

27843 - Literary Genres in English Literature I

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2024/25

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

The objective of this subject is to provide students with knowledge of English drama, as well as skills for its comprehension and analysis. Through the study of representative texts from different periods, students will acquire an advanced level of analytical and interpretative skills that will enable them to understand the defining features (motifs, themes, conventions, structures, etc.) of dramatic literature within the corresponding socio-historical and cultural contexts. By studying these texts, the subject also aims to improve students' English language skills in an academic context.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG):

Goal 4: Quality education.

Goal 10: Reduced inequalities.

Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.

2. Learning results

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

Define and date the different periods into which the evolution of dramatic literature in English is divided.

Justify this periodization taking into account the historical context and the changes and evolution undergone by literature in each of these periods.

Explain, within each period, which are the most representative dramatic subgenres, as well as the most outstanding authors and plays.

Describe the most relevant formal characteristics and the basic contents of the plays included in the syllabus and identify in them the defining features of a dramatic subgenre and/or of a specific author.

Explain the relationship of these plays to both the cultural-historical and the literary context in which they were composed and compare aspects of plays from different periods.

Analyse plays or fragments of plays included in the syllabus, appropriately employing basic tools for literary text commentary and applying them to the study of the form and content of the texts.

Express and justify personal ideas and reflections on specific topics from among those covered in relation to the literature of the period covered by the subject or a specific play/author from among those studied in class.

Use bibliographic and Internet resources to obtain information on a specific subject and present it in a clear and structured way, acknowledging and correctly citing sources.

Establish connections with current reality, assessing the contribution of the movements, authors and plays studied.

Express themselves correctly in English, both orally and in writing, at a level of at least C1.1.

3. Syllabus

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

Reading: Aristotle, *Poetics* (sections 5-18)

2. Renaissance Theatre

Readings:
Christopher Marlowe, *Doctor Faustus* (A-Text, selected scenes).
William Shakespeare, *Macbeth*
William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*

3. The Comedy of Manners

Reading: Aphra Behn, *The Rover*

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: Samuel Beckett, *Krapp's Last Tape* (a one-act play)

6. Postmodern and In-yer-face Theatre

Readings:

Caryl Churchill, *Top Girls*

Sarah Kane, *Blasted*

4. Academic activities

IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES

- a. Theory sessions, dedicated to the presentation of the concepts, the historical-cultural contexts, the authors and the plays.
- b. Practice sessions, dedicated to the analysis of and commentary on the texts in the syllabus. There will be discussion activities on questions previously raised by the instructor as well as interpretations of specific fragments.

SUPERVISED ACTIVITIES

Tutorials dedicated to resolving doubts and supervising the planning and the development of the oral presentations.

AUTONOMOUS ACTIVITIES

- a. Study, obligatory readings, preparation of the discussion questions, consulting of complementary bibliography
- b. Elaboration of presentations.

5. Assessment system

FIRST CALL

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT (100%)

- 1) Oral presentation on an aspect of an English play (30%)
- 2) Three tests written along the semester, consisting of questions about concepts, periods, texts and authors dealt with in the syllabus (60%)
- 3) Debates and other oral in-class activities (10%)

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT (100%)

An exam consisting of two parts, to be taken on the date set in the academic calendar:

- 1) Questions about concepts, periods, texts and authors dealt with in the syllabus (60%)
- 2) An essay question about one of the plays in the syllabus (40 %)

SECOND CALL

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT (100%)

Exam with the same characteristics as that of the first sitting.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Ability to define concepts, explain periods, genres, authors and plays and provide personal interpretations. A minimum mark of 4,5 points must be obtained in each part in order to be counted towards the mark(s) for the other part(s). A minimum of 5 points must be obtained to pass the course.

6. Sustainable Development Goals

- 4 - Quality Education
- 10 - Reduction of Inequalities
- 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions