

Second Year Semester 1, 2024-2025

Students are required to choose TWO of the following three modules:

EN448.1, EN2166, EN2133

AND

ONE of the Seminar Modules listed below

EN2185: 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. Straddling the perceived divide between popular fiction and classic literary works, 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 AMB-1023 Mairtin O'Tuathail Theatre AND Friday 10-11 AMB-1023 Mairtin O'Tuathail Theatre**

Lecturer: Dr Irina Ruppó (Irina.Ruppó@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%)

EN2166: SEDUCTION, SEXUALITY, AND RACE: EARLY MODERN IDENTITIES

This module examines ideas about seduction, sexuality and race, in early modern poetry, drama, and prose. The first half explores texts that grapple with race and ethnic identity in William Shakespeare's *Othello*, Toni Morrison and Rokia Traoré's *Desdemona*, Keith Hamilton Cobb's *American Moor*, and Aphra Behn's *Oroonoko*. The second half explores three great poetic sequences of seduction: William Shakespeare's *Venus and Adonis*, Christopher Marlowe's *Hero and Leander*, and Mary Wroth's *Pamphilia to Amphilanthus*.

Debates about erotic versus chaste love, heteronormativity and queerness, will be the focus. The module will introduce students to current critical theories of gender, sexuality, and race. It will also attend to questions around literary genre: poetic form (erotic epyllion, sonnet sequence), drama and the emerging novel.

Venue/Times: Tuesday 3-4 in SC001 Kirwan Theatre AND Friday 3-4 O’Flaherty Theatre

Lecturer: Prof. Marie-Louise Coolahan (marielouise.coolahan@universityofgalway.ie)

Texts:

William Shakespeare, *Othello; Venus and Adonis*

Toni Morrison and Rokia Traoré, *Desdemona*

Keith Hamilton Cobb, *American Moor*

Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko*

Christopher Marlowe, *Hero and Leander*

Mary Wroth, *Pamphilia to Amphilanthus* (selected sonnets)

These texts are available in hard copy from the campus bookshop and Charlie Byrne’s bookshop. Where open-access electronic editions are available, these will be uploaded to Canvas.

Feel free to source second-hand copies, etc. However, the best scholarly editions (also available on loan from the library) are:

William Shakespeare, *Othello* [ISBN: 978-147257176]

Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko* [ISBN: 978-024125162]

William Shakespeare, ‘Venus and Adonis’ (in *Shakespeare’s Poems: Venus and Adonis, The Rape of Lucrece and The Shorter Poems* [ISBN: 978-190343687])

Christopher Marlowe, *Complete Poems and Translations* [ISBN: 978-014310495]

Mary Wroth, *Mary Wroth’s Poetry: An Electronic Edition* [<http://wroth.latrobe.edu.au/>]

Assessment: Mid-term essay (40%); End-of-semester Examination (60%)

EN2133: MEDIA, CULTURE, SOCIETY

This course will provide students with an understanding of our contemporary media environment, with particular attention to Irish media. Students will learn about the operation of the media industries and will gain the ability to critically both media texts and the structures that shape them.

Venue/Times: Monday 5-6 in AC001 O’Flaherty Theatre AND Thursday 3-4 pm IT250, IT Building

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

Second Year Semester 2, 2024-2025
Students are required to choose TWO of the following THREE modules:
EN264, ENG203, ENG304
AND
ONE of the Seminar Modules listed below

EN264: STUDIES IN MEDIEVAL LITERATURE

The first half of this course examines the fourteenth-century alliterative poem, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, as an example of the genre of medieval Arthurian romance. We will consider themes such as courage, chivalric worth, testing, temptation, and piety.

Chaucer wrote his famous *Canterbury Tales* in the last quarter of the fourteenth century and this last great work of his is one of the most exciting and varied in the English language. Obscenity and profanity jostle with piety and solemnity as twenty-three characters tell stories of magic, war, love, fornication and virtue. If you are of a historical persuasion, you will be happy here – you will learn, from the perspective of a witty, forgiving analyst of self and society, about the nature of late medieval life, as lived by student, saint, lover, knight, priest, wife; about money, crime, sex, the Church, medicine, gender, about guilds, monasteries, pilgrimages, warfare, love.

We will read a selection of the *Canterbury Tales*, including *The General Prologue*, *The Knight's Tale*, *The Miller's Tale* and the *Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale*.

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

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

Texts:

W. R. J. Barron, ed., *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, revised edition (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1998).

Students may choose either the *Norton Chaucer* (2019), edited by David Lawton, or the *Riverside Chaucer*, 3rd edition (2008), edited by Larry Benson.

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

ENG203 GENRE STUDIES

Reason and feeling warred for prominence during the long 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 5-6 in AMB-1021 O'hEocha Theatre and Thursday 12-1pm IT250, IT Building

Lecturer: Dr. Heather Ladd

Texts:

All texts marked with an asterisk * below will be provided on Canvas

John Wilmont, Earl of Rochester, "A Satyr Against Reason and Mankind"*

Alexander Pope, "Epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot"*

Jonathan Swift, "Verses on the Death of Dr. Swift, D.S.P.D."*

Susanna Centlivre, *The Basset Table**

Lady Mary Wortley Montague, "Saturday: The Small Pox"*

John Gay, *The Beggar's Opera* (Oxford World's Classics)

Oliver Goldsmith, "The Deserted Village"*

Henry Mackenzie, *The Man of Feeling* (Oxford World's Classics)

Excerpt from Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano**

Assessment: 40% midterm assignment and 60% final examination

ENG304 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: Wednesday 10-11, Tyndall Theatre AND Friday 10-11 AC001 O'Flaherty Theatre

Lecturers: Dr Henry Ajumeze

Texts:

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

Morrissey, Sinéad. *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

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