’s <i>The Moonstone</i> <u>Assessment</u>: 30% continuous assessment (20% individual in-class presentation; 10% attendance & class activities); 70% final essay.	Thursday 1-3pm TB306 Tower 2

EN3119	TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE Dr. Andrew Ó Baoill This module will use the example of Generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT, DALL'E 2) to explore the interplay of technology and culture. We will engage with an exciting set of critical thinkers, who explore a range of questions key to understanding the challenges and opportunities offered by this moment, from Walter Benjamin to Zeynep Tufekci, Donna Haraway to Mar Hicks, Michel Foucault to Raymond Williams. Our explorations and discussions will offer a range of perspectives on these radical technologies, and how we can (and should) respond to them. <u>Text:</u> Readings available through library reading list service and Canvas. <u>Assessment:</u> 10% Participation, 20% Group Project, 10% Collegiality Points, 60% Final Paper	Wednesday 3-5pm TB306 Tower 2
EN3180	SPECIAL THEME: Printing Dissent: Protest on the Page Dr. Alexandra Peat Printing and publishing has long been associated with protest and activism. In this course, we will explore some key examples of protest in print culture in order to study how print has been used to document, explain, and disseminate dissatisfaction with the status quo and to push for change. We will engage with a variety of material, from the suffragette newspapers and ephemera of the nineteenth century to Riot Grrrl zines and from modernist "little" magazines to the anti-apartheid underground press of South Africa. The course focuses particularly on historical moments where technological developments in print culture coincided with or, indeed, enabled the growth of dissenting ideas, and adopts a broad definition of print culture, encompassing periodicals, newspapers, chapbooks, books, zines, and ephemera. Texts: Claudia Rankine, <i>Citizen: An American Lyric</i>, Penguin ISBN 978-0141981772 Madeleine Thien, <i>Do Not Say We have Nothing</i>, Granta ISBN 978-178378266 Margaret Atwood, <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>, Vintage ISBN 978-0099740919 We will also be reading a variety of material available through digital archives, as well as short texts available via Canvas. Assessment: 15% participation, 15% mid-term assignment and 70% end-of-term assignment	Tuesday 1-3pm CSB-1003 (Computer Science Building)

EN3159	Twentieth-Century Writing by Women Dr. Emily Ridge This seminar module will explore representations of metropolitan spaces and experiences in twentieth-century women's writing. The figure of the <i>flâneur</i> – a term used to define a male wanderer and observer of urban life – has long been integral to critical explorations of modernity, from Charles Baudelaire's 'The Painter of Modern Life' through to James Joyce's <i>Ulysses</i> (1922). However, students on this module will be introduced to the contrasting feminine figure of the <i>flâneuse</i> – a female wanderer and observer of urban life – across the twentieth century, drawing attention to the many re-evaluative efforts to bring matters of gender as well as the centrality of women's writing and experience to the forefront of studies of modern literature. It will offer a critical and historical framework for approaching the figure of the <i>flâneuse</i>, reading primary texts alongside key critical works, and further incorporating discussions of space, spectacle, urban geography, mobility, consumer culture and labour. The module will be organised in two parts; each part will follow a broadly chronological trajectory, drawing on examples from novels, short fiction, life writing, and poetry by a diverse range of British and North American writers. Reading: ➤ Hope Mirrlees's 'Paris: A Poem' (1920) – to be circulated ➤ Nella Larsen's <i>Passing</i> (1929) Penguin ISBN 9780241472712 ➤ Virginia Woolf's 'Street Haunting: A London Adventure' (1930) – to be circulated ➤ Doris Lessing's 'In Defence of the Underground' (1992) – to be circulated ➤ Djuna Barnes's <i>Nightwood</i> (1936) – Faber ISBN 9780571322862 ➤ Jean Rhys's <i>Good Morning, Midnight</i> (1939) – Penguin ISBN 9780141183930 ➤ Joan Didion 'Goodbye to All That' (1967) – to be circulated Margaret Drabble 'A Day in the Life of a Smiling Woman' (1973) – to be circulated Assessment: 30% continual assessment and 70% end-of-term assignment	Thursday 9-11am TB305
EN3136	Joyce's <i>Ulysses</i> Dr. Clíodhna Carney This module will provide final year students of English with the opportunity to read, study, discuss and write about one of the greatest novels in the language, James Joyce's <i>Ulysses</i> (1922). The book's monumental reputation, together with its perceived difficulty of style and subject, is both intriguing and off-putting to prospective readers, and for many people, including graduates of English, it remains one of the great books that they have not read.	Thursday 3-5pm TB306 Tower 2

