

Comics and the postcolonial

5.00 credits

lgerm2826

2021

Q2

15.0 h

Teacher(s)	Bragard Véronique ;			
Language :	English			
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	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.			
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to : 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.			
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, this class analyzes how recent comics adaptations of Conrad's famous <i>Heart of Darkness</i> 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. This module explores how comics provide a particular medium for the analysis of (neo)colonial exploitation and engage in contemporay debates.			
Other infos	Teaching material : Secondary literature linked to the topic of the course, In-class paragraphs and presentations.			
Faculty or entity in charge	ELAL			

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)					
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes	
Master [120] in Population and Development Studies	SPED2M	5		٩	
Advanced Master in Visual Cultures	VISU2MC	5		٩	
Master [120] in Modern Languages and Literatures : German, Dutch and English	GERM2M	5		٩	
Master [60] in Modern Languages and Literatures : General	ROGE2M1	5		٩	
Master [60] in Modern Languages and Literatures : German, Dutch and English	GERM2M1	5		٩	
Master [120] in Modern Languages and Literatures : General	ROGE2M	5		٩	
Master [120] in Translation	TRAD2M	5		۹	
Master [120] in Anthropology	ANTR2M	5		٩	