



Universitat de Lleida

# DEGREE CURRICULUM

# **COMPARATIVE LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**

Coordination: VALENTOVA , KATERINA

Academic year 2022-23

## Subject's general information

Subject name	COMPARATIVE LITERATURE IN ENGLISH			
Code	101290			
Semester	2nd Q(SEMESTER) CONTINUED EVALUATION			
Typology	Degree	Course	Character	Modality
	Bachelor's Degree in English Studies	4	OPTIONAL	Attendance-based
	Double degree: Bachelor's degree in English Studies and Bachelor's degree in Applied Languages and Translation	4	OPTIONAL	Attendance-based
Course number of credits (ECTS)	6			
Type of activity, credits, and groups	Activity type	PRAULA		TEORIA
	Number of credits	4		2
	Number of groups	1		1
Coordination	VALENTOVA , KATERINA			
Department	ENGLISH AND LINGUISTICS			
Important information on data processing	Consult <a href="#">this link</a> for more information.			
Language	English			

Teaching staff	E-mail addresses	Credits taught by teacher	Office and hour of attention
VALENTOVA , KATERINA	katerina.valentova@udl.cat	6	by appointment

## Learning objectives

- To learn the main theories of comparative literature.
- To learn the main comparative tools in order to carry out comparative analysis of literary texts by diverse authors in English.
- To learn and to use the main terms in literary criticism and literary analysis of whatever literary text.
- To establish an interaction between history, society and cultural and literary production.
- To search and use secondary sources in an academic context.

## Competences

### General competences:

- CG3 To prove creativity and initiative.
- CG4 To apply the principles and implications of the academic and professional ethics in the academic productions.
- CG6 To work in group (intra and interdisciplinary) and to manage personal relationships.
- CG8 To adapt to new situations.
- CG9 To prove motivation for the quality and rigor.
- CG13 To apply theoretical knowledge to the practice.

### Specific competences:

- CE7 To apply acquired knowledge to the professional circumstances.
- CE10 To analyse the main literary texts, genres and movements in English language.
- CE14 To analyse the interaction between history, society and cultural production in English language.
- CT6 To apply the gender perspective to the tasks of the professional field.

## Subject contents

### Module 1:

- Introduction, theoretical approach to the main theories of comparative literature.
- Main schools, topics and methods of comparative literature, developing strategies for a comparative analysis.

### Module 2:

- Historical approach.
- Reading and analysis of selected texts.

### Module 3:

- Thematological approach.
- Reading and analysis of selected texts.

### Module 4:

- Genre approach.
- Reading and analysis of selected texts.

## Module 5:

- Formal approach.
- Reading and analysis of selected texts.

## Module 6:

- Literature and philosophy.
- Reading and analysis of selected texts.

## Module 7:

- Literature and translation.
- Reading and analysis of selected texts.

## Module 8:

- Literature and other arts.
- Reading and analysis of selected texts.

## Methodology

In this subject, lectures will be combined with practical sessions. In the practical sessions, the students will be asked to participate actively in tasks focused on the analysis of the texts that will be dealt with during the classes. In addition, several discussions lead by the lecturer will be carried out with the aim of helping the students establish a dialogue between their previous knowledge and the contents dealt with in the lectures and, also, with the selected texts analysed in class.

