



Kendal College
creating bright futures



**WELCOME TO
LEVEL 3
ACCESS TO HE DIPLOMA
HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Welcome

Included in this booklet is information about the Access to HE course you will start in September.

You will find information about the units you will be studying and helpful links.

There are also some activities that you can undertake if you choose to, and these will give you an insight into getting back into study. Please don't worry if you are not in a position to carry out these tasks and activities during this difficult time. Please just use the booklet as information that will help you when you start with us in September.

We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to Kendal College.

The Access team.

Contents

What will I be studying?	Page 3
Recommended Netflix Programmes	Page 4
Other recommended viewing	Page 5
Reading recommendations	Page 6
Relevant website links	Page 7
Glossary task	Page 8-9
Job roles research task	Page 10-11
Extension task – Dystopian Fiction Article	Page 12-14

What will I be studying?

This course offers progression onto degree-level courses and a change to your career and prospects for those interested in humanities and social science subjects; this includes Psychology, Sociology, History, Law, English Literature and Language amongst others.

You will be studying a range of units which will help you to gain skills that will be valuable in your chosen profession or future study. You will learn how to critically analyse a novel and a play, develop your knowledge regarding significant historical events, explore sociological issues relevant to contemporary society, expand your understanding and application of psychological theory and delve into your own imagination through the development of 'writing fiction'.

You will also have the opportunity to design and undertake a project focused on your own area of particular interest through the extended project.

These are the 'humanities' units that you will study:

- Studying a Novel (The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood)
- Studying a Play (Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare)
- English Language in use
- Writing Fiction
- Medieval Society and The Black Plague
- The Rise of the Nazis

These are the 'social science' units that you will study:

- Introduction to Psychology
- Early socialisation and attachment
- Mental health and illness
- Social Influence, conformity and obedience to authority
- Biological Psychology

You will also complete five 'study skills' units – these will help to build your confidence and prepare you for undergraduate study.

There are no official textbooks for the course, but it is always beneficial to stay aware of what is happening in the news, read regularly (fiction and non-fiction), and watch relevant documentaries. (See the 'Netflix' recommendations page.)

NETFLIX

Three Identical Strangers



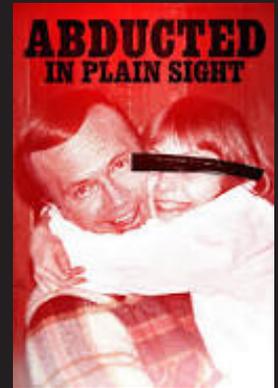
Marriage Story



Louis Theroux: Extreme love, Dementia



Abducted in Plain Sight



The Last Nazis



13th



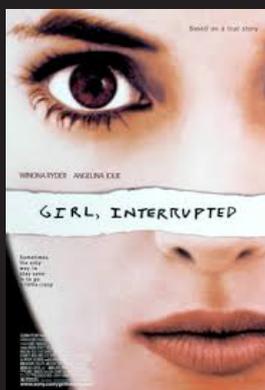
The Accountant of Auschwitz



The Family



Girl, interrupted



Hitler's Circle Of Evil



Mindhunter



Pandemic: How to prevent an outbreak



Recommended viewing for Humanities and Social Science

Beyond NETFLIX

BBC iPlayer

Eminent Monsters



The man who used HIV as a weapon



A Midsummer Nights Dream



BBC Sounds –
‘Who really was Charles Dickens.’



Upstart Crow



4 On Demand

Losing it – Our mental health emergency



Animal Farm



Secret life of... Year Olds



Still Alice



DVD

Amazon Prime

The Children Act



Macbeth



Beautiful Boy



Black Plague





Beyond NETFLIX

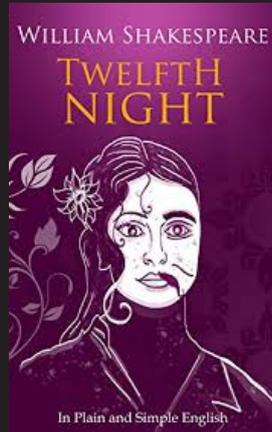
BBC Radio 4 – A good read.
www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006v8jn

