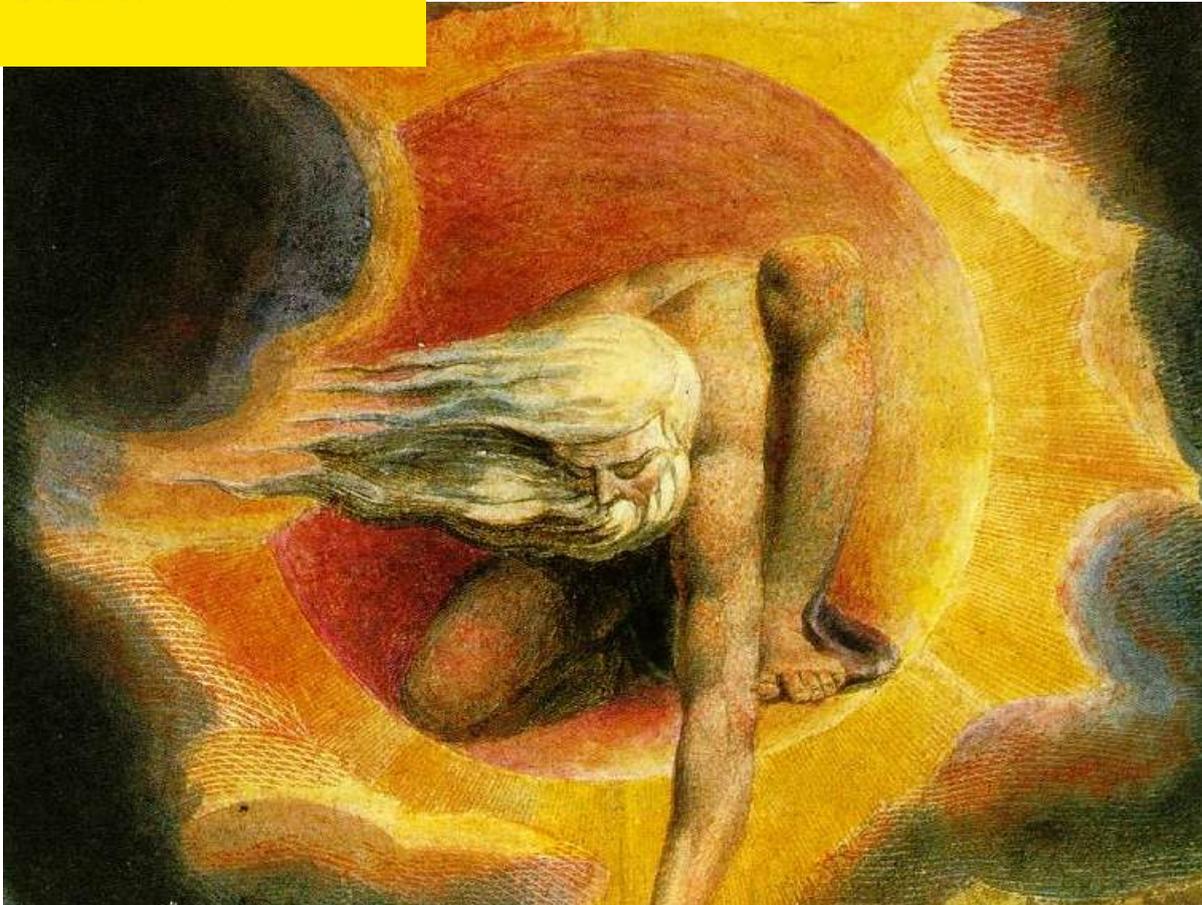




**UNSW**  
SYDNEY

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# ARTS1032

The Literature Laboratory: Writing Beyond Limits

Term Two // 2020

## Course Overview

### Staff Contact Details

#### Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Professor Brigitta Olubas	b.olubas@unsw.edu.au	Fridays 12-1 or by appointment		

### School Contact Information

School of the Arts and Media

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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**

This introductory course challenges you to think about writing as experimental, world-building, adventurous, challenging, radical, and even dangerous, and to write as though it can change the way things are. It teaches that literature has been the engine-room of many of history's most decisive changes to social, cultural, ideological, and behavioural norms. Divided into three primary modules – Utopian Speculation, The Urgency of Now, and Beyond Form and Formlessness – it exposes you to some of the most exciting and unconventional writing in English, and equips you with some of the skills necessary to resist the cultural conformities that deaden the mind. Treating literature as process, intervention, and experiment, the course asks you to see writing as a lifelong education in how - to use Samuel Beckett's phrase - to fail better.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

1. think and write about literature in its social contexts
2. think and write about literature as an ongoing process
3. recognise and discuss the long tradition of experimentation in English literature
4. participate in the experimental project of literary production

### **Teaching Strategies**

This course will be taught by 1 x 2 hr lecture and 1 x 2hr tutorial per week and will deploy LMS.

