

Course Description:

This course looks at the rise and the development of the novel as a literary genre in English literature. The first part of the course will look at the social and historical developments that made the emergence of the novel possible and the second part will take a closer look at one of the most important novels that shaped the development of the genre. Aspects of modern fiction that deal with the fragmentation of the moral and spiritual values and its effect on the form and the content of the novel will be stressed.

Objectives

To familiarize the student with the historical, cultural and literary background necessary to understand the modern novel.

To help students acquire proficiency in reading modern novels critically and the ability to distinguish styles, structures and modes of the genre.

Teaching Methods

The following methods will be used in this course:

1. Lectures
2. Powerpoint Presentations
3. Online Live Sessions

Textbook:

You should purchase a copy of:

Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*

Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*

READ THEM!!!

For Further Reading:

- F.R. Leavis, *The Great Tradition*. Faber and Faber. 2011.
- O'Connor, W.V. *Forms of the Modern Fiction*. New York: Roland Breth Co. 1952.
- Beach, J.W. *The Twentieth-Century Novel; Studies in Technique*. California: California Univ. Press, 1963.

Lectures:

Lecture 1: Emergence and Evolution of the Novel

Lecture 2: Emergence and Evolution of the Novel

Lecture 3: Social and Historical Background

Lectures 4, 5 and 6: Early Novels and Novelists – Robinson Crusoe

Lectures 7: The Development of the Modern Novel – Eliot, James, Conrad

Lecture 8: *Heart of Darkness* - Background

Lecture 9: *Heart of Darkness* – Part One

Lecture 10: *Heart of Darkness* – Part Two

Lecture 11: *Heart of Darkness* – Part Three

Lecture 12: *Heart of Darkness* – Themes and Characters

Lecture 13: *Heart of Darkness* – Style and Legacy

Lecture 14: From *Robinson Crusoe* to *Heart of Darkness*

Evaluation:

1. **Participation:** **30%**

- Attendance 10%

- Assignments 10%

- Topics Discussions 10%

2. **Final exam** **70%**

Total: **100%**