



The University of Southern Queensland

## Course specification

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.  
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

### Description: Popular Literature

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
ENL	3002	86516	1, 2009	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

<b>Academic group:</b>	FOART
<b>Academic org:</b>	FOA003
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	1
<b>ASCED code:</b>	091523

## STAFFING

Examiner: Chris Lee  
Moderator: Lawrence Johnson

## REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: 3 courses of Literature

## SYNOPSIS

This course is designed to introduce students to a series of critical debates concerned with the social, cultural and political status of popular narrative. A number of popular narrative forms will be considered in the context of these debates.

## OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. demonstrate academic and professional literacy skills through critically discussing the principal elements of such popular literary forms as detective fiction, the spy thriller, science fiction, and horror in terms of their generic conventions;
2. effectively relate such critical evaluation to advanced cultural literacy skills through examination of the differences between historical and cultural periods which such literature represents;
3. demonstrate disciplinary knowledge by discussing popular fiction in the context of critical debates over the status of the popular culture;
4. demonstrate advanced written communication skills appropriate to the discipline by articulating successful understanding of these objectives in the form of a written analytical argument;
5. employ ethical research and enquiry skills in the consistent application of academic norms and practices underpinning academic integrity;
6. successfully adapt creative skills and processes in developing innovative critical readings and analyses of popular literary and cultural texts.

## TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Introduction - The Academy and Popular Literature	9.00
2.	Critical Debates on Popular Literature	10.00
3.	Towards a Theory of Reading Popular Literature	9.00
4.	Horror: Reason and its Others	9.00
5.	Horror: All ourselves to know	9.00
6.	Detective Fiction - Form and Ideology	9.00
7.	Detective Fiction - Gender, Surveillance and Heroism	9.00
8.	Spy Fiction - Cultural Politics and the Cold War	9.00
9.	Spy Fiction: The Ethical Dilemma	9.00
10.	Science Fiction Novel: Literary Machines	9.00
11.	Science Fiction Film: Technology and Adaptation	9.00

## TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Day, M 1988, *The life and crimes of Harry Lavender*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney.

Dick, PK 1982, *Do androids dream of electric sheep*, Ballantine Books, London.

Doyle, AC 1950, *The memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*, Penguin, London.

Fleming, I 1987, *Dr No*, Charter Books, New York.

King, S 1975, *Carrie*, New English Library, London.

Le Carre, J 1964, *The spy who came in from the cold*, Pan, London.

Scott, Ridley (dir) 1993, *Blade runner*, Warner,

Stoker, B 1997, *Dracula*, Norton, New York.

(N Auerbach & D J Skal eds. Critical Edition \*\* Students are strongly advised to purchase this edition as it contains critical readings useful for the study of the topic.)

## REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Adorno, TW & Horkheimer, M 1993, *Dialectic of enlightenment*, Continuum, New York.

Aldiss, B 1973, *The billion year spree: The history of science fiction*, Weidenfeld & Nicholson, London.

