

English Literature III: More Recent Period (A001792)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2023-2024

B (semester 1)

English

Gent

seminar

lecture

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

Kavanagh, Ciarán

LW07

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

crdts

offering

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)

5

B

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - German)

5

B

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Greek)

5

B

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Italian)

5

B

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Latin)

5

B

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Spanish)

5

B

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Swedish)

5

B

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - English)

5

B

Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature

5

B

Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English)

5

B

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Science Fiction, genre theory, contemporary literature, reader studies, fan studies

Position of the course

This course provides the opportunity to study 20th century American and British science fiction, and its critical and discursive cultures, including science fiction studies and science fiction fandom.

Contents

This course aims to provide a historical survey of 20th century British and American science fiction, paying particular attention to the growth and development of the genre, its critical contexts, and its surrounding discursive cultures. Students will also engage with digital archives of science fiction periodicals and fanzines, and will be given the opportunity to incorporate reader responses into their analyses. This course focuses on novels, short stories, and periodicals.

Initial competences

Students should have a C1-level in English proficiency, have interpretative skills and sufficient knowledge of literary analysis. Some knowledge of science fiction literature will help, but is not necessary for enrolment.

Final competences

- 1 A knowledge of science fiction's history as a genre, from its roots in the utopian tradition, its growth in the pulp magazines, its flourishing into various subgenres, to the bloom of its current omnipresence
- 2 The ability to engage with SF's critical contexts, particularly theories of estrangement, in the reading of diverse SF texts.
- 3 An introduction to reader-oriented analyses, including reader-response and fan studies.

(Approved)

- 4 The enhancement of analytical skills, including those of close reading, the use of contextual scholarship, and the formation of a distinct academic point-of-view.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Individual sessions will combine lecture and seminar methods, with opportunities for students to participate in class discussions. Each session will situate the assigned texts in their relevant literary and cultural contexts.

A small number of classes may be taught online or through alternative means, for example, when working with digital archives.

Learning materials and price

Texts and specific editions will be finalized closer to the beginning of the semester. Authors will include H.G. Wells, Samuel Delany, Ursula LeGuin, and William Gibson.

The course will also involve the use of free-to-access digital archives to explore periodicals and fanzines.

References

Secondary literature will be made available at the start of the course via Ufora

Course content-related study coaching

Possibility of feedback and counselling on an individual basis

Assessment moments

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Active participation in classroom discussion is expected and will be assessed.

Students will have an option between two or more short assignments based on class discussions, for example, a short presentation or Ufora blog post.

Non-periodic evaluation: essay (about 3000 words, bibliography excluded)

Calculation of the examination mark

Active participation in class discussions and activities counts towards 20% of the final mark

The short assignment counts towards 20% of the final mark

The essay counts towards 60% of the final mark

Facilities for Working Students

1 Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance

2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year

3 Feedback can be given by email or during office hours