Universidad Zaragoza

Academic Year/course: 2023/24

27840 - Other Literatures in English

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24
Subject: 27840 - Other Literatures in English
Faculty / School: 103 - Facultad de Filosofía y Letras
Degree: 416 - Degree in English
ECTS: 6.0
Year: 4
Semester: Second semester
Subject type: Compulsory
Module:

1. General information

The main objective of this subject is to provide students with the basic knowledge about colonial and post-colonial literature and to provide them with the tools and critical and formal skills necessary to address the analysis of specific literary texts in this historical and socio-cultural context, as well as to frame the works in the appropriate genre and context, to relate them to the motifs, themes and conventions of this literature, and to develop their own interpretations of them. They will be made aware of the impact this literature has had on global, cultural and ideological developments. These approaches are aligned with the SDGs, so that the acquisition of the learning outcomes will contribute to some extent to the achievement of goals 4, 5, 10, 16 and 17.

2. Learning results

In order to pass the subject, the student must accomplish the following goals:

Define and delimit chronologically and geographically the main branches and trends in colonial and post-colonial literature.

Understand and argue these differences taking into account the historical context and the different ideological/nationalist movements that questioned and ended the colonial process.

Know the most representative genres, authors and works of the different branches and trends of colonial and post-colonial literature in the English language.

Summarise the most relevant formal characteristics and basic contents of the texts included in the programme.

Frame the works in the corresponding historical and literary context in which they were conceived.

Correctly analyse poems, short stories or fragments of longer texts using the relevant critical and formal tools.

Expose their own ideas on topics related to the periods and works covered in the programme.

Use appropriate bibliographical sources to study specific topics related to colonial and post-colonial literature in English, select the most relevant ones, and express and articulate the information in a coherent way.

Appreciate the importance of the authors and works included in the programme, as well as that of the colonial and post-colonial period, for a better understanding of the current English and world reality.

Use the English language more correctly, both orally and in writing, at C1 level of the CEFR.

3. Syllabus

1. Introduction: a) Coming to Terms with Terminology; b) Re-defining Contemporary 'english' literature: Questioning the Anglo-Centric Cultural Tradition.
2. India and Pakistan: a) Introduction to the colonization process; b) Analysis of Kipling's "Lispeth"; extracts from E.M. Forster's *A Passage to India*; Narayan's *Waiting for the Mahatma*; one short story by Rohinton Mistry; and one short story by Jhumpa Lahiri.
3. Australia and New Zealand: (a) Introduction to the colonization process; Analysis of Mansfield's "Prelude" and Mudrooroo's *Dr Wooreddy's Prescription for Enduring the Ending of the World*.
4. South Africa: a) Introduction to the colonization process; b) Analysis of Nadine Gordimer's "A City of the Dead, a City of the Living" and Zöe Wicomb's "Another Story".
5. The Caribbean: a) Introduction to the colonization process; b) Analysis of Jean Rhys's "Mannequin" and Jamaica Kincaid's "What I Have Been Doing Lately".

4. Academic activities

Theoretical classes: introduction to the historical, geographical, ideological and cultural context of each branch of colonial and post-colonial literature, in order to identify the characteristics of the most relevant genres of these literatures, their main authors and works, and the key concepts and tools for their correct understanding and analysis.

Practical classes to analyse the compulsory texts of the programme.

SUPERVISED **ACTIVITIES**

Individual tutorials for the follow-up of the two volunteer essays.

AUTONOMOUS ACTIVITIES

Study of the topics, compulsory readings, consultation of basic bibliography. Preparation of essays.

EVALUATION

Global written test, of a theoretical and practical nature. Submission of the final version of the written volunteer essays.

5. Assessment system

FIRST CALL

It will consist of a written global test comprising the following parts:

1) Theory (60%), which will consist of short answer questions on the topics and works covered (30%), and the development of a topic related to the contents of the subject (30%).

2) Practice (40 %), in which the student will be given a quotation or fragment of a text to identify and comment on, inserting it into the literary tradition to which it belongs.

Students may submit two volunteer individual essays (1000 words each) on the works studied in class, in order to improve their exam mark by up to 1 point (up to 0.5 points per essay) if a minimum of 5 has been achieved in the global test.

SECOND CALL

Global assessment test of the same characteristics as in the first call. If the student has handed in individual essays during the course, their marks will be kept.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Students must demonstrate, both in the exam and in their essays, that they:

- Have read the compulsory texts in the original language.
- Delimit and synthesise the characteristics of the historical, geographical, cultural and literary period correctly.
- Name and place authors, works, genres and literary trends appropriately.
- Rigurously analyse texts using the relevant critical tools.
- Frame the texts in the appropriate historical and ideological context.