

BOLD Showcase Robert Burns Online Courses Dr Ronnie Young





BOLD Burns Online Project



- Headed up by Catriona MacDonald (History), Gerard Carruthers, Pauline Mackay and myself (Scottish Literature/Centre for Robert Burns Studies)
- BOLD Project funding to develop 2 courses:
- 1. Short 3-week MOOC 'Robert Burns: Poems, Songs and Legacy' with Futurelearn (launched Jan 2016): https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/robert-burns/3
- a. National media attention
- b. More than 14000 users worldwide have signed up for the MOOC to date
- c. 'Gateway' for recruiting for our longer distance course below
- 2. 10-week course on Moodle with 2 credit-bearing 'strands': (launched Sep 2016) <u>http://moodle2.gla.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=8185</u>
- a. 'Blended' honours option. Online lessons for Scot Lit hons students blended with traditional seminars
- b. Distance option. Available to external learners (£321 course fee), with online tuition and discussions in addition to Moodle lessons. Optional assessment for credit. Certificate available
- shared 'core' content; different level, audience and assessment

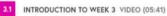


WEEK 3: WHAT MADE BURNS AN INTERNATIONAL ICON?

What made Burns an International Icon?

In this activity, you'll consider the spread of Burns's fame. (Image 'Pop Art Rabbie' © Sheilagh Tennant)





3.2 WHY DO YOU THINK BURNS IS INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED? DISCUSSION

The Cult of Burns

In this activity, we take a closer look at Burns Clubs and Suppers



- 3.4 BURNS SUPPERS ARTICLE
- 3.5 READ 'ADDRESS TO A HAGGIS' ARTICLE
- 3.6 'CHIEFTAIN O' THE PUDDIN'-RACE' QUIZ



Examine 'Material Culture', or the objects and items used to commemorate the poet.



University Transitioning to Blended Learning



Robert Burns Online:

- Our first 'blended' honours course
- Taken as another hons option within Scot Lit MA

Challenges

- How to transition predominantly 'literary critical' and text-based teaching in a manner that is meaningful?
- Transitioning from printed text to multimedia

Transforms and enhances the manner in which we teach Burns (and Literature/Culture more generally).

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+ V	Week 1: Burns and Religion - Toggle	7694 4
Available from 19 September 2018, 9	:00 AM	

Week 1 Introducti

The course starts by looking at Robert Burns's faith, as this was the inspiration for many of his very first poems. Indeed, how better to get to know a poet than by deving into the core values that infuse and inspire many poems? But it's a hard issue to fackle, how do we know what he believed? Watch the video below, then work through the lessons.



ew transcript)	
1 Lesson 1: Holy Willie's Prayer	
In the first lesson this week, we look at the most well known of Burn's satiles on the kirk. After watching the introductory video, you may begin here. I Lesson 2: The Formicetor's Court	
In this leason we look at the publication of Burns's contoversial work and the reserved canon' I Lesson 3: The Kitk's Alarm	
In this leason we look at Europia religious outlook 1 Leason 4: The Cottar's Saturdiay Night	
The final lesson for this week looks at Burns as Presbyterian Poet	
eminar material	
terial related to the seminar for Burns and Religion, Nonday 26 Sep 3-Spm.	

Week 1 Reading Material (Hons)

downloading and/or printing, particularly for use in the seminar. You don't have to read all poems and prose in advance of the lessons in which they appear.

📄 Burns and Religion Seminar, Monday 26, 3-9

5 🐌	Week 2: Burns and Politics - Toggle	Bolt :
6 🕨	Week 3: The Making of the Bard - Toggle	200
7 🐌	Week 4: Burns's Tours - Toggle	304
s 🕨	Week 5: Song - Toggle	Byte 1
9 🕨	Week 6: Reading Week - Toggle	Belt.
10 🕨	Wk 7: Burns and Bawdry - Toggle	36k 14
π 🕨	Wk 8: Burns and Biography - Toggle	Spa ++
12 🕨	Week 9: Afterlife - Toggle	Tecto 12



Transitioning via Moodle



Week 4: Burns's Tours

- Use of standard University VLE to deliver largely self-contained course.
- While at the same time curating/linking out to relevant resources (websites and services, library database/subscriptions)
- Devising relevant activities using technology available
- E.g. Moodle 'lessons' plug-in

 Leading online learners through lessons (4 per week) with articles, activities, exercises, videos and slide presentations, interviews, poetry readings, songs, discussions, maps, images etc.

