

Nottingham Trent University

Module Specification

	Basic module information	
1	Module Title:	Theory Now: Literature, Culture, Politics
2	Module Code:	ENGL33505
3	Credit Points:	20
4	Duration:	Full Year
5	School:	Arts and Humanities
6	Campus:	Clifton
7	Date this version first approved to run:	September 2014

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
Pre		40 ENGL Level Two Credits

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	EURX003	European Exchange (Full Year)
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FT	INTX003	International Exchange (Full Year)
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10 Overview and aims

Ideas about 'English' as a discipline have been vigorously debated in recent literary and critical theory, and 'Theory Now' will explore some of the most significant controversies that are currently at the cutting edge of literary studies. Building on ideas introduced at levels 1 and 2, this module explores in greater depth how literary and critical theory provoke a dramatic rethinking of cultural identity and its literary representation. This module will focus on how we can confront and transform established ideas about subjectivity, cultural power, gender and sexuality, colonial, postcolonial and transnational identities, globalization, and technology. It will also explore how these debates impact on literary studies and challenge our understanding of the production, interpretation, function, and value of literary texts. In order to explore these issues, 'Theory Now' will consider texts from the 20th century. This module's distinctiveness lies in its claim that recent theory is provocative and compelling because it provides a range of conceptual tools that help us to arrive at more complex approaches to the relationship between cultural identity and literary texts.

11 Module content

The module will adopt a thematic structure, with four main sections. These will be drawn from some of the main theoretical categories, such as psychoanalysis, feminism, poststructuralism, postmodernism, queer theory, theories of technology, and postcolonial theory. Within these sections, the module will look at such theorists as

- Jean Baudrillard
- Roland Barthes
- Homi Bhabha
- Judith Butler
- Hélène Cixous
- Paul de Man
- Jacques Derrida
- Gilles Deleuze
- Franz Fanon
- Julia Kristeva

- Luce Irigaray
- Jacques Lacan
- Jean-François Lyotard
- Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick
- Edward Said
- Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak

12 Indicative reading

Students: please note that this is an indicative, not a preliminary reading list. Preliminary reading lists will be made available to you towards the end of the preceding term.

Attridge, Derek (ed.), *Derrida: Acts of Literature* London: Routledge, 1992

Bhabha, Homi K. *The Location of Culture* London: Routledge, 1993

Butler, Judith *Undoing Gender* London: Routledge, 2004

Lyotard, Jean-François *The Postmodern Condition* Manchester: Manchester UP, 1984

McQuillan, Martin *Deconstruction: A Reader* Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP, 2000

Moi, Toril (ed.), *The Kristeva Reader* Oxford: Blackwell, 1986

Rivkin, Julie & Ryan, Michael *Literary Theory: An Anthology* Oxford: Blackwell, 2004

Said, Edward *Culture and Imperialism* London: Vintage, 1994

Williams, Patrick *An Introduction to Postcolonial Theory* Hemel Hempstead: Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1997

Williams, Patrick & Chrisman, Laura *Colonial Discourse and Postcolonial Theory: A Reader* Hemel Hempstead: Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1993

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:

- A4 Have a critical awareness of past and current literary and theoretical approaches to texts
- A5 Compare, evaluate and debate theoretical viewpoints

A6 Originate well-informed and substantiated literary arguments

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

- B1 Perform close textual analysis with confidence
- B6 Present cogent written and oral arguments in formal and peer group situations
- B7 Reason critically
- B9 Show independence of thought and judgement

- B14 Demonstrate research skills using 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

Lectures, interactive lectures, task-based workshops, seminars and tutorials.

An indicative pattern might be:

Lecture/workshops: 26 x 1

Seminars: 26 x 1

Total contact hours: 52

Range of other learning methods

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

Directed reading

Directed learning

Task-based research project preparation

Independent study

Total non-contact hours: 148

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	Essay of 3000 – 3500 Words
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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 required to contribute to a programme of seminar presentations.

Further information on assessment

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

Document management

16	Module Title:	Theory Now: Literature, Culture, Politics	
17	Module Code:	ENGL33505	
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:		