



Universitat de Lleida

DEGREE CURRICULUM
**HISTORY AND SOCIETY OF THE
UNITED KINGDOM**

Coordination: SANTAULARIA CAPDEVILA, MARIA
ISABEL

Academic year 2018-19

Subject's general information

Subject name	HISTORY AND SOCIETY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM			
Code	101273			
Semester	1st Q(SEMESTER) CONTINUED EVALUATION			
Typology	Degree	Course	Character	Modality
	Double degree: Bachelor's degree in English Studies and Bachelor's degree in Applied Languages and Translation	2	COMPULSORY	Attendance-based
	Bachelor's Degree in English Studies	2	COMPULSORY	Attendance-based
Course number of credits (ECTS)	6			
Type of activity, credits, and groups	Activity type	PRAULA		TEORIA
	Number of credits	1		5
	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.			

Teaching staff	E-mail addresses	Credits taught by teacher	Office and hour of attention
MINA RIERA, NURIA	nuriamina@dal.udl.cat	3	
SANTAULARIA CAPDEVILA, MARIA ISABEL	isantaularia@dal.udl.cat	3	

Learning objectives

The objective of the course is to understand British history, society and major institutions. Through introductory lectures, an analysis of some artistic productions, a field trip to Liverpool (optional) and practice from a textbook formulated for learners of English, the course will offer a comprehensive panoramic view of contemporary British society and the history that has produced it.

Competences

Competencias generales /General competences:

- CG5 Demostrar capacitat de treball individual.
- CG5 Demonstrate capacity for individual work.
- CG10 Desenvolupar les tasques acadèmiques aplicant la sensibilitat cap a la diversitat del patrimoni cultural, els drets humans i la reducció de qualsevol tipus de desigualtat i iniquitat.
- CG10 Develop academic tasks applying awareness of the diversity of cultural heritage, human rights and the erosion of all types of inequality and iniquity.
- CG11 Aprendre de forma autònoma.
- CG11 Learn in an autonomous way.

Competencias específicas / Specific competences:

- CE6 Identificar i implementar els fonaments de la investigació científica en cultura en llengua anglesa.
- CE6 Identify and apply the basics of scientific research to culture in English.
- CE9 Analitzar la realitat històrica, social i cultural dels països de parla anglesa.
- CE9 Analyse the historical, social and cultural reality of the English-speaking countries.
- CE14 Analitzar la interacció entre història i societat i la producció cultural en llengua anglesa.
- CE14 Analyse the interaction between history and society and cultural products in English.

Subject contents

AUTONOMOUS WORK:

From: O'Driscoll, James. *Britain for Learners of English*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009 (+ workbook):

- Unit 20 "Food and Drink" + exercises
- Unit 23 "Holidays and Special Occasions" + exercises
- Unit 21 "Sport and Competition" + exercises
- Unit 22 "The Arts" + exercises
- Unit 8 "The Government" + exercises
- Unit 9 "Parliament" + exercises
- Unit 14 "Education" + exercises

- Unit 16 “The Media” + exercises

SYLLABUS COVERED IN CLASS:

GETTING STARTED: Introductory class developing a momentous issue or social concern related to contemporary Britain. This year’s topic is: Poverty in the UK: Causes and a way out? This introductory lecture will consider the causes that account for the rise of poverty in the United Kingdom in the last years.

UNIT 1: The United Kingdom and the Four Nations. Situating the country geographically and politically: Geographical and political introduction to the United Kingdom and the four nations that constitute it.

UNIT 2: The pre-eminence of England: English vs. British and other (national identities): An introduction to the difference between English and British and an analysis of the reasons that account for the supremacy of England over the other three nations and the (sometimes conflicted) relations between them. Emphasis will also be placed on the issue of national identity in the United Kingdom. **Discussion on:**

- *Braveheart* (Mel Gibson, 1995). (Film)

UNIT 3: A fast-forward into history. From prehistory to the Medieval Period: An overview that goes from the prehistory of the peoples of Great Britain and the different invasions to the creation of England as a country, covering the games of thrones involving various royal houses that ruled the country and its expansion on the island to incorporate Wales.

