



Universitat de Lleida

DEGREE CURRICULUM  
**BEAUTY AND LITERATURE IN  
THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING  
WORLD**

Coordination: DOMÍNGUEZ RUÉ, EMMA

Academic year 2018-19

## Subject's general information

<b>Subject name</b>	BEAUTY AND LITERATURE IN THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING WORLD			
<b>Code</b>	101144			
<b>Semester</b>	2nd Q(SEMESTER) CONTINUED EVALUATION			
<b>Typology</b>	<b>Degree</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Character</b>	<b>Modality</b>
	Bachelor's Degree in English Studies	4	OPTIONAL	Attendance-based
<b>Course number of credits (ECTS)</b>	6			
<b>Type of activity, credits, and groups</b>	<b>Activity type</b>	PRAULA		TEORIA
	<b>Number of credits</b>	3		3
	<b>Number of groups</b>	1		1
<b>Coordination</b>	DOMÍNGUEZ RUÉ, EMMA			
<b>Department</b>	ENGLISH AND LINGUISTICS			
<b>Teaching load distribution between lectures and independent student work</b>	60h lectures 90h independent work			
<b>Important information on data processing</b>	Consult <a href="#">this link</a> for more information.			
<b>Language</b>	English			
<b>Distribution of credits</b>	3 ECTS theory 3 ECTS practice			

Teaching staff	E-mail addresses	Credits taught by teacher	Office and hour of attention
DOMÍNGUEZ RUÉ, EMMA	edominguez@dal.udl.cat	1,5	
MINA RIERA, NURIA	nuriamina@dal.udl.cat	4,5	

## Learning objectives

- Understand the main ideas of a text pertaining to the field of the philosophy of art and be able to explain and summarize the contents in a clear and understandable way.
- express the main points and / or the basic concepts of specific texts in the field of aesthetics in a coherent way.
- express themselves orally and in writing with the corresponding grammar correction and fluidity, while using the appropriate structures, styles and vocabulary.
- Be able to understand and relate abstract concepts and extract logical conclusions.
- Be able to work in groups and interact in an oral or written way with other classmates.
- Understand the main ideas of a text pertaining to the field of the philosophy of art and be able to explain and summarize the contents in a clear and understandable way.
- expose in an oral way the main points and / or the basic concepts of specific texts in the field of aesthetics in a coherent way.
- express themselves orally and in writing with the corresponding grammar correction and fluidity, while using the appropriate structures, styles and vocabulary.

## Competences

### General competences

CG15 Search and manage information and use diverse sources and documentation.

CG16 Use the terminology and techniques of the disciplinary or professional field.

### Specific competences

CE11 Analyze the projection and popularization of English literature through cinema and mass media.

CE14 Analyze the interaction between history, society, and cultural production in the English language.

## Subject contents

### **Part 1.- Introduction and General Concepts**

1.1.- Aesthetics: Etymology and Typology

1.2.-Towards an Understanding of Aesthetic Value and Judgement

1.3.- Art and Knowledge

1.4.- Contemporary scholarly reflections on Aesthetics

### **Part 2.-Seminal Works in the Field of Aesthetics**

2.1.- Plato: *Symposium*

2.2.- Aristotle: *Poetics*

2.3.- Edmund Burke: “ On the Sublime and Beautiful”. (1756)

2.4.- David Hume: “Of the Standard of Taste”. (In *Four Dissertations*,1757).

2.5.- George Santayana: *The Sense of Beauty*. (1896)

### **Part 3.- Literary Aesthetics: General Approaches**

3.1.- The Aesthetics of Modernism

3.2.- Postmodernism and its literary expressions

### **Part 4.- Specific Aesthetic Currents in Literature**

4.1.- Life-course studies

4.2.- Ecocriticism

## Methodology

- theoretical sessions
- discussion in small groups
- written exams and oral presentation

## Development plan

Setmana	Dilluns		Dimarts		Sessió extraordinària (dimecres)
	Activitat	Temari	Activitat	Temari	
1 <sup>a</sup> : 11 al 15/02/19	GG	Part 1	GG	Part 1	
2 <sup>a</sup> : 18 al 22/02/19	GG	Part 1	GG	Part 1	
3 <sup>a</sup> : 25/02 al 01/03/19	GG	Part 2	GG	Part 2	
4 <sup>a</sup> : 04 al 08/03/19	GG	Part 2	GG	Part 2	
5 <sup>a</sup> : 11 al 15/03/19	GG	<b>TA1 – Parts 1 &amp; 2</b>	GG	Part 3	
6 <sup>a</sup> : 18 al 22/03/19	GG	Part 3	GG	Part 3	
7 <sup>a</sup> : 25/03 al 29/03/19	GG	Part 3	GG	Part 3	
8 <sup>a</sup> : 01 al 05/04/19	GG	Part 3	GG	Part 3	
9 <sup>a</sup> : 08 al 12/04/19	GG	Part 3	GG	Part 3	

<b>10<sup>a</sup>:</b> 15 al 19/04/19	GG	EASTER	GG	EASTER	
<b>11<sup>a</sup>:</b> 22 al 26/04/19	GG	EASTER	GG	Part 4	
<b>12<sup>a</sup>:</b> 29/04 al 03/05/19	GG	<b>TA2 - Part 3</b>	GG	Part 4	
<b>13<sup>a</sup>:</b> 06 al 10/05/19	GG	Part 4	GG	Part 4	
<b>14<sup>a</sup>:</b> 13 al 17/05/19	GG	Part 4	GG	Part 4	
<b>15<sup>a</sup>:</b> 20 al 24/05/19	GG	Part 4	GG	Part 4	
<b>16<sup>a</sup>:</b> 27/05 al 31/05/19	<b>GG</b>	<b>TA3 - Part 4</b>	<b>GG</b>	<b>Tutorial Oral Presentations</b>	
<b>17<sup>a</sup>:</b> 03 al 07/06/19	<b>GG</b>	<b>Oral Presentations</b>	<b>GG</b>	<b>Oral Presentations</b>	
	<b>Activitats d'avaluació i de síntesi global</b>				Part 3
	<b>Exàmens (proves de conjunt)</b>				Part 4
	<b>Dilluns</b>	<b>Dimarts</b>	<b>Dimecres</b>	Part 4	<b>Divendres</b>
<b>18<sup>a</sup>:</b> 10 al 14/06/19					
<b>19<sup>a</sup>:</b> 17 al 21/06/19					
<b>20<sup>a</sup>:</b> 24 al 28/07/19	Correcció i anunci resultats exàmens				

## Evaluation

- TA1 – Parts 1 & 2 (12th March 2018) – 25%

This short written exercise is intended to assess your knowledge and understanding of the main concepts and prescribed readings that have already been commented on in class. The exam will consist of 25 short questions.

- TA2 – Part 3 (23rd April 2018) – 25%

This second written test is also intended to assess your knowledge and understanding of the prescribed readings commented on in class since the first written assignment. The exam will consist of 3 essay questions of a choice of 4 that should be developed following a clear structure and consistent argumentation.

- TA3 – Part 4 (28th May 2018) – 25%

This third written test is also intended to assess your knowledge and understanding of the prescribed readings commented on in class since the second written assignment. The exam will consist of four questions on the theory explained in class, and of 1 essay question of a choice of 2, in which there will be a text to analyse.

- Oral Presentation (29th May, 4th and 5th June 2017) – 25%

This oral presentation will consist of a 10 to 15-minute talk in which you should choose a literary work that, in your opinion, may have artistic value for any aesthetic reason. In order to appreciate the significance of this work, one must be able to identify, describe and interpret what is actually in the work in terms of its expressive properties, and to assess, or make judgements about, the work's personal and social values. This is, of course, within the realm of aesthetic criticism.

### ? Active Participation and Contributions to class discussion

Class attendance and active participation will not have a specific percentage in your final mark, but it may serve the lecturer to round up your final mark at a given point.

The course is evaluated through continuous assessment. Students who combine their studies with a full-time job they have the right to request an alternative assessment within 5 days from the beginning of the semester. For information, send an email to [academic@lletres.udl.cat](mailto:academic@lletres.udl.cat) or speak to the staff at Secretaria de Lletres.

## Bibliography

### General Readings:

- Beardsley, Monroe. "History of Aesthetics". *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. (London: MacMillan, 2006).
- Cahn, Steve and Aaron Meskin. *Aesthetics: A Comprehensive Anthology*. (London: Blackwell, 2008).
- Marwick, Arthur. *A History of Human Beauty*. (London, England: Hambledon, 2004)
- Valentine, John M. *Beginning Aesthetics: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Art*. (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2006).
- Monroe Beardsley, "Aesthetic Experience Regained"
- Murray Skees, "Kant, Adorno and the Work of Art"

### For Section 2:

- Aristotle. *Poetics*. Available at <<http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/poetics.html>>.
- Burke, Edmund. *A Philosophical Inquiry into the Origin of our Ideas of the Sublime and Beautiful*. Available at <<http://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/b/burke/edmund/sublime/>>
- Hume, David. "Of the Standard of Taste". Available at  
<<http://www.mnstate.edu/gracyk/courses/phil%20of%20art/hume%20on%20taste.htm>>
- Plato. *Symposium*. Available at <<http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/symposium.html>>
- Santayana, George. *The Sense of Beauty*. Available at  
<[http://www.gutenberg.org/catalog/world/readfile?fk\\_files=1545963&pageno=2](http://www.gutenberg.org/catalog/world/readfile?fk_files=1545963&pageno=2)>

### For Section 3:

- Bell, Michael. *Literature, modernism and myth: belief and responsibility in the twentieth century*. C.U.P., 1997.
- Childs, Peter. *Modernism*. London: Routledge, 2000.
- Hutcheon, Linda. *The Politics of Postmodernism*. Routledge, 2002.
- McHale, Brian. *Postmodernist Fiction*. Routledge, 1987.

### For section 4:

#### 1. Life-course studies:

- Gullette, Margaret Morganroth. *Aged by Culture*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.
- Mortimer, Jeylan T., and Michael J. Shanahan. *Handbook of the Life Course*. Springer, 2006.

#### 2. Ecocriticism:

- Adamson, Joni and Slovic, Scott. "Guest Editors' Introduction: The Shoulders We Stand On: An Introduction to Ethnicity and Ecocriticism." *MELUS* 34.2 (2009): 5-24.
- Buell, Lawrence. *The Environmental Imagination: Thoreau, Nature Writing and the Formation of American Culture*. Cambridge and London: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1995.
- Glotfelty, Cheryl and Fromm, Harold. *The Ecocriticism Reader: Landmarks in Literary Ecology*. Athens:

University of Georgia Press, 1996.

- Major, William and McMurry, Andrew. "Introduction: The Function of Ecocriticism; or Ecocriticism, What Is It Good For?" *Journal of Ecocriticism* 4.2 (2012): 1-7.