**Course Outline**

**ENGL 408- Modern and Postmodern Fiction**

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| **Instructor’s Information** | **Course information** |
| **Name:** Ms. Qurratulaen Liaqat  **Office Location:** Faculty Block  **Room no:** 004  **Office Hours:** M, W, F (9am-11am) | **Course Title:** Modern and Postmodern Fiction  **Course Code:** ENGL 408  **Pre- Requisite:** ENGL 201  **Credit Hours:** 03 |

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course explores the development of avant-garde British Modern and Postmodern fiction writers. Selected novels written by Joseph Conrad, James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, Iris Murdoch, and Don DeLillo will be discussed in the classes. Novels will be selected from the larger oeuvre of these authors to create a critical awareness in the students regarding the questions of genre, tradition, innovation and elements of universality in these texts.

**MAIN AIM**

The main objective will be to integrate, as broadly as possible, the picture we receive of Modern and Postmodern fiction and its far-reaching impact on contemporary novels.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course intends to:

* Provide students with a historical background of the Modern and Postmodern fiction
* Introduce students to the characteristics of Modern and Postmodern fiction
* Inform students about the philosophical and literary movements which inspired the rich literary tradition in the Modern and Postmodern epochs.
* Read selected texts and discuss major features of the Modern and Postmodern fiction
* Acquire the skill to critically analyze the selected texts
* To understand an integrative picture of British Fiction since its evolution till the 20th century.
* Familiarize the learners to Modern/ Postmodern fiction and its popular trends
* Understand the commonly used literary terms in the field of modern and postmodern literary tradition
* Compare/ contrast literary and critical concepts to formulate independent opinions in the field of literature and language

**Students Learning Objectives (SLOs)**

* Students will acquire the foundational knowledge about modern and postmodern aesthetics and major novelists and representative texts from this time period
* Students will be able to apply the obtained knowledge of Modern and Postmodern Aesthetics and analyze the selected texts
* Students will develop an integrative and holistic understanding of the development of the tradition of British Fiction since its evolution till the 20thcentury.
* By studying the dilemmas of fictional human characters, students will be able to apply the human skill of empathy learnt in classroom context and be good at empathizing with their fellow human beings in real life.
* The class assignments are designed to pique students’ curiosity which will challenge them to explore this field of study on their own and become lifelong independent learners.

**Course Evaluation Policy**

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| Evaluations | Percentage |
| Class participation | 25% |
| Presentations | 25% |
| Final assessment | 25% |
| Research Paper | 25% |
| Total | 100% |

The Grading system for the course is as follows:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Grades | Quality pts | Numerical Value | Meaning |
| A | 4.00 | 93 –100 | SUPERIOR |
| A- | 3.70 | 90—92 |  |
| B+ | 3.30 | 87— 89 |  |
| B | 3.00 | 83—86 | GOOD |
| B- | 2.70 | 80—82 |  |
| C+ | 2.30 | 77—79 |  |
| C | 2.00 | 73—76 | SATISFACTORY |
| C- | 1.70 | 70—72 |  |
| D+ | 1.30 | 67—69 |  |
| D | 1.00 | 60—66 | PASSING |
| F | 0.00 | 59 or below | FAILING |

**Teaching Methods:**

* Discussions
* Lecture
* Seminars
* Guest talks
* Pair work activities
* Group work assignments

**Primary Texts**

* James Joyce- *The Portrait of Artist an as a Young Man* (1916)
* Virginia Woolf- *Mrs. Dalloway* (1929)
* Don DeLillo – *White Noise* (1985)
* Martin Amis- Night Train (1997)

**Secondary Texts**

* Joseph Conrad – *Heart of Darkness* (1899)/*Lord Jim* (1899)
* William Golding- *Lord of the Flies*
* Iris Murdoch- *The Bell* (1958)/ *The Black Prince* (1973)/ *Under the Net* (1954)
* Margret Atwood- *The Handmaid’s Tale*
* William Gibson- *Neuromancer*
* Kurt Vonnegut- *Cat’s Cradle*
* Haruki Murakami- The Wind-Up Chronicle

**Weekly Breakdown of the Course Content**

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| **Week** | **Topic** |
| 1 | * Introduction to the course * Introduction to the Modern and Postmodern epochs |
| 2 | * Modernism |
| 3 | * Introduction to James Joyce * Introduction to *The Portrait of Artist as a Young Man* |
| 4 | * *The Portrait of an Artist as a Young Man* (Textual Analysis & Class Discussion) |
| 5 | * *The Portrait of an Artist as a Young Man* (Textual Analysis & Class Discussion) |
| 6 | * Introduction to Virginia Woolf & Stream of Consciousness * Introduction to Woolf’s novel *Mrs. Dalloway* |
| 7 | * *Mrs. Dalloway* (Textual Analysis & Class Discussion) |
| 8 | * *Mrs. Dalloway* (Textual Analysis & Class Discussion) |
| 9 | Mid term |
| 10 | * Introduction to Don DeLillo * Introduction to DeLillo’s novel *White Noise* |
| 11 | * *White Noise* (Textual Analysis & Class Discussion) |
| 12 | * *White Noise* (Textual Analysis & Class Discussion) |
| 13 | * Introduction to Martin Amis * Introduction to *Night Train* |
| 14 | * *Night Train* (Textual Analysis & Class Discussion) |
| 15 | * *Night Train* (Textual Analysis & Class Discussion) |
| 16 | * Wrap up |

**Selected Bibliography**

* Armstrong, Tim. *Modernism: A Cultural History*. Polity, 2005.
* Brooker, Peter, ed. *Modernism/postmodernism*. Routledge, 2014.
* Butler, Christopher. *Modernism: A Very Short Introduction*. OUP Oxford, 2010.
* Childs, Peter. *Modernism*. Routledge, 2016.
* Hutcheon, Linda. *A Poetics of Postmodernism: History, Theory, Fiction*. Routledge, 2003.
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* McHale, Brian. *Postmodernist Fiction*. Routledge, 2003.
* Nicol, Bran. *The Cambridge introduction to Postmodern Fiction*. Cambridge University Press, 2009.
* Stevenson, Randall W. *Modernist Fiction: An Introduction*. Routledge, 2014.
* Walz, Robin. *Modernism*. Routledge, 2013.
* Warner, Charles Dudley. *Modern Fiction*. Good Press, 2020.