

Emotion: Thinking with Feeling

IP-24435 — revision saved on 19th Feb 2024 at 10:50

Deadline: 31st May 2024

Basic module details

Month of introduction/change

September

Year of introduction/change

2024

Module title

Emotion: Thinking with Feeling

Module duration

10 weeks

Department for SITS

Liberal Arts

Rationale for introduction, revision or discontinuation

New optional module for Liberal Arts students.

Module leader

Kim Lockwood Clough (2273322)

Level

6

Level for SITS

3

Credit value

15

Module delivery

Face to face

Study locations

Location	Primary
University of Warwick Main Campus, Coventry	Yes

Module description

Introductory description

"Emotions," Sara Ahmed (2014) writes, "have been a 'sticking point' for philosophers, cultural theorists, psychologists, sociologists, as well as scholars from a range of other disciplines. This is not surprising: what is relegated to the margins is often, as we know from deconstruction, right at the centre of thought itself."

As Ahmed describes, people are emotional beings, but we often find it difficult to think and talk about feelings. On this module, we bring both the concept of emotion itself and ideas about specific emotions into the spotlight, as we explore how we can think about – and think with – feeling.

Drawing on interdisciplinary approaches, on this module we examine and analyse emotions as personal, collective, cultural, and social experiences. We explore what emotions mean to individuals, communities, and societies; how emotions feel, and how we feel about emotions; how emotions can be expressed and 'performed'; and how emotions circulate in cultural productions and social spaces.

Principal module aims

On this module, we aim to think closely and carefully about feeling, through student-led, problem-based learning.

Drawing on approaches linked to key disciplinary areas – such as art, classics, cultural studies, history, literature, philosophy, psychology, sociology, and theology – as well as works by interdisciplinary thinkers, the module is designed to help us develop insightful and relevant critical frameworks for exploring emotion.

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate awareness of the history of thought surrounding emotions and feelings
- Critically evaluate understandings of emotion
- Analyse cultural expressions of emotion
- Mobilise critical and theoretical perspectives to support their ideas and understandings of emotion
- Develop individualised interdisciplinary perspectives on emotion
- Undertake independent research

Outline syllabus for publication

As this module uses problem-based and student-led learning, topics studied may change from year to year and based on students' interests. The syllabus below is purely indicative, meaning actual content and topics may differ:

- Histories of Emotion - how have people thought and understood feelings?
- Connection and Community - how do emotions bring people together?
- Shame - how does shame, through its connections to privacy and discipline, shape our behaviours?
- Love - how has love been understood and expressed across different times and cultures?
- Grief - how do we understand grief as an individual and collective emotional experience?
- Anger - is anger always a negative, destructive emotion, or can it be used positively and creatively?
- Depression/Anxiety - do we need to move beyond ideas of mental health and think of emotions as a broader cultural experience?
- Happiness/Joy - what is the role of happiness in contemporary society?

Should this module have a reading list?

Yes

Indicative reading list

Adams, Matthew. 2020. *Ecological Crisis, Sustainability, and the Psychosocial Subject: Beyond Behaviour Change*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Ahmed, Sara. 2010. *The Promise of Happiness*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Ahmed, Sara. 2014. *The Cultural Politics of Emotion*. 2nd Edition. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Allen, Kelly-Ann. 2020. *The Psychology of Belonging*. New York and London: Routledge.

Berlant, Lauren, ed. 1998. *Intimacy*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Berlant, Lauren, ed. 2004. *Compassion: The Culture and Politics of an Emotion*. London and New York: Routledge.

Berlant, Lauren. 2011. *Cruel Optimism*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Berlant, Lauren. 2012. *Desire/Love*. Santa Barbara: Punctum Books.

Bladlow, Kyle, and Jennifer Ladino, eds. 2018. *Affective Ecocriticism: Emotion, Embodiment, Environment*. Lincoln, NE, and London: University of Nebraska Press.

Bowlby, John. 1961. Processes of Mourning. *The International Journal of Psycho-Analysis* 42, 317-340.

Butler, Judith. 2003. "Violence, Mourning, Politics." *Studies in Gender and Sexuality* 4, no 1: 9-37.

Butler, Judith. 2004. *Precarious Life: The Powers of Mourning and Violence*. London: Verso.

Chemaly, Soraya. 2018. *Rage Becomes Her*. New York: Simon and Schuster.

Cherry, Myisha. 2021. *The Case for Rage: Why Anger is Essential to Anti-Racist Struggle*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Cvetkovich, Ann. 2012. *Depression: A Public Feeling*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Daniel, Drew. 2013. *The Melancholy Assemblage: Affect and Epistemology in the Renaissance*. New York: Fordham University Press.