UNIT 4: The 16th century. The Elizabethan Period: An analysis of one of the most successful eras in the history of England: the reign of Elizabeth I. **Discussion on:**

- *Shakespeare in Love* (John Maden, 1998). (Film)

UNIT 5: The 17th and 18th centuries. From the Stuarts to the Hanovers with a republican interlude: The history of the royal houses that ruled England after the Tudors (paying attention to the brief period during which England was a republic) and the expansion of England to become the United Kingdom (with Scotland and later Northern Ireland).

UNIT 6: The 19th century. The Victorian Period: An analysis of one of the most influential periods in the United Kingdom: the reign of Queen Victoria and the Industrial Revolution. **Discussion on:**

- *Hard Times* (BBC, 1994). (Film)

UNIT 7: The British Empire: An overview of the origins and development of the British Empire, as well as of its demise.

UNIT 8: The 20th century. Significant socio-political figures and events: An overview of the 20th-century key historical events and their protagonists. **Discussion on:**

- *The King's Speech* (Tom Hooper, 2010). (Film)

Methodology

In order to reach the subject’s objectives, the course is divided into:

- Lectures introducing major topics and providing contextual frameworks.
- Seminal sessions for discussion of relevant texts. These sessions will develop in parallel to lectures and are not allocated separate time in the chronogram, but will take place both during and after some major contextual issues have been introduced. Basically, for each of the units, you are provided with a document with a draft and quotes (together with some Power Points on occasion) to guide you through the contents of each of the lectures. At the end of this document or on a separate document, you have questions and

quotes for discussion based on a compulsory text (visual or written) for some of the units. These questions have to be prepared beforehand.

- Activities related to the book O'Driscoll, James. *Britain for Learners of English*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009:
 1. Record an oral presentation (in pairs) on one of the compulsory units (assigned by lecturers). Exact instructions will be provided at the beginning of the semester.
 2. On-line (multiple choice) quiz on the compulsory units. Quiz will have to be repeated until 100% correct.
- Written exams on contents introduced in the classroom.
- A written assignment on a topic that will be related to the issues discussed in the GETTING STARTED session. For the completion of the assignment, students will be given a list of compulsory texts they will have to read.
- A field trip to Liverpool (optional) that will take place during the semester depending on number of people interested and availability. Students taking the trip will have some additional questions to consider in the assignment based on their experience in Liverpool.

Development plan

Dates for activities (PE1 + AP1) based on O'Driscoll's book will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Getting started	13 September	
Unit 1 (the UK and the Four Nations)		14 September
	20 September	
Unit 2 (England vs. Britain)		21 September
	27 September	28 September
	5 October	
Unit 3 (fast-forward)		6 October
	11 October	12 October
	18 October	19 October
	25 October	
Unit 4 (Elizabeth)		26 October
	1 November	2 November
	8 November	
PE2 (written exam)		
Unit 5 (Hanovers and Stuarts)		9 November
	15 November	16 November
	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Unit 6 (Victorian) (please, notice, from this week onwards Friday class moves to Wednesday, 12.30-14.00)	21 November	22 November
	28 November	29 November
Unit 7 (British Empire)	5 December	6 December
	12 December	13 December
	19 December	20 December

Unit 8 (20 th and 21 st)	9 January	10 January
PE3 (written exam) and AP2 (written assignment)		

Evaluation

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Assessment will be continuous. 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 or ask for information at the Faculty's secretary (Secretaria de la Facultat de Lletres).
- Attendance to classes is compulsory.
- All activities must be completed in order to qualify for continuous assessment. If you fail to hand in a compulsory assessment activity or to attend an exam/quizz, you will not qualify for continuous assessment and final mark will be NP.
- No assignments will be accepted after the deadline. If handed in after the deadline, the mark for this specific assessment activity will be 0.
- Language will be taken into account in all assessment activities. Exams may be failed if the language is poor (i.e. containing mistakes that cannot be accepted at a B2 level). Assignments, on the other hand, will be penalised up to 2 points for language mistakes.
- Students should read/watch compulsory texts before the corresponding sessions.
- All discussion sheets will be provided by instructors before the corresponding sessions and should be prepared by students before discussion.
- 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:

