

Academic Year/course: 2022/23

27843 - Literary Genres in English Literature I

Syllabus Information

Academic Year: 2022/23

Subject: 27843 - Literary Genres in English Literature I

Faculty / School: 103 - Facultad de Filosofía y Letras

Degree: 107 - Mobility for Degree
416 - Degree in English

ECTS: 6.0

Year:

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

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

The courses that cover the field of English Literature within the degree in English Studies and, thus, the specific course covered in this course description, consist of a theoretical and a practical part. Therefore, there will be lessons that deal more specifically with introducing content of a conceptual and theoretical nature as well as practical sessions dedicated to the analysis of the plays included in the syllabus, applying the acquired knowledge and the appropriate tools of text commentary.

In addition to training the students' skills in literary analysis, the practical sessions offer the lecturer the opportunity to check if the students have understood and assimilated the contents explained in the theoretical lessons and, also, if they are able to apply that knowledge when interpreting specific literary texts. During the office hours, the lecturer will be available to guide the students' autonomous learning and resolve doubts and difficulties encountered by them.

Since the lessons and all the activities will be in English, it is important for the students to be aware that their English level will have a direct influence on everything related to the course, from being able to follow the lessons to the completion of the tasks, including those that form the basis of their assessment.

4.2. Learning tasks

The syllabus offered to the students to help them achieve the expected learning outcomes includes the following activities:

1. In-class activities

1.a. Participatory lectures (30 hours/ 1,2 credits): introduction to the cultural and historical context, the authors, their plays, the concepts and the critical approaches relevant to the study of English theatre.

1.b. Practical sessions/seminars (30 30 hours/ 1,2 credits): analysis of and debate on the plays that comprise the syllabus.

2. Supervised activities

Tutorials (2,5 horas/ 0,1 créditos): dedicated to supervising the students' progress on their presentations and papers.

3. Autonomous activities

3.a. Study, obligatory readings, complementary bibliography. (70 hours/ 2,8 credits)

3.b. Elaboration of presentations and papers. (15 hours/ 0,6 credits)

4. Assessment

Written exam (theory questions and practical activities) (2.5 hours/0,1 credits)

4.3. Syllabus

1. Introduction to the theory, concepts and characteristics of drama

Reading: Aristotle, Poetics (selection)

2. Renaissance Theatre

Readings:

Christopher Marlowe, Doctor Faustus

William Shakespeare, The Tempest

William Shakespeare, Macbeth

3. The Comedy of Manners

Reading: William Congreve, The Way of the World

4. Fin-de-siècle theatre: from Victorianism to the 20th century

Reading: Oscar Wilde, The Importance of Being Earnest

5. The Theatre of the Absurd

Reading: Tom Stoppard, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead

6. Postmodern and In-yer-face Theatre

Readings:

Caryl Churchill, Top Girls

Sarah Kane, Blasted

4.4. Course planning and calendar

a) Participatory lectures (30 hours/ 1,2 credits): dedicated to:

- the introduction to the historical and cultural context: before addressing the analysis of the plays of the different periods that are the object of study in this course, the lecturer explains the most relevant historical and socio-cultural events and their impact on the drama and theater of the period.
- the description of the general characteristics of the most representative genres in English drama and theatre
- the introduction to the plays contained in the syllabus, which will then be analyzed in the practical sessions.
- the presentation of concepts and critical approaches relevant to the study of plays.

b) Practical sessions/seminars (30 30 hours/ 1,2 credits): Understanding a play requires knowledge about: 1) the epoch in which the play was written; 2) the linguistic and literary codes (topics, genres, traditions, stage conventions...); 3) the play as communication (the author, the audience addressed, theatres and acting companies, methods of representation, reception and criticism); and 4) the text itself. The students will read the mandatory readings before their in-class discussion. There will be both whole-play discussions and close reading activities of specific scenes.

c) Autonomous activities (70 hours, 2,8 credits): The individual student work will consist in studying the topics dealt with in class, deepening the knowledge about the with the help of the recommended bibliography, as well as reading the plays in the syllabus in preparation for the in-class discussion, the final exam, the presentations and papers.

d) Preparation of presentations and papers (15 hours, 0,6 credits). The students will attend tutorials during the lecturer?s office hours so as to receive advice and guidance in the preparation of presentations and the elaboration of papers.

e) Exam (2,5 hours, 0,1 credits).

The exam will take place in February, at the official date set by the Faculty of Arts. The students will have a maximum of 2,5 hours to write it.

Paper: If the students want feedback on a first draft of their (optional) paper, they will have to hand it in by the first session in December.