

## Gender and Sexuality in British Literature

LMH Summer Programmes are provided by Lady Margaret Hall, a college in the University of Oxford

Course:	Gender and Sexuality in British Literature
Available:	Programme Session 1: 26 <sup>th</sup> June to 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2023
Lectures:	18 Hours
Seminars:	12 Hours
Tutorials:	3 Hours
Independent Study:	Approximately 120 Hours
Recommended Credit:	15 CATS / 7.5 ECTS / 4 US Credits

About this Course:	<p>This course provides a unique and exciting opportunity for students to examine a wide range of British literature from various genres and periods through the lens of gender and sexuality.</p> <p>You will discuss representations of the changing roles of women in Early Modern England, from Isabella Whitney's <i>A Sweet Nosegay</i> and William Shakespeare's <i>Love's Labour's Lost</i> in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century to 'breeches' plays of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. You will explore themes of womanhood, sexuality, and maternity in Romanticism and the Gothic through works such as Mary Shelley's <i>Frankenstein</i> and the poems of Mary Robinson. Further areas of discussion will include censorship and (homo)sexuality, and differing constructions of masculinity in 20<sup>th</sup> Century British literature, as well as exploring queer literature in contemporary Britain, such as the works of Mary Jean Chan and Hanif Kureishi. Theoretical frameworks, including feminist literary theory and queer theory, will be examined and applied throughout the course, and lectures and supplementary resources will equip you with the historical and cultural knowledge to contextualise the texts you will study.</p>
Course Overview:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theoretical frameworks           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Feminist literary theory</li> <li>○ Queer theory</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Women in Early Modern England           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Isabella Whitney's <i>A Sweet Nosegay</i> and women's position in Early Modern English society</li> <li>○ Gender roles in <i>Love's Labour's Lost</i> and other plays of William Shakespeare</li> <li>○ Debates around 'Original Practices' at The Globe</li> <li>○ 'Breeches' roles in Restoration theatre</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Romanticism and the Gothic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Motherhood, sexuality, and patriarchy in <i>Frankenstein</i></li> <li>○ Feminism and Romanticism</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Masculinity, (homo)sexuality, and censorship in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Britain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sexuality in the novels of E. M. Forster</li> <li>○ D. H. Lawrence: sexuality, ‘obscenity’, and censorship</li> <li>○ Constructions of masculinity in the poetry of T. S. Eliot</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Queer literature in contemporary Britain, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jean Mary Chan</li> <li>○ Hanif Kureishi</li> <li>○ Jeanette Winterson</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Key Texts Include:	<p>Isabella Whitney, <i>A Sweet Nosegay, or Pleasant Posy</i>, 1573</p> <p>William Shakespeare, <i>Love’s Labour’s Lost</i>, 1598</p> <p>Mary Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i>, 1818</p> <p>E. M. Forster, <i>Maurice</i>, 1971</p> <p>Jeanette Winterson, <i>Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit</i>, 1985</p> <p>Jean Mary Chan, <i>Flèche</i>, 2019</p>
Learning Outcomes:	<p>After studying this course you will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate knowledge of the role of gender and sexuality in a range of British literature.</li> <li>• Assess the changing of role of gender and sexuality in British literature of diverse eras and genres.</li> <li>• Evaluate the relationship between literary texts and their historical and cultural contexts.</li> <li>• Apply key theoretical frameworks including feminist literary theory and queer theory to literary texts.</li> </ul>
Admissions Requirements:	<p>LMH Summer Programmes are designed for students who want to gain and develop knowledge in their chosen subject area. LMH Summer Programmes are intensive courses of study aimed at undergraduates who have completed one, two, or three years of their degree, or entry level postgraduate students.</p> <p>We will consider each applicant’s academic ability and expect successful applicants to have a minimum grade point average equivalent to 2:1 level on the British grading scale. For example, this would mean at least a 3.2 GPA on the 4.0 grading scale in the United States, and 80% in China.</p> <p><b>This course would suit students of the Humanities, especially those with an interest in English Literature, Theatre, Dramatic Arts, or History.</b></p> <p>To participate fully in the programme all students will need to have proficiency in English.</p> <p>English language requirements for students who are not native English speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall TOEFL score of 85;</li> <li>• or IELTS score of 6.5 (no less than 6.0 in each component);</li> <li>• or CET-4 at 550 or CET-6 at 520.</li> </ul> <p>If the language of instruction in your home institution is English you do not need to provide evidence of your English proficiency.</p>

Teaching Methods:	<p>Core syllabus material will be covered in lectures. Students attend four lectures each week and each lecture lasts 90 minutes. Seminars in smaller groups offer students space to discuss and debate, to dig deeper into difficult concepts, and to explore their own ideas. Student contribution to seminars is vital, and tutors will ensure everyone takes part in discussions. Seminars last 2 hours and students will take part in two seminars each week.</p> <p>Independent study is a crucial part of an LMH Summer Programme and of the Oxford teaching model. Tutors will recommend important reading to do between lectures and seminars that will enable students to come to class equipped to understand the information presented and prepared to take part in discussion and debate. Each week students will have an assignment of independent work to complete and submit in advance of the tutorial. There is an appropriate amount of space in the timetable to complete the necessary reading, preparation, and assignments. Students should expect to do around 40 hours of independent study each week.</p> <p>The final class each week is a tutorial, a very small class typically including only 2-4 students and central to the teaching methods used by the University of Oxford and on LMH Summer Programmes. Guided by their tutor, students will receive feedback on their assignments and be challenged to defend, justify, or even rethink their work and ideas. These rigorous academic discussions help develop and facilitate learning in a way that cannot be done with lectures and seminars alone.</p>
Assessment:	<p>On a three-week LMH Summer Programme students produce one piece of assessed work every week, which is submitted to the tutor and then discussed in a tutorial. At the end of each week students will receive a percentage grade for their submitted work. Each week's work counts for a third of the final percentage grade, so the final grade is an average of the mark received for each piece of work. Students who stay for six or nine weeks will receive a separate grade for each 3-week course.</p>
Academic Credit:	<p>Lady Margaret Hall will provide a transcript of students' assessed work, and can send this directly to your home institution if required. LMH Summer Programmes are designed to be eligible for academic credit, and we will communicate with home institution to facilitate this as needed. As a guide, we recommend the award of 15 CATS / 7.5 ECTS / 4 US Credits for each 3-week course.</p>