



COURSE DATA

DATA SUBJECT

Code: 35339

Name: English literature in the 17th and 18th 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	4	Second quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

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

COORDINATION

RIBES TRAVER PURIFICACION

SUMMARY

In this course, students will be introduced to the historical, literary and critical contexts of Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century English Literature. An overview will be offered of the historical period, intellectual contexts, major genres, literary movements, key authors and works.

The students' ability to read 17th and 18th Century literary texts with a critical eye will be enhanced. Close-reading techniques will be practised and primary emphasis will be placed on the texts' specific circumstances of production and reception.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

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

OTHER REQUIREMENTS



Students are strongly recommended to take the following courses before signing up for 17th and 18th Century English Literature:

1. English Language VI (35328)
2. History of the English Language (35349)
3. History and Culture of English-speaking Countries (35319)
4. Introduction to English Literature (35333)
5. Practical Criticism Applied to English Literature (35334)

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.

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 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 developed the learning skills needed to undertake further study with a high degree of autonomy.

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. LATE ELIZABETHAN AND JACOBEAN COMEDY

Close reading of Jonson's *Volpone*



2. JACOBEAN TRAGEDY

Close reading of Shakespeare's *King Lear*

3. THE TRIBE OF BEN AND THE CAVALIER POETS

Close reading of poems by Lovelace and Herrick

4. METAPHYSICAL POETRY

Close reading of poems by John Donne

5. JOHN MILTON

Close reading of *Paradise Lost*

6. RESTORATION DRAMA

Close reading of Wycherley's *The Country Wife*

7. AUGUSTAN POETRY AND PROSE

Close reading of Pope's *The Rape of the Lock*

8. EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY PROSE FICTION

Close reading of Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* and Richardson's *Pamela*

9. EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY POETRY

Close reading of Gray's *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*

10. EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY DRAMA

Close reading of Sheridan's *The Rivals*

**WORKLOAD****PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Activity	Hours
Theory	60,00
Total hours	60,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	0,00
Independent study and work	60,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	30,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	90,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

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

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

Texts (whether theoretical, practical or a combination of both) to be discussed in class will be announced in advance.

EVALUATION**ASSESSMENT BREAKDOWN FOR THE FIRST AND SECOND CALLS**

Written exam on the theoretical aspects of the course: 50 % of final grade.



Practical test to assess the student's ability to read 17th and 18th century literary texts with a critical eye: 50% of final grade.

A final average mark will only be given if all parts are marked 5 or above (in a scale from 0.1 to 10, where the top mark is 10 and a pass is 5).

The ability to communicate at the C2 (CEFR level) is require to pass the course as a whole. Students whose communication displays errors that are not consistent with the above level will fail the module regardless of their performance related to the course contents.

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 Chat GPT or other AI composition software.

REFERENCES

- RIBES, P. (ed), 17th and 18th Century English Literature: An Anthology. Valencia: Tirant Humanidades, 2013 (Text selection for analysis and discussion).
- GREENBLATT, Stephen (Gen. Ed.). The Norton Anthology of English Literature. Vols. 1 & 2. New York. W.W. Norton, 9th edition, 2012.
- DAEMS, Jim. Seventeenth-Century Literature and Culture. London, Continuum, 2006.
- GORING, Paul. Eighteenth-Century Literature and Culture. London, Continuum, 2008.



- MURFIN, R. & S. M. RAY. *The Bedford Glossary of Critical and Literary Terms*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's; Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009.
- SHAKESPEARE, William. *King Lear* (Foakes, R.A. ed.) London: Methuen. *The Arden Shakespeare. Third Series*. 2004 (1997) ISBN: 978-1903436592
- CARTER, Ronald & John McRae, *The Routledge History of Literature in English*. London: Routledge, 2nd ed., 2001. [Chapter 2. THE RENAISSANCE: pp. 51-57; 79-113 & Chapter 3. RESTORATION TO ROMANTICISM: 1660-1789: pp.117-196)
- JONSON, Ben. *Volpone* (Willmott, Richard, ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press. *New Oxford Student. Texts*, 2012. JONSON, Ben. *Volpone* (Bilingual edition) (Ribes, Purificación, ed. and trans.). Madrid: Cátedra, 2002.
- DONNE, John. *Songs and Sonnets* (Bilingual edition) (Ribes, Purificación, ed. and trans.). Madrid: Cátedra, 2004.
- MILTON, John. *Paradise Lost, Book IX* (Baldwin, Anna & Steven Croft, eds.). Oxford: Oxford University Press. *New Oxford Student Texts*, 2008.
- POPE, Alexander. *The Rape of the Lock* (Gurr, Elizabeth, ed.). Oxford: O.U.P. *New Oxford Student. Books*, 2007.
- WYCHERLEY, William. *The Country Wife* (Stern, Tiffany, ed.). *Bloomsbury Methuen Drama*. New



Mermaids 2nd. ed., 2014.

- DEFOE, Daniel. *Robinson Crusoe* (Keymer, Thomas & James Kelly, eds.) Oxford: Oxford World's Classics, 2007.
- SHERIDAN, Richard Brinsley. *The Rivals* (Maybank, Diane, ed.). Oxford: Oxford Student Texts, 2012.