 (...rather than e.g. simply using Moodle as repository for documents and slides).

Available from 10 October 2016

Week 4 Introduction

Nigel Leask introduces you to the tours undertaken by Burns in 1787, with a specific focus on his Highland Tour



[View transcript] Image: Second Sec

In this lesson, we focus in on two locations visited by Burns on his Highland Tour



Burns as Songwriter



- Transition/transformation perhaps most evident when dealing with song
- Recapturing Burns's role as leading songwriter
- Using technology to resituate Burns within the context in which he would originally have been performed and received
- Futurelearn MOOC used Spotify and YouTube playlists of Burns' songs
- BOLD Moodle courses brought in bespoke recordings of voice and violin
- Also repurposed material from Period Performance Project

 i.e. Burns's songs for George Thomson's Select Collection of Scottish Airs, with lyrics byy Burns and scores by Hadyn, Beethoven etc, <u>as</u> they would originally have been heard

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8	•	Week 5: Song - Toggle	
	Available from 17 October 2016, 10:00 AM		

Introduction

In this introductory video, Kirsteen McCue sets the context for understanding Burns's work with song. Filmed on location in the music room of Irvine Burns Club.



iew transcript]	
Lesson 1: Song Culture in Burns's Day	
The first lesson in this topic sets the context for Burns's writing and collecting of songs. Lesson 2: First Songs	
In this lesson, we look at Burns's early songs. Lesson 3: The Soots Musical Museum	
Here, we look at Burns's work with editor James Johnson of the Scots Musical Museum Lesson 4: Working with George Thomson	
This lesson looks at Burns's work for Thomson's <i>Select Collection</i> .	

he final lesson for this topic looks at the reception and reputation of Burns's songs from the 19th century to our own.







Video

- Introductions
- Useful way to introduce different tutors for each week
- Good for summarising general themes and approach to be taken each week
- Location filming: Alloway, Irvine, Edinburgh, Cadder Kirk
- Interviews
 - Embedded in individual lessons
 - Major collections/curators: Robert Burns Birthplace Museum; National Library of Scotland (right)
 - Modern editors: Patrick Scott of USC; Murray Pittock, editor of the OUP edn. of Scots Musical Museum
- Camtasia
 - Powerpoint slides with voice-over for in-depth case studies

In this video, Pauline interviews David Hopes, Director of the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum in Alloway, about the commemoration of Burns as 'secular saint' through 'relics' associated with the poet which now form part of the Museum's collection.

Now WATCH the interview:



[View transcript]

Previous: Burns in Material Culture

Interview with Robert Betteridge: Publishing History

Following the first publication of Burns's bawdry in *The Merry Muses of Caledonia* (1799), the title of that volume fast became a vehicle for the dissemination of bawdy verse more generally. As the collection was reissued in several unofficial editions throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, numerous anonymous sexually-explicit songs were published alongside those of Burns and this further complicates the publishing history of the collection. Indeed, *The Merry Muses* is, from a scholarly and editorial perspective, a very unstable text.

In this video, Dr Pauline Mackay discusses the complicated publishing history of *The Merry Muses* with Robert Betteridge, Curator of Rare Books at the National Library of Scotland, as they examine some rare, unofficial editions of the collection.

Now WATCH the interview:



[View transcript]



Digital Images



 Digital images enhance lessons by showing such things as

Manuscripts and publications

- Plus portraits, paintings, engravings, etc
- Maps
 - Re-used interactive maps from AHRC research project Editing Robert Burns for the 21st Century
 - Poetry and place: shows link between itinerary of Burns's Tours and composition of key works.

