ENGX3020

Global Contemporary Literature: Australians and the World

Session 1, Online-flexible 2023

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

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Lecturer, tutor, unit convenor
Dr Toby Davidson
toby.davidson@mq.edu.au
25B Wallys Walk, Room B209
By appointment

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
130 cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
The limitations of Western conceptions of "the human" are highlighted in this unit as we consider how twenty-first century Australian, Indigenous, American, postcolonial and other forms of literature challenge and expand Western conceptions of humanity, subjectivity and belonging. This unit looks at how literature is alive in the world today, and how it responds to the new challenges and opportunities afforded to it by the twenty-first century. The premise of this unit is that literature plays an active role in the contemporary public sphere, and that writers are developing exciting and innovative ways of responding both to contemporary debates on matters including race, immigration, gender, terrorism and globalisation, and to new contexts for their work, including the Internet, new forms of literary celebrity, and the rise of creative writing programmes. You will be encouraged to see how the essays you write and the literary analysis you perform can help to create links between the so-called "real world" and the texts you read. We will reflect on how we read literature now, and how we can best write about literature to capture its presence and power in our lives.

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: Analyse and compare literary texts across a range of genres, including the novel,
the essay, poetry, and hybrid genres, using a sound critical vocabulary and scholarly research.

**ULO3:** Reflect on the role of critical writing and essays in the contemporary literary field.

**ULO2:** Explain key features of the contemporary literary field, including the role of literary celebrity, creative writing programmes, and digital media, and analyse how these features impact on literary texts.

**ULO4:** Explain and analyse how literature participates in debates in the public sphere, including discussions over race, immigration, ethics, history, and the representation of disasters.

**ULO5:** Develop well-reasoned arguments about literary texts, and support these arguments orally and in writing.

### General Assessment Information

**ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION**

- Students are required to submit their written work electronically only, via the Turnitin link in the unit’s iLearn site. Do not submit essays via email.
- Return of marked work and feedback will be via the unit’s iLearn site.

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATION AND LATE PENALTIES FOR ASSIGNMENTS**

If you have a legitimate reason for being unable to submit your work on time, for which you can provide documentation, you will need to complete a Special Consideration request (which must be submitted at [www.ask.mq.edu.au](http://www.ask.mq.edu.au) within 5 working days of the commencement of the disruption).

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of ‘0’ (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm (23:55). A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue. This late penalty will apply to written reports and recordings only. **Late submission of time sensitive tasks** (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs will be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special Consideration application.

**UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ASSESSMENT**

The grade a student receives will signify their overall performance in meeting the learning outcomes of a unit of study. Grades will not be awarded by reference to the achievement of other students nor allocated to fit a predetermined distribution. In determining a grade, due weight will be given to the learning outcomes and level of a unit (ie 100, 200, 300, 800 etc). Graded units will use the following grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Mark Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HD</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
<td>85-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>75-84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr</td>
<td>Credit</td>
<td>65-74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>50-64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Fail</td>
<td>0-49</td>
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ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic honesty is an integral part of the core values and principles contained in the Macquarie University Ethics Statement, whose fundamental principle is that all staff and students act with integrity in the creation, development, application and use of ideas and information, which means that:

- All academic work claimed as original is the work of the author making the claim.
- All academic collaborations are acknowledged.
- Academic work is not falsified in any way
- When the ideas of others are used, these ideas are acknowledged appropriately.

