

# 27808 - History and Culture of the United Kingdom

#### Información del Plan Docente

Academic Year 2017/18

Faculty / School 103 - Facultad de Filosofía y Letras

**Degree** 416 - Degree in English

**ECTS** 6.0 **Year** 1

Semester First semester

Subject Type Compulsory

Module ---

- 1.General information
- 1.1.Introduction
- 1.2. Recommendations to take this course
- 1.3. Context and importance of this course in the degree
- 1.4. Activities and key dates
- 2.Learning goals
- 2.1.Learning goals
- 2.2. Importance of learning goals
- 3. Aims of the course and competences
- 3.1. Aims of the course
- 3.2.Competences
- 4.Assessment (1st and 2nd call)
- 4.1. Assessment tasks (description of tasks, marking system and assessment criteria)
- 5.Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources
- 5.1.Methodological overview

The learning process that has been designed for this course is based on the following:

This subject has as main objective that students acquire a basic knowledge about the history and culture of the United Kingdom and that they develop a critical approach and a series of skills that will provide them with a better capacity for abstraction, analysis and interpretation of visual and written cultural texts. To reach this objective several active methodologies will be used, especially those promoting both individual and group work. There will be theory lectures in



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which students will be expected to actively participate, more practical sessions in which the knowledge acquired in the theory sessions will be applied to the analysis of several texts and for which a variety of group dynamic techniques will be used and, finally, sessions in which students will have to deliver group oral presentations.

The student will go through different stages in the learning process: starting from the memorization and understanding of key concepts, following with the analysis and argumentation of main ideas to finally reach the creation and application of concepts. These stages have as main objective that the student acquires a meaningful learning.

## 5.2.Learning tasks

#### 1. Guided activities

- a) Theory sessions (30 hours / 1.2 credits), which include the following units: (See 5.3)
- b) Practice sessions (22.5 hours / 0.9 credits). In combination with the theory sessions, students will work with authentic cultural texts (essays, historical documents, and fragments of films, documentaries and television series). Students are expected to work individually and in groups, understand the texts and be able to relate their contents with the issues explored in the theory sessions.
- c) Oral presentations (7.5 hours / 0.3 credits), optional. In groups of 5, students may opt for presenting the result of their research on a topic related to the units of the course, with the teacher's supervision.

### 2. Supervised activities

a) Individual and group tutorials (7.5 hours / 0.3 credits). Tutorial attendance is compulsory for the guided elaboration of the oral presentations, and optional for the rest of issues concerning the course.

#### 3. Autonomous activities

- a) Elaboration of the oral presentation (20 hours / 0.8 credits).
- b) Reading and watching the compulsory texts, and reading of secondary sources. (10 hours / 0.4 credits).
- c) Independent study (50 hours / 2 credits).

#### 4. Assessment

a) Written exam (2.5 hours / 0.1 credits).

### 5.3. Syllabus

### (27808) History and Culture of the United Kingdom

1. Country, People and Identity: Geographically and politically speaking. The four nations. A multicultural society.



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Religion. Social class. Stereotypes. Attitudes.

- 2. Geography: Climate. Land and settlement. London. Southern England. The Midlands of England. Northern England. Scotland. Wales. Northern Ireland.
- 3. Historical Overview: Prehistory. The Roman period. The Germanic invasions. The medieval period. The sixteenth century. The seventeenth century. The eighteenth century. The nineteenth century. The twentieth century.
- 4. Political Life: Monarchy. The party system. The Government. The Parliament. The House of Commons. The House of Lords.

### 5.4. Course planning and calendar

### Face-to-face teaching and essay writing schedule

The first sessions of each theory unit in the schedule will be teacher lectures in which active student participation will be fostered.

The second part of each unit will be organised around practical sessions in which texts connected with the theory sessions will be analysed.

In December there will be several sessions for the group oral presentations.

### 5.5.Bibliography and recommended resources

The bibliography of the current academic year is kept updated and can be checked in the library's website (search for recommended bibliography in biblioteca.unizar.es)

ВВ	OÂ 'Driscoll, James. Britain for learners of english: workbook / James OÂ 'Driscoll Oxoford: Oxford
	University Press, 2009 g(2010 imp.)
ВВ	OÂ Driscoll, James. Britain for
	learners of english / James
	OÂ 'Driscoll Oxford : Oxford
	University Press, 2009 g(imp. 2010)
ВВ	Oakland, John. British civilization: an
	introduction / John Oakland 3rd ed.
	London; New York: Routledge, 1995
ВС	Banker, Leslie. Britannia in brief: The
	scoop on all things British / Leslie Banker
	and William Mullins New York: Ballantine
	Books, cop. 2009
	British cultural identities / edited by Mike
ВС	Storry, and Peter Childs 2nd ed. London
	; New York : Routledge, 2002
BC	Bromhead, Peter. Life in modern Britain /



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Peter Bromhead . - 4th ed. Harlow : Longman, 1974

Carter, E. H.. A history of Britain / E. H.
Carter, R. A. F. Mears Oxford : Clarendon

Press, 1968

Halliday, Frank Ernest. A concise history of England from Stonehenge to the atomic

age / F. E. Halliday New York : Thames and Hudson, 1989, 1991 repr.

Irwin, John L.. Modern Britain : an introduction / John L. Irwin . - 3rd ed. London [etc.] : Routledge, 1994

Mac Dowall, David. An illustrated history of

BC Britain / David McDowall Harlow:

Longman, 1989

Musman, Richard. Britain today / Richard Musman and D'Arcy Adrian-Vallance

Harlow: Longman, 1989

Oakland, John. British civilization: an introduction / John Oakland. - 7th ed London; New York: Routledge, 2011

Studying British cultures : an introduction /

**BC** edited by Susan Bassnett London:

Routledge, 1997

The Cambridge companion to modern British culture / edited by Michael Higgins,

BC Clarissa Smith, John Storey Cambridge;

New York: Cambridge University Press,

cop. 2010