

**COURSE DATA****DATA SUBJECT****Code:** 35337**Name:** English poetry 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	3	Second quarter

**SUBJECT-MATTER**

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

**COORDINATION**

TERUEL POZAS MIGUEL

**SUMMARY**

The course proposes a practical approach to poetic writing in English in the 20th and 21st centuries, in search of the methods that may allow its discovery, reading, understanding and commentary.

The texts to be explored in the course will be aimed at helping students

- to gain knowledge of the basic techniques and conventions of the writing of poems,
- to develop a critical awareness of the changing contexts and possibilities of poetic writing,
- to locate individual works and authors in their historical and cultural context,
- to discuss their critical reception, and their translation,
- and to write their reading experiences and critical responses into academic essays.



## PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

### RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

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

### OTHER REQUIREMENTS

English at B2 level.

## COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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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 linguist diversity and multiculturality.

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.

Have and apply general knowledge in humanistic areas related to this field of study.

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 communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both expert and lay audiences.

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.

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS



## 1. Modernism: Ezra Pound and T. S. Eliot

Imagism and Avant-Garde: The Pound Era. *The Waste Land*. Masks and translations.

## 2. First World War Poetry

Rupert Brooke, Charles Sorley, Siegfried Sassoon and Wilfred Owen. 'The Pity of War'.

## 3. Poets of the Thirties: W. H. Auden

Poetry, speech and the lyric. Queer silence. English Literature and Spanish Civil War.

## 4. Dylan Thomas and the Welsh Tradition

"Fern Hill" and epiphany. "Do Not Go Gentle..." and the villanelle. R. S. Thomas and Wales.

## 5. The Movement: Philip Larkin

Banality, autobiography, provincial England in the 1950s.

## 6. Poetry and Pop Music

A song is not a poem. Sociostylistics and the writing of lyrics. Poetry and performance.

## 7. Ted Hughes & Sylvia Plath



Biography and Art. Sylvia Plath and Medical Humanities. Ted Hughes and Animal Studies.

## 8. Seamus Heaney and the Irish Tradition

From Yeats to now. From landscape to folkscape. From The Troubles to Brexit.

## 9. Carol Ann Duffy and the Scottish Tradition

Women's voices. *The Other Country*. *The World's Wife*. 'Gàidhlig' and resilience.

## 10. Simon Armitage and the Contemporary Scene

The Poet Laureateship. Forms, contexts and themes in Contemporary Poetry.

Upon completion of the course students should have reached the following learning outcomes:

- Research and writing of essays on topics proposed by the lecturer or suggested by students dealing with the authors, works and themes explored in the course.
- Research, amplification and synthesis of bibliographical and electronic sources dealing with the authors, works and themes explored in the course.
- Comprehension and usage of concepts and practical skills related to aesthetic conventions and their evolution, and to modes of production and reception of the authors, works and themes explored in the course.
- Explanation, interpretation, critical revision and assessment of the authors, works and themes explored in the course using various methodological approaches in their respective cultural and historical contexts.
- Research and writing of stylistic commentaries of fragments, poems and collections.
- Identification of pieces and assessment of their signification.
- Research and writing of reviews of the works, translations and creative elaborations explored in the course.

**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	5,00
Individual or group project	10,00
Independent study and work	60,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	15,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>90,00</b>

**TEACHING METHODOLOGY**

**Theory-based classes:** Lectures and case studies.

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.

Sessions: Introduction, contextual and technical explorations of the authors and works studied.

**Practical classes:** Problem solving and case studies.

Students will focus on key concepts and techniques extracted from the set readings. Guidelines and suggestions for their papers and projects will be proposed and debated.

Sessions: Extensive reading and discussion of the works studied.

**Other activities:** Tutorials for individual orientation in preparing papers and projects.

**EVALUATION**



The assessment will be carried out through a set of individual written assignments to be agreed with the lecturer, dealing with authors, texts and themes covered in the course.

Students will be assessed upon completion of these assignments in an individual interview, be this in the first or second call.

The ability to communicate at the C1 (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.

**IMPORTANT:** Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and will be penalized by failing the course.

The final mark will take very much into account the active involvement of students in the course, both in class and in tutorials, and their creativity.

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 University of Valencia approved by the Consell de Govern on May 30, 2017. ACG ValenciaUV 108/2017.

## REFERENCES

- **ANTHOLOGIES**
- **Adcock, Fleur (Ed.)** *20th Century Women's Poetry* London: Faber, 1987.
- **Armitage, Simon; Robert Crawford (Eds.)** *The Penguin Book of Poetry from Britain and Ireland since 1945* London: Viking, 1998.
- **Astley, Neil (Ed.)** *Staying Alive: Real Poems for Unreal Times* Tarsset: Bloodaxe, 2008.
- **Bold, Alan (Ed.)** *Cambridge Book of English Verse: 1939-1975* Cambridge Univ. Press, 1977.
- **Enright, D.J. (Ed.)** *The Oxford Book of Contemporary Verse: 1945-1980* Oxford Univ. Press, 1981.