- Deonna, Julien A., Raffaele Rodogno, and Fabrice Teroni. 2012. *In Defense of Shame: The Faces of an Emotion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Dixon, Thomas. 2023. *The History of Emotions: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Elias, Norbert. 2000. *The Civilising Process: Sociogenetic and Psychogenetic Investigations*. Translated by Edmund Jephcott. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Eng, David L., and David Kazanjian, eds. 2003. *Loss: The Politics of Loss*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.
- Featherstone, Mike, ed. 1998. *Love and Eroticism*. London and New Delhi: Sage Publications.
- Flam, Helena, and Jochen Kleres, eds. 2015. *Methods of Exploring Emotions*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Flannery, Mary C. 2021. *Practising Shame: Female Honour in Later Medieval England*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.
- Goodwin, Jeff, James M. Jasper, and Francesca Polletta, eds. 2001. *Passionate Politics: Emotions and Social Movements*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Gray, Billy, Carmen Zamoran Llana, and Jonas Stier, eds. 2023. *Crisis and the Culture of Fear and Anxiety in Contemporary Europe*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Hirsch, Marianne. 2008. "The Generation of Postmemory." *Poetics Today* 29, no. 1: 103-128.
- Illouz, Eva. 2012. *Why Love Hurts: A Sociological Explanation*. London: Polity.
- Irigaray, Luce. 2002. *The Way of Love*. Translated by Heidi Bostic and Stephen Pluhacek. London and New York: Continuum.
- Jack, Dana C., and Alisha Ali, eds. 2010. *Silencing the Self Across Cultures: Depression and Gender in the Social World*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- James, Robin. 2015. *Resilience and Melancholy: Pop Music, Feminism, Neoliberalism*. Winchester and Washington: Zero Books.
- Kim, David Kyuman. 2007. *Melancholy Freedom: Agency and the Spirit of Politics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Klass, Dennis, Phyllis R Silverman, and Steven Nickman, eds. 2014. *Continuing Bonds: New Understandings of Grief*. New York: Routledge.
- Kleinman, Arthur, and Byron Goode. 1985. *Culture and Depression: Studies in the Anthropology and Cross-Cultural Psychiatry of Affective Disorder*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.
- Korsmeyer, Carolyn. 2011. *Savouring Disgust: The Fair and the Foul in Aesthetics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Lertzman, Renee. 2015. *Environmental Melancholia: Psychoanalytic Dimensions of Engagement*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Lorde, Audre. 1981. "The Uses of Anger." *Women's Studies Quarterly* 9, no. 3: 7-10.
- Lund, Mary Ann. 2021. *A User's Guide to Melancholy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Martin, Emily. 2009. *Bipolar Expeditions: Mania and Depression in American Culture*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- May, Simon. 2011. *Love: A History*. New Haven: Yale University Press. Miller, Susan B. 2013. *Disgust: The Gatekeeper Emotion*. New York: Routledge.
- Miller, Susan B. 2017. *Emotions of Menace and Enchantment: Disgust, Horror, Awe, and Fascination*. New York: Routledge.
- Morgan, Michael L. 2011. *On Shame*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Phillips, Matt. 2017. "Notes on Loving a Mourner (with Roland Barthes and Others)." *Paragraph* 40, no. 2: 211-227.

Plamper, Jan. 2015. *The History of Emotions*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Probyn, Elspeth. 2005. *Blush: Faces of Shame*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Radden, Jennifer. 2002. *The Nature of Melancholy: From Aristotle to Kristeva*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Rosenwein, Barbara H. 2020. *Anger: The Conflicted History of an Emotion*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Rosenwein, Barbara H., and Riccardo Cristiani. 2018. *What is the History of Emotions?* Cambridge: Polity Press.

Sedgwick, Eve Kosofsky. 1999. *A Dialogue on Love*. Boston: Beacon Press.

Singh, Julietta. 2018. *No Archive Will Restore You*. Santa Barbara: Punctum Books.

Stearns, Peter N. 1994. *American Cool: Constructing a Twentieth-Century Emotional Style*. New York: New York University Press.

Swidler, Ann. 2001. *Talk of Love: How Culture Matters*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Thompson, Neil, and Gerry R. Cox, eds. 2017. *Handbook of the sociology of death, grief, and bereavement: A guide to Theory and Practice*. New York: Routledge.

Wilson, Elizabeth A. 2004. *Psychosomatic: Feminism and the Neurological Body*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Wilson, Elizabeth A. 2011. *AI: Affect and Artificial Intelligence*. Washington: University of Washington Press.

Wilson, Elizabeth A. 2015. *Gut Feminism*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Departmental web link
to be added

Module delivery

Minimum student number

5

Maximum student number

20

Estimated student number

15

Teaching split

Department	Percentage
Liberal Arts	100%

Skills, competencies, and attributes

Subject specific skills

We will gain a critical understanding of:

- how emotions have been studied, and how to study emotions
- theorisations of emotions across times and cultures
- individual and collective expressions and experiences of emotion
- circulation of feelings in art, film, literature, media, and music
- how ideas about emotions shape and (de)construct identities

Transferable skills

- critical thinking
- problem solving
- close analysis
- reflection
- collaborative working
- independent working

- time management
- communication of ideas
- synthesis of ideas
- evaluation and reflection
- independent research
- constructing arguments

Includes research element

Yes

Research element description

The seminars on this module are centred on student-led, problem-based learning, with students undertaking independent research across the module to support our collaborative explorations of emotions. The assessments on this module are also centred on independent research and provide space for students to explore topics related to emotion which also align with their own research interests.

