

## Women Writers in Modern British Literature (A005370)

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

**Credits 6.0**

**Study time 168 h**

**Course offerings in academic year 2024-2025**

A (semester 1)

English

Gent

**Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025**

Mertens, Mahlu

UA

lecturer-in-charge

Joosen, Vanessa

UA

co-lecturer

**Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025**

[Master of Arts in Gender and Diversity](#)

**crdts**

6

**offering**

A

**Teaching languages**

English

**Keywords**

women writers, 20th-century British literature, feminism, contemporary literature, literary theory

**Position of the course**

This course is offered within the inter university master in gender and diversity and is taught at UAntwerpen. This also presupposes a (free) guest registration at UAntwerp. See [www.mastergenderendiversiteit.be](http://www.mastergenderendiversiteit.be) for more practical information. If you wish to select this course as an elective course within a different study program than the Master's program in Gender and Diversity, please contact the responsible lecturer. If you wish, however, to follow this course within a credit contract, you have register directly at UA.

**Contents**

In this course, we study the works of influential British women authors, including Virginia Woolf, Doris Lessing, Malorie Blackman, Jean Rhys, Angela Carter, Caryl Churchill, Carol Anne Duffy, Andrea Levy and Kate Atkinson. The authors we study have not only been praised for their innovative literary works and experimental styles, but several of them have also reflected - either in their fiction, or in essays and interviews - on the position of women, and women writers in particular, in history and contemporary society. We alternate a critical analyses of their literary production with a discussion of these non-fictional works. The reading list includes novels, short stories, plays and poetry from a wide range of genres, including experimental fiction, historical fiction, phantasy and realism. We will mainly draw on theories of gender studies, queer studies, literary sociology, life writing and age studies.

**Initial competences**

At the start of this course the student should have acquired the following competences:

- an active knowledge of English
- a passive knowledge of English
- general knowledge of the use of a PC and the Internet
- general notion of the basic concepts of gender studies and history of literature in English

**Final competences**

- 1 Knowledge of the development of gender studies in the 20th and 21st centuries

- 2 Familiarity with the most important British women writers in the 20th and 21st centuries
- 3 Ability to reflect critically on a literary text by a female writer
- 4 Ability to reflect critically on an academic article
- 5 Ability to write a coherent and academically sound analysis of a selection of works by a female author

**Conditions for credit contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

**Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

**Teaching methods**

Group work, Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

**Study material**

None

**References****Course content-related study coaching****Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

**Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Oral 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**

- Oral examination: presentation
- Participation: continuous assessment
- Report: paper

**Calculation of the examination mark**

- Oral examination: presentation, 4/20 points
- Participation: continuous assessment, 2/20 points
- Report: paper, 14/20 points

**Facilities for Working Students**

- Class attendance is (partly) mandatory and will be included in the calculation of the final score
- It is possible to take the exam at a different time within the regular exam period
- Possibility to receive feedback at another time: by appointment