UCLouvain

lgerm2826

Comics and the postcolonial

5 credits 15.0 h Q2

Teacher(s)	Bragard Véronique ;			
Language :	English			
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve			
Main themes	The lecturer will have a choice between one or several authors of the Older Period (the Middle Ages to the end of the 18th century - e.g. William Shakespeare), or a more recent writer (e.g. T.S. Eliot, Toni Morrison, Caryl Phillips). The course will examine how the literary perception of this writer has changed in the course of time, and how his or her impact on literature and society has likewise developed.			
Aims	The aim of this course is to help the student acquire a scholarly method to read and examine literary texts written by one or several authors, to analyze their impact, and to situate these texts in their historical, sociological and generic context. At the end of the course, the students will be able to read and write research papers in the field by relying on the literary and scholarly knowledge they have acquired. The course 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 and/or written exam. When the course is organized as a seminar, active participation (oral presentation, discussions, term paper) is taken into account.			
Teaching methods	Interactive lectures. Students actively participate in the seminar. Term paper and in-class presentations.			
Content	This course introduces students to the comics medium and encourages them to develop an understanding of comics and graphic novels through critical analysis and personal observation. First, it examines how comics work (linearity/tabularity), how to close-read the comics page and how certain elements relate to literary tropes. The second part of the class examines several comics with particular attention to (post)colonial aspects. After a historical, anthropological and sociological contextualization of the Congolese situation, and an introduction to postcolonial studies (Fanon, Césaire, Mudimbé, Mbembe, a.o.), we analyze how recent comics adaptations of Conrad's famous Heart of Darkness address the colonial ghosts of Belgium's past. Beyond studying the engagement of comics in issues of caricature, stereotype and representation, we discuss the processes of (de)fictionalization (short story, novel, graphic novel, reportage, non fiction, testimony) and ideologization at the core of these texts. Our class addresses[?] debates in the dynamics of cross-cultural representation and explores how comics provide a particular optic for the analysis of (neo)colonial exploitation.			
Bibliography				
Other infos	Teaching material: Secondary literature linked to the topic of the course. Reading of the selected literary works and of critical studies.			
Faculty or entity in charge	LMOD			

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)					
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims	
Master [120] in Anthropology	ANTR2M	5		٩	
Master [120] in Translation	TRAD2M	5		٩	
Master [60] in Modern Languages and Literatures : German, Dutch and English	GERM2M1	5		•	
Master [120] in Modern Languages and Literatures : German	GERM2M	5		Q	
Master [60] in Modern Languages and Literatures : General	ROGE2M1	5		•	
Master [120] in Modern Languages and Literatures : General	ROGE2M	5		•	