Material Culture

- Commemoration and celebration of Burns in popular and material culture key to understanding his reputation
- Myth of Highland Mary driven by Victorian material culture, statues and 'Burnsiana'
- 'Relic ware' Burns as 'secular saint'

Transcription exercise



Gums and Highland Mary by Thomas Fasel, c. 1850, via Wikimedia Communia

Burns's 'Highland Mary' is perhaps the most famous, and certainly the most commemorated, of all women associated with the bard. We might consider it remarkable that she has attracted more fame than Burns's own wife, Jean Armour. The 'Highland Mary' phenomenon is rendered more ourious by the fact that scholars poseses relatively few hard facts about Mary and her relationship with Burns.

he generally accepted story is that Burns commenced an affair with one Mary Campbell (c.1763/06-86) in April 1786. At the time, Burns was temporarily eparated from Jean Armour who, pregnant with his twins, had been removed to Paisley by her furbus parents (away from the glaring eyes of the local ommunity and, more importantly, from Burns). In May, it is thought that Burns and Highland Mary parted to make arrangements for their proposed migration to Jamarica, at that time exchanging Bibles (below) as a token of their attachment. Shortly after their farewell, it is believed that Mary ontracted a fever, dying within a matter of days and before word had reached the poet of her illness.





Right. The Beinsthal of Burns and Highland Mary', by W.H. Midwood, 1555 D Hatomal Trust for Scotlar







Working with external institutions and Burns Scotland

- Robert Burns Birthplace
 Museum/National Trust for Scotland
- National Library of Scotland
- Dumfries and Galloway Museums
- Irvine Burns Club
- Voice recordings by Neil McGillivray
- Media Unit

Central role of David Collins and Nigel Hutchins

- Filming and producing high-quality video
- Recording and editing of poetry readings and musical performance

• LEADS

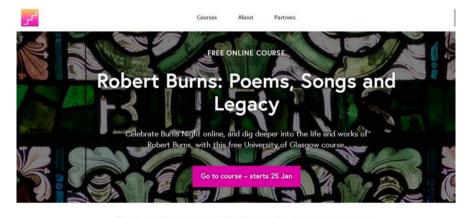
- Vicki Dale and Sarah Honeychurch
 - Training
 - Course design
 - Online learning
 - Troubleshooting

• Other Support

- School admin and colleagues
- Jo-Anne Murray and MVLS
- John Maguire in Arts

Library Copyright Team

- Advice regarding use of images
- Auditing of courses









Supporting Learners



Online induction material

 Learners have to complete induction before beginning the course

 Induction material courtesy of Jo-Anne Murray and MVLS

- Introduction to Moodle Lessons
- Honours blended course induction as part of week 1 seminar
- Guides to using/logging in to external services (via GUL)
- OUP Online
- ODNB
- ECCO
- Audio Readings of Poetry
- Subtitling and transcriptions for video content



This is a general induction course for online learning, based on material developed within the University by MVLS Digital Education. You should familiarise yourself with the material below before starting the Robert Burns Online course.

Announcement forum
Robert Burns Online Course Page

The main page for our online course. Go here after completing the general induction below.

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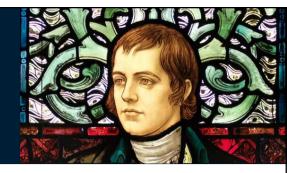
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	Welcome - Toggle	
Click on the arr	ow to the left of the above tab to see the content for each section	
•	Getting started with online learning - Toggle	Topic 2
	ovides an introduction to using the Moodle Virtual Learning Environment, as well as to ways of confidently communicating online.	
•	Tasks for Induction - Toggle	Topic 3
	mprises a series of practical tasks to enable you to familiarise yourself with the tools sed on your courses.	
•	University support services - Toggle	Topic 4
This section pr	ovides information about available student support services.	
	Academic study skills - Toggle	Topic 5

This section will provide crucial information about note-taking, critical reading and academic writing.



Consideration for Future Development



- Longer term plans for suite of Scottish Studies online courses
- Questions to address:
- Ongoing support for existing courses
- Centralisation of induction
- Certification for short courses
- PIP, Board of Studies and Infrastructure
- University Admissions!