

COURSE INFORMATION

Literature in English Seminar II: Irish literature: Between Tradition and Innovation.

Degree in English Philology, 5th year
Academic Year 2011-2012
Second semester: 3 hours, 2 days a week
4.5 credits

TEACHING STAFF

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Office hours:

First semester: Wednesdays and Thursdays 10.00-13.00; Wednesdays 16.00-17.00 (by appointment only)

Second semester: Mondays 9.00-12.00; 16.00-17.00 (by appointment only);
Tuesdays 9.30-10.30; Fridays 10.00-11.00 and 13.30-14.30

PROGRAMME

1. DESCRIPTION

Advanced analytical study of specific English literary texts, with a special focus on movements, authors, styles, etc.

2. OBJETIVES

This subject is intended for students in the second cycle of Filología Inglesa and it analyses Irish literature along the years. Students will get to know and describe how the main Irish literary figures have shaped an oral and written tradition that has persisted up to the twenty-first century. A study of some relevant texts is proposed in an attempt to identify the identity and uniqueness of Irish literature.

3. PREREQUISITES

There are no official pre-requisites for this subject. However, it is highly recommended that students have an advanced level of English for the readings, class participation and written exam.

4. CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION. IRELAND: GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, CULTURAL TRADITION AND LITERATURE.

Readings: Selections of texts, pictures, maps, movies, videos

2. FROM THE EARLY STAGES TO THE 18TH CENTURY: THE COLONIAL AND REGIONAL PHASES

Readings: Jonathan Swift (Selection of texts) y Maria Edgeworth (*Castle Rackrent*)

3. THE IRISH LITERARY RENAISSANCE

Readings: W.B. Yeats (Selection of texts)

4. IRISH MODERNISM

Readings: James Joyce *Dubliners*

5: TRADITION AND INNOVATION IN CONTEMPORARY TIMES

Readings: Edna O'Brien (Selection of texts)

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

A varied list of books and articles will be provided at the end of each unit. Students will have access to the primary sources in Moodle.

6. METHODOLOGY

Lessons combine theoretical explanation with practical sessions for the analysis of texts, visual documents and students' class presentations. Students will have a detailed *syllabus* that will help them identify the units and activities to be covered each day of class. Attendance and participation will be highly considered.

7. ASSESSMENT. The final mark will be obtained from the mark in the final written exam plus the mark in the class presentation plus active participation in specialized tutorials and attendance, as well as the submission of assignments in workshops.

June:

a. Final written exam about the contents covered in class (70%)

b. Participation and class presentation (20%) Each student must do a class presentation about a critical commentary of an article or book that will be assigned to him/her at the beginning of the course. This presentation is **compulsory to pass the subject** and it will consist of a) article/book thesis b) important points in the article/ book c) critical evaluation of its content, exposition, scientific justification, formal aspects, style, clarity etc. This oral presentation will last for 10 minutes on the indicated day in the programme and it will be accompanied by an outline (**1 page only**) that will be distributed among the class by the student. **The content of these articles/ books is considered part of the programme and part of the exam too.**

c. Specialized tutorials (5%). These are specific activities that will be described in the syllabus.

d. Workshops (5%) These are academic activities that are offered along the semester for students in 3rd, 4th and 5th year.

September and December: Students' mark along the semester (class presentation, specialized tutorials and workshops) will be kept. The percentage obtained in each activity will be added to the percentage in the exam (70%).