The University of Southern Queensland

Course Specification

Description: Popular Literature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-Nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Campus</th>
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<td>3002</td>
<td>21064</td>
<td>1, 2003</td>
<td>ONC</td>
<td>1.00</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 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 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 culture.
- articulate these objectives in the form of a written analytical argument.
- a thorough comprehension of the set texts.

TOPICS

<table>
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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Introduction - The Academy and Popular Literature</td>
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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 - The Future as History 9.00
11. Science Fiction - Technology and Ethics 9.00

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.

Ridley Scott, dir., Blade Runner, Warner
Le Carre, J. 1964, The Spy Who Came in From the Cold, Pan, London.
(** 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.

Althusser, L. 1971, Lenin and Philosophy, Monthly Review Books,
Bennett, T & Woolacott, J 1987, Bond and Beyond: The Political Career of a Popular Hero, Methuen - Communications and Culture Series, London.
Leavis, Q.D. 1932, Fiction and the Reading Public, Chatto and Windus, London.


**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
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<td>Private Study</td>
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**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

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<tr>
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<td>04 Mar 2003</td>
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<td>(see note)</td>
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**NOTES:**

1. Tutorials will be assessed on the basis of the quality of contribution, evidence of preparation, and demonstration of a comprehension of course materials in line with course objectives.
2. Exam dates will be advised when the timetable has been finalised

**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. The final grade is based on the aggregate of all assessment items and is assigned as follows: HD = 90-100, A = 80-89, B = 65-79, C = 50-64, F = 0-49
3. Grading and marking will follow the marking policy made available to students at the beginning of the semester.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.