



## COURSE DATA

### DATA SUBJECT

**Code:** 35336

**Name:** English narrative in the 20th and 21st centuries

**Cycle:** Undergraduate Studies

**ECTS Credits:** 6

**Academic year:** 2025-26

### STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1000 - Degree in English Studies	Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació	2	Second quarter

### SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1000 - Degree in English Studies	English literature	COMPULSORY

### COORDINATION

COPERIAS AGUILAR MARIA JOSE

## SUMMARY

This course seeks to familiarize students with the main movements, modes, genres, authors and works of English prose fiction in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, and to guide them in the development of critical skills needed to understand and provide a reasoned response to literary texts in relation to issues such as gender relations, social stratification, ideological censure or religious and philosophical questions.

## PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

### RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

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

### OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Adequate English language proficiency to read the works in the original (not in translation or simplified form) and to understand the necessary bibliography to read them critically.



## COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

### 1000 - Degree in 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.

Relate geographical and historical aspects and the most relevant institutions in the Anglophone world to contemporary society and culture.

Students must be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and have acquired the competences required for the preparation and defence of arguments and for problem solving 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.

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

### 1. Defining terms in narrative

Both basic and complex narratology terms are presented with examples to be discussed in class.

### 2. Brief review of fiction previous to the 20th century

An overview of prose fiction prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> century is presented in order to better understand the most important movements in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### 3. The realist tradition

Study of some of the realist novelists writing at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and analysis of their works.

### 4. Modernism: Transition and development

The shift from realism towards modernism. Analysis of the social and cultural circumstances for this shift and study of the most representative authors and their works.



**5. The novel between the wars**

Study of the most relevant novelists influenced by both World Wars and analysis of their works.

**6. The post-war novel: the 1950s and 1960s**

Analysis of the new political, economic, social and cultural circumstances in the UK after the II World War, and study of the most representative authors and their works.

**7. Post-modernism and experimentation**

Main features of post-modernism. Study of the most relevant post-modernist novelists and analysis of their works.

**8. Other narratives in English**

Study of novelists coming from different ethnic and national backgrounds other than the mainstream canon and analysis of their works.

**9. New voices**

Examples of some of the latest contributions to the English novel published in the United Kingdom and some countries in the Commonwealth.

On successful completion of this course, students should be able to accomplish the following **Learning Outcomes**:

- Write essays on topics assigned by the lecturer or chosen by the student related to one or several literary works in English.
- Write in-depth papers and summaries from bibliographical research related to works, genres and movements in English literature.
- Identify and describe the aesthetic conventions, their evolution, modes of production and reception of works, genres and movements in English literature.
- Explain and assess literary texts in English using different critical approaches and in relation to their respective literary and historical contexts.
- Write a stylistic commentary or 'practical criticism' essay on a literary excerpt or a short literary text in English.
- Describe the modes of production and distribution of literary texts in English.

**WORKLOAD**

**PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Activity	Hours
Theory	60,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>60,00</b>

**NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	30,00
Independent study and work	40,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	20,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>90,00</b>

**TEACHING METHODOLOGY****-Theory-based classes:**

Lectures will focus on both exposition of the contents and clarification and discussion of key concepts and techniques.

**-Practical classes:**

Criticism and discussion of novels and short stories in which students are encouraged to put into use their critical competence. Practice in stylistic commentary of fragments.

This course is in accordance with the following **Sustainable Development Goals**:

- 4. Quality education
- 5. Gender equality
- 10. Reduced inequalities
- 13. Climate action

**EVALUATION**

Assessment for the first and second calls:

- A) Individual written examination consisting of questions on the contents of the course: 50%.
- B) Practical test on the set readings: 10%.
- C) Written assignments: 30%.
- D) Participation and in-class activities: 10%.

A final average mark will only be given if



\* the sum of parts a) and b) is marked above 2.5 (in a scale from 0.1 to 6), and

\* if the sum of parts c) and d) is marked above 2 (in a scale from 0.1 to 4).

The marks obtained in part **c) Written assignments** will be carried over to the second call. In the event that students have re-sit this part, the maximum possible mark can only be 15% of the total grade.

The marks obtained in part **d) Participation and in-class activities** have just one call.

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

**IMPORTANT:** Plagiarism will not be tolerated; it is a serious academic offence and therefore will be penalized by failing the course.

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.

The general grading system will follow the regulations of the Universitat de València approved by the Consell de Govern on 30 May 2017. ACGUV 108/2017.

## REFERENCES

### Basic References

Abrams, M.H. et al. 2015. *A glossary of literary terms*, 11th edition. Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning.

Boulton, Marjorie. 1975. *The Anatomy of the Novel*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul.

Caserio, Robert L. (ed.). 2009. *The Cambridge Companion to the Twentieth-Century English Novel*. Cambridge: CUP.

Hawthorn, Jeremy. (1985) 2001. *Studying the novel: An Introduction*. London: Arnold.

Head, Dominic. 2002. *The Cambridge Introduction to Modern British Fiction, 1950-2000*. Cambridge: CUP.

Leech, Geoffrey N. & Short, Michael H. 1981. *Style in fiction. A linguistic introduction to English fictional prose*. London & New York: Longman.



Marcus, Laura & Nicholls, Peter. 2008. *The Cambridge History of Twentieth-Century English Literature*. Cambridge: CUP.

McHale, Brian & Stevenson, Randall (eds.). 2024 (2006). *The Edinburgh Companion to Twentieth-century Literatures in English*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP.

Rimmon-Kenan, Shlomith. 1992. *Narrative Fiction: Contemporary Poetics*. London: Routledge.

Stringer, Jenny (ed.). 1996. *The Oxford companion to Twentieth-century literature in English*. Oxford / New York: OUP.

### Complementary References

Hewitt, Douglas. 1988. *English Fiction of the Early Modern Period, 1890-1940*. London: Longman.

Kettle, Arnold. 1985. *Introduction to the English Novel*. London: Hutchinson.

Lodge, David. 1986. *20th Century Literary Criticism: A Reader*. London: Longman.

Onega, Susana & García Landa, José Ángel. 1996. *Narratology*. London: Longman.

Peck, John. 1995. *How to Study a Novel* (2nd edition). Basingstoke: Palgrave.

Stevenson, Randall. 1986. *The British Novel since the Thirties*. London: B.T. Batsfor Ltd.

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Tew, Philip. 2004. *The Contemporary British Novel*. London / New York: Continuum.

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