1. **Title of the module**

FREN6370 (FR637) – Travels to Japan in Modern French Culture

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

School of European Culture and Languages

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 6

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

15 Credits (7.5 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn or Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

Prerequisite: FREN6480 – French Upper Intermediate B2, or FREN6520 – French Intermediate B1-B2 (Intensive)

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

Optional for BA French (Single and Joint Honours)

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

8.1 Demonstrate a detailed and critical appreciation of a range of French cultural products from the 19th and 20th centuries (novels, travel writing, paintings, and cinema);

8.2 Demonstrate analytical skills for the study of structure, prose and cinematic technique, the portrayal of national cultures and the nature of intercultural understanding as expressed in literature;

8.3 Demonstrate confident skills relating to close reading and evaluation of French literary texts and of images of French culture;

8.4 Demonstrate the ability to confidently deploy conceptual and critical arguments effectively in French and in English;

8.5 Demonstrate their ability to read French quickly, and to listen and understand spoken French accurately.

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

9.1 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of key aspects of the area of inquiry, based on detailed knowledge of the texts studied as well as their cultural contexts;

9.2 Effectively and critically analyse cultural products, within the framework of sustained, evidence-based arguments;

9.3 Demonstrate professional and independent research skills, including the undertaking of appropriate research in library collections and online academic databases;

9.4 Demonstrate the ability for self-managed learning in the preparation of further study.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This course examines the portrayal of Japan in French and Belgian writing and culture from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. Since Japan was opened to the West in the mid-19th century, there has been a tradition of French literary japanophilia. The course will permit a critical evaluation of the evolution of French 'japonisme', from its exoticist beginnings in the work of Pierre Loti, through early 20th century theories of exoticism. We will examine the portrayal of contemporary Japan in Amélie Nothomb's and Jacques Roubaud's work. 'Japoniste' images by French Impressionist painters will also be studied, as will Resnais's post-war film *Hiroshima mon amour*and a cinematic adaptation of Nothomb's work. The study of these texts and images will involve the exploration of themes such as intercultural understanding (or the lack thereof); the idealisation or demonisation of the other; the nature of ‘Orientalism’; and the way in which French writers and artists turn to the foreign culture in order to critique their own culture.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

LOTI, P. 1887 [1990]. *Madame Chrysanthème*. Ed. Bruno Vercier. Paris: Flammarion

NOTHOMB, A. 1999. *Stupeur et tremblements*. Paris: J’ai Lu

RESNAIS, A. 1959. *Hiroshima mon amour* [Film]. Directed by Alain Resnais. Pathé

ROUBAUD, J. 2014. *Tokyo infra-ordinaire*. Paris: Tripode

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total Contact Hours: 20

Private Study Hours: 130

Total Study Hours: 150

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

* Critical Writing Exercise (500 words) – 20%
* Essay (2,500 words) – 60%
* Presentation (15 minutes) – 20%

13.2 Reassessment methods

* Reassessment Instrument: 100% Coursework

1. ***Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section12) and methods of assessment (section 13)***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Lecture | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  |  |  |
| Seminar | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Critical Writing Exercise | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Essay | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Presentation | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

This module, in its focus on the inter-cultural relationship between France and Japan, is necessarily international in its outlook. It involves a close focus on texts, films and images produced by French and Belgian artists, filmmakers and writers, which respond creatively to Japanese culture. Work is studied in the original French. As with all other modules studied as part of a Modern Languages degree, this module is internationally-focused through its content and teaching methods.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |