



Universitat de Lleida

DEGREE CURRICULUM  
**HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF  
LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**

Coordination: DOMÍNGUEZ RUÉ, EMMA

Academic year 2018-19

## Subject's general information

<b>Subject name</b>	HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF LITERATURE IN ENGLISH			
<b>Code</b>	101257			
<b>Semester</b>	1st Q(SEMESTER) CONTINUED EVALUATION			
<b>Typology</b>	Degree	Course	Character	Modality
	Bachelor's Degree in English Studies	2	COMMON	Attendance-based
	Double degree: Bachelor's degree in English Studies and Bachelor's degree in Applied Languages and Translation	2	COMMON	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	6	

## Subject's extra information

This course is aimed at introducing the students to the most representative texts in English literature and their interaction with the social and historical context in which they were created. Therefore, the course offers a general historical outline of the main literary currents in English literature with the aim of becoming familiarised with the main authors, genres and literary currents in English literature and gain a general approach to its historical evolution.

Recommended level of English: C1.1

Please be aware that it is possible to fail this course if the student's level of English is not up to the standards required by the degree.

## Learning objectives

1. analysis of the main texts, genres and literary currents in English literature
2. study of the most representative literary texts and their interaction with the historical and social context in which they were produced
3. general outline of the main literary currents in English literature

## Competences

CG2 Analyze and synthesize data from different documentary sources

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

CE10 analyse the main texts, genres and literary currents in English literature

CE14 analyse the interaction between literary production in English and its historical context

## Subject contents

1. Old English Literature

*The Wanderer / The Wife's Lament*

2. Middle English Literature

Geoffrey Chaucer, "The Wife of Bath"

3. Elizabethan poetry and prose

Shakespeare, *The Sonnets* (12, 15, 116, 130, 144)

## 4. Elizabethan drama

William Shakespeare, *Much Ado About Nothing* - Acts 1 & 2

## 5. Early 17th century literature

John Donne, "Go and catch a falling star"

Katherine Philips, "To Mrs M.A at a Parting"

## 6. The Restoration

Daniel Defoe, *Roxana* - "The Cons of Marriage"

Jonathan Swift, "A Modest Proposal"

## 7. English poetry 1660-1798

Thomas Gray, "Elegy written in a country churchyard"

## 8. 18th century prose

Anna Letitia Barbauld, *The Rights of Woman* / "To a little invisible being who is expected soon to become visible"

Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, Ch 4

## 9. 19th century poetry

William Blake, "The Fly"

George Gordon, Lord Byron, "Darkness"

Percy Bysshe Shelley, "The Cloud"

## 10. 19th century prose

Elizabeth Gaskell, "The Grey Woman"

## 11. 19th century drama

Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*

## 12. 20th century prose

Jean Rhys, "Till September Petronella"

Virginia Woolf, "Professions for Women"

## 13. 20th century drama

Harold Pinter, *The Dumb Waiter*

## 14. 20th century poetry

Dylan Thomas, "Do not go gentle into that good night"

Ted Hughes, "The Seven Sorrows"

Seamus Heaney, "Punishment"

## Methodology

The methodology for this course will combine theoretical sessions, tutorials, independent work, tutorials and oral presentations. The course involves a workload of 150 hours distributed as follows:

- Contact Hours: 60h (including lectures, oral presentations and tutorials).
- Independent Study: 90h (including preparation for exams, reading of primary and secondary sources, essay writing, and preparation for oral presentation).

### *Teaching and Learning Activities:*

- Lectures provide an introduction and overview of the critical approach under discussion.
- Practice sessions explore the critical approach in greater detail through analysis and discussion of selected works.
- The written assignment and the oral presentation will help students to put into practice the formal and research conventions of academic work in a literary context.
- Tutorials are intended to guide and supervise students' work during the course, where the teacher is available at the times specified for individual guidance.

## Development plan

The Thursday sessions will be devoted to developing a historical overview of the main authors and literary genres/currents in English literature.

Friday's sessions will be devoted to textual analysis of examples of literary texts

## Evaluation

### **Assessment Guidelines**

#### **Written Exam 1 – 25%**

This short written exercise is intended to assess your knowledge and understanding of the different authors and periods in the history of English literature that have been commented on in class.

## Written Exam 2 – 25%

This second written test is also intended to assess your knowledge and understanding of the main authors and periods in the history of English literature that have been commented on in class since the first written assignment.

## Written Essay – 25%

You will be asked to write an extensive (essay) response on one question about the works that we have mentioned in class. In your essay you have to choose one work out of three possibilities.

This test tries to evaluate your understanding of the literary work, your ability to read a literary text as a product of its historical period, your creativity and your ability to articulate and synthesize ideas. The extension of the text must be between 300 and 500 words and must have the appropriate structure of an academic essay - introduction, body and conclusion. Keep in mind that plagiarism will be severely penalized.

## IMPORTANT; PLEASE NOTE:

**More than 5 severe mistakes (e.g. they writes) will result in a failed essay i.e. grade 0/25.**

**Plagiarising will result in a failed essay i.e. grade 0/25.**

**Not using / acknowledging secondary sources will result in a failed essay i.e. grade 0/25.**

**Incorrect citation of secondary sources will subtract 2 points to your essay.**

## Oral Presentation – 25%

This oral presentation will consist of a 5 to 10-minute talk in which you should choose any literary work you like — a short story, a novel, a poem, or a play – and comment it according to the way it reflects the historical period in which it was created. Please remember your presentation should have a clear outline and follow a coherent sequence of ideas. You should be able to describe and interpret aspects of this literary work and to make a critical judgement about the work's message. Please note that you will be allowed to present a powerpoint to follow the sequence of your ideas, but under no circumstances should you read your presentation.

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

Abrams, M.H. **Glossary of Literary Terms**. 5th ed. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1988.

Baugh, Albert Croll. **A Literary History of England**. 2nd ed. New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1967.

Carter, R. and J. McRae. **The Routledge History of English Literature**. London: Routledge: 1997.

Daiches, D. **A Critical History of English Literature**. London: Secker and Warburg: 1972.

Drabble, Margaret. **The Oxford Companion to English Literature**. 5th ed. rev. and updated. Oxford; New York:

Oxford University Press, 1995.

Eagle, D. and H. Carnell, Eds. **The Oxford Literary Guide to the British Isles**. Oxford: OUP, 1977.

Fowler, R., Ed. **A Dictionary of Modern Critical Terms**. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1987.

Harmon, William; Holman, C. Hugh. **A Handbook to Literature**. 7th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1996.

Ousby, I., Ed. **The Cambridge Guide to Literature in English**. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 1993.

Ward, A.W. and A. R. Waller, Eds. **The Cambridge History of English Literature**. New York; London: Putnam, 1907-33. 15 v.