- Althusser, L 1971, *Lenin and philosophy*, Monthly Review Books,
- Amis, K 1974, *New maps of hell*, Arno Press, New York.
- Ashley, B 1989, *The study of popular fiction*, Pinter, London.
- Bailey, JO 1972, *Pilgrims through space and time*, Greenwood Press, Westport, Conn.
- Bennett, T (ed) 1990, *Popular fiction*, Routledge, London.
- Bennett, T & Woolacott, J 1987, *Bond and beyond: The political career of a popular hero*, Methuen, London.  
(Communications and Culture Series)
- Bird, D (ed) 1993, *Killing women: Rewriting detective fiction*, Angus & Robertson, Pymble.
- Boyd, A 1975, *The devil with James Bond*, Greenwood Press, Connecticut.
- Bukatman, Scott 1998, *Blade runner*, British Film Institute, London.
- Dakin, DM 1972, *A Sherlock Holmes commentary*, David & Charles, Devon.
- Easthope, A 1991, *Literary into cultural studies*, Routledge, London.
- Ellis, KF 1989, *The contested castle: Gothic novels and the subversion of domestic ideology*, University of Illinois Press, Urbana.
- Graham, KW (ed) 1989, *Gothic fictions*, AMS, New York.
- Hall, J 1979, *The sociology of literature*, Longman, London.
- Hardwick, M & M 1974, *The man who was Sherlock Holmes*, John Murray, London.
- Harper, R 1974, *The world of the thriller*, Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore.
- Haycraft, H (ed) 1947, *The art of the mystery story: A collection of critical essays*, Grosset & Dunlap, New York.
- Holbrook, D 1976, *Masks of hate*, Pergamon Press, London.
- Homberger, E 1986, *John Le Carre*, Methuen, London.
- Jancovich, M 1992, *Horror*, Batsford, London.
- Kerman, Judith B (ed) 1997, *Retrofitting blade runner*, Bowling Green State University Press, Bowling Green.
- Knight, S 1980, *Form and ideology in crime fiction*, MacMillan, London.
- Kristeva, J 1982, *Powers of horror: An essay on abjection*, Columbia University Press, New York.
- Leavis, QD 1932, *Fiction and the reading public*, Chatto and Windus, London.
- Lewis, P 1985, *John Le Carre*, Frederick Ungar, New York.
- Mackey, Douglas A 1988, *Philip K Dick*, Twayne Publishers, Boston.  
(Electronic copy)
- Mullen, RD, Csicsery-Ronay, I Jr, Evans, AB & Hollinger, V (eds) 1992, *On Philip K Dick: 40 articles from science-fiction studies*, SF-TH Inc, Greencastle.
- Oleksiw, S 1988, *A reader's guide to the classic British mystery*, GK Hall, Boston.
- Palmer, J 1978, *Thrillers: Genesis and structure of a popular genre*, Edwin Arnold, London.
- Panek, L L 1981, *The special branch, The British spy novel, 1890-1980*, Bowling Green University Popular Press, Bowling Green.
- Pawling, C (ed) 1984, *Popular fiction and social change*, MacMillan, London.

- Pierce, HB 1983, *A literary symbiosis: Science fiction/fantasy mystery*, Greenwood Press, Connecticut.
- Porter, D 1981, *The pursuit of crime: Art and ideology in detective fiction*, Yale University Press, New Haven.
- Said, E 1993, *Culture and imperialism*, Knopf, New York.
- Symons, J 1962, *The detective story in Britain*, Longman Green, London.
- Turner, G 1996, *British cultural studies*, 2nd edn, Unwin Hyman, Boston.
- Warrick, Patricia S 1987, *Mind in motion: The fiction of Philip K Dick*, Southern Illinois UP, Edwardsville.
- Wheale, Nigel (ed) 1995, *Postmodern arts*, Routledge, London.
- Williams, R 1977, *Marxism and literature*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Williams, R 1988, *Keywords*, Fontana, London.

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Examinations	2.00
Private Study	162.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
ASSIGNMENT 1 - 1500 WORDS	100.00	30.00	03 Apr 2009 (see note 1)
ASSIGNMENT 2 - 2000 WORDS	100.00	40.00	22 May 2009 (see note 2)
2 HOUR EXAMINATION	100.00	30.00	END S1 (see note 3)

### NOTES

1. This assessment is aligned with all Objectives.
2. This assessment is aligned with all Objectives.
3. Exam dates will be advised when the timetable has been finalised. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 1-4.

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:  
There are no attendance requirements for this external course. However, it is the student's responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:  
To successfully complete an individual assessment item, a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks or a grade of at least C-. This statement must be read in conjunction with Statement 4 below.

- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:  
If students submit assignments after the due date without extenuating circumstances and without prior approval, then a penalty of a maximum of 5% of the assigned mark may apply for each working day late, up to a maximum of 10 working days, at which time a mark of zero can be recorded for that assignment.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:  
To be assured of receiving a passing grade, a student must achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:  
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:  
The exam for this course is a CLOSED examination, and candidates are allowed to bring only writing and drawing instruments into the examination.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:  
Any deferred or supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next examination period.
- 8 University Regulations:  
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6 Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL  
<http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm>

## ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner. (b) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be despatched to USQ within 24 hours if requested by the Examiner. (c) In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances such as documented ill-health. (d) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner's convenience. (e) Students who do not have regular access to postal services or who are otherwise disadvantaged by these regulations may be given special consideration. They should contact the examiner of the course to negotiate such special arrangements. (f) Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of the course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete-Makeup). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non-directed personal study. (g) Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or sit for an examination at the scheduled time, may apply to defer an assessment in the course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination); IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).

10 Students can expect that questions in assessment items in this course may draw upon knowledge and skills that they can reasonably be expected to have acquired before enrolling in the course. This includes knowledge contained in pre-requisite courses and appropriate communication, information literacy, analytical, critical thinking, problem solving or numeracy skills. Students who do not possess such knowledge and skills should not expect to achieve the same grades as those students who do possess them.