Further Reading

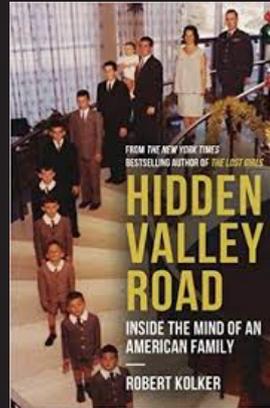
The Handmaid's Tale – Margaret Atwood



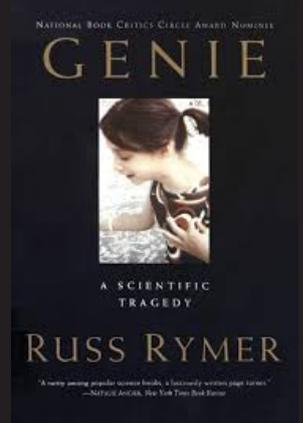
Twelfth Night – William Shakespeare



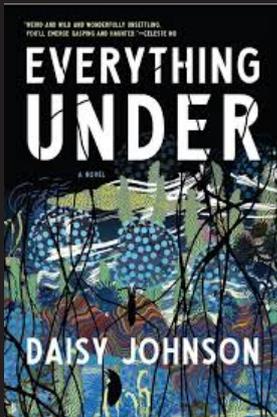
Hidden Valley Road – Robert Kolker



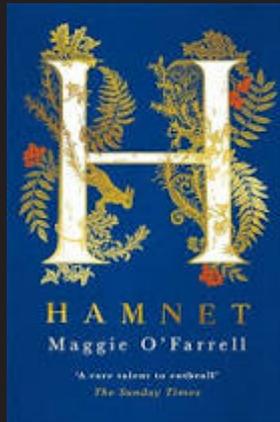
Genie – Russ Rymer



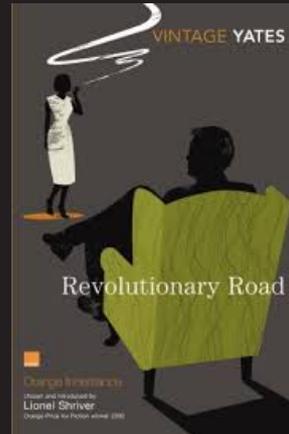
Everything Under – Daisy Johnson



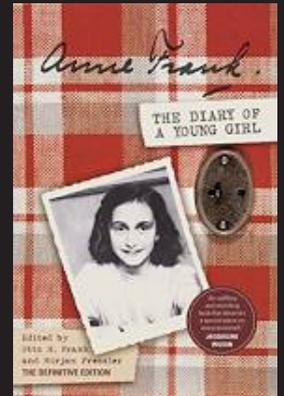
Hamnet – Maggie O'Farrell



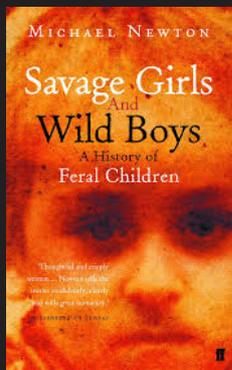
Revolutionary Road – Richard Yates



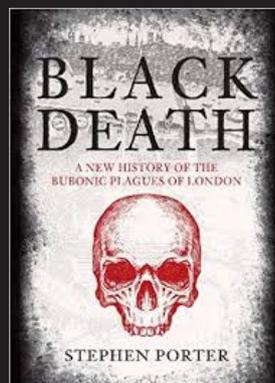
The Diary of a Young Girl – Anne Frank.



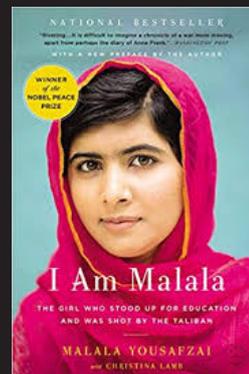
Savage Girls and Wild Boys by Michael Newton



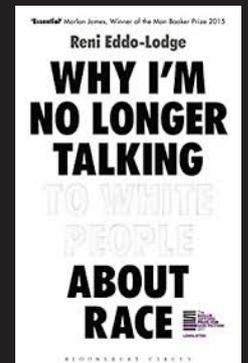
Black Death – Stephen Porter.



I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai



Why I'm no longer talking to white people about race – Reni Eddo-Lodge



Recommended Reading for Humanities and Social Science

Here is a selection of relevant website links that cover English Language, English Literature, Psychology, Sociology and History – Enjoy!

<https://poetrysociety.org.uk/education/learning-from-home/new-30-day-poem-challenge-date-1-5/>

<https://poetrysociety.org.uk/education/learning-from-home/illustrating-poetry-with-chris-riddell-date-17-4/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUDqIXzCY0NIOYVJvEMQjqw>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwN-jwNNNQN-8sfKG-qg8uA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J7E-aoXLZGY&list=PL6MOtTkX2Mt0y76pXU5jLFZVlheFJuFcw&index=12&t=0s>

<https://slate.com/podcasts/lexicon-valley/2020/03/vocal-frywomen-language>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uv6tBcJjfY0>

https://www.ted.com/talks/philip_zimbardo_the_psychology_of_evil?language=en

https://www.ted.com/talks/marc_goodman_a_vision_of_crimes_in_the_future

https://www.ted.com/talks/christian_picciolini_my_descent_into_america_s_new_nazi_movement_and_how_i got_out?language=en

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/sep/30/graphic-history-of-the-rise-of-the-nazis>

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2009/mar/07/social-psychology-group-mentality>

<https://www.simplypsychology.org/a-level-attachment.html>

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/may/16/uk-lockdown-causing-serious-mental-illness-in-first-time-patients>



Task: Research and define the following words which are central to the Modern Britain unit. Then, draw a symbol to summarise the term and help you remember it.

