

Title:

King Arthur & Fifty Shades - Do Medieval Myths and Bestseller Romance Have Anything in Common?

Teacher:

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Education	English

Introduction to the module

Dear students.

What exactly is literature? Heavy leatherbound books, fantastical tales, your favourite tv-show, or perhaps a little bit of it all? When we work with literature - and more specifically English literature - there are some general tendencies that tend to reoccur and overlap regardless of where in history they appear, because human ingenuity and creativity remain intact, no matter if it's written by some British monk in a monastery or an internet author in their metropolitan apartment.

This module will introduce you to literary studies with a focus on *adaptation* and *fanfiction*, giving an introduction into cultural studies. We'll be looking at two case studies that are very different; *Arthurian Legend* and *Fifty Shades of Grey*, in order to show that there are tendencies and similarities across chronology and old medieval myths are perhaps not so far-removed from today's fanfiction and smut-romance stories.

Preparation (Roughly 15 minutes)

Use five minutes thinking about what you associate with King Arthur (it can be anything!) be it themes, genre, form, objects, characters or something entirely different. Do the same for Fifty Shades of Grey.