Université catholique de Louvain

LGERM2726

2014-2015

English literature: the Postmodern (graphic) Novel

5.0 credits	15.0 h	1q

Teacher(s) :	Bragard Véronique ;
Language :	Anglais
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Prerequisites :	An introductory knowledge of English literature and a good proficiency in English (advanced level, B2 + in terms of the Common European reference framework).
Main themes :	This course offers a survey of contemporary literatures in English through the analysis of several representative works from distinct geographical/cultural areas. This course also includes the showing and discussion of adaptations for film and/or television.
Aims:	- Students will be expected to show their ability to relate texts that illustrate one or more literary currents to the historical and literary contexts explored in the course. - They will have to produce an analysis that demonstrates their familiarity with the issues raised by the course, and with the poetics through which those issues are expressed. - The module is also indirectly meant to increase the students' lexical skills. Their analyses will therefore have to reflect a command of the English language that corresponds to their level (Masters), as well as a good grasp of the various cultural concepts discussed in the course. The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".
Evaluation methods :	Oral exam. Students will prepare readings and questions prior to class time to facilitate discussion.
Teaching methods :	Ex-cathedra class. Interactive modules. Students are expected to do the required readings beforehand so as to be able to participate actively in classroom discussions.
Content:	This course offers students an opportunity to analyze the dominant literary and artistic movements of the twentieth century and their aftermath: from modernist to post- postmodern, post-9/11 and postcolonial fiction. This class contextualizes the postmodern cultural phenomenon and explores how modernist texts have been reappropriated and rewritten by postmodern creative writers. Characterized, among others, by intertextuality, metafiction, fragmentation, a blend of high and low culture and pluralism, postmodernism remains a key literary movement. The class starts with an introduction to modernism and postmodernism illustrated by a comparison between Virginia Woolf's modernist novel Mrs Dalloway and Michael Cunningham's postmodern rewriting The Hours. It then focuses on postmodern shifting perspectives in lan McEwan Atonement and the representation of trauma in Art Spiegelman's Maus (graphic novel) and raises the question of the future of literature after the traumatic events of 9/11 via an analysis of Jonathan Safran Foer's Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close (2005). The last section of the class focuses on postcolonial elements and Pauline Melville's The Ventriloquist's Tale (1997). Students will prepare readings and questions prior to class time to facilitate discussion. This course also includes references to several cinematic productions.
Bibliography :	Bibliographie Virginia Woolf, Mrs Dalloway (excerpts) Michael Cunningham, The Hours (Fourth Estate, 1999) Ian McEwan, Atonement (Vintage, 2001) Art Spiegelmann, Maus (Penguin Books,1992) Pauline Melville, The Ventriloquist's Tale. (Picador, 1997) Jonathan Safran Foer, Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close (2005) Tim Woods, Beginning Postmodernism. Manchester: MUP, 1999. Linda Hutcheon, A Poetics of Postmodernism (Routledge: Ny & mp; London, 1988). Simon Malpas. The Postmodern. London: Routledge, 2005.
Other infos :	Teaching material: Secondary literature linked to the topic of the course. Reading of the selected literary works and of scholarly articles. Coursebook available at DUC.
Cycle and year of study:	> Master [60] in Modern Languages and Literatures: German, Dutch and English > Certificat universitaire en littérature > Master [60] in Modern Languages and Literatures: General > Master [120] in Modern Languages and Literatures: General > Master [120] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Classics > Master [120] in Ancient and Modern Languages and Literatures > Master [120] in French and Romance Languages and Literatures: General > Master [120] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies > Master [120] in Modern Languages and Literatures: German, Dutch and English

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Faculty or entity in	LMOD
charge:	