The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description: Popular Literature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Academic group: FOART
Academic org: FOA003
Student contribution band: 1
ASCED code: 091523

STAFFING
Examiner: Chris Lee
Moderator: Brian Musgrove

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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction - The Academy and Popular Literature</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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:**

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).

(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.


(Communications and Culture Series)


Williams, R 1988, *Keywords*, Fontana, London.

**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
<td>138.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>12.00</td>
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</table>

**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUTORIAL PARTICIPATION</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>02 Mar 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(see note 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000 WORD WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>02 Apr 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 WORD WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>14 May 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 HOUR EXAMINATION</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>END S1</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>(see note 2)</td>
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</tbody>
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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.

**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 complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assessment item.

3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval, then a penalty of 10% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each of the first FIVE working days late, after which a zero mark will be given.

4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in relation to the objectives of the course by: (i) satisfactorily completing the examination and assignments; and (ii) obtaining at least 50% of the total weighted marks for all summative assessment items.

5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks (or grades) 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 or in the current USQ Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must lodge the assignment at the USQ. (b) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if required 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) 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. (e) 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).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 Tutorial Participation is considered an item of assessment.