

Course Syllabus

Migration, Climate and Anxiety in Literature in English 7.5 Credits*, Second Cycle

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course students will be able to:

- problematise concepts related to the themes of migration and environment in relation to literary and cultural theories, such as risk theory, affect theory, transculturality, cosmopolitanism and climate change criticism
- independently analyse and interpret a selection of works pertaining to literature of migration and environment in English
- communicate and argue for, orally and in writing, their own interpretations and critical judgments of literary, as well as critical and theoretical, texts in clear and correct academic English
- critically reflect upon and give constructive criticism to the work of their peers in written and oral discussions.

Course Content

The course focuses on how literature in English published since 1989 has engaged with migration and climate change as two of the main aspects that are at the root of what has been termed the current “age of anxiety“. The course highlights and discusses how the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989 is often considered to signify the beginning of the current epoch of globalisation, and also the time when, in environmental terms, concerns transitioned from the threat of nuclear war to the imminence of environmental disaster. The global increase in the volume and accelerated pace of the transnational movement of people, information and goods has been increasingly perceived as provoking a number of challenges or “global threats“ to the validity and sovereignty of the nation state. The most recent challenges posed by climate change and forced migration have often been responded to in political and media discourses in a manner that has promoted the negative affects of anger, frustration, fear and anxiety. These individual emotions, experienced collectively, have generated what has been termed as “affective economies“ that move people into different types of political action, and make subjects align either with or against others. This course will focus on an in-depth analysis of a selection of representative fictional texts in English that critically engage with the perception of migration and climate change as global threats. The analysis of these literary texts will encompass a number of relevant theoretical approaches, including transculturality, cosmopolitanism, ecocriticism, risk theory and affect

theory.

Assessment

The course is examined through continuous assessment of seminar activities, written assignments, and a final paper.

Forms of Study

The course consists of obligatory seminars and forum discussions. All teaching is conducted in English.

Grades

The Swedish grades U–VG.

Prerequisites

90 credits in English, including 30 credits in English III

Other Information

Replaces EN3067.

Subject:

English

Group of Subjects:

English

Disciplinary Domain:

Humanities, 100%

This course can be included in the following main field(s) of study:

1. Intercultural Literature Studies
2. Literature in English

Progression Indicator within (each) main field of study:

1. A1N
2. A1N

Approved:

Approved 11 March 2020
Valid from 11 March 2020