# Travel and English Literature

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<th>Module Coordinator</th>
<th>Dr Pádraic Whyte, School of English</th>
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## What will you learn from this Elective?

This module is firmly positioned within the contemporary cultural context of societal challenges involving travel, such as Europe’s refugee crisis on land and sea, US immigration policy and the treatment of migrants, and Brexit and the Irish border. This module will explore the manner in which English literature (past and present) engages with issues of travel and the representation of power and agency involved in the movement of individuals on a local and global level.

## Student Workload

- **11x1 hour face-to-face lectures**: includes lectures plus discussion, classroom activities
- **Approximately 46 hours of independent learning and preparation for lectures**: Includes preparatory reading online and in library; listening to assigned podcasts and watching online material.
- **Approximately 30 hours of online activities**: Participating in online group discussions; writing and uploading reflective statements; working on group projects; preparing in-class presentation/discussion of group projects; and creating and uploading online material arising out of group projects.
- **Approximately 38 hours of assessment preparation**: Students will be required to write and submit a critical essay for assessment.

## Assessment Components

- **Essay writing - 100% of total grade.**

  Through this independent research project, students will analyse in detail a number of texts and themes from the module, relate their discussions to broader cultural debates and societal challenges past and present, and reflect critically on the module content as a whole. Word count: 2000 words

  Students will also be required to complete formative assignments (reflective statement and group projects). These will not form part of the final grade, however, students must complete all elements of the formative assignments in order to pass the module.

## Indicative Reading List

You will read approximately seven texts, as well as critical and theoretical material, across the semester. The themes and texts will change/rotate each year to facilitate staffing and to develop content.

**NB: A final reading list will be provided later in the year.**

A final reading list *might* include texts such as the following - Agatha Christie, *Murder on the Orient Express* (1934); Keith Gessen, *A Terrible Country* (2018); *Beowulf* (betw. 700 and c. 1000, trans. Seamus Heaney); Witi Ihimaera, *The Whale Rider* (1987); JD Salinger, *Catcher in the Rye* (1951); William Shakespeare, *The Tempest* (c.1610-11); and Virginia Woolf, *The Voyage Out* (1915).