- **Heaney, Seamus; Ted Hughes (Eds.)** *The Rattle Bag* London: Faber, 1982.
- **Heaney, Seamus; Ted Hughes (Eds.)** *The School Bag* London: Faber, 1997.
- **Larkin, Philip (Ed.)** *The Oxford Book of Twentieth-Century English Verse* Oxford Univ. Press, 1973.
- **Morrison, Blake; Andrew Motion (Eds.)** *The Penguin Book of Contemporary British Poetry* Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1982.
- **O'Brien, Sean (Ed.)** *The Firebox* London: Picador, 1998.
- **Rennison, Nick; Michael Schmidt (Ed.)** *Poets on Poets* Manchester: Carcanet, 1997.
- **Shapcott, Jo; Matthew Sweeney (Eds.)** *Emergency Kit: Poems for Strange Times* London: Faber, 2004.

#### • TRANSLATIONS

- **Abrams, D. S. (Ed.)** *Poesía inglesa i nord-americana contemporània* Barcelona: Edicions 62, 1994.
- **Alonso, Dámaso (Ed.)** *Antología de poetas ingleses modernos* Madrid: Gredos, 1963.
- **Álvarez Amorós, J. A. (Tr.)** *Poetas "novísimos" ingleses* Alicante: Instituto Juan Gil-Albert, 1993.
- **Cisneros, Antonio (Tr.)** *Antología de la poesía inglesa contemporánea* Barcelona: Barral, 1975.
- **Díaz Borbón, Rafael (Ed.)** *Poetas británicos contemporáneos* Madrid: Centro de Estudios Poéticos Hispánicos, 1998.
- **García Martín, J. L. (Tr.)** *Poesía inglesa del siglo XX* Oviedo: Universo, 1993.
- **López Beltrán, Carlos; Pedro Serrano (Eds.; Trs.)** *La generación del cordero* México: Trilce, 2000.

#### • CRITICAL STUDIES

- **Bertram, Vicki (Ed.)** *Kicking Daffodils: Twentieth-Century Women Poets* Edinburgh Univ. Press, 1997.
- **Childs, Peter** *The Twentieth Century in Poetry: A Critical Survey* London: Routledge, 1999.
- **Corcoran, Neil (Ed.)** *The Cambridge Companion to Twentieth-Century English Poetry* Cambridge Univ. Press, 2007.
- **Curtis, Tony** *How To Study Modern Poetry* Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 1990.
- **Day, Gary; Brian Docherty (Eds.)** *British Poetry, 1900-1950: Aspects of Tradition* Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1995.
- **Day, Gary; Brian Docherty (Eds.)** *British Poetry from the 1950s to the 1990s: Politics and Art* Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1997.
- **Fraser, G. S.** *Metre, Rhyme and Free Verse* London: Routledge, 1991 (1970).
- **Hamilton, Ian (Ed.)** *The Oxford Companion to Twentieth-Century Poetry* Oxford Univ. Press, 1994.
- **Jeffries, Leslie** *The Language of Twentieth-Century Poetry* London: Macmillan, 1993.
- **Larrissy, Edward (Ed.)** *The Cambridge Companion to British Poetry, 1945-2010* Cambridge Univ. Press, 2015
- **Malcolm, David; Wolfgang Gortschafer (Eds.)** *A Companion to Contemporary British and Irish Poetry* Newark: John Wiley, 2020.
- **Noel-Tod, Jeremy; Ian Hamilton (Eds.)** *The Oxford Companion to Modern Poetry* Oxford Univ. Press, 2013.
- **Padel, Ruth** *52 Ways of Looking at a Poem, or How Reading Modern Poetry Can Change Your Life* London: Vinatge, 2004.



- **Peck, John; Martin Coyle** *How to Study a Poet* London: Palgrave, 1988.
  - **Press, John** *A Map of Modern English Verse* Oxford Univ. Press, 1969.
  - **Pujals, Esteban** *La poesía inglesa del siglo XX* Madrid: SGEL, 1980.
  - **Roberts, Neil (Ed.)** *A Companion to Twentieth-Century Poetry* Malden (MA): Blackwell, 2003.
  - **Schmidt, Michael** *Reading Modern Poetry* London: Routledge, 1989.
  - **Shapiro, Karl** *English Prosody and Modern Poetry* Folcroft (PA): Folcroft Library, 1975.
  - **Thurley, Geoffrey** *The Ironic Harvest: English Poetry in the Twentieth Century* London: Arnold, 1974.
  - **Thurston, Michael; Nigel Alderman** *Reading Postwar British and Irish Poetry* Somerset: John Wiley, 2014.
  - **Thwaite, Anthony** *Poetry Today: A Critical Guide to British Poetry, 1960-1995* London: Longman, 1996.
  - **Verdonk, Peter (Ed.)** *Twentieth-Century Poetry: From Text to Context* London: Routledge, 1993.
  - **Willhardt, Mark; Alan Michael Parker (Eds.)** *Who's Who in Twentieth-Century World Poetry* London: Routledge, 2000.
  - **Williams, Nerys** *Contemporary Poetry* Edinburgh Univ. Press, 2011.
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- Additional bibliography, updated references and electronic resources will be indicated in the corresponding Course Syllabus for every academic year.