Textbook	Activity	Assessment 20%	Date
From: O'Driscoll, James. <i>Britain for Learners of</i>	AP1: Oral presentation (in pairs) on one of the units (assigned by lecturers).	10%	To be determined

<p><i>English</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009 (+ workbook)</p>	<p>PE2: On-line quiz on the following units: Unit 8 "The Government" + exercises Unit 9 "Parliament" + exercises Unit 14 "Education" + exercises Unit 16 "The Media" + exercises Unit 20 "Food and Drink" + exercises Unit 21 "Sport and Competition" + exercises Unit 22 "The Arts" + exercises Unit 23 "Holidays and Special Occasions" + exercises</p>	<p>10%</p>	<p>To be determined</p>
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<p>PE2: Exam</p>	<p>28 %</p>	<p>Date, time and room to be determined.</p>
<p>PE3: Exam</p>	<p>28 %</p>	<p>Date, time and room to be determined.</p>
<p>AP2: Assignment</p>	<p>14 %</p>	<p>The assignment will be based on the contents developed in class in the 'Getting Started' session. Exact instructions will be provided at the beginning of the semester, together with compulsory texts that will have to be read or watched for the assignment. Students taking the Liverpool trip will have additional questions to consider based on their experience in Liverpool. Date to be determined.</p>
<p>ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN WORKSHEET DISCUSSIONS</p>	<p>10 %</p>	

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSIGNMENT:

For your assignment, you should take the following into account:

- Minimum length 900 words. Maximum length 1200 words. If in pairs, length will be 1800-2400 words.
- Font: Times New Roman 12 / Arial 11 / Calibri 11.
- Assignments should be given an original title.
- Assignments should be clearly organised with an introduction, development and conclusion. The introduction should already clarify your major points. Basically, it should very briefly reflect your approach to the topic, which you will then develop in subsequent paragraphs.

- You should read the texts allocated for the assignment and include a minimum of one quote from each of the texts. You can consult other reference material and provide relevant quotes if you want. Wikipedia, fan reviews and dictionaries are not accepted as external references. Absence of quotes from compulsory texts and wrongful format of reference will be penalized.
- At the end of the assignment, there should be a bibliography with consulted texts. Absence of reference list and wrong format of bibliography / filmography will be penalized.
- Plagiarism is not allowed. Assignments containing plagiarised material (even if only partial) will automatically be failed (0).
- A RUBRIC (scoring guide) will be provided in SAKAI.

Bibliography

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- Danziger, Nick. *Danziger's Britain: A Journey to the Edge*. London: Flamingo, 1997.
- Dargie, Richard. *A History of Britain: The Key Events That Have Shaped Britain from Neolithic Times to the 21st Century*. London: Arcturus, 2007.
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- Jenkins, Simon. *A Short History of England*. London: Profile Books, 2012.
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- Mount, Harry. *How England Made the English*. London: Penguin, 2013.
- Oakland, John. *British Civilisation: An Introduction*. London and New York: Routledge, 2011.
- O'Farrell, John. *An Utterly Impartial History of Britain: Or 2000 Years of Upper Class Idiots*. London: Black Swan, 2007.
- O'Farrell, John. *An Utterly Exasperated History of Modern Britain: Or 60 Years of Making the Same Stupid Mistakes as Always*. London: Black Swan, 2009.
- Paxman, Jeremy. *The English: A Portrait of a People*. London: Penguin, 1999.
- Richards, Jeffrey. *Films and British National Identity: From Dickens to Dad's Army*. Manchester and New York: Manchester University Press, 1997.
- Story, Mike and Peter Childs, eds. *British Cultural Identities*. London and New York: Routledge, 2013.
- Wilson, A.N. *Our Times: The Age of Elizabeth II*. London: Arrow, 2008