## Development plan

- **WEEK 1-2: MODULE 1: INTRODUCTION**
  - Presentation of the content of the subject, assessment and literary texts.
  - Introduction to comparative literature studies within the framework of literary studies, history of CL and its main schools, theoretical class.
- **WEEK 2-3: MODULE 2: HISTORICAL APPROACH**
  - Analysis of the texts: *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare and "Of Cannibals" by Michel de Montaigne.
  - Comparative literature and decoloniality: *A Tempest* by Aimé Césaire
- **WEEK 3-4: MODULE 3: THEMATOLOGICAL APPROACH**
  - Analysis of the texts: "The Horla" by Guy de Maupassant and "The Yellow Wallpaper" by Charlotte Perkins Gilman.
  - Narratives of Growing-up. Analysis of the texts: "A White Heron" by Sarah Orne Jewett and "Araby" by James Joyce.
  - Narratives of Ageing. Analysis of the texts: "The Things you Know" by Julian Barnes and "The Bear Came Over the Mountains" by Alice Munro.
- **WEEK 5: ORAL PRESENTATIONS (MARCH 6-8)**
- **WEEK 6-7: MODULE 4: GENRE**
  - Ghost stories. Analysis of the texts: Sheridan Le Fanu's "An Account of Some Strange Disturbances in Aungier Street" and Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Captain of the Pole-Star".
  - Theatre of the Absurd. Analysis of the texts: *Bald Soprano* by Eugene Ionesco and *Endgame* by Samuel Beckett.

- Dystopia and Eugenics. Analysis of the text: *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley.
- **PRE-EXAM TUTORIALS**
- **MARCH 27 FIRST EXAM (MODULE 1, 2, 3 & 4)**
- **WEEK 8: MODULE 5: FORMAL APPROACH**
  - Concentration camp narratives from the perspective of different literary forms.
  - Analysis of the texts: "Death Fugue" by Paul Celan, *Maus* by Art Spiegelman and *If This Is a Man* by Primo Levi.
  - *Maus* by Art Spiegelman and *If This Is a Man* by Primo Levi.
- **EASTER: (APRIL 3-10)**
- **WEEK 9: GROUP PROJECTS (APRIL 12)**
- **WEEK 10: SEMINAR ON DAVID FOSTER WALLACE WITH PROF JAROSLAW HETMAN FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TORUN, POLAND**
- **WEEK 11: LITERATURE & PHILOSOPHY**
  - Hegel. Analysis of the text: *Venus in Furs* by Leopold von Masoch.
  - French & English Decadentism. Analysis of the selected texts.
- **WEEK 12-13: LITERATURE & TRANSLATION**
  - Seminar on Occitan literature in translation with Mariona Miret.
- **WEEK 13-14: LITERATURE AND OTHER ARTS**
  - Interartistic comparison
  - Analysis of the selected pieces.
- **WEEK 15: PRE-EXAM TUTORIALS**
- **MAY 24: SECOND EXAM (MODULE 5, 6, 7 & 8)**

## Evaluation

- Oral presentation 1: 25%
- Oral presentation 2: 17%
- Written Test 1: 29%
- Written Test 2: 29%

Evaluation is continuous. Those students who combine their studies with a full-time job have the right to apply for an alternative evaluation within 5 days from the start of the semester. For more information, please write an email to [academic@lletres.udl.cat](mailto:academic@lletres.udl.cat) or visit the Secretariat of the Faculty of Arts.

**\* 5 basic mistakes in either of the two tests or the written assignment will entail a 4.**

**\*The participation in all activities is mandatory! The minimum mark to continue with the assessment is 4.**

## Bibliography

### Primary sources:

- (see the development plan)

### Secondary sources:

- Bassnett, Susan. (1993). *Comparative Literature: A Critical Introduction*. Oxford: Blackwell Publisher.
- Gil-Albarellos Pérez-Pedrero, Susana. (2006). *Introducción a la Literatura Comparada*. Valladolid: Universidad de Valladolid.
- Gnisci, Armando. (2002). *Introducción a la Literatura Comparada*. Barcelona: Editorial Crítica.
- Llovet, Jordi & col. (2005). *Teoría literaria y Literatura Comparada*. Barcelona: Ariel.
- Tötösy de Zepetnek, Steven, ed. (2002). *Comparative Literature and Comparative Cultural Studies*. West Lafayette, Indiana: Purdue UP.

- Weisstein, Ulrich. (1975). *Introducción a la Literatura Comparada*. Barcelona: Editorial Planeta.