

**COURSE DATA****Data Subject**

<b>Code</b>	35333
<b>Name</b>	Introduction to English literature
<b>Cycle</b>	Grade
<b>ECTS Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Academic year</b>	2023 - 2024

**Study (s)**

<b>Degree</b>	<b>Center</b>	<b>Acad. year</b>	<b>Period</b>
1000 - Degree in English Studies	Faculty of Philology, Translation and Communication	1	Second term

**Subject-matter**

<b>Degree</b>	<b>Subject-matter</b>	<b>Character</b>
1000 - Degree in English Studies	6 - Introduction to English literature studies	Obligatory

**Coordination**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>
GAVIÑA COSTERO, MARIA	155 - English and German

**SUMMARY**

The course seeks to provide students with guidelines about how to read and build a critical response to fiction, plays and poems of English literature; and to familiarize them with the main conventions, genres, works and authors in the different periods of English-speaking literatures in Great Britain, Ireland and the Commonwealth. Students are expected to be able to locate individual works and authors in their historical and cultural context, and to gain knowledge of the basic techniques and conventions of playwriting, the writing of poems, and the writing of prose and fiction.

**PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE**



### **Relationship to other subjects of the same degree**

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

### **Other requirements**

None.

## **COMPETENCES (RD 1393/2007) // LEARNING OUTCOMES (RD 822/2021)**

### **1000 - Degree in English Studies**

- Students must have acquired knowledge and understanding in a specific field of study, on the basis of general secondary education and at a level that includes mainly knowledge drawn from advanced textbooks, but also some cutting-edge knowledge in their field of study.
- Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually in their field of study) to make judgements that take relevant social, scientific or ethical issues into consideration.
- Demonstrate, within the field of English Studies, an ethical attitude that focuses on aspects such as gender equality, equal opportunities, the values of the culture of peace and democracy and a sensitiveness regarding environmental problems and sustainability while, at the same time, knowing about and being able to appreciate linguistic diversity and multiculturalism.
- Apply ICT and computer programs, either locally or through a network, in the field of English Studies.
- Demonstrate communicative and social competence in the English language (oral and written comprehension and expression, communicative interaction and mediation that includes correct grammar and style).
- Develop a critical ability to explain literary texts in English and to identify aesthetic conventions, movements, periods, genres, authors and works in English language and their modes of production.
- Know and apply the currents and methodologies of literary theory and criticism.

## **LEARNING OUTCOMES (RD 1393/2007) // NO CONTENT (RD 822/2021)**

Having successfully completed the course, students will be able to

- locate individual works and authors in their historical and cultural context
- explain how some titles and authors are included or excluded from literary canons
- describe the conventions and techniques used in specific texts as related to genres, periods and movements in English literature,
- identify passages from literary works in English that they have read
- describe the plot, structure, character, setting, style, and mood or atmosphere of a literary work they have read
- discern the meaning and theme(s) of literary works or excerpts in English
- explain the way the meaning and effect of a literary text are conveyed through its linguistic choices in a stylistic commentary 'close reading' or 'practical criticism' essay
- explain how a poem's prosody contributes to its communicative purpose
- explain how the use of types of narrators and of focalization condition the unfolding of narrative



- translate a text in English into the official languages of the Valencian Community

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

**1. Contexts and definitions. What is English literature? Periodization and canon formation in English literature.**

**2. Introduction to reading and analysing English literature. Close reading. Writing critical and stylistic analysis of short literary texts.**

**3. How to read a poem. Rhythm and metre in English literature; verse forms and stanzas; imagery; main genres in the English poetic tradition.**

**4. How to read a play. Dramatic text and performance. Main genres in the English dramatic tradition.**

**5. How to read fiction. Narratology. Main narrative genres in English literature.**

## WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theory classes	60,00	100
Study and independent work	60,00	0
Preparation of evaluation activities	30,00	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150,00</b>	

## TEACHING METHODOLOGY

### In-class activities

**Critical evaluation of primary and secondary source material:** In-class discussion of the most outstanding and controversial issues relating to the major genres, historical periods, intellectual contexts, literary movements, key authors and works.



Lectures will focus on clarification and discussion of key concepts and techniques for students rather than on exposition of matter they can find in the dossiers and bibliography. Consequently, students are expected to work on assigned tasks (reading sections from course dossiers, answering questions set in advance) before attending class.

