Description: Popular Literature

<table>
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<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-Nbr</th>
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<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<td>ONC</td>
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Academic Group: FOART
Academic Org: FOA003
HECS Band: 1
ASCED Code: 091523

STAFFING
Examiner: Chris Lee
Moderator: Brian Musgrove

PRE-REQUISITES
Pre-requisite: 3 units 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 literature. A number of popular literary forms will be considered in the context of these debates.

OBJECTIVES
On successful completion of this course, students will have:

- the ability to critically discuss the principal elements of such popular literary forms as detective fiction, the spy thriller, science fiction, and horror in terms of their generic conventions;
- the ability to effectively relate such critical evaluation to the particular historical and cultural periods which such literature represents;
- the ability to discuss popular fiction in the context of critical debates over the status of the popular, mass culture, oppression and resistance, and pleasure.
- articulate these objectives in the form of a written analytical argument.

TOPICS

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<tr>
<td>1. Introduction - The Academy and Popular Literature</td>
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<td>2. Critical Debates on Popular Literature</td>
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3. Towards a Theory of Reading Popular Literature
4. Horror: Reason and its Others
5. Horror: All ourselves to know
6. Detective Fiction - Form and Ideology
7. Detective Fiction - Gender, Surveillance and Heroism
8. Spy Fiction - Cultural Politics and the Cold War
9. Spy Fiction: The Ethical Dilemma
10. Science Fiction - The Future as History
11. Science Fiction - Social Criticism

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:

Books can be ordered by fax or telephone. For costs and further details use the 'Book Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au by entering the author or title of the text.

** Students are strongly advised to purchase this edition as it contains critical readings useful for the study of the topic.

Fleming, I, 1960 Dr. No, Pan.
King, S Carrie, Hodder & Stoughton.
Le Carre, J, 1990 The Spy Who Came in From the Cold, Coronet.

Wells, H G War of the Worlds, Penguin.

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.

Detective and Spy Fiction
Science Fiction
Theory
Horror

Ashley, B. 1989 The Study of Popular Fiction, Pinter, London.
Dakin, D M, 1972 A Sherlock Holmes Commentary, David & Charles, Devon.
Holbrook, D, 1976 Masks of Hate, Pergamon Press, London.
Homberger, E, 1986 John Le Carre, Methuen, London.
Leavis, Q.D. 1932 Fiction and the Reading Public, Chatto and Windus, London.
Williams, R. 1988 *Keywords*, Fontana, London.

**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

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**NOTES:**
1. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.
2. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.
3. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.
4. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

1. In order to pass the course students must submit both essays, prepare for and contribute to tutorials, and sit for the final examination. Students must achieve a total of 50% to pass the course.
2. Grades will be awarded at the percentiles: HD = 90%+; A = 80%- 89%; B = 65%-79%; C = 50%-64%; F = -50%.
3. Grading and marking will follow the marking policy made available to students at the beginning of the semester.
Assignments submitted after the due date, and without prior approval of an extension from the examiner, will be penalised at the rate of 10% per working day up to 5 days, after which a grade of zero will be awarded.

Since it is a requirement of the course that all items of assessment be submitted, any assignments which are beyond the five working day limit will not be eligible for a grade, but must be of an acceptable standard. The assignments must be submitted by the examination date, or where there is no end-of-semester examination, by the end of the semester assessment period.

Final examination will be a closed book examination.

Students need 3 units of Literature.

Tape recording of lectures and tutorials is prohibited except in special cases at the discretion of the examiner.

Day mode students are strongly advised to attend tutorials in order to satisfy Objective 4.

Tutorials will be assessed on the basis of the quality of contribution, evidence of preparation, and demonstration of a comprehension of course material in line with course objectives.