Interdisciplinary

Yes

Interdisciplinary description

This module mobilises critical and theoretical perspectives drawn from multiple disciplinary areas, such as art, classics, culture studies, history, literature, philosophy, politics, psychology, sociology, and theology, as well as interdisciplinary perspectives. Throughout the module, we reflect on connections and contradictions between cross- and interdisciplinary thought, in order to understand the complexities of emotion as both an area of study and a lived, personal and social, experience.

International

Yes

International description

The central focus of the module falls on Western/European/Global North understandings of emotion, as an immediate sociocultural context; to facilitate exploration of the sociocultural dimensions of emotion, however, throughout the module these perspectives are drawn into dialogue with ideas and lived experiences of emotion across a diversity of time periods and global cultures.

Learning hours breakdown

Lecture

Required: 0 x 0 hours Optional: 0 x 0 hours

Seminar

Required: 10 x 2 hours Optional: 0 x 0 hours

Tutorial

Required: 0 x 0 hours Optional: 0 x 0 hours

Project Supervision

Required: 0 x 0 hours Optional: 0 x 0 hours

Demonstration

Required: 0 x 0 hours Optional: 0 x 0 hours

Practical class

Required: 0 x 0 hours Optional: 0 x 0 hours

Supervised practical class

Required: 0 x 0 hours Optional: 0 x 0 hours

Fieldwork

Required: 0 x 0 hours Optional: 0 x 0 hours

External visit

Required: 0 x 0 hours Optional: 0 x 0 hours

Work based learning

Required: 0 x 0 hours Optional: 0 x 0 hours

Online learning (scheduled sessions)

Required: 0 x 0 hours Optional: 0 x 0 hours

Online learning (independent)

Required: 0 × 0 hours Optional: 0 × 0 hours

Other activity

Required: 0 × 0 hours Optional: 0 × 0 hours

Placement

0 hours

Private study

30 hours

Details of private study and independent learning

Weekly preparation/research in advance of seminars.

Assessment

100 hours

Total study hours for module

150 hours

Assessment**Reassessment model**

Individual

Assessment components

Title	Type	Length	Weight	Final chronological	Eligible for self-certification
Express Yourself!	Project - Individual	1500 words	35%	No	Yes (extension)
Student preparation and completion time (hours)	35				
Description	Creative piece focusing on the expression of an emotion, accompanied by an 800 word commentary. Possible formats for creative work might include, but are not limited to: - artwork (painting, drawing, sculpture) - comic strip - psychogeographical map - podcast - exhibition plan/guide - short film - sound recording - creative writing prose - creative writing poetry The accompanying commentary should: - critically analyse the understanding of emotion expressed in the creative work - demonstrate how specific aspects of the creative work (form, content, medium, composition, etc.) support this emotional expression - support its ideas and analysis with scholarly approaches to emotion encountered on the module				

Reassessment component is the same

Title	Type	Length	Weight	Final chronological	Eligible for self-certification
Deep Emotion	Project - Individual	3000 words	50%	Yes	Yes (extension)
Student preparation and completion time (hours)	50				
Description	Students design and develop their own independent research project which explores a topic related to emotion. Formats may include, but are not limited to: - academic essay - report - policy paper - creative piece + 1500 word commentary				

Reassessment component is the same

Title	Type	Length	Weight	Final chronological	Eligible for self-certification
Reflective Piece	Reflective piece	800 words	15%	No	Yes (extension)
Student preparation and completion time (hours)	15				
Description	Short reflective piece considering learning on the module.				

Reassessment component is the same

Must the student pass all parts of the assessment to pass the module?

No

Methods for providing feedback on assessment

Detailed feedback on all assessments will be provided via Tabula.

Assessment learning outcomes

	Express Yourself! (35%)	Deep Emotion (50%)	Reflective Piece (15%)
Demonstrate awareness of the history of thought surrounding emotions and feelings			X
Critically evaluate understandings of emotion	X	X	X
Analyse cultural expressions of emotion	X	X	
Mobilise critical and theoretical perspectives to support their ideas and understandings of emotion	X	X	
Develop individualised interdisciplinary perspectives on emotion		X	
Undertake independent research	X	X	X

Availability

Availability of module

Course	Route	Year of study	Type of availability
Undergraduate Liberal Arts (UVCA-LA99)		3	Optional

Has pre-requisite modules?

No

Has post-requisite modules?

No

Has anti-requisite modules?

No

Any additional resource requirements

N/A