

**MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM**

Module Title: Post-War British Writing	Level: 5	Credit Value: 20
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Module code: HUM506	Cost Centre: GAHN	JACS3 code: Q321
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Trimester(s) in which to be offered: 2	With effect from: September 2014
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<b>Office use only:</b> To be completed by AQSU:	Date approved: July 2014 Date revised: 23/02/21 - Change to assessment Version no: 2
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Existing/New: Existing	Title of module being replaced (if any): N/A
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Originating Academic Industries Department: Creative	Module Leader: Debbie Hayfield
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Module duration (total hours): 200 Scheduled learning & teaching hours: 60 Independent study hours: 140 Placement hours: 0	Status: core/option/elective Core for English and (identify programme where Optional for all other appropriate): programmes
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Programme(s) in which to be offered: BA (Hons) English BA (Hons) English & Creative Writing BA (Hons) English and History	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels): None
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### **Module Aims:**

This module aims to:

- Explore a range of major writers and texts including dramatists, novelists and poets that influenced the literary scene in Britain from 1945 to 1970
- Consider the key artistic and literary developments within post-War British writing and how specific writers responded to them.
- Investigate the impact of cultural, ideological, and political contexts on literature during this period.

### **Intended Learning Outcomes:**

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

1. Discuss and evaluate the evolution of theatre, the novel and poetry in post-war Britain from 1945 to 1970, with reference to key works and literary developments. (KS1,5,6)
2. Describe and analyze the work of selected writers in relation to important developments within narrative, poetry and plays. (KS1,5,6)
3. Identify and appraise the influence on these texts of the changing cultural, philosophical and political contexts of this period. (KS1,5,6,7)
4. Apply critical perspectives and approaches to specific texts, chosen from a range covered within the module. (KS1,5,6,9)

#### *Key skills (KS) for employability*

1. *Written, oral and media communication skills*
2. *Leadership, team working and networking skills*
3. *Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills*
4. *Information technology skills and digital literacy*
5. *Information management skills*
6. *Research skills*
7. *Intercultural and sustainability skills*
8. *Career management skills*
9. *Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)*
10. *Numeracy*

**Assessment:**

Assessment for 2020-2021 will be two discursive/ analytical essays of 2,500 words each. They will be equally weighted in terms of marks and will both require the student to show evidence of attaining all 4 Learning Outcomes.

For each essay the student will choose a different question from a range of questions set, and focusing on two of the texts studied ( a different two for each question) and write a response to demonstrate their understanding of the LO's.

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	Essay	50%		2500
2	1,2,3,4	Essay	50%		2500

**Learning and Teaching Strategies:**

Following an introduction to the key political, philosophical and cultural ideas which will underpin the study of the texts/writers, the module will be delivered through a combination of lectures and tutor-led seminars within two week blocks. The lecture will provide the student with information about the context, themes, critical approaches and interpretations of the texts. The student will be expected to prepare for the seminar discussions by reading texts and considering their own responses and interpretations.

**Indicative Syllabus outline:**

- This will consist of a range of novels, plays and poetry from the period 1945-70 considered within the intellectual, philosophical, social and political contexts of post-war concerns.
- Themes/ideas for focus include: changing attitudes towards gender and sexuality and class; post-war austerity and social realism; nostalgia; experimental theatre and fiction; and existentialism.

Specific texts may vary from year to year but texts/writers may include:

George Orwell, *Nineteen Eighty-Four*

John Osborne, *Look Back in Anger*

Samuel Beckett, *Waiting for Godot*

Harold Pinter, *The Birthday Party*

Stan Barstow, *A Kind of Loving*

Lynne Reid Banks, *The L-Shaped Room*

John Fowles, *The French Lieutenant's Woman*

Poetry selected from:

Philip Larkin

Sylvia Plath

Ted Hughes

**Bibliography:****Indicative reading**

Davies, Alistair and Alan Sinfield (eds) *British Culture of the Postwar: An Introduction to Literature and Society 1945-1999* (London and New York: Routledge, 2000)

Gasiorek, Andrzej, *Post-War British Fiction: Realism and After* (London & New York: Edward Arnold, 1995)

Lacey, Stephen, *British Realist Theatre: The New Wave in its Context 1956-1965* (London & New York: Routledge, 1995)

Morrison, Blake, *The Movement: English Poetry and Fiction of the 1950s* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1980)

Rabey, David Ian, *English Drama Since 1940*, (London: Longman, 2003)