

HL4030 – Scottish Literature (course guide subject to minor changes)

This course will introduce you to the main themes and characteristics of Scottish literature from the medieval period to the present day, covering Romanticism, the Enlightenment, Modernism, Postmodernism, and the contemporary era. The course will trace the vast transformations undergone in Scotland in recent history and study how literature has both reacted to and driven these changes. We will study the historical backgrounds to the texts, discuss questions of national identity and look at Scotland's contribution to modern philosophy. The course will include poetry and prose from the nation's three languages, Gaelic, Scots (alongside translations) and English.

Learning Objectives

The course will:

- Demonstrate the complex relationship between Scottish culture and history
- Establish the main trends, concerns, and characteristics of Scottish writing
- Create links between texts in the course founded upon historical and cultural context

Content

- Canonical Scottish texts
- Material on critical approaches to Scottish writing
- Historical context – detailed information on the main developments of Scottish history

Assessment

A) 30% – 3,500 word essay (due in on the 13th of March)

The essay must cover two texts and involve original research

The essay should also include a coherent argument supported by close reading of the text(s)

All paragraphs should be related to a central theme and adhere to a sound structure

Claims/readings/arguments should be properly developed and supported by relevant quotations from the text (s)

Relevant critical sources must be utilized and correctly cited

B) 50% – 2 ½ hour exam

Students will be required to sit a 2 ½ hour closed-book exam which will consist of a text identification component and an essay component

The essay will test the students' knowledge and understanding of the texts/themes of the course and their ability to construct arguments and critical positions relating to the course concepts

C) 10% - Class participation

Students participation in seminars – including attendance, engagement with seminar activities and discussions – will be assessed

D) 10% - Class presentation

Students will be required to prepare and present a mini-lecture on a course theme/concept.

Set texts (all other texts will be provided via Blackboard):

Walter Scott, *Waverley*

James Hogg, *Confessions of a Justified Sinner*

Robert Louis Stevenson, *Kidnapped*

Muriel Spark, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*

Course content

Week	Topic
1	Introduction: G. Gregory Smith, Chapter One: 'Two Moods' from <i>Scottish Literature, Its Character and Influence</i> , Alan Riach, <i>What is Scottish Literature?</i>
2	Scottish Enlightenment: Robert Burns, selected poetry
3	The Scottish Enlightenment: David Hume, selected essays
4	The Historical Novel: Walter Scott, <i>Waverley</i> (1814)
5	A Celtic Hoax? Macpherson's <i>Ossian</i>
6	Duality and diablerie: James Hogg, <i>Confessions of a Justified Sinner</i> (1824)
7	Highland Adventures: Robert Louis Stevenson, <i>Kidnapped</i> (1886)
8	Scottish Modernism 1: Hugh MacDiarmid, selected poetry
9	Scottish Modernism 2: Selected poetry by Somhairle MacGill-Eain/Sorley MacLean
10	'an unusual teacher': Muriel Spark, <i>The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie</i> (1961)
11	Scottish Postmodernism: Excerpts from <i>Lanark</i> (1981) and <i>1982, Janine</i> (1984) by Alasdair Gray
12	Urban Scotland: excerpts from Irvine Welsh, <i>Trainspotting</i> (1993) and James Kelman's <i>How Late it Was, How Late</i> (1994)
12	Scottish short stories/Revision

Further Reading

General:

- Alcobia-Murphy, Shane; Archbold, Johanna; Gibney, John; Jones, Carol (eds.). *Beyond the Anchoring Grounds: More Cross-Currents in Irish and Scottish Studies*. Belfast: Cló Ollscoil na Banríona, 2005.
- Bell, Bill. *The Edinburgh History of the Book in Scotland* (vol. III). Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2007.
- Bell, Eleanor. *Questioning Scotland: Literature, Nationalism, Postmodernism*. Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2004.
- Black, Ronald (ed.). *An Tuil – Anthology of 20th Century Scottish Gaelic Verse*. Edinburgh: Polygon, 2012.
- Carruthers, Gerard et al (eds). *Beyond Scotland – New Contexts for Twentieth Scottish Literature*. Amsterdam and New York: Rodopi, 2004.
- Chapman, Malcolm. *The Gaelic Vision in Scottish Culture*. London: Croom Helm, 1978.
- Craig, Cairns. *Devolving English Literature*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2000.
- Craig, Cairns. *Intending Scotland: Explorations in Scottish Culture since the Enlightenment*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2009.
- Craig, Cairns (ed). *The History of Scottish Literature* (Vol 4 – Twentieth Century). Aberdeen; Aberdeen University Press, 1987, pp. 103-118.
- Craig, Cairns. *The Modern Scottish Novel: Narrative and the National Imagination*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1999.
- Crawford, Robert. *Scotland's Books*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.
- Crawford, Robert (ed.). *The Scottish Invention of English Literature*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998.
- Crotty, Patrick. 'That Caledonian Antisyzygy' in *The Poetry Ireland Review*, No. 63, Winter, (1999), pp. 89–93.
- Devine, T.M. *Scotland's Empire, 1600 – 1815*. London: Penguin Allen Lane, 2003.
- Devine, T.M. *The Scottish Nation: 1700 – 2000*. New York: Penguin, 2001.
- Gifford, Douglas et al (eds). *Scottish Literature*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2002.
- Gifford, Douglas (ed.). *The History of Scottish Literature* (Vol. 3). Aberdeen: Aberdeen University Press, 1988.

