1. **Title of the module**

Marxism: Theory and Culture

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

School of English

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

Level 7

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

30 credits (15 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**

None

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

MA in English and American Literature

MA in The Contemporary

MA in Postcolonial Studies

MA in Critical Theory

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

8.1 Demonstrate an informed and critical understanding of Marxist concepts;

8.2 Demonstrate advanced knowledge of core problems of Marxist theory;

8.3 Demonstrate an advanced sense of different approaches in the study of capitalism and culture;

8.4 Identify and evaluate post-Marx theoretical developments.

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

9.1 ~~F~~formulate research questions and hypotheses to address problems across a range of Marxist theory

9.2 Interpret and critically evaluate own research and that of others;

9.3 Conduct independent research and demonstrate intellectual independence;

9.4 Construct arguments with regard to different intellectual and historical contexts;

9.5 ~~U~~nderstand how to use constructive informal feedback from staff and peers and assess own progress to enhance performance and personal skills;

9.6 ~~W~~ork in a self-motived and independent fashion; manage time and workload in order to meet personal targets and imposed deadlines.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module critically examines core concepts in Marx and Marxism. These include: materialism; alienation and human flourishing; capital and labour; classes; and ideology. The main objective of the module is to familiarize students with key ideas that distinguish Marxism as a set of theoretical propositions essential for understanding the workings of capitalism. Special emphasis will also be given to the Marxist approach in the study of culture. Here the role of intellectuals and the relationship between capitalism and culture is interrogated through theorists like Gramsci, the Frankfurt School, and Raymond Williams. The question of whether Marxism is Eurocentric is also addressed, as well as whether it has a distinct theory of nationalism and imperialism.

The first half of the module is dedicated to charting core concepts of Marxist theory, with special attention given to how these were formulated and utilized in works of classical Marxism (by Marx and Engels). The aim is to zoom in on core Marxists propositions and show how they have been mobilized to interpret the capitalist social formation. The second half introduces other aspects of Marxist theory, especially ~~of~~ critical theory and cultural materialism, and tackles the question of Marxist approaches to nationalism and imperialism.

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

*Karl Marx: Selected Writings*, ed. by David McLellan (2000)

Raymond Williams, *Marxism and Literature* (1977)

Ellen Meiksins Wood, *The Retreat from Class* (1986)

Theodor W. Adorno, *The Culture Industry* (1991)

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total Contact Hours: 20

Private Study Hours: 280

Total Study Hours: 300

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

* Assignment (5,000 words) – 100%
  1. Reassessment methods
* Like-for-like

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

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| **Module learning outcome** |  | *8.1* | *8.2* | *8.3* | *8.4* | *9.1* | *9.2* | *9.3* | *9.4* | *9.5* | *9.6* |
| **Learning/ teaching method:** | **Hours allocated** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | 280 | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Seminar | 20 | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Assignment |  | **x** | **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**

Internationalization is addressed by exploring capitalism as a global system, and through the study of Marxist approaches to nationalism and imperialism.

**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.**

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