

## **EN3E7 Crime Fiction, Nation, and Empire: Essay 1**

Final Year (EN3E7): **1 X 4000-word essay**;

Exchange students registered on the module under code EN3E7 and with us for the full academic term adhere to the same assessment methods detailed above – see your tabula for the level code.

Exchange students with us for one term only, will submit a 2,000 word essay on the last Tuesday of the term they complete as indicated on their tabula.

**Deadline:** submitted on Tabula by **12pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023** (Term 2, week 4)

### **Guidelines**

Essays should adhere to the English department **presentation guidelines** as per

<https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/english/currentstudents/undergraduate/essay>

Note that we use MLA or MHRA referencing.

**You should choose one of the options below and create a specific and narrow approach to that option, creating your own title in response to the topic.** Your thesis statement in the introduction should still make it clear what your approach is and you should **number your essay question** using the corresponding topic numbers below so I know which one you are responding to (otherwise you may lose marks).

You should refer to and compare, **either two novels, or one novel and a few short stories**, that we have studied between start of term 1 and week 2 of Term 2 (i.e. between Dickens and up to and including the female-detective fiction). You should also engage with **primary sources and secondary criticism** pertinent to your topic.

**Remember that you also must submit a 1000 word Bibliographic/Citation exercise based on your resources used for this essay.** You will find the template document for this exercise separately on the module webpage.

Note that some of the themes below will also be available for the second essay, although not necessarily as the same questions, so think carefully about your choice. You will also have the option of using either one unused text from the first part of the course with a text from the second part of the course, OR two texts from second part of course.

**Extensions** should be sought via **self-certs** on Tabula (under the personal circumstances tab) or using the **specific extension button** on tabula next to the assignment (this route requires evidence of unexpected circumstances).

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1. Investigate and examine the character, function, and tactics of the narrator(s) and what is achieved by specific/different narrative roles in examples from our crime fiction of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

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2. Examine representations of either official and/or amateur detectives in examples from our crime fiction of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
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3. Consider the form, currency, and ownership of secrets, and what they reveal to us about ideas of “crime”, power, and ideologies of nation in examples from our crime fiction of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.  
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4. Examine the representation, methods, attitude towards women and detection in examples from our crime fiction of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.  
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5. Examine the relationship between the “foreign” and the “domestic” in examples from our crime fiction of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.  
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6. Consider the portrayal of justice / punishment/ and/or the judicial system in our crime fiction of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.  
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7. Examine the use of documents and/or other forms of material evidence/possessions in examples from our crime fiction of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.  
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8. Analyse the construction and use of the figure of the “villain” and how they unsettle or confirm ideologies of the British nation in examples from our crime fiction of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.  
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9. Write an essay on the relationship between the “Gothic” and detection/crime in examples from our crime fiction of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.  
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10. Consider the topographies of crime and justice in examples from our crime fiction of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.  
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11. Write about the perceived relationship between “insanity” and crime in examples from our crime fiction of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.  
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12. **If none of the above options suit what you want to write about (and I would examine them carefully first) then you may discuss with me an alternative – but you must have it approved by me in an email chain otherwise you will lose marks for not fulfilling the task correctly.**