



COURