



Universitat de Lleida

DEGREE CURRICULUM

SHORT FICTION IN ENGLISH

Coordination: VALENTOVÁ , KATERINA

Academic year 2018-19

Subject's general information

Subject name	SHORT FICTION IN ENGLISH			
Code	101116			
Semester	2nd Q(SEMESTER) CONTINUED EVALUATION			
Typology	Degree	Course	Character	Modality
	Bachelor's Degree in English Studies	2	COMPULSORY	Attendance-based
Course number of credits (ECTS)	7.5			
Type of activity, credits, and groups	Query has returned no results			
Coordination	VALENTOVÁ , KATERINA			
Department	ENGLISH AND LINGUISTICS			
Important information on data processing	Consult this link for more information.			
Language	English			

Teaching staff	E-mail addresses	Credits taught by teacher	Office and hour of attention
ORÓ PIQUERAS, MARICEL	maricel.oro@dal.udl.cat	0	
VALENTOVÁ , KATERINA	kvalentova@dal.udl.cat	0	

Learning objectives

The main objectives of this subject are the following:

- To learn the main elements of the short story in English.
- To learn the main authors in the short story in English from the 19th century to the present days through the main literary movements.
- To learn and to use the main terms in literary criticism when analysing a short story.
- To establish an interaction between History, society and cultural and literary production.
- To search and use secondary sources in an academic context.

Competences

General competencies

CG2 To analyse and synthesise data related to bibliographical sources.

CG5 To demonstrate capacity for individual work.

CG16 To use terminology and techniques within the professional field.

Specific competencies

CE10 To explain the main aspects of the short story genre through significant text within the genre, together with its historical evolution and within its literary and sociocultural context.

CE12 To explain the main movements within literary theory in English language.

CE14 To explain the interaction between history, society, literary production and culture in English language.

Subject contents

1. Theoretical approach to the short story as a literary genre.
2. Origins of the short story in the United States.
3. Realism and naturalism in the short story in the second half of the 19th century.
4. The short story in the 20th century: From Modernism to Multiculturalism.
5. The short story in the 20th century: On the Edge
6. Creation of a short story (the sessions with creative activities will be combined with the contents of the

units).

Methodology

In this subject, lectures will be combined with practical sessions. In the practical sessions, the students will be asked to participate actively in activities focused on the analysis of the texts that will be dealt with during the classes. Group activities will be combined with discussions lead by the lecturer with the aim of helping the students to establish a dialogue between their previous knowledge and the contents dealt with in the lectures and, also, with the texts analysed in class, both the theoretical and fictional ones. Moreover, in this subject creative writing activities will be done in class with the aim of bringing the students closer to the writing techniques and resources used by the authors.

Development plan

1. General considerations on the Short story (14-15 February)

- The short story as a genre
- Basic elements of analysis in a short story through two examples:
"A Perfect Day for Bananafish" by J.D. Salinger and "Mrs Fox" by Sarah Hall.

2. The Origins of the Short Story in the United States

21, 22 February

- "Rip Van Winkle" and "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" by Washington Irving

28, 1 February/March

- "Young Goodman Brown" by Nathaniel Hawthorne
- "Bartleby the Scrivener" by Herman Melville

7, 8 March

- "The Cask of the Amontillado" and "The Philosophy of Composition" by Edgar Allan Poe
- "How to Tell a Story" by Mark Twain
- OPTIONAL but complementary "The Fall of the House of Usher" by E.A. Poe

3. Realism and Naturalism in the second part of the 19th century

14, 15 March

- "The Blue Hotel" by Stephen Crane
- "Daisy Miller" by Henry James

21, 22 March

- "The Country of the Blind" by H.G. Wells
- "An Outpost of Progress" by Joseph Conrad

4. Modernism and the Short Story

28. 29 March

- "Kew Gardens" by Virginia Woolf (1921)
- "Flowering Judas" by Katherine Anne Porter (1930)
- "The Girl with a Pimple Face" by William Carlos Williams (1938)

4. 5 April

- "Petrified Man" by Eudora Welty (1941)
- "Good Country People" by Flannery O'Connor (1955)

TEST 1: 11 APRIL

5. The Short Story in the 20th Century: *On the Edge*

12. 18 April

- "The Last Mohican" by Bernard Malamud (1958)
- "The End of the World" by Mavis Gallant (1993)
- "Martha, Martha" by Zadie Smith (2003)

2. 3 May

- "The Ultimate Safari" by Nadine Gordimer (1980)
- "The Prophet's Hair" by Salman Rushdie (1981)
- "My Lucy Friend Who Smells Like Corn" by Sandra Cisneros (2002)

9. 10 May

- "My son the Fanatic" by Hanif Kureishi (1994)
- "These are not my clothes" by Jackie Kay (2012)

16. 17 May

- "American Dreams" by Peter Carey (1971)
- "Those who Walked away from Omelas" by Ursula Le Guin (1973)

23. 24 May

- "The Persistence of Desire" by John Updike (2004)
- "The Fruit Cage" by Julian Barnes (2004)

30. 31 May

- "The Swimmer" by John Cheever (1964)
- "Real Life" by Donald Ray Pollock (2008)

6 June

REVISION and tutorials

7th JUNE: Test 2

13TH JUNE from 11.30 to 14.00 office 2.21: FINAL ASSIGNMENT

Evaluation

- Test 1: 26% (mid-term)
- Test 2: 29% (end of term)
- Final Assignment (15% analysis + 10% original short story)
- Completion of short class assignments, active participation group work and discussions: 20% (10% class assignments + 10% class discussion and group work)

Bibliography

Primary sources

- Baym, Nina, gen. ed. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*. Shorter Fifth Edition. New York: W.W.Norton, 1999.
- Baldick, Chris, ed. *The Oxford Book of Gothic Tales*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992.
- Bloom, Harold. *Stories and Poems for Extremely Intelligent Children of All Ages*. New York: Touchstone, 2001.
- Cochrane, James. ed. *The Penguin Book of American Short Stories*. Penguin Books, 1969.
- Cox, M. and Gilbert, R.A. eds. *Victorian Ghost Stories*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992.
- Dolley, Chistopher. ed. *The Penguin Book of English Short Stories*. Penguin, 1967.
- Gordimer, Nadine, ed. *Telling Tales*. London: Bloomsbury, 2004.
- Moore, Lorraine, ed. *I Know Some Things*. Boston and London: Faber and Faber, 1992.
- Prescott, Linda. *A World of Difference: an Anthology of Short Stories from five Continents*. New York: Palgrave, 2008.
- Thompson, G.R., ed. *The Selected Writings of Edgar Allan Poe*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2004.

Secondary sources

- Allen, Walter. *The Short Story in English*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1982.
- Clayton, John J. *The Heath Introduction to Fiction*. 5th ed. Lexington MA and Toronto: Heath and Co., 1996.
- Hernández Lerena, María Jesús. *Short Story World: The Nineteenth-Century American Masters*. La Rioja: Servicio de Publicaciones, 2003.
- Hunter, Adrian. *The Cambridge Introduction to the Short Story in English*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007.

Hunter, William J., ed. *The Short Story: Structure and Statement*. Exeter: Elm Bank Publications, 1996.

Lohafer, Susan and Jo Ellyn Clarey, eds. *Short Story at a Crossroads*. Baton Rouge and London: Louisiana State University Press, 1989.

May, Charles E. *The New Short Story Theories*. Athens: Ohio University Press, 1994.

May, Charles E. *The Short Story: The Reality of Artifice*. New York and London: Routledge, 2002.

O'Connor, Frank. *The Lonely Voice: A Study of the Short Story*. Hoboken: Melville House Publishing, 2004.