	But it is a deeply rewarding work of art. The point of this course will be to allow interested students to read <i>Ulysses</i> in the supportive and illuminating context of guided class discussions, group work and regular short pieces of writing in different genres. The focus of the course will be on learning together and on reading together. Reading: Please make sure to get this edition, published by Vintage: James Joyce, <i>Ulysses</i>, ed. Hans Walter Gabler [ISBN10 0394743121]. This is so that we can easily read the book together and refer to different pages easily for the purposes of our discussions in class. Assessment: Continuous assessment (30%) and one longer piece of writing (70%)	
EN4341	Twentieth Century Fiction Andrew Levie In this module we look at texts from both sides of the Atlantic that give a flavour of some of the formal innovations and thematic preoccupations of twentieth-century literature. The first, F. Scott Fitzgerald's <i>The Great Gatsby</i> [1925], is an example of American Modernist writing, and introduces themes of commercialisation, identity and alienation. To some extent, this last concern is also the subject of our second novel, Ralph Ellison's <i>Invisible Man</i> [1952], which is a noted articulation of the existentialist philosophy that became important in the middle of the century. It's also a powerful, entertaining and moving depiction of American society, of African American experience, and of the growing commodification of identity and culture. Commodification and the coming age of advanced capitalism are also themes of our final text, Angela Carter's <i>Nights at the Circus</i> [1984], a playful and exuberant novel, telling the story of Fevvers, a circus aerialiste at the turn of the century, who might (or might not) actually have wings. The novel's 'magical realism' allows us to see how the experimentalism of Modernism morphs into postmodern forms. Set at the cusp of the century, it also takes the twentieth century itself as a theme. Texts: F. Scott Fitzgerald (2025), <i>The Great Gatsby</i>. Oxford University Press [ISBN: 9780198864400] Ralph Ellison (2001), <i>Invisible Man</i>. Penguin [ISBN: 9780141184425] Angela Carter (2006), <i>Nights at the Circus</i>. Vintage Classics [ISBN: 9781784871536] Assessment: 30% continuous assessment and 70% end-of-module assignment.	Thursday 2-4pm CA003

EN4117	Twentieth Century Poetry Dr. Adrian Paterson ‘Literature’, said the American poet Ezra Pound, ‘is news that STAYS news’. This course reverberates with the shock of the new in poetry and poetics, examining the different ways poetry stays news from the revolutionary beginning of the century onwards. Poems are considered as formal artefacts, as agonized personal responses, and as radical symptoms of (or interventions into) changing times. Poets who ‘make it new’ are especially scrutinized: American poets like Pound, Hilda Doolittle (H.D.) and William Carlos Williams, English poets like W.H. Auden and Stevie Smith, alongside a range of other less radical voices like Thomas Hardy and Edward Thomas. The exciting plurality and diversity in poetry leads to a chance to examine a (limited) choice of long poems and authors for special study. The course demands attention to close reading and class participation and encourages individual research projects. <u>Reading:</u> ALL required reading texts must be READ IN PRINT FORM, so borrowed from the library or purchased. The Bloodaxe Book of Twentieth Century Poetry from Britain and Ireland ed. Edna Longley see also Twentieth Century Poetry ESSENTIALS and EXTRAS available online <u>Assessment:</u> Assessment will take into account the quality of reading & participation by means of shorter written assignments (30%) and a longer final essay (70%).	Tuesday 4-6pm CA004
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List of Available Lecture Modules in Semester 2:

Semester 2					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-10:00			EN2312 Old English Poetry: SC001, Kirwan Theatre		
10:00-11:00			EN2134 Media, Culture, Society: AUC G002 Theatre, ARAS UI CHATHAIL		EN3187 Contemporary Literature: AC001, O'Flaherty Theatre
11:00-12:00				EN2118 19th Century British Literature: CSB-1006 (Computer Science Building)	
12:00-1:00				EN3187 Contemporary Literature: CSB-1006 (Computer Science Building)	
1:00-2:00					EN4123 Specialist Studies: AC002, Anderson Theatre
2:00-3:00			EN4123 Specialist Studies: CSB-1006 (Computer Science Building)		
3:00-4:00		EN2125 Studies in Medieval Literature: AC001, O'Flaherty Theatre		EN2125 Studies in Medieval Literature: AC002, Anderson Theatre	
4:00-5:00	EN2312 Old English Poetry: AC001, O'Flaherty Theatre				
5:00-6:00	EN2134 Media, Culture, Society: AMB-1021 O'hEocha Theatre	EN2118 19th Century British Literature: AMB-1021 O'hEocha Theatre			
** Students may also choose <u>ONE SEMINAR</u> online **					

