



Universitat de Lleida

DEGREE CURRICULUM

# THE SHORT STORY IN ENGLISH

Coordination: ORO PIQUERAS, MARICEL

Academic year 2021-22

Subject's general information

<b>Subject name</b>	THE SHORT STORY IN ENGLISH			
<b>Code</b>	101268			
<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	2	COMPULSORY	Attendance-based
	Double degree: Bachelor's degree in English Studies and Bachelor's degree in Applied Languages and Translation	3	COMPULSORY	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		2.7
	<b>Number of groups</b>	1		1
<b>Coordination</b>	ORO PIQUERAS, MARICEL			
<b>Department</b>	ENGLISH AND LINGUISTICS			
<b>Important information on data processing</b>	Consult <a href="#">this link</a> for more information.			
<b>Language</b>	English			

Teaching staff	E-mail addresses	Credits taught by teacher	Office and hour of attention
ORO PIQUERAS, MARICEL	maricel.oro@udl.cat	6	

## Subject's extra information

This subject introduces a global vision of short story in English taking into account the specific characteristics of the literary genre as well as the main representative authors in English-speaking countries. The subject intends to introduce the genre from a stylistic and rethoric point of view and contribute, in this way, to the English literature module by studying and analysing practical cases. In the subject the main traits within the genre will be introduced together with a historical and literary overview of the short story in English. Moreover, specific authors and short stories will be analysed.

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In accordance with current regulations on the protection of personal data, we inform you that:

- The organisation responsible for the recording and use of the image and voice is the University of Lleida - UdL (contact details of the representative: General Secretariat. Plaza Víctor Siurana, 1, 25003 Lleida; sg@udl.cat; contact details of the data protection officer: dpd@udl.cat).
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## Learning objectives

- 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. Modernism and the short story.
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 (7, 8 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

14, 15 February

- "Rip Van Winkle" by Washington Irving

21, 22 February

- "Young Goodman Brown" by Nathaniel Hawthorne

- "Bartleby the Scrivener" by Herman Melville

28, 1 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**

7, 8, 14 March

- "Daisy Miller" by Henry James

- "The Country of the Blind" by H.G. Wells

### **4. Modernism and the Short Story**

15, 21, 22 March

- "Kew Gardens" by Virginia Woolf (1921)

- "Petrified Man" by Eudora Welty (1941)

- "Good Country People" by Flannery O'Connor (1955)

28 March: Revision Units 1, 2, 3, 4

**29 March: TEST 1 (Units 1, 2, 3, 4)**

**Assignment 1: 29 March**

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

4, 5 April

- "The Last Mohican" by Bernard Malamud (1958)

- "Martha, Martha" by Zadie Smith (2003)

19, 25, 26 April

- "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)

2, 3 May

- "My son the Fanatic" by Hanif Kureishi (1994)

- "These are not my clothes" by Jackie Kay (2012)

9. 10 May

- "American Dreams" by Peter Carey (1971)

- "Those who Walked away from Omelas" by Ursula Le Guin (1973)

16. 17 May

- "The Persistence of Desire" by John Updike (2004)

- "The Fruit Cage" by Julian Barnes (2004)

- "Out There" by Kate Folk

23 May: Revision Unit 5

**24 May: TEST 2**

**Assignment 2: 30 May**

## Evaluation

This subject will be evaluated as described below:

**25% -- Test 1 (29 MARCH)**

**25% -- Test 2 (24 MAY)**

**15% -- Assignment 1 (4 APRIL)**

**20% -- Assignment 2 (30 MAY)**

**15% -- Active participation in class activities and discussions**

Students who combine their degree with a full time job have the right to ask for alternative assessment within 5 days after the beginning of the semester. For information, please send an e-mail to [academic@lletres.udl.cat](mailto:academic@lletres.udl.cat) or ask for information at the Faculty's secretary (Secretaria de la Facultat de Lletres).

## 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.