

## 27808 - History and Culture of the United Kingdom

### Syllabus Information

**Academic Year:** 2020/21

**Subject:** 27808 - History and Culture of the United Kingdom

**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.Aims of the course

#### 1.2.Context and importance of this course in the degree

#### 1.3.Recommendations to take this course

### 2.Learning goals

#### 2.1.Competences

#### 2.2.Learning goals

#### 2.3.Importance of learning goals

### 3.Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

#### 3.1.Assessment tasks (description of tasks, marking system and assessment criteria)

### 4.Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

#### 4.1.Methodological overview

This course 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 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.

#### 4.2.Learning tasks

The course includes the following learning tasks:

- **Theory sessions** (30 hours: 1.2 ECTS), which include the following topics: (See 4.3)
- **Practice sessions** (22.5 hours: 0.9 ECTS). In combination with the theory sessions, students will work with authentic cultural texts (essays, historical documents, and fragments of films, documentaries and television series).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.

- **Oral presentations** (7.5 hours: 0.3 ECTS), optional. In groups of 5, students may opt for presenting the result of their research on a topic related to the topics of the course, with the teacher's supervision.
- **Individual and group tutorials** (7.5 hours: 0.3 ECTS). Tutorial attendance is compulsory for the guided elaboration of the oral presentations, and optional for the rest of issues concerning the course.
- **Autonomous work:**
  - Elaboration of the oral presentation (20 hours: 0.8 ECTS).
  - Reading and watching the compulsory texts, and reading of secondary sources. (10 hours: 0.4 ECTS).
  - Independent study (50 hours: 2 ECTS).
- **Assessment tasks.** Written exam (2.5 hours: 0.1 ECTS).

### 4.3.Syllabus

1. Country, People and Identity: Geographically and politically speaking. The four nations. A multicultural society. 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. The early twenty-first century. Ireland and the British Empire.

4. Political Life: Monarchy. The party system. The government. The Parliament. The House of Commons. The House of Lords.

### 4.4.Course planning and calendar

#### Provisional course planning

The first sessions of each topic will be in a lecture format in which active student participation will be fostered. The second part of each topic will be organised around practice sessions in which texts connected with the theory sessions will be analysed.

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

### 4.5.Bibliography and recommended resources