Lecture Courses Semester 2, 2026-27

EN2125: STUDIES IN MEDIEVAL LITERATURE

This module introduces students to a diverse range of medieval literary texts, offering insight into the rich and varied culture of the Middle Ages. In the first half of the course, we explore medieval writings including the anonymous lyric 'Ye that Pasen by the Weye', Bede's historical and religious account featuring 'Caedmon's Hymn', and Robert Henryson's fable 'The Cock and the Jasper'. These texts illuminate themes such as spiritual reflection, poetic inspiration, and moral instruction, while also demonstrating the dynamic interplay between oral tradition and written culture.

The second half of the module is devoted to the fourteenth-century alliterative masterpiece 'Sir Gawain and the Green Knight', a key work in the tradition of medieval Arthurian romance. Through close reading and contextual analysis, we will examine central themes such as chivalry, honour, temptation, testing, and Christian piety. Students will consider how the poem engages with the ideals and anxieties of its time, while also highlighting the artistry of Middle English alliterative verse.

By engaging with these texts, students will develop skills in literary analysis, historical contextualisation, and critical thinking, while gaining a broader understanding of the intellectual and imaginative landscape of medieval Britain.

Venue/Time: Tuesday 3-4pm AC001 O'Flaherty Theatre AND Thursday 3-4pm AC002 Anderson Theatre

Lecturer: Dr. Clíodhna Carney (cliona.carney@universityofgalway.ie) and Dr Dermot Burns (dermot.burns@universityofgalway.ie)

Texts:

Simpson, J. editor. The Norton Anthology of English literature: The Middle Ages. 11th Edition, Vol. A. Norton, 2024.

ISBN: 978-1-324-06261-5

Assessment: mid-term assignment (40%) and final essay (60%)

EN2134: MEDIA, CULTURE, SOCIETY

This course will provide students with an understanding of our contemporary media environment, with attention to both Irish media and international examples. Students will learn about the operation of the media industries, exploring both the structure of the mass media, and the social context within which they operate.

Venue/Times: Monday 5-6pm AMB-1021, O'hEocha Theatre AND Wednesday 10-11am AUC G002 THEATRE, ARAS UI CHATHAIL

Lecturer: Dr. Andrew Ó Baoill (andrew.obaoill@universityofgalway.ie)

Texts:

A Reading List is available directly from the Library Reading List at:

<https://rl.talis.com/3/nuigalway/lists/3C2F9628-549E-02B9-EAFD-66E941D311DE.html?lang=en>

Assessment: 40% - mid-term assessment; 60% - end-of-semester assessment

EN4123 Specialist Studies: Twentieth Century Literature

This lecture course will provide an overview of the development of modern English literature through the lens of literary architecture. It will examine the changing materiality and metaphors of the 'house of fiction' over the course of the twentieth century in line with the disruptions, intrusions and mobilisations of modernity, the decline of empire and two world wars. We will trace a chronological course from turn-of-the-century anxieties about inheritance and legacy, as exemplified in the works of E. M. Forster and James Joyce, through visions of ruin, reckoning and reconstruction in the modernist works of T.S. Eliot and Virginia Woolf to the postmodern structures of writers like Muriel Spark and John Barth. We will conclude with a consideration of postcolonial and diasporic spaces, as depicted by V.S. Naipaul and Jhumpa Lahiri. The course will investigate the extent to which the changing face of English literature across the twentieth century is reflected in its representations of architectural and domestic space. It will offer a critical framework for approaching such representations, touching on the following subjects, amongst others: the house as an analogue for fictional form; the poetics of space; canonical revisions and renovations; home and the 'unhomely'; and the concepts of interiority and privacy.

Venues: Wednesday 2-3pm CSB-1006 AND Friday 1-2pm AC002 Anderson Theatre

Lecturer: Dr Emily Ridge (emily.ridge@universityofgalway.ie)

Required **reading:**

E.M. Forster, *Howards End* (1910) – Penguin Classics ISBN 9780141182131 (also available from the library in e-book form)

James Joyce, 'The Dead' (1914) - to be circulated

T.S. Eliot, 'The Waste Land' (1922) - to be circulated

Virginia Woolf, *Mrs Dalloway* (1925) - I will be using the Vintage Classics edition (ISBN [9781784870867](https://www.vintageclassics.com/9781784870867)) but any edition you can find is fine.

Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own* (1929) Penguin Classics ISBN 780241436288 (Full text also available here: https://archive.org/details/woolf_a-room/mode/2up)

Elizabeth Bowen, 'The Demon Lover' (1941) - to be circulated

Muriel Spark's 'The House of the Famous Poet' (1959) - to be circulated

John Barth's 'Lost in the Funhouse' (1968) - to be circulated

V.S. Naipaul's *A House for Mr Biswas* (1961) – Picador Classic ISBN 9781509803507 (also available from the library in e-book form)

Jhumpa Lahiri, 'This Blessed House' (1999) - to be circulated

Assessment: 40% Continual Assessment and 60% exam

EN3187 CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

In this course, we will examine literary texts through the contemporary lens or "the here and now", within Ireland but also across other time periods and places. The course shall focus on the imbrications between literary productions and some of the major issues of our time, illustrating the intersections of cultural ideologies, political thoughts, and aesthetic conventions. Throughout the module students will reflect on a range of current and developing ideas in our rapidly changing world, and on the ways in which literary and cultural formations are emerging in response to these changes. Might we then understand these changes not simply in terms of tropes, but instead as the very production of contemporary culture? We will read a selection of texts from across genres—including novels, short stories, poems and plays – and explore a diverse range of critical and theoretical approaches to contemporary literary culture.

Venue/Time: Thursday 12-1pm CSB-1006 AND Friday 10-11 AC001 O'Flaherty Theatre

Lecturer: Dr. Henry Ajumeze

Course texts:

Caroline O'Donoghue, *Scenes of a Graphic Nature*

Sinéad Morrissey, *Between Here and There*. Manchester: Carcanet, 2002

Imbolo Mbue, *How Beautiful We Were*.
J.M. Coetzee, *Disgrace*
Ben Okri, *The Famished Road*
Ella Hickson *Oil*

Secondary Readings:

Brannigan, John. *Race in Modern Irish Literature and Culture*. Upso: Oso University, 2009
Jackson, Jeanne-Marie. *The African Novel of Ideas: Philosophy and Individualism in the Age of Global Writing*, Princeton & Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2021

EN2312: OLD ENGLISH LITERATURE

This course is not only a study of early poetry in English, but a reflection on what we study, how we study it, and why. We'll explore the poetry in translation with a view to holding scholarly traditions up to scrutiny. We'll analyse texts that have been classed as wisdom poems, battle poems, riddles, elegies, and even charms, and we'll consider how useful or appropriate these designations are. While we'll produce collaborative close readings and experimental translations of texts, we'll also reflect on our own scholarly practices and the tradition that has shaped the field of study. In doing so, we'll engage with a range of theoretical perspectives.

Venue/Time: Monday 4-5pm AC001 O'Flaherty Theatre AND Wednesday 9-10pm SC001 Kirwan Theatre

Lecturer: Dr. Frances McCormack ([frances.mccormack @universityofgalway.ie](mailto:frances.mccormack@universityofgalway.ie))

Texts:

Primary Sources, will be available on Canvas

Assessment: mid-term essay (40%) and final essay (60%)

EN2118: NINETEENTH-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE

This module addresses selected British prose, poetry, fiction, and drama from 1832 until the turn of the century, the period often known as the Victorian Age. Victorian literature grapples with the environmental and psychological impacts of an era of extraordinary industrial and technological development. In this period, the workings of colonial capitalism fundamentally refigure relationships between the individual, society, and labour. The texts on this module engage with changing conceptions of class, gender, sexuality and selfhood; the relationship between evolutionary science, religious faith, and the natural world; and discourses of race, slavery, and the expansion of empire. Above all, these writers ask what it ultimately means to produce art in an age of machines. Students wishing to read ahead should begin with Mary Elizabeth Braddon's scandalous bestseller *Lady Audley's Secret*.

Venue/Times: Tuesday 5-6pm, AMB-1021 O'hEocha Theatre AND Thursday 11-12noon IT250 IT Building

Lecturer: Dr Muireann O'Cinneide muireann.ocinneide@universityofgalway.ie

Required reading:

Catherine Robson & Rachel Ablow, eds., *The Norton Anthology of English Literature: Volume E, The Victorian Age*. Gen. Ed. Stephen Greenblatt. 11th edition. Norton, 2024. Mary Braddon, *Lady Audley's Secret* (1862). Pref. Oxford UP 2012 edition, ed. Lyn Pykett Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations* (1860). Pref. Oxford UP 2008 edition eds. Cardwell and Robert Douglas-Fairhurst. Additional readings on Canvas.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment (40%); End-of-term Exam (60%)

Please note: Semester 2 seminar details are available on our website:

<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/english-media-creative-arts/departments-centres/english/visiting-students/>

