ARTS2040

Global Literatures: Adventures with the "Contemporary Classic"

Term One // 2020

School of the Arts and Media // UNSW Arts and Social Sciences

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
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The School of the Arts and Media would like to Respectfully Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, the Bedegal (Kensington campus), Gadigal (City and Art & Design Campuses) and the Ngunnawal people (Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra) of the lands where each campus of UNSW is located.

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

When we read contemporary literature, how do we know what is valuable, good or lasting? Do we immediately recognise a ""classic"" work by its scope, complexity and challenge or its daring, beauty or dissidence? How and why does the ""classic"" text emerge in the present? Though ""contemporary classic"" sounds like a pitch used by publishers, is this a term that might enable discussion of rich and compelling literary works from the last thirty years?

The group of contemporary literary works that we might call ""classic"" is an intensely global one. Globalisation has had a huge impact on literary production: literary publishing and worldly reading are now richly globalised activities for those with first-world access. This course focusses on literary-aesthetic aspects of genre, narrative and literary language (including work in translation), as well as posing some wider questions about reception and reputation. In tandem with key forays into global literary theory, this course will provide practical critical resources for reading, discussing, writing, reviewing and teaching global/contemporary novels, poems and plays. We will think about prizes and we may even vote on our own contemporary ""super classic"". By the end of the course, we will have thought about Barthes' ""pleasures of the text"" and have tested Italo Calvino's claim that ""a classic is a work which constantly generates a pulviscular cloud of critical discourse around it, but which always shakes the particles off"".

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Explain a number of theoretical issues in global and transnational writing and analyse literary and film texts to locate the significance and operation of these issues
2. Analyse a range of ways in which the question of literary value and literary form emerges in the context of global literatures across a range of genres.
3. Employ a critical and theoretically informed approach to texts under discussion, appropriately supported by scholarly resources.
4. Construct lucid written arguments based upon close analysis of literary language, ethical use of scholarly resources, and the key theoretical concepts structuring the course.

Teaching Strategies

This course will introduce students to the field of global and world literary studies at second-year level. The course will be organised chronologically, so that students can identify and discuss the changing idea and importance of different kinds of literary value perceived in different literary texts over time.

Assessment

I have set two assessments. The log assessment will support some reading in theories of world literature, and form a scaffold for the major essay due at the beginning of Week 11.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Reading and Research Log	40%	11/03/2020 09:00 AM	1,2,3
Major Essay	60%	27/04/2020 05:00 PM	2,3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Reading and Research Log

Start date:

Length: 1500

Details: 1500 words in total.This task provides scaffolding for the essay.Feedback and numerical grade via LMS.

Additional details:

The reading log submission will comprise the 3 logs (of 500 words each) that are due at Wednesday 9am of weeks 2,3 and 4. The Week 4 submission will be a document that combines all three logs for written feedback. The logs for weeks 2 and 3 that are due at 9am on Wednesday of their respective weeks will only receive a little feedback. To repeat - the final log in week 4 will be added to logs 1 and 2 to make one document of 1500 words and this will receive sustained feedback.

Assessment 2: Major Essay

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 2000-2500

Details: 2,500 words. Written feedback and numerical grade via LMS.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

View class timetable

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 17 February - 21 February	Lecture	Introduction: Global Literatures, world literatures and literary value
	Tutorial	Introduction: personal introduction, discussion of course, texts and assessment and close work on a short text
Week 2: 24 February - 28 February	Lecture	Marilyn Robinson, *Gilead*
	Tutorial	Marilyn Robinson, *Gilead*
Week 3: 2 March - 6 March	Lecture	The Global Short Story Olympics
	Tutorial	The Global Short Story - a collection of 7 famous exponents of the 'world' short story will be discussed.
Week 4: 9 March - 13 March	Lecture	Jez Butterworth, *The Ferryman*
	Tutorial	Jez Butterworth, *The Ferryman*
Week 5: 16 March - 20 March	Lecture	Alice Oswald, *Dart*
	Tutorial	Alice Oswald, *Dart*
Week 6: 23 March - 27 March	Lecture	Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go*
	Tutorial	Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go*
Week 7: 30 March - 3 April	Lecture	The Global Novel and Kiran Desai's *The Inheritance of Loss*
	Tutorial	The Global Novel and Kiran Desai's *The Inheritance of Loss*
Week 8: 6 April - 10 April	Lecture	First Nations writing, Global Literature and the Australian Indigenous classic on a classic Leah Purcell's *The Drover's Wife*
	Tutorial	Leah Purcell's *The Drover's Wife*
Week 9: 13 April - 17 April	Lecture	Workshop on ideas of literary value, Margaret Atwood case study and round up of the course
	Tutorial	Workshop on ideas of literary value, the Margaret Atwood case study and evaluations Best in show - voting for the 'classic' classic Preview major essay and discussion of effective writing strategies

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Books can be found in the UNSW bookshop and from reputable retailers

Moodle and Leganto will provide other resources

Recommended Resources

Not available

Course Evaluation and Development

Course feedback will be sought informally (in person in seminars) and formally through My Experience surveys. I will comment on feedback and its role in the course in Lecture 1

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.
http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

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