

HL 3003 Film & Literature



This course is about more than just literature adaptations. In what ways, we shall ask, are texts transformed from one genre to another? If turning a book into a film is perhaps the most obvious form of what we understand under adaptation and what we conceive of as the most often expected link between literature and film, how do films impact on how we read? How does film adaptation feature in fiction, for example? In this module, we shall critically analyse the shifting, ambiguous, and yet creative, two-way relationship between film and literature.

We shall be discussing back projections, transpositions, prequels, remakes, &c as well as different models of discussing them.

The focus is on the changing adaptation of well-known classics. We shall be discussing the cultural myths engendered by *A Christmas Carol*, *Heidi*, and the figure of Sherlock Holmes, as well as transpositions of *Pride and Prejudice* into a different time and context, and also a prequel to *Oliver Twist*. A comparison of the original works with their "reworking" in different media will be essential to this course.

Please also note that students are expected to read all original texts (or "source texts," listed under Core Texts) as well as watch the adaptations based on these texts. Presentations can be based on the core texts or other appropriate texts.

Week No.	Topics	Readings
21 March	Group Presentations	
28 March	Song & Dance: Musical Versions	<i>A Little Princess</i> Quiz (provisional date)
4 April	Animating Iconic Landscapes	<i>Heidi</i>
11 April	Adaptation Studies & Terms	Revision

Course Assessment

Essay 50%

Group Presentation 20%: Design and present an original adaptation.

Writing exercise/quiz 20%

Class Participation 10%

Note: Use of Generative AI is NOT permitted in this course.

Feedback:

Essay: detailed written feedback in the form of a paragraph, accompanied by a letter grade

Group Presentation: detailed verbal feedback given in class

Quiz: verbal discussion of possible answers and approaches after the quiz