

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- www.unine.ch/lettres

Seminar 4: Modern and Contemporary Literature : Modernism (2AN1434)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Pilier principal B A - langue et littérature anglaises	Séminaire: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier secondaire B A - langue et littérature anglaises	Séminaire: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante

Prof. Patrick Vincent

Objectifs

The aims of this course are the following:

- To develop students' close reading skills.
- To pursue in more depth a specific genre, period, or theme in modern literary history.
- To improve expository and critical thinking skills.
- To improve research-paper writing skills

Contenu

Modernism was an international literary and artistic movement that peaked in Britain between roughly 1910 and 1925. This seminar will focus on English and Irish modernist fiction. We will read four novels respectively by D.H. Lawrence, Wyndham Lewis, James Joyce, and Virginia Woolf, all of which address the vexed theme of the artist and of the role of art in modern life.

Close attention will be paid to their stylistic innovations (fragmentation of unities, use of mythic method, rejection of bourgeois aesthetic norms, linguistic experiments, epiphany and stream of consciousness). Students will present a theoretical or critical essay to help reconstitute the movement's varied aesthetic and intellectual contexts. These will include the movement's intellectual genealogies (eg. Nietzsche, Freud), its relation to the sister arts (Post-impressionism, Cubism, Vorticism, atonal music, cinema), its politics of culture (Pound, Eliot, Benjamin, Adorno), and its politics of gender (Woolf). The aim will be to understand how these writers, highly conscious of their historical 'entanglements' (Michael Levenson), deliberately invented the terms by which they would be understood as aesthetic 'purists' opposed to mass culture.

Forme de l'évaluation

Ev. Interne : one in-class oral presentation (20%), two essays (4-6 double-spaced pages each) (80%).

Documentation

Wyndham Lewis, Tarr (begun 1909, published 1928)

D.H. Lawrence, Sons and Lovers (1913)

James Joyce, A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man (1916)

Virginia Woolf, To the Lighthouse (1927)

All texts are usually available in paperback in Oxford World's Classics, Wordsworth Classics.

or Penguin editions except for Tarr, only available in OWC.

Other texts will be made available on Moodle.

Pré-requis

First-year courses (PP1-PP3) are required; « Modern and Contemporary Literature » lecture is recommended.

Forme de l'enseignement

Seminar (participation is required)