**Close-reading of relevant texts** taking into account the texts' specific circumstances of production and reception.

Other activities: Tutorials for individual orientation.

## EVALUATION

Assessment breakdown in the First and Second Calls:

- Individual written exam : 40%
- Critical and stylistic analysis : 40%
- Activities carried out during the course : 20%

In order to pass the subject, students must obtain a minimum of a 5 in both their written exam and their critical and stylistic analysis. For the second call, they will only have to repeat the activity that has not reached that 5-point minimum.

The mark obtained in the “Activities carried out during the course” will be carried over to the second call. This mark shall not be reassessed in the second call, but will remain the same as in the first call.

The ability to communicate at the B2 (CEFR level) is required to pass the course as a whole. Students whose communication (written and/or oral) displays errors that are not consistent with the above level will fail the module regardless of their performance related to the course contents.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated; it is a serious academic offence. Any student who is found to have committed plagiarism in his/her work for the course will face serious consequences which will lead to failing the whole subject.

Intellectual honesty is vital to an academic community and for the fair evaluation of the student's work. All work submitted in this course must be originally authored by every student. No student shall engage in unauthorized collaboration or make use of ChatGPT or other AI composition software.

## REFERENCES

### Basic

- Abrams, M.H. A Glossary of Literary Terms. 7th ed., Heinle & Heinle, 1999.
- Bate, Jonathan. English Literature: A Very Short Introduction. Oxford UP, 2016,
- Cavanagh, Dermot et al. The Edinburgh Introduction to Studying English Literature. Edinburgh UP, 2010. [UV online access]
- Greenblatt, Stephen, gen. ed. The Norton Anthology of English Literature. Norton, 2006.



Introduction to Practical Criticism The Virtual Classroom. University of Cambridge.  
<https://www.english.cam.ac.uk/classroom/pracrit.htm>  
Lennard, John. The Poetry Handbook : a Guide to Reading Poetry for Pleasure and Practical Criticism. 1996. Oxford UP, 2005 [UV online access]  
Mikics, David. A New Handbook of Literary Terms. Yale UP, 2007. [UV online access]  
Miller, Lindy. Mastering Practical Criticism. Palgrave, 2001.  
Peck, J. and M. Coyle. Practical Criticism. Macmillan, 1995.  
Rainsford, Dominic. Studying Literature in English: An Introduction. Oxford UP, 2014.  
Rimmon-Kennan, Shlomith. Narrative Fiction. 1983. 2nd ed., London, 2002  
Whitla, William. The English Handbook. A Guide to Literary Studies. Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.

### **Additional**

- Gómez Lara, Manuel J., and Juan A. Prieto Pablos. The Ways of the Word: an Advanced Course on Reading and the Analysis of Literary Texts. Universidad de Huelva, 1994.  
Fraser, G. S. Metre, Rhyme and Free Verse. Routledge, 1991  
Harmon, William and C. Hugh Holman. A Handbook to Literature. Prentice Hall, 2000.  
Murfin, Ross and Suprya M. Ray. The Bedford Glossary of Critical and Literary Terms. Bedford/St. Martin's / Palgrave Macmillan, 2009.  
Peck, John. How to Study a Poet. Palgrave, 1988.  
Peck, John, and Martin Coyle. How to Study a Shakespeare Play. 2nd ed., Palgrave, 1995.  
Peck, John. How to Study a Novel. Palgrave, 1995.  
Wales, Katie. A Dictionary of Stylistics. Longman, 1991.  
Widdowson, Peter. The Palgrave Guide to English Literature and its contexts, 1500-2000. Palgrave Macmillan, 2004
- HISTORIES OF ENGLISH LITERATURE (SELECTION)  
Alexander, Michael. A History of English Literature. Palgrave Macmillan, 2013.  
Baugh, Albert, ed. A Literary History of England. 2nd ed., Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1967. 4 vols.  
Burgess, Anthony. English Literature: A Survey for Students. Longman, 1974  
Carter, R. and J. McRae. The Routledge History of English Literature: Britain and Ireland. 2nd ed., Routledge, 2001.  
Daiches, David. A Critical History of English Literature. Secker and Warburg, 1972-74. 4 vols.  
Peck, John and Martin Coyle. A Brief History of English Literature. Palgrave, 2002.