

Nottingham Trent University

Module Specification

Basic module information		
1	Module Title:	Reading Theory: History, Philosophy, Criticism
2	Module Code:	ENGL29605
3	Credit Points:	20
4	Duration:	Second Half Year
5	School:	Arts and Humanities
6	Campus:	Clifton
7	Date this version first approved to run:	September 2013

8 Pre, post and co-requisites:

These are modules that you must have studied previously in order to take this module, or modules that you must study simultaneously or in a subsequent academic session

<u>Pre, Co, Post</u>	<u>Module Code</u>	<u>Module Title</u>
Pre	ENGL11411	Foundations of Literary Studies

9 Courses containing the module

<u>Level</u>	<u>Core/Option</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
		FT	ENGL001	BA (H) English
		FT	ENGL015	BA (H) English with Creative Writing
		FT	HUMA002	BA (H) Communication & Society and English
		FT	HUMA009	BA (H) English and European Studies
		FT	HUMA010	BA (H) English and Film & TV
		FT	HUMA011	BA (H) English and Global Studies
		FT	HUMA012	BA (H) English and History
		FT	HUMA013	BA (H) English and International Relations
		FT	HUMA014	BA (H) English and Linguistics
		FT	HUMA015	BA (H) English and Media
		FT	HUMA016	BA (H) English and Philosophy
		FT	HUMA017	BA (H) English and TESOL
		SW	MODL003	BA (H) French and English
		SW	MODL017	BA (H) German and English

SW	MODL030	BA (H) Italian and English
SW	MODL041	BA (H) Mandarin Chinese and English
SW	MODL048	BA (H) Spanish and English
FT	EURX002	European Exchange (Second Half Year)
FT	EURX003	European Exchange (Full Year)
FT	INTX002	International Exchange (Second Half Year)
FT	INTX003	International Exchange (Full Year)

10 Overview and aims

Reading Theory' will survey the history of critical and theoretical responses to literature in British, European, and US culture. It will explore the various ways in which writing has been conceived and understood, beginning with some of the earliest philosophical arguments about the production, function, and interpretation of literary fiction and moving towards the more recent rethinking of textuality in literary and cultural studies. This module will consider the emphasis on aesthetic and evaluative assessments of literary significance in earlier literary critical traditions, and it will look at how Continental thought has reshaped Anglo-American criticism by turning it towards social, cultural, and historical issues.

11 Module content

The module will be organized historically. Within this structure, students will examine the ways in which literature has been conceptualized by a range of intellectual traditions, including the Enlightenment, Romanticism, the New Criticism, Marxism and structuralism. They will encounter such thinkers as:

- Plato
- Aristotle
- Philip Sidney
- Alexander Pope
- Immanuel Kant
- Samuel Taylor Coleridge
- William Wordsworth
- Friedrich Nietzsche

- Ferdinand de Saussure
- I.A. Richards
- F.R. Leavis
- Claude Lévi-Strauss
- Mikhail Bakhtin
- Bertholt Brecht
- Roland Barthes

12 Indicative reading

STUDENTS: WARNING

Please do not use the indicative reading list as a preliminary reading list. The preliminary reading lists will be posted at the end of the preceding academic year.

- Aristotle, *Poetics*, trans. Malcolm Heath (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1996)
 M.M. Bakhtin, *Rabelais and His World* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1984)
 Roland Barthes, *Image Music Text* (London: Fontana, 1993)
 Catherine Belsey, *Critical Practice* (London: Routledge, 2002)
 Andrew Bowie, *From Romanticism to Critical Theory* (London: Routledge, 1997)
 Terry Eagleton, *Literary Theory: An Introduction* 2nd. Edn. (Oxford: Blackwell 1996)
 Terence Hawkes, *Structuralism and Semiotics* (London: Routledge, 2002)
 G.A. Kennedy (ed.), *The Cambridge History of Literary Criticism*, vol. 1 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989)
 Plato, *Republic* (Oxford: Oxford Paperbacks, 1998)
 Raman Selden (ed.), *The Theory of Criticism: From Plato to the Present* (London: Longman, 1988)
 Raymond Williams, *Marxism and Literature* (Oxford: Oxford Paperbacks, 1977)
 John Willet (ed.), *Brecht on Theatre* (London: Methuen, 1978)
 William Wordsworth & Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *Lyrical Ballads* (London: Routledge, 2005)
www.marxists.org

13 Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of the module

Knowledge and understanding. After studying this module you should be able to:

- A5 compare, evaluate and debate theoretical viewpoints
- A6 originate well-informed and substantiated literary arguments
- A4 have knowledge of past and current literary and theoretical approaches to text

Skills, qualities and attributes. After studying this module you should be able to:

- B1 perform close textual analysis with confidence
- B6 formulate logical and critical arguments based on a range of ideas and present cogent written and oral arguments in formal and peer group situations
- B5 write clearly and logically
- B7 to reason critically
- B9 demonstrate independence of thought and judgement
- B15 demonstrate research skills in printed and internet sources

14 Teaching and learning

Range of modes of direct contact

This indicates the range of direct contact teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. lectures, seminars

This is indicative only: the precise balance between lectures, seminars and workshops will vary from year to year depending on the requirements of the specific programme running in any given year, as well as feedback from students in previous years.

Lecture/workshops: 13 x 2hrs

Seminars 13 x 1 hr

Total contact hours: 39

Range of other learning methods

This indicates the range of other teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. directed reading, research

Students will engage with the module material in a number of different ways to encourage preparation, constructive follow-up of class discussion and independent research.

This is indicative only: the precise balance between lectures, seminars and workshops will vary from year to year depending on the requirements of the specific programme running in any given year, as well as feedback from students in previous years.

Directed reading
 Directed Learning
 Task-based research project preparation
 Independent study
 Total non-contact hours: 161

15 Assessment methods

This indicates the type and weighting of assessment elements in the module

<u>Element number</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
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1	100%	CWK	Portfolio of written pieces
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Diagnostic/formative assessment

This indicates if there are any assessments that do not contribute directly to the final module mark

Students will be asked to prepare seminar presentations and to lead class discussions.

Further information on assessment

This section provides further information on the module's assessment where appropriate

Document management

16	Module Title:	Reading Theory: History, Philosophy, Criticism
17	Module Code:	ENGL29605
18	Subject (JACS) Code	Q300
19	Cost Centre	138
20	School:	AAH
21	Academic Team	ECM
22	Campus	2 (Clifton)
23	Other institutions providing teaching	<i>Please complete in box 23 a-d - if applicable</i>
		Institution %

- | | | |
|-----|--|--|
| 23a | Other UK Higher Education or Further Education Institution-
Please name
Percentage not taught by NTU | |
| 23b | Other public organisation in the UK- Percentage not taught by NTU | |
| 23c | Other private organisation in the UK - Percentage not taught by NTU | |
| 23d | Any other Non-UK organisation - Percentage not taught by NTU | |
| 24 | Date this version was formally approved by SASQC/DAG: | |