

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	The Uncanny
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	6
4	Module Code	EGL6134

5	Module Overview
<p>This module explores 'The New Phenomenology' which deals with experiences of the self. We will read Freud's classic essay on 'The Uncanny' and associated materials bringing contemporary philosophy to bear on some literary and film texts. Place and displacement, anxiety, melancholia and unease feature in this work.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
<p>This module will provide you with the knowledge and skills to critically engage with the legacies of Sigmund Freud's speculative essay 'Das Unheimliche' / 'The Uncanny' moving from literary criticism through deconstruction and introducing students to contemporary phenomenology. Phenomenology is a branch of continental philosophy dealing with experiences of the self. It will provide the necessary introduction to read recent philosophical considerations of psychoanalysis, melancholia, anxiety and unease as found, for instance, in the work of Simon Critchley and Dylan Trigg. We will engage with Critchley's reading of <i>Hamlet</i> and Samuel Beckett together with Trigg's reading of horror literature and film. As a foundation for reading phenomenology we will read Trigg's <i>The Memory of Place</i> together with short excerpts from the philosophers he comments on such as Heidegger, Levinas, Bachelard and Merleau-Ponty. You will find Critchley's <i>A Very Short Introduction to Continental Philosophy</i> and then Robert Sokolowski, <i>Introduction to Phenomenology</i> helpful in reading Trigg. Finally we will consider the issues of otherness, difference and place negotiated in many of these philosophical readings. This module would develop theories encountered in The Gothic and complement other philosophy modules.</p> <p>You will develop the foundation of your knowledge through a series of lectures which are followed by workshops in which you will apply your understanding of the field through a range of practical activities. These might include: close readings of literary texts, analysis of the built environment, mini-presentations, forum posts, application of theoretical and contextual documents and/or field trips. Your formally taught sessions will be supported by pre-sessional learning activities delivered via Moodle and post-sessional reflection on the workshop's learning aims. Your independent learning will be characterised by the development of your wider creative and critical knowledge of the field which will be supported by the application and development of your research skills.</p>	

7	Module Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:	
	1 Identify the key elements of Freud's 'The Uncanny' and analyse them in their historical context.
	2 Apply appropriate theoretical ideas to the analysis of film or literary texts.

	3	Assess recent philosophical and psychoanalytical considerations of the uncanny in relation to cultural formations of place.
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8	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome			
	Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1, 2, 3	x		

9	Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities	
Learning Activities	Hours	
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	36	
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	100	
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	64	
Total Study Hours:	200	