

Module Code	HPCS4008
Title	An Introduction to Celtic Literatures
Date	14/07/2021
Level	4
Credits	20
Pre-Requisites	

AIM(S)

- To introduce students to a range of literary texts from the Celtic-speaking countries from the early Middle Ages to the present day, and develop students' understanding of the social and historical contexts of these texts, and of the connections, similarities and differences between them

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon the successful completion of this module, the student should be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of key literary texts in Welsh, Irish, Breton, Scots Gaelic, Cornish and Manx
- demonstrate an understanding of the chronology of these texts and their cultural contexts
- write assignments using the correct academic conventions, including appropriate use of citations

INDICATIVE CONTENT

- This module offers students an overview of the literatures of the Celtic-speaking countries, with particular emphasis on Wales.
- From the earliest recorded bardic poetry through to contemporary writing, students will encounter a wide range of literary genres, including medieval tales, court poetry, mystery plays; folk ballads, poems and songs.
- The module also discusses the C18th-19th 'Celtic Revival', when much of this material was rediscovered and studied for the first time, and looks briefly at examples of modern contemporary writers who have turned to these earlier texts for inspiration.
- While exploring the many similarities between the literary histories of the Celtic languages, the module also stresses the profound differences of social context, language survival and religion which have given them each their distinctive character.

Study Time Allocation

The study time for the module is divided as follows:

Activity type	Hours	Percentage
Scheduled learning	20	10
Independent learning	180	90
Placement learning		
TOTAL	200	100%

ASSESSMENT

Assessment Component 1

☐ Written exam ☒ Coursework ☐ Practical

Mode of assessment	Volume	Weighting
Written assignment	2,000 words	50%

Assessment Component 2

☐ Written exam ☒ Coursework ☐ Practical

Mode of assessment	Volume	Weighting
Written assignment	2,000 words	50%

Assessment Summary

Activity type	Percentage
Written exam	
Coursework	100%
Practical	
TOTAL	100%

INDICATIVE READING LIST

Module Code	HPCS4008	
Module Title	An Introduction to Celtic Literatures	
Classification	Reading List entry	Electronic*
Essential	Johnston, Dafydd, <i>The Literature of Wales</i> (2 nd ed. Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2017)	☒
Essential	Davies, John, <i>A History of Wales</i> (revised ed, London: Penguin, 2007)	☒
Essential	Ní Bhrolcháin, Muireann, <i>An Introduction to early Irish Literature</i> (Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2009)	☒
Essential	Jackson, Kenneth H., <i>A Celtic Miscellany: Translations from the Celtic Literatures</i> (Harmondsworth: Penguin Classics 2006)	☐
Essential	Evans, Geraint & Helen Fulton, <i>The Cambridge History of Welsh Literature</i> (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019)	☒
Essential	Crawford, Robert, <i>Scotland's Books: The Penguin History of Scottish Literature</i> (Penguin: Harmondsworth, 2007)	☐
Further	Carson, Ciaran, <i>The Táin, translated from the Irish epic</i>	☒

	<i>Táin Bó Cuailinge</i> (London: Penguin Classics, 2009)	
Further	Conran, Tony, <i>Welsh Verse</i> (Bridgend: Seren, 1995)	☐
Further	Davies, Sioned (ed and trans), <i>The Mabinogion</i> (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007)	☒
Further	Gwaith Dafydd ap Gwilym <dafyddapgwilym.net>	☒
Further	Gantz, Jeffrey, <i>Early Irish myths and sagas</i> (Harmondsworth: Penguin books, 1981)	☒
Further	Koch, John T. and John Carey, <i>The Celtic Heroic Age: Literary Sources for Ancient Celtic Europe and Early Ireland and Wales</i> (Aberystwyth: Celtic Studies Publications, 2003)	☐
Further	Williams, J. E. Caerwyn; Ford, Patrick K. <i>The Irish Literary Tradition</i> (Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 1992)	☐
Further	Stephens, Meic, <i>The New Companion to the Literature of Wales</i> (Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 1998)	☐
Further	Jarman, A.O.H., <i>Y Gododdin: Britain's Oldest Heroic Poem</i> (Llandysul: Gomer, 1988)	☐
Further	Jones, Robert Owen, & Glanmor Williams (eds.), <i>The Celts and the Renaissance : tradition and innovation I</i> Proceedings of the Eighth International Congress of Celtic Studies, held at Swansea, 19-24 July, 1987 (Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 1990)	☐
Further	Murdoch, Brian, <i>Cornish Literature</i> (Cambridge: D.S. Brewer, 1993)	☐
Further	Constantine, Mary-Ann and Éva Guillorel, <i>Miracles and Murders: An Introductory Anthology of Breton Ballads</i> (Oxford: British Academy & OUP, 2017)	☐
Further	Piette, Gwenno, <i>Brittany: A Concise History</i> (Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2008)	☐
Further	Sims-Williams, Patrick, "Celtomania and Celtoscepticism", <i>Cambrian Medieval Celtic Studies</i> 36 (Winter, 1998): 1–36.	☐
Further	Conran, Tony, <i>Welsh Verse</i> (Bridgend: Seren, 1995)	☐
Further	Arnold, Matthew, <i>On the Study of Celtic Literature</i> (Lectures 1865-66) (London: Smith, Elder & Co, 1867)	☒
Further	Terence Brown <i>Celticism.</i> , <i>Studia Imagologica</i> 8. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 1996.	☐
Further	Constantine, Mary-Ann 'Literature of the Bardic Revival' Oxford Bibliographies Online [DOI: 10.1093/OBO/9780199846719-0003]	☒