

<b>Module Code:</b>	HUM449
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<b>Module Title:</b>	Life Writing
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<b>Level:</b>	4	<b>Credit Value:</b>	20
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<b>Cost Centre(s):</b>	GAHN	<b>JACS3 code:</b>	W800
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<b>Faculty:</b>	Arts, Science And Technology	<b>Module Leader:</b>	Dr D Baker
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Scheduled learning and teaching hours	36 hrs
Guided independent study	164 hrs
Placement	0 hrs
<b>Module duration (total hours)</b>	200 hrs

<b>Programme(s) in which to be offered (not including exit awards)</b>	Core	Option
BA (Hons) Creative Writing	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
BA (Hons) Social and Cultural History and Creative Writing	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓

<b>Pre-requisites</b>
none

**Office use only**

Initial approval: 25/09/2018

Version no:1

With effect from: 01/09/2019

Date and details of revision:

Version no:

**Module Aims**

Recognise the characteristics of an autobiographical and biographical text as well as literary fiction which engages with historical characters.

Identify the processes and differences involved in the activity of literary first- and third-person narration.

Inform the production of original pieces of writing based on existing models and practices.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

Key skills for employability

- KS1 Written, oral and media communication skills
- KS2 Leadership, team working and networking skills
- KS3 Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
- KS4 Information technology skills and digital literacy
- KS5 Information management skills
- KS6 Research skills
- KS7 Intercultural and sustainability skills
- KS8 Career management skills
- KS9 Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
- KS10 Numeracy

At the end of this module, students will be able to

Key Skills

At the end of this module, students will be able to		Key Skills	
1	Recognise and describe the differences between autobiographical and biographical writing.	KS1	KS4
		KS5	
		KS6	
2	Recognise appropriate terminology and express understanding of differences between autobiographical and biographical texts.	KS1	KS6
		KS4	
		KS5	
3	Recognise how narrative strategies are used to construct stories and characters based on the models they have studied.	KS1	
		KS3	
		KS5	
4	Recognise what makes narrative appear reliable and factual or unreliable and subjective in order to construct new narratives.	KS1	
		KS3	
		KS5	

**Transferable skills and other attributes**

Communication skills enabled by group discussion and presentation of material to others.  
Management of time and resources leading to production of work.

Development of analytical skills through analysis and production of texts.

Creative thinking and problem solving through planning and completing written work.

Writing skills developed through research and writing of assignments.

**Derogations**

none

**Assessment:**

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

This module will be assessed by a portfolio of work comprising one short critical commentary (1000 words) plus a piece of creative life writing (2500) and a short self-evaluative commentary (500) on that.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1,2,3,4	Portfolio	100		4000

**Learning and Teaching Strategies:**

Lectures on aspects of life writing form and its cultural context.  
Seminars to discuss key texts and concepts.  
Workshops in which students will share their writing experience and obtain tutor feedback.  
Guided independent study to inform portfolio content.

**Syllabus outline:**

Creative writing techniques as employed by writers of autobiography, biography and memoir.  
Issues of Truth, value and memory.  
Identity and the 'I' in autobiographical fiction: Jeanette Winterson, *Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit*.  
The Graphic Novel and Life Writing: Marjane Satrapi, *Persepolis*.  
History and Biography: David Starkey, Elizabeth.  
Biography as Literary criticism: Peter Ackroyd, Dickens.  
Life Writing and Politics: *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*.

**Indicative Bibliography:**

**Essential reading**

Set texts.

**Other indicative reading**

Batchelor, J. *The Art of Literary Biography* (OUP, 1995)  
Boldrini, L. *Autobiographies of Others* (Routledge, 2012)  
Eakin, P.J. *Living Autobiographically: How We Create Identity in Narrative* (Cornell University Press, 2008)  
Egan, S. *Mirror Talk: Genres of Crisis in Contemporary Autobiography* (University of North Carolina Press, 1999)  
Hoddart, D. *Postcolonial Theory and Autobiography* (Routledge, 2008)  
Smith, S. and Watson, J. *Reading Autobiography: A Guide for Interpreting Life Narratives* (University of Minnesota Press, 2001)