



ENGX2010

The Human Story: Heart, Mind and Body in Early Literature

Session 1, Fully online/virtual 2021

Department of Media, Communications, Creative Arts, Language and Literature

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Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor

Louise D'Arcens

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

ENGX1001 or ENGX120

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit explores the rich and ever-changing category of 'the human' as it features in some of the most influential writings in English up to and including those by Shakespeare. It considers how these writings responded to and shaped ideas of 'the human' in their own times, while also examining how earlier literary representations of humanness relate to our modern assumptions about what it is to be human. Students will be exposed to a range of texts that offer insights into how the mind, the emotions, and the body were understood in medieval and early modern literature, and also study later texts that adapt these early ideas for modern use. The unit offers students an approach to early literature that will acquaint them with distant times and world views while also anchoring their studies of later literatures and shedding light on their understanding of the world today. This unit increases their literary-historical knowledge as well as their conceptual and technical vocabulary, to analyse and discuss literature from different periods and contexts with confidence. It also enables them to develop a sophisticated understanding of how cultures across time intersect with one another, and appreciate the vital function played by literature throughout the human story.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Demonstrate critical reading habits, interpretive analysis, research, and effective communication, with particular application to the field of English studies.

ULO2: Understand and be able to describe some of the key features of a range of textual representations of mind, heart, and body from the medieval to the early modern period

ULO3: Undertake close reading of the primary medieval and early modern texts, and incorporate close reading as evidence into coherent analytical arguments

ULO4: Explain, verbally and in written assignments, the relationship between the primary texts and their historical and cultural contexts

ULO5: Engage in appropriate application of relevant theoretical concepts to the primary texts studied

ULO6: Engage in informed critical discussion of unit content with peers and teachers, accommodate others' points of view, and argue a critical position

ULO7: Apply understanding of literary techniques to literary study and beyond to other situations

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Research essay</u>	25%	No	30/04/2021
<u>Media rich essay</u>	40%	No	06/06/2021
<u>Reflection task</u>	15%	No	21/03/2021
<u>Participatory task</u>	20%	No	each teaching week

Research essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 25 hours

Due: **30/04/2021**

Weighting: **25%**

A medium length essay related to a set topic

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate critical reading habits, interpretive analysis, research, and effective communication, with particular application to the field of English studies.
- Understand and be able to describe some of the key features of a range of textual representations of mind, heart, and body from the medieval to the early modern period
- Engage in appropriate application of relevant theoretical concepts to the primary texts

studied

- Apply understanding of literary techniques to literary study and beyond to other situations

Media rich essay

Assessment Type ¹: Project

Indicative Time on Task ²: 40 hours

Due: **06/06/2021**

Weighting: **40%**

Research essay relating to set topics, combining written discussion with visual and/or audio components

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate critical reading habits, interpretive analysis, research, and effective communication, with particular application to the field of English studies.
- Understand and be able to describe some of the key features of a range of textual representations of mind, heart, and body from the medieval to the early modern period
- Undertake close reading of the primary medieval and early modern texts, and incorporate close reading as evidence into coherent analytical arguments
- Explain, verbally and in written assignments, the relationship between the primary texts and their historical and cultural contexts
- Engage in appropriate application of relevant theoretical concepts to the primary texts studied
- Apply understanding of literary techniques to literary study and beyond to other situations

Reflection task

Assessment Type ¹: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **21/03/2021**

Weighting: **15%**

A short written reflection on fundamental concepts in the unit

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate critical reading habits, interpretive analysis, research, and effective communication, with particular application to the field of English studies.
- Explain, verbally and in written assignments, the relationship between the primary texts and their historical and cultural contexts

Participatory task

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 24 hours

Due: **each teaching week**

Weighting: **20%**

online forum facilitation tasks; meaningful participation in peer-interactive discussion, responding to weekly questions

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain, verbally and in written assignments, the relationship between the primary texts and their historical and cultural contexts
- Engage in informed critical discussion of unit content with peers and teachers, accommodate others' points of view, and argue a critical position
- Apply understanding of literary techniques to literary study and beyond to other situations

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

The unit activities consist of listening to weekly 30-40-minute lecture plus engaging in participatory activities responding to set questions.

Required (to buy/read)

1. Marie Boroff, (ed), *The Gawain Poet, Complete Works* (Norton and Company)
2. Sir Thomas Malory, *Le Morte Darthur, the Winchester Manuscript*, ed Helen Cooper (Oxford Worlds Classics)
3. William Shakespeare, *Othello*, ed. Edward Pechter (Norton)
4. Margaret Cavendish, *Bell in Campo and The Sociable Companions*, ed. Alexandra G. Barrett (Broadview Press)

Readings for some weeks will be accessible as scanned PDF files or links via the unit iLearn site

Students are advised to consult the unit Handbook and/or iLearn site closely and regularly for detailed information about expected weekly readings.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.