

Module Title: Afropean Identities

Module Code: SML6052

Credit Value: 15

Level: 6

Pre-requisite modules:

Content Description

Afropean was a term coined by Belgian music artist Zap Mama to encompass being both African and European, not as a contradiction but as an expression of plurality and site for creativity. Beyond identity politics, though acutely aware of racism as manifested across European contexts, Afropean writers acknowledge the dark histories of enslavement and colonialism while uniting around cultural memories and contemporary activist movements.

Module Aims

This comparative module is the first of its kind in the UK to explore Afropean identities across the UK, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Germany. Students will contextualise and provide close readings of essays, poems, novels, and short stories, engaging with race critical theory and Afropea as a utopian concept. Students will position themselves in relation to local Black history as well as analysing literary texts by Afropean writers.

Learning Outcomes

Academic Content:

- A1 Understanding of how race and racism manifests in several European contexts
- A2 Understanding of Afropean as a lived identity and Afropea as a utopian concept
- A3 Familiarity with a range of texts from Afropean authors

Disciplinary Skills – able to:

- B1 Situate authors in relation to the concept of Afropean
- B2 Compare and contrast Afropean identities in different geopolitical contexts
- B3 Engage with secondary literature and relevant theory

Attributes:

- C1 Ability to contextualise and relate texts to key concepts/movements
- C2 Ability to position oneself in relation to race and racism in Europe
- C3 Increased awareness of the legacies of colonialism across Europe