



Universitat de Lleida

DEGREE CURRICULUM
THE NOVEL IN ENGLISH

Coordination: SANTAULARIA CAPDEVILA, MARIA
ISABEL

Academic year 2022-23

Subject's general information

Subject name	THE NOVEL IN ENGLISH			
Code	101269			
Semester	1st Q(SEMESTER) CONTINUED EVALUATION			
Typology	Degree	Course	Character	Modality
	Bachelor's Degree in English Studies	3	COMPULSORY	Attendance-based
	Double degree: Bachelor's degree in English Studies and Bachelor's degree in Applied Languages and Translation	5	COMPULSORY	Attendance-based
Course number of credits (ECTS)	6			
Type of activity, credits, and groups	Activity type	PRAULA		TEORIA
	Number of credits	3		3
	Number of groups	1		1
Coordination	SANTAULARIA CAPDEVILA, MARIA ISABEL			
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
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Learning objectives

- Distinguish a literary work from other texts.
- Identify the genre (novel) and describe its characteristics.
- Know the major currents, trends and movements of the novel in the UK and the USA.
- Know the major UK and US novelists and their works.
- Analyse in depth some major UK and US novels in relation to their times and as literary texts with their own idiosyncrasies and interpretative potential.
- Be aware of the interaction between literature and film and exploit the potential of adaptations for the study of the novel.
- Be able to explain aspects of the contents of the subject clearly and analytically and to express these contents in a grammatically correct way.

Competences

General competences:

- CG2 Analyse and synthesise data from different critical sources.
- CG5 Demonstrate the ability to work individually.
- CG16 Use techniques and methodology related to the professional world and the field of study of the degree.

Specific competences:

- CE6 Identify and apply the basics of scientific research to culture in English
- CE10 Analyse the main texts, genres and literary movements in English.
- CE11 Analyse the projection and popularization of English literature through film and the mass media.
- CE14 Analyse the interaction between history and society and cultural products in English.

Subject contents

GETTING STARTED: Equal rights for books (novels)? Introduction to concepts related to literary quality and discussion of the nature/importance/relevance/function of classics and literary awards.

UNIT 1: Studying the novel. General introduction to the novel as a genre and exploration of its main characteristics.

UNIT 2: Major UK and US trends, movements and authors. An overview of the major authors, trends and movements related to the UK and the US novel. (SELF STUDY)

UNIT 3: Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*. Analysis of the text through the discussion of some relevant questions and quotes/excerpts from the source novel and its film adaptation. Discussion of **Worksheet 1**. Compulsory text:

- *Jane Eyre* (Franco Zefirelly, 1996). (Film)
(novel available on-line: <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/1260/1260-h/1260-h.htm>)

UNIT 4: Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*. In-depth analysis of the novel. Compulsory texts:

Brontë, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*. Boston and New York: Bedford Books of St. Martin's Press, 1992. (Novel) (available on-line: <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/768/768-h/768-h.htm>)

UNIT 5: Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, *Oliver Twist* and *Bleak House*. In-depth analysis of the novella and some excerpts from the novels. Compulsory texts:

- Dickens, Charles. *A Christmas Carol*. (novella) Available on-line: <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/46/46-h/46-h.htm>
- Dickens, Charles. *Oliver Twist*. (novel; some excerpts that will be provided in Sakai)
- Dickens, Charles. *Bleak House*. (novel; some excerpts that will be provided in Sakai)

UNIT 6: F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. Analysis of the text through the discussion of some relevant questions and quotes/excerpts from the source novel and its film adaptation. Discussion of **Worksheet 2**. Compulsory text:

- *The Great Gatsby* (Baz Luhrmann, 2013). (Film)

UNIT 7: John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*. Analysis of the text through the discussion of some relevant questions and quotes/excerpts from the source novel and its film adaptation. Discussion of **Worksheet 3**. Compulsory text:

- *The Grapes of Wrath* (John Ford, 1940). (Film)

UNIT 8: Alex Garland's *The Beach: A comparative approach*. In-depth analysis of Alex Garland's novel in relation to Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* and Francis Ford Coppola's *Apocalypse Now*. Compulsory texts:

- Garland, Alex. *The Beach*. London: Penguin, 2011. (Novel)
- *Apocalypse Now* (Francis Ford Coppola, 1979). (Film)

Methodology

In this subject, lectures will be combined with discussion and seminar sessions. Students will also be provided with material for self-study.

SELF-STUDY: For Unit 2, students will be provided with two Power Points covering major trends, movements and authors of the UK and US novel. They will have to study the contents of these presentations on their own.

LECTURES will be devoted to explaining the characteristics of the genre and to the presentation and analysis of the compulsory novels students have to read. Lectures may also be accompanied with debate questions and discussion activities expected to generate active participation. Compulsory novels will have to be read before the corresponding classes. There will be lectures for Units 1, 4, 5 and 8.

SEMINAR SESSIONS during which we will discuss worksheets related to different major novels in English that we will study through excerpts from the texts and their film adaptations. For each of the texts, students have a worksheet for discussion which will have to be prepared beforehand. There will be seminar sessions for Units 3, 6 and 7.

