

116-451 Contemporary French Fiction

Credit Points:	12.500
Level:	Undergraduate
Dates & Locations:	This subject is not offered in 2008. .
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: A 2-hour seminar per week Total Time Commitment: .
Prerequisites:	Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in French.
Corequisites:	.
Recommended Background Knowledge:	.
Non Allowed Subjects:	.
Core Participation Requirements:	.
Coordinator:	Dr Jill Anderson
Subject Overview:	This subject aims to develop a global understanding of certain key transformations in contemporary culture via the study of recent avant-garde literary texts (Ernaux, Houellebecq, Laurens, Quignard, Weyergans, Toussaint). We look at new narrative techniques, representations of modernity, humour and irony, the influence of painting and photography, the role of the reader and the renewed focus on love and eroticism. Other controversial authors and contemporary women writers complete our study, which explores the dynamics of French writing today. At the end of the subject, students should be able to synthesise an approach to a general problem in contemporary culture through the use of a variety of material, including internet sites; develop the ability to write articles and to build personal research projects.
Assessment:	A 30-minute classpaper of 1500 words in French subsequently written up 35% (due a week after the presentation), a 3000 word comparative essay in French 45% (due a week after the end of semester) and brief presentations on key issues for discussion totalling 500 words 20% (due at regular intervals during semester).
Prescribed Texts:	Annie Ernaux, Marc Marie, L'Usage de la photo. Gallimard 2005 Michel Houellebecq , Les Particules élémentaires . Flammarion 1998 Michel Houellebecq , La Possibilité d'une île . Fayard 2005 Camille Laurens , Dans ces bras-là . POL 2000 Camille Laurens , Cet absent-là. Figures de Rémi Vinet . Gallimard 2006 Pascal Quignard, Terrasse à Rome . Gallimard folio 2000 François Weyergans, Trois jours chez ma mère. Grasset 2005 Prix Goncourt
Recommended Texts:	.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Research: through frequent and systematic use of the library and other information sources, the definition of areas of inquiry and familiarisation with research methods; # Critical thinking and analysis: through required and recommended reading, essay writing and tutorial discussion, and by assessing the strength of arguments; # Thinking in theoretical and analytical terms: through lectures, tutorial discussion, essay writing and engagement in the methodologies of the humanities and social sciences; # Understanding of social, political, historical and cultural contexts and international awareness/openness to the world: through the contextualisation of judgements and knowledge, developing a critical self-awareness, being open to new ideas and new aspects of French culture, and by formulating arguments;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Written communication: through essay and assignment preparation and writing; # Communicating knowledge intelligibly and economically: through essay and assignment writing, tutorial discussion and class presentations; # Public speaking and confidence in self-expression: through tutorial participation and class presentations; # Attention to detail: through close reading and textual analysis, essay preparation and writing, and examination revision; # Time management and planning: through managing and organizing workloads for required and recommended reading, essay and assignment completion and revision for examinations.
Notes:	Students who have completed 116-451 Themes in Contemporary Literature may not enrol in this subject.
Related Course(s):	Graduate Diploma in Arts (French) Postgraduate Certificate in Arts (French) Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (French)