1. **Title of the module**

FREN8660 (FR866) – Literature and Theory

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 7

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

30 Credits (7.5 ECTS)

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

Autumn

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

None

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

Compulsory for MA Critical Theory, MA Modern French Studies, MA French and Comparative Literature; MA Language and Literature.

Optional for MA Comparative Literature.

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

8.1 Demonstrate an in depth major trends in literary theory and criticism, with special reference to thinkers such as Freud; Saussure; Genette; Foucault; Lacan; Derrida; Kristeva; Cixous; Irigaray;

8.2 Exhibit honed skills in literary, theoretical and philosophical debate;

8.3 Pursue in-depth issues within areas of their own literary/theoretical interests;

8.4 Evaluate the extent to which the literary and the theoretical intersect;

8.5 Consider literary theory not as a disembodied set of ideas but as a force within institutions and/or reading communities.

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

9.1 Demonstrate their ability to engage in independent research and writing;

9.2 Demonstrate their ability to present an argument;

9.3 Evaluate information critically;

9.4 Demonstrate enhanced library and bibliographical research skills;

9.5 Take responsibility for personal and professional learning and development;

9.6 Deploy a range of information technology skills effectively, such as word-processing text with footnotes, basic formatting, searching databases and text files;

9.7 Demonstrate a honed ability to produce a piece of writing which is appropriately presented and referenced in accordance with professional standards;

9.8 Demonstrate developed essay-writing skills.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module will introduce students to a wide range of theoretical positions with the aim of enriching their understanding and appreciation of literature and critical practice. We will begin with the thinking of Nietzsche and Freud, before examining that of Saussure, Benjamin, Lévi-Strauss, Genette, Foucault, Lacan, Derrida, Deleuze and Guattari, Kristeva, Cixous, and Irigaray. As well as encouraging a critical engagement with the claims of the theories themselves the module will examine a number of representative theoretical readings of literary works. Students will learn to evaluate these various thinkers and use their ideas, as appropriate, in their own writing.

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

Foucault, Michel, (1995) Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison, tr. Alan Sheridan (London: Vintage Books)

Freud, Sigmund, ‘*The Uncanny*’, tr. Alix Strachey, in Freud: *Psychological Writings and Letters*, ed. Sander L. Gilman (New York: Continuum, 1995)

Lacan, Jacques, ‘*The Seminar on The Purloined Letter*’, tr. Jeffrey Mehlman, in John P. Muller, William J. Richardson (eds), *The Purloined Poe: Lacan, Derrida, and Psychoanalytic Reading*

Perkins Gilman, Charlotte, (2004) *The Yellow Wallpaper*, in *Charlotte Perkins Gilman’s The Yellow Wallpaper: A Sourcebook and Critical Edition*, ed. by Catherine J. Golden (London: Routledge, pp. 131-156

Saussure, Ferdinand de, (1983) ‘*Nature of the Linguistic Sign*’; ‘*Linguistic Value*’, in Saussure, *Course in General Linguistics*, ed. Charles Bally, Albert Sechehaye (La Salle, Illinois: Open Court)

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total Contact Hours: 20

Independent Study Hours: 280

Total Study Hours: 300

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

* Essay (5,000 words) – 100%
  1. 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)**

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| **Module learning outcome** | *8.1* | *8.2* | *8.3* | *8.4* | *8.5* | *9.1* | *9.2* | *9.3* | *9.4* | *9.5* | *9.6* | *9.7* | *9.8* |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Lecture/Seminar | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay | **x** | **x** | **x** | **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**

This module enables students based in/across a number of Humanities disciplines to engage with texts from a variety of UK and non-UK cultural and intellectual contexts (including France, Germany and the US), and, subject to approval by the supervisor, to tailor their essay topic to literature originating in any country. It therefore maximises possibilities for embedding internationalisation within the module.

**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) |
| 23/08/16 | Major | September 2016 | 8-13 | No |
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| Revised FSO Jan 2018 |