## Assessment

### Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Literary Experiment	35%	26/06/2020 08:00 PM	1,2,3
Writing Utopias	35%	24/07/2020 08:00 PM	2,4
Take Home Exam	30%	10/08/2020 08:00 PM	1,2,3

### Assessment Details

#### Assessment 1: Literary Experiment

**Start date:** Not Applicable

**Length:** 1000 words

**Details:**

1000-word essay or creative piece. Numerical grade and verbal feedback provided via Turnitin.

**Additional details:**

1000-word essay or creative piece. Numerical grade and verbal feedback provided via Turnitin.

**Turnitin setting:** This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

#### Assessment 2: Writing Utopias

**Start date:** Not Applicable

**Length:** 1000 words

**Details:**

1000-word essay or creative piece. Numerical grade and verbal feedback provided via Turnitin.

**Additional details:**

1000-word essay or creative piece. Numerical grade and verbal feedback provided via Turnitin.

**Turnitin setting:** This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

### **Assessment 3: Take Home Exam**

**Start date:** 07/08/2020 10:00 AM

**Length:** 1000 words

#### **Details:**

1000-word examination, no feedback apart from grade.

**Turnitin setting:** This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

## Attendance Requirements

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

## Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

### Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 0: 25 May - 29 May		
Week 1: 1 June - 5 June	Lecture	<p><b>MODULE 1 THE URGENCY OF NOW</b></p> <p>LECTURE 1: LANGUAGE AND REALITY</p> <p>Opening introductory lecture, addressing the broad aims of the course and its purpose. We will consider the privileged relationship between literature and realism, and question it. Why should writing be representational? What other kinds of literary language are available? Why might we want to use them? We then turn to a consideration of the manifesto as a form, and wonder why it has been such a powerful and instrumental form for the modern era.</p>
	Tutorial	Introduction to each other and to the course. Discussion of lecture material. Tutorial preparation posted on Moodle.
Week 2: 8 June - 12 June	Lecture	<p><b>MODULE 1 THE URGENCY OF NOW</b></p> <p>LECTURE 2: MODALITIES OF THE MANIFESTO: Genre; Style; Function</p> <p>This lecture will turn to the most explosive genre of modernity: the manifesto.</p>
	Tutorial	Discussion of Week 2 lecture material. Tutorial preparation activities are posted on Moodle.
Week 3: 15 June - 19 June	Lecture	<p><b>MODULE 1 THE URGENCY OF NOW</b></p> <p>LECTURE 3: POLITICAL - NOW: In this lecture, we will turn to consider the late modifications to the genre of political 'now-writing' in the work of James Baldwin</p>
	Tutorial	Discussion of Week 3 lecture material. Tutorial preparation activities are posted on Moodle.
Week 4: 22 June - 26 June	Lecture	<p><b>MODULE 2 UTOPICS</b></p> <p>LECTURE 1: UTOPIAS - FORM AND HISTORY</p>

		We will consider in some detail the founding text of the 'utopian' genre: Sir Thomas More's <i>Utopia</i> (1516).
	Tutorial	Discussion of Week 4 lecture material. Tutorial preparation activities are posted on Moodle.
	Assessment	Assessment 1 due by 8pm Friday June 26 via turnitin.
Week 5: 29 June - 3 July	Lecture	<b>MODULE 2 UTOPICS</b>  LECTURE 2: UTOPIANISM  In this lecture, we will look at later variations of the utopian genre, particularly at late Victorian examples, before focusing on the classic utopian novel <i>The Dispossessed</i> , by Ursula K. LeGuin.
	Tutorial	Discussion of Week 5 lecture material. Tutorial preparation activities are posted on Moodle.
Week 6: 6 July - 10 July		WEEK 6 IS BREAK WEEK. THERE ARE NO CLASSES THIS WEEK. PLEASE USE THE TIME TO GET UP TO DATE WITH YOUR READING.
Week 7: 13 July - 17 July	Lecture	<b>MODULE 2 UTOPICS</b>  LECTURE 3: HARD TIMES FOR UTOPIAS?  In this lecture, we will stand back and consider what it might mean to model different, more or less perfect worlds in literary texts: do such texts have a 'predictive' quality, or are they (in always being unreal) inherently satirical in nature? Do utopias, and their close cousins, dystopias, mean to suggest real alternatives to the status quo?
	Tutorial	Discussion of Week 7 lecture material. Tutorial preparation activities are posted on Moodle.
Week 8: 20 July - 24 July	Lecture	<b>MODULE 3 BEYOND FORM AND FORMLESSNESS</b>  LECTURE 1: PROPHET, BLAKE  Entering the final module of this course – on experimental writing, formless or unprecedented kinds of textuality – we will look in detail at one of the greatest innovators in the history of writing, William Blake.
	Tutorial	Discussion of Week 8 lecture material. Tutorial preparation activities are posted on Moodle.
	Assessment	Assessment 2 due by 8pm Friday 24 July via turnitin.
Week 9: 27 July - 31 July	Lecture	<b>MODULE 3 BEYOND FORM AND FORMLESSNESS</b>

		<p><b>LECTURE 2: GERTRUDE STEIN AND MODERNIST EXPERIMENTATION</b></p> <p>Continuing with our focus on experimental modes of writing, we take a look at the period known as 'modernism', which saw the emergence of many very strange and utterly unprecedented textual forms. We survey a few of these, and explain some of their motivations, before settling in for a closer look at Gertrude Stein's Tender Buttons, a classic of the genre.</p>
	Tutorial	Discussion of Week 9 lecture material. Tutorial preparation activities are posted on Moodle.
Week 10: 3 August - 7 August	Lecture	<p><b>MODULE 3 BEYOND FORM AND FORMLESSNESS</b></p> <p><b>LECTURE 3: POSTMODERN EXPERIMENTATION</b></p> <p>Turning finally to the postmodern period, this lecture will explore the experimental forms to have proliferated in the age of media saturation and the triumph of neoliberal capitalism as a global way of life. Considering some of the more outrageous and daring forms of recent years, we will turn to look at a recent book of poetry – M. NourbeSe Philips' Zong! – as an outstanding instance of what writing can do today.</p>
	Tutorial	Discussion of Week 10 lecture material. Tutorial preparation activities are posted on Moodle.
	Assessment	Assessment 2 (Take-Home Exam) questions posted August 7 (to be submitted by 8pm August 10).
Week 11: 10 August - 10 August	Assessment	Assessment 2 due Monday 10 August by 8pm to Turnitin.

## Resources

### Prescribed Resources

#### The set texts for this course are:

Manifesto: Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto* (1848): on Moodle

Various artistic and political manifestos: on Moodle

Book: James Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time* (1963): at book shop and on Moodle in the form of two constituent essays

Book: Sir Thomas More, *Utopia* (1516): at book shop and on Moodle

Book: Ursula LeGuin, *The Dispossessed* (1974): at book shop and on Moodle

Book: William Blake, *The Marriage of Heaven & Hell* (1793) at book shop and Moodle

Book: Gertrude Stein, *Tender Buttons* (1914): at book shop & on Moodle

Book: M. NourbeSe Philip, *Zong!* (2008): at book shop and on Moodle

### Recommended Resources

There will be reference to several other texts collated on the Moodle site, and we strongly advise motivated students to read as many of them as possible.

### Course Evaluation and Development

We've used your feedback to make some improvements.

We regularly alter the course to reflect student feedback and criticism.

This year we have reduced the amount of reading and writing required to complete the course.

We will be surveying student response to the course this term via myexperience.

## **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](mailto: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/>

## Image Credit

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:The\\_Ancient\\_of\\_Days\\_by\\_William\\_Blake#/media/File:Blake\\_ancient\\_of\\_days.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:The_Ancient_of_Days_by_William_Blake#/media/File:Blake_ancient_of_days.jpg)

## CRICOS

CRICOS Provider Code: 00098G

## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.