Term	Definition	Symbol
Cognition	The mental action or process of acquiring knowledge and understanding through thought, experience, and the senses.	
Phobia		
Attachment		
Hypothesis		
Culture		
Anomie		
Bourgeoisie		
Diversity		
Capitalism		
Ethical		



GLOSSARY

Term	Definition	Symbol
Alliteration		
Hyperbole		
Metaphor		
Antagonist		
Protagonist		
Oppressed		
Propaganda		
Conservatism		
Liberalism		
Medieval		

Chosen Job role/career:

Research findings:

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Optional Extension Task:



Article taken from *The Guardian* –
April 8th 2020.

Please read and answer the questions at the end...

- ***I've been reading more dystopian fiction than ever during the corona crisis. Here's why – by Caroline Zielinski***
- For the first time in my life, I am living with curtailed liberties. Living in the midst of a pandemic has left me with a disturbing sense of unreality, where everything that was once familiar and comforting – like going to a nice restaurant or browsing in a bookstore – has morphed into a potential death threat. I once found my home a respite, but being forced to stay inside all day has increasingly turned it into a source of anxiety.
- Perversely, I have found that the best way to cope with this experience is to delve into dystopian fiction. My usual diet of light, escapist literature has been replaced by books featuring bleak futures, where people are forced to grapple with new devastating realities wrought by climate change, biowarfare, pandemics, totalitarian governments or technology – choose your own misadventure. Other kinds of novels now seem irrelevant: why would I read about a bunch of friends who go on a holiday together when no one knows when they will next be allowed to leave their home, let alone the country?
- I have always been fascinated by dystopian fiction and the way it aims to examine society's problems and inequalities through a (usually) catastrophic lens. In many cases, dystopian stories are cautionary tales that force us to re-examine and ponder our own actions and place in the wider world. Now, though, I reach for them because I want to see how characters behave when their freedoms are taken away from them. I want to know what choices they make when they lose their jobs, their livelihoods, their families and friends. Dystopian fiction helps us think through what reality could be like, and shows us how people might cope with adversity.
- People tend to divide into two camps when it comes to reading novels right now: they either immerse themselves in happy books and movies that reflect the life we once lived so thoughtlessly; or they devour apocalyptic, dystopian fiction, searching for solutions and meaning at a time when the only thing left to do is wait until this all passes and life can resume again.
- The protagonist's gumption gives me hope: if she can survive the worst of all situations, surely we can, too?
- ***Continues on next page...***

- Last week, I picked up *The Book of the Unnamed Midwife* by Meg Elison, about a woman trying to survive in a world devastated by a sudden plague that kills most of humanity but leaves male survivors outnumbering female by a ratio of 10 to one. Those women left behind are forced to choose between hiding to avoid violent rape by the surviving men, or trying to bargain with them. As far as dystopias go, this one is positively apocalyptic, yet I can't put it down. The characters exist in an entirely lawless world, and there seems no point to life other than survival. Yet the protagonist's gumption gives me hope: if she can survive the worst of all situations, surely we can too?
- While I know that our current reality is not this dire (the coronavirus may reproduce rapidly but it's not as deadly as this fictional disease), reading about a pandemic-based dystopia is allowing me to explore the non-medical dimensions of the fears associated with contagious disease.
- I'm particularly drawn to dystopias featuring characters navigating a ruined world that still holds fundamental, patriarchal values. I've also recently read *Vox*, in which women are fitted with electronic counters that electrocute them if they say more than 100 words a day; *Red Clocks*, in which abortion is once again illegal, in vitro fertilisation banned, and embryos are granted rights of life, liberty and property; and *The Power*, a novel that explores women's rebellion after they develop the ability to inflict pain or death on other people with their hands.
- Dystopian fiction is at once an escape from reality and a lesson-learning exercise: what kind of society do we want to emerge from this, and what individual and collective action must be taken in order to achieve that?
- These novels do not make me feel hopeless, despite much of the genre's current manifestation being, as Harvard history professor Jill Lepore points out, "a fiction of submission, the fiction of an untrusting, lonely, and sullen 21st century, the fiction of fake news and infowars, the fiction of helplessness and hopelessness".
- Despite narratives centring around catastrophic events, dystopian fiction does not offer readers a prophetic look into the future. It exists, we should remember, to show us a way out.
- ***Please see questions on next page...***

Optional extension task questions.

- What is dystopian fiction?
- What does Zielinski mean by 'curtailed liberties', give some examples?
- Why do you think that Zielinski describes other kinds of novels as 'irrelevant' now? Explain your answer.
- Why is Zielinski so drawn to reading dystopian fiction?
- Which book does Zielinski describe in this article? Name it and give a brief description.
- Why does Zielinski think that dystopian fiction exists? Do you agree?
- Find an example of dystopian fiction that is not named in this article. Write a brief description of it.
- For further information regarding the Access to HE: Humanities and Social Sciences course, please contact -
- camilla.burke@kendal.ac.uk





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*FE week

We will send you a Welcome Guide in July with more information about student life.
In the meantime, if you have any questions, please get in touch.