

27844 - Modern English

Syllabus Information

Academic Year: 2021/22

Subject: 27844 - Modern English

Faculty / School: 103 - Facultad de Filosofía y Letras

Degree: 416 - Degree in English

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 4 and 3

Semester: First semester

Subject Type: Optional

Module:

1. General information

2. Learning goals

3. Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

4. Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

4.1. Methodological overview

See "Learning tasks " and "Syllabus".

More information will be provided on the first day of class.

4.2. Learning tasks

This is a 6 ECTS course organized as follows:

- Lectures.
- Practice sessions.
- Autonomous work and study.
- Assessment tasks.

4.3. Syllabus

This course will address the following topics:

- **Topic 1.**
 - The Early Modern English period: characteristics.
 - The transition from Middle to Modern English. The New Standard.
- **Topic 2.**
 - Early Modern English phonology, grammar and vocabulary.
 - Changes in morphology. The expansion of the English vocabulary. The orthography of Early Modern English
 - The Great Vowel Shift, other vowels and consonants. Changes in morphology and syntax.
- **Topic 3.**

- Late Modern English: Logic and prescription. Dictionaries and grammars.
- The rise of Polite usage. Purists and linguistic correction. 'Talking Proper'.
- Robert Lowth's Grammar. Dictionaries and spelling books.
- **Topic 4.**
 - Standard accents and others.
 - Images of accents. Symbols of the social divide. Educating accents.
- **Topic 5.**
 - Standard and non-standard grammatical variation. Genteel vs. vulgar language.
 - Lexical variation. Lexical varieties in Modern and Contemporary English.
- **Topic 6.**
 - Geographical variation in the United Kingdom.
 - The regional dialects of England: major divisions. English in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Compulsory Readings:

- Görlach, Manfred. (1991). *Introduction to Early Modern English*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Pyles, Thomas & John Algeo. (2010) (6th ed). *The Origins and Development of the English language*. Wadsworth: Cengage Learning.

Recommended Bibliography:

- Blake, Norman F. (1996). *A History of the English Language*. London: Macmillan Press.
- Hughes, Geoffrey. (2000). *A History of English Words*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Lass, Roger (ed.) (2000). *The Cambridge History of the English Language. Vol. III: 1476-1776*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Mugglestone, Lynda. (1995). 'Talking Proper?' *The Rise of Accent as Social Symbol*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- Mugglestone, Lynda (ed.) (2012). *The Oxford History of English*. Oxford: OUP.
- Nevalainen, Terttu and Helena Raumolin-Brunberg. (2003). *Historical Sociolinguistics*. London: Longman.
- Romaine, Suzanne (ed.) (1992). *The Cambridge History of the English Language. Vol. IV: 1776-present day*. Cambridge: CUP.

4.4. Course planning and calendar

Further information concerning the timetable, classroom, office hours, assessment dates and other details regarding this course, will be provided on the first day of class or please refer to the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts website (academic calendar: <http://academico.unizar.es/calendario-academico/calendario>, timetable: <https://fyl.unizar.es/horario-de-clases#overlay-context=horario-de-clases>; assessment dates: <https://fyl.unizar.es/calendario-de-examenes#overlay-context=>)