Hook, Andrew (ed.). *The History of Scottish Literature Volume 2 1660 – 1800*. Aberdeen: Aberdeen University Press, 1987.

Longley, Edna; Hughes, Eamonn and O’Rawe, Des (eds.). *Ireland (Ulster) Scotland: Concepts, Contexts, Comparisons*. Belfast: Cló Ollscoil na Banríona, 2003.

Lynch, Michael. *Scotland: A New History*. London: Pimlico, 1992.

Lynch, Michael (ed.). *The Oxford Companion to Scottish History*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001.

McCourt, David. *Understanding Scotland: The Sociology of a Nation*. London and New York: Routledge, 2001.

McCulloch, Margery Palmer. *Scottish Modernism and its Contexts 1918-1959*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2009.

MacDonald, Catriona M. M. *Whaur Extremes Meet – Scotland’s Twentieth Century*. Edinburgh, Birlinn, 2009.

McIlvanney, Liam and Carruthers, Gerard (eds.). *The Cambridge Companion to Scottish Literature*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012, pp. 261-274.

McIlvanney, Liam and Ryan, Ray (eds.). *Ireland and Scotland: Culture and Society, 1700-2000*. Dublin: Four Courts, 2005.

Pittock, Murray. *Scottish Nationality*. Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2001.

Ryan, Ray. *Ireland and Scotland: Literature and Culture, State and Nation, 1966–2000*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.

Smith, Gregory. *Scottish Literature: Its Character and Influence*. London: MacMillan and Co., 1919.

Watson, Roderick. *The Literature of Scotland*. Basingstoke: MacMillan, 1984.

Wittig, Kurt. *The Scottish Tradition in Literature*. Westport: Greenwood, 1958.

Robert Burns

Carruthers, Gerard (ed.). *The Edinburgh Companion to Robert Burns*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2009.

Crawford, Robert. *Robert Burns and Cultural Authority*. Edinburgh: Polygon, 1997.

McIlvanney, Liam. *Burns the Radical*. Phantassie, East Lothian: Tuckwell Press, 2002.

David Hume and The Scottish Enlightenment:

Bailey, Alan and O’Brien, Dan (eds.). *The Continuum Companion to Hume*. London and New York: Continuum, 2012.

Bryson, Gladys. *Man and Society: The Scottish Inquiry of the Eighteenth Century*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1945.

Broadie, Alexander (ed.). *The Cambridge Companion to the Scottish Enlightenment*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.

Broadie, Alexander (ed.) *The Scottish Enlightenment: An Anthology*. Edinburgh: Canongate Press, 1997.

Buchan, James. *Capital of the Mind: How Edinburgh Changed the World*. Edinburgh: Birlinn, 2007.

Daiches, David (ed.) *A Hotbed of Genius: The Scottish Enlightenment 1730–1790*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1986.

Daiches, David. *The Paradox of Scottish Culture: The Eighteenth Century Experience*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1964.

Norton, David Fate and Taylor, Jacqueline (eds). *The Cambridge Companion to Hume* (Second Edition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009.

Walter Scott and James Hogg:

Duncan, Ian. *Scott's Shadow: The Novel in Romantic Edinburgh*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2007.

Lincoln, Andrew. *Walter Scott and Modernity*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2006.

Lukács, Georg. *The Historical Novel*. London: Merlin, 1962.

Muir, Edwin. *Scott and Scotland: The Predicament of the Scottish Writer*. Edinburgh: Polygon, 1982.

Robertson, Fiona. *Legitimate Histories: Scott, Gothic and the Authority of Fiction*. Oxford Clarendon Press, 1995.

Simpson, Louis. *James Hogg: A Critical Study*. Edinburgh and London: Oliver and Boyd, 1962.

Robert Louis Stevenson:

Hammond, J.R. *A Robert Louis Stevenson Companion*. Basingstoke and London: Macmillan, 1984.

Reid, Julia. *Robert Louis Stevenson, Science, and the Fin de Siècle*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006.

Sandison, Alan. *Robert Louis Stevenson and the Appearance of Modernism*. Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1996.

Hugh MacDiarmid:

Bold, Alan. *MacDiarmid – The Terrible Crystal*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1983.

Gish, Nancy K (ed.). *Hugh MacDiarmid: Man and Poet*. Edinburgh and Orono, Maine: Edinburgh University Press and the National Poetry Foundation, 1992.

Lyll, Scott. *Hugh MacDiarmid's Poetry and Politics of Place: Imagining a Scottish Republic*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2006.

Muriel Spark:

Bold, Alan. *Muriel Spark*. London: Methuen, 1986.

Gardiner, Michael and Maley, Willy (eds). *The Edinburgh Companion to Muriel Spark*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2010.

Herman, David. *Muriel Spark: Twenty-first Century Perspectives*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010.

Alasdair Gray

Bernstein, Stephen. *Alasdair Gray*. Lewisburg, Pa.: Bucknell University Press; London: Associated University Presses, 1999.

Glass, Rodge. *Alasdair Gray: A Secretary's Biography*. London: Bloomsbury, 2008.

Manfredi, Camille (ed): *Alasdair Gray: Ink for Worlds*. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire; New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014.

Irvine Welsh and James Kelman:

Hames, Scott (ed). *The Edinburgh Companion to James Kelman*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2010.

Kelly, Aaron. *Irvine Welsh*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2005.

Morace, Robert A. *Irvine Welsh's Trainspotting: A Reader's Guide*. London: Continuum, 2001.

Schoene-Harwood, Berthold. *The Edinburgh Companion to Irvine Welsh*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2010.