On the policy, procedure and penalties that will apply to breaches of the Academic Honesty Policy, see: [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html)

STUDY AND RESEARCH SUPPORT

The resources at the following site can assist you in getting your bearings, preparing for class, and undertaking your assessment tasks: [http://www.mq.edu.au/about/campus-services-and-facilities/library/research](http://www.mq.edu.au/about/campus-services-and-facilities/library/research)

Learning Skills and Academic Writing Support:

The Learning Skills Unit offers assignment and study support through workshops and individual consultations, consultations by email (click on ‘Ask a Learning Adviser’, and StudyWISE, which is an online study and writing resource for students. See: [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/learning_skills/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/learning_skills/).
Assessment Tasks

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Feedback Quiz</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>10/03/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Literature Review</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>11/04/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Essay</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>30/05/23</td>
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**Participation**

Assessment Type 1: Participatory task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 30 hours
Due: Ongoing
Weighting: 20%

Preparation of notes for class relating to set tutorial topics and any addition research.
Participation in group activities; answering questions in weekly tutorials and contributing meaningfully to in-class discussion.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Analyse and compare literary texts across a range of genres, including the novel, the essay, poetry, and hybrid genres, using a sound critical vocabulary and scholarly research.
- Reflect on the role of critical writing and essays in the contemporary literary field.
- Explain key features of the contemporary literary field, including the role of literary celebrity, creative writing programmes, and digital media, and analyse how these features impact on literary texts.
- Explain and analyse how literature participates in debates in the public sphere, including discussions over race, immigration, ethics, history, and the representation of disasters.
- Develop well-reasoned arguments about literary texts, and support these arguments orally and in writing.

**Early Feedback Quiz**

Assessment Type 1: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task 2: 5 hours
Due: 10/03/23
Weighting: 10%

Students will complete one online quiz, comprising of 20 multiple choice questions.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and compare literary texts across a range of genres, including the novel, the essay, poetry, and hybrid genres, using a sound critical vocabulary and scholarly research.
- Reflect on the role of critical writing and essays in the contemporary literary field.
- Explain key features of the contemporary literary field, including the role of literary celebrity, creative writing programmes, and digital media, and analyse how these features impact on literary texts.

Secondary Literature Review

Assessment Type 1: Literature review
Indicative Time on Task 2: 20 hours
Due: 11/04/23
Weighting: 30%

A 1500 word written analysis of a single published research article which may be used for the Research Essay.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and compare literary texts across a range of genres, including the novel, the essay, poetry, and hybrid genres, using a sound critical vocabulary and scholarly research.
- Reflect on the role of critical writing and essays in the contemporary literary field.
- Explain key features of the contemporary literary field, including the role of literary celebrity, creative writing programmes, and digital media, and analyse how these features impact on literary texts.
- Develop well-reasoned arguments about literary texts, and support these arguments orally and in writing.
Research Essay

Assessment Type 1: Essay
Indicative Time on Task 2: 35 hours
Due: 30/05/23
Weighting: 40%

A 2000 word research essay related to a set topic.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Analyse and compare literary texts across a range of genres, including the novel, the essay, poetry, and hybrid genres, using a sound critical vocabulary and scholarly research.
• Reflect on the role of critical writing and essays in the contemporary literary field.
• Explain key features of the contemporary literary field, including the role of literary celebrity, creative writing programmes, and digital media, and analyse how these features impact on literary texts.
• Explain and analyse how literature participates in debates in the public sphere, including discussions over race, immigration, ethics, history, and the representation of disasters.
• Develop well-reasoned arguments about literary texts, and support these arguments orally and in writing.

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

One lecture and one tutorial per week. See iLearn site for more resources.

The iLearn site for this unit (https://ilearn.mq.edu.au) will open in 'Week 0', one week before the commencement of lectures and class discussions in Week 1. It is recommended that prospective students email the unit co-ordinator prior to this for unit information.

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/157007/unit_guide/print

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

**Health and Wellbeing**

Macquarie University provides a range of Student Support Services, including Medical, Counselling, Disability Support and Welfare services (ph. 9850 7497). Details of these services can accessed at: [http://www.campuslife.mq.edu.au/campuswellbeing](http://www.campuslife.mq.edu.au/campuswellbeing)

**Arts Enquiries: Arts Student Centre**

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<th>+61 2 9850 6783</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:artsenquiries@mq.edu.au">artsenquiries@mq.edu.au</a></td>
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Centre staff are there to smooth the way into university life; answer questions; give informed advice; provide a sympathetic ear; de-mystify university ways and procedures.