This academic year, the subject is part of the Teaching Innovation Project: 'Nobel Prizes for Literature in English: A Travelling Exhibition'. For this reason, there will be different activities related to the project:

- A discussion activity in which students will be asked to think about what constitutes literary quality, literary status and literary prestige. This discussion activity will take place during the 'GETTING STARTED' sessions.
- Elaboration of posters based on works of a Nobel-prize-winning author we discuss in class: John Steinbeck. This poster will be part of the compulsory assignment for the subject. After being evaluated, one of the posters made by students will be included in the travelling exhibition as part of the teaching innovation project. Students will work on the posters in pairs. They can ask for tutorials for guidance and feedback. Once finished, we will set up a day for a brief presentation of the poster and to vote for the one that will be chosen to represent Steinbeck for the exhibit.

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- Additionally, the compulsory assignment this year will be on a work (to choose from three) by John Steinbeck so as to gain a deeper knowledge of the author and his works. Depending on the length of the novel of choice, students will be given additional points that will be added to their final mark.

Development plan

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Getting started (equal rights for books) CLASS DISCUSSION	15 September	16 September
Unit 1 (the novel) LECTURES	22 September	23 September
	NO CLASS	NO CLASS
	6 October	
Unit 2 (trends, movements and authors)	Self-study	Self-study
PE1 + PE2 (short tests)		
Unit 3 (<i>Jane Eyre</i> ; discussion of Worksheet 1) SEMINAR SESSIONS		7 October
	13 October	14 October
Unit 4 (<i>Wuthering Heights</i>) LECTURES + CLASS DISCUSSION	20 October	21 October
	27 October	28 October
	3 November	
Unit 5 (<i>A Christmas Carol</i> + <i>Oliver Twist</i> + <i>Bleak House</i>) LECTURES + CLASS DISCUSSION		4 November
	10 November	11 November
PE3 (written exam 1)		
Unit 7 (<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i> ; discussion of Worksheet 3) SEMINAR SESSIONS	17 November	18 November
	24 November	25 November
Unit 6 (<i>Great Gatsby</i> ; discussion of Worksheet 2) SEMINAR SESSIONS	1 December	2 December
Unit 8 (<i>Apocalypse Now</i> + <i>The Beach</i>) LECTURES + CLASS DISCUSSION	NO CLASS	9 December
	15 December	16 December
	22 December	NO CLASS
PE4 (written exam 2) + AP1 (poster) + AP2 (assignment)		

Evaluation

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Students who combine their degree with a full time job or a part-time job with schedules coinciding with

classes 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 lletres.secretariacentre@udl.cat or ask for information at the Faculty's office (Secretaria de la Facultat de Lletres).

- Attendance to classes is compulsory.
- NP will be given when a student's assessment activities weigh less than 50% of the overall grade for the subject.
- Dates for assessment activities will be provided at the beginning of the semester. Date for PE4 (written exam 2) is the one established in the Faculty's exam calendar.
- Activities handed in after the deadline will not be accepted.
- Language will be taken into account in all of the assessment activities. In exams, there will be a penalty of - 0.15 points per serious mistake. Assignments will be penalised up to 2 points for language mistakes.
- Students should read/watch compulsory texts before the corresponding sessions.
- All discussion worksheets will be provided by instructor before the corresponding sessions and should be prepared by students before discussion.
- Plagiarism is not allowed. If plagiarised material is detected, we will apply what is established in the 'Regulations for the Assessment and Grading of Student Learning in UdL Bachelor's and Master's Degrees'.
- In case the authorship of a work is doubtful, the instructor can establish a mechanism to certify this authorship. In case the student cannot argue or justify the contents, the work will be failed (0).
- The course tutor reserves the right to introduce additional or alternative material for study at her discretion and to modify the programme if needs be.

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES:

PE1 & PE2: Short tests	15 % (7.5 x2)	Dates to be determined. In the classroom.
PE3: Exam	25 %	Date, time and room to be determined. Date does not necessarily have to coincide with class schedules.
PE4: Exam	25 %	10 January at 9.00. ROOM: 1.03
AP1: Poster	15 %	Submission: 8 December Election day: 14 December
AP2: Written assignment (short essay)	20 % / 25 % / 30 % (explanation next)	Date to be determined. After Christmas.

POSTER (15%):

Students will work in groups. The poster will focus on the life and work of the author, John Steinbeck, as well as on his major novel: *The Grapes of Wrath*. The information should also reflect the importance of John Steinbeck as a literary figure but also as a deeply humane individual who was fully aware of (and committed to fighting) the failures of the system but who nonetheless believed in and celebrated men's capacity for greatness.

The poster will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Content and language: 5 points
- Design: 5 points
- Very brief oral presentation of the poster: 5 points

Exact INSTRUCTIONS and proper RUBRIC will be given in due course.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT (20-30%):

Choose one of the following works (notice that the value attached to each of the texts varies):

John Steinbeck's <i>Of Mice and Men</i> .	20%
John Steinbeck's <i>Travels with Charlie</i>	25%

Choose what you think is the most significant chapter of the novel and write a 1000/1200-word review of the chapter highlighting the reasons why, in your opinion, the chapter showcases the most significant aspects of the book, be it character construction, plot development, social commentary, or others.

Exact INSTRUCTIONS and a PROPER rubric will be given in due course.

Bibliography

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