

General Information	
Academic subject	English Culture
Academic Year	2020-2021
Degree course	L-11 – Modern Languages, Cultures and Literatures [“Lingue, Culture e Letterature Moderne”]
Department	“Lettere Lingue Arti. Italianistica e culture comparate”, Università degli Studi di Bari “Aldo Moro”
ECTS credits	6
Compulsory attendance	See article 4 of the "Course Guidelines" available on the Course webpage
Language	Italian and English

Subject teacher	Name Surname	Mail address	SSD
	Alessandra Squeo	Alessandra.squeo@uniba.it	L-Lin/10

ECTS credits details	SSD (Academic Discipline)	Credits
Basic teaching activities	<i>L-LIN/10</i>	6

Class schedule	
Period	Second semester
Year	First year
Type of class	Lectures

Time management	
Hours	150
In-class study hours	48
Out-of-class study hours	102

Academic calendar	
Class begins	22.02.2021
Class ends	28.05.2021

Syllabus	
Prerequisites/Requirements	It is highly desirable that students attending the course possess adequate language competence, as the course is predominantly taught in English and primary and secondary sources are in the original language. It is highly desirable that students possess adequate linguistic and cultural competence acquired in Secondary Schools.
Expected learning outcomes	On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to: <i>Knowledge and understanding</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify different aspects of British literary and non-literary culture and related contexts, including contemporary issues

	<p>in the cultures of the UK and of the English speaking countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analyse primary sources and identify the main features of different text types and literary genres in different cultural contexts; • identify the main methodologies for text analysis. <p><u>Applying knowledge and understanding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read and contextualise a cultural text, identifying its key features; • critically analyse the primary sources and apply the basic methods of inquiry and multimedia tools and to explore socio-cultural processes; <p><u>Making informed judgements and choices</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify the main cultural issues and text types in their historical evolution; • identify the difference between primary and secondary sources and ways of relating them; • identify the relevance and correct use of IT resources as research instruments; <p><u>Communicating knowledge and understanding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communicate in English in a range of specific themes and issues in English culture, using both the primary and secondary sources correctly; <p><u>Capacities to continue learning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognise and critically reflect on the constant historical evolution of texts and forms; • apply different tools and methods of inquiry and use the critical material provided to explore the socio-cultural processes at issue.
<p>Contents</p>	<p>The course of English culture mostly focuses on some specific aspects of British literary and non-literary culture, and related contexts. Special attention is devoted to pressing contemporary issues in the cultures of the UK and the English speaking countries. A selection of representative texts is considered for reading and analysis from a variety of potential perspectives that take account of their historicity no less than their contemporary resonances. The study of relevant adaptations, actualizations and rewritings of such texts is a potential area of enquiry, also in relation to the advent of the new media. Particular attention will be paid to specific aspects of literary culture and social history, with the contribution of methodologies and approaches, including Media Studies, Cultural Studies, Visual Studies, Museum Studies, Postcolonial Studies</p>
<p>Course program</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Title: Redefining ‘monsters’: Frankenstein's legacy in digital culture</p>

	<p>Starting from the definition of the notion of ‘monster, the course focuses on the genesis and diffusion of the myth of Frankenstein, and above all on its far-reaching cultural repercussions in the scientific and cultural background of the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. Starting from the analysis of Mary Shelley's text and of some of its most interesting adaptations (from filmic form to hypertext), the course aims to offer the students the instruments to identify and contextualize the crucial issues that acquire particular relevance in the ongoing debate on ethics and science, as well as on the radical redefinition of the notion of identity in cyborg culture.</p>
<p>Bibliography</p>	<p>Primary sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mary Shelley, <i>Frankenstein or the Modern Prometheus</i> [1818] Penguin, Harmondsworth 1992 – <i>Frankenstein</i>, directed by James Whale 1931 (Film) – <i>Mary Shelley's Frankenstein</i> directed by Kenneth Branagh, 1994 (Film) – Shelley Jackson, <i>Patchwork Girl, or a Modern Monster</i>, Eastgate Systems, Watertown Cambridge (Mass.) 1995 (Hypertext) <p>Secondary Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Haraway Donna, <i>A Cyborg Manifesto</i>, selected pages. – Jackson Shelley, (1997), “Stitch Bitch: the Hypertext Author As Cyborg-Femme Narrator”, http://www.heise.de/tp/english/inhalt/kolu/3193/1.html. – Landow George, <i>Hypertext 2.0</i>. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, London, 1992, pp. 1-32, 49-89; 178-218; – Hodgkiss Brian, "Introduction" in Mary Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i>, CIDEB, Genova 1994, pp. ix-lxi; – Squeo Alessandra, (2002), <i>Macchine per raccontare. Introduzione alle hyperfiction</i> Lecce; – Squeo Alessandra, (2008), “Patchwork Girl, or a Modern Monster. Re-imagining Narrative Forms in Hyperfiction” in <i>Migration of Forms/Forms of Migrations</i>”, Bari 2009, pp. 355-366, – Squeo Alessandra (2018), “Hybridizing Textual Bodies and Neo- Gothic Identities: Frankenstein’s Afterlife in Shelley Jackson’s Fiction” in <i>Caietele Echinox</i>, vol. 35, 2018, pp. 159-173 – R. Williams ‘Culture’, in <i>Keywords</i>, OUP 1976,

	selected pages.
Notes	Further materials and/or details will be provided during the course
Teaching methods	Lectures and Seminars involving lecturers in other disciplines in order to enhance an interdisciplinary approach to the course topics. Multimedia material will be used; extra material and all ppt presentations will be uploaded on the Department e-learning platform.
Assessment	Oral presentation and discussion in English. Any material provided in Italian may be discussed either in Italian or in English
Evaluation criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As regards <i>knowledge and understanding</i>, assessment will consider the student's ability to contextualize the key topics under examination within the relevant cultural, literary and historical backgrounds, and discuss their significance in contemporary culture; • as regards <i>applying knowledge and understanding</i>, assessment will consider the student's ability to analyse the literary and non-literary texts under examination, and recognise their generic and linguistic features, as well as discuss their content and ideology; • as regards <i>making informed judgments and choices</i>, assessment will consider the student's ability to analyse and interpret the cultural issues under examination as represented in a variety of cultural products and text types in contemporary society; • as regards <i>Communicating knowledge and understanding</i> assessment the student's ability to communicate in English correctly and use appropriate vocabulary. • As regards the <i>capacities to continue learning</i> assessment will consider the student's ability to read the primary sources, making use of different methods and critical tools;
Further information	Email: alessandra.squeo@uniba.it Office hours available on the web page http://www.uniba.it/docenti/squeo-maddalena-alessandra