

Module Title: Postmigrant Literature and Film after German Unification

Module Code: COM6054

Credit Value: 15

Level: 6

Pre-requisite modules:

Content Description

Since the Fall of the Berlin Wall, a rich literary and film scene has emerged that wrestled with Germany's past, with questions of remembering and forgetting, and the challenge of a multi-layered and hybrid German identity. As the German body politic has been reshaped, questions of otherness, exclusion and belonging, national identity and heritage have become more pressing topics in German society, and are often negotiated through immigrants. Taking this as a point of departure, the course investigates post-Unification literature and film by postmigrants in Germany. The module will focus particularly on literary and filmic devices and the modes of narrating otherness, refuge, travel, and border crossing. How are borders being marked, crossed and shifted? How is Europe being represented? Where does it end? How are Otherness and national 'purity' being performed? What marks religious belonging? Are there postmigration figures, such as the pensioner, the fanatic, the academic, the preacher? These are some of the many questions the course aims to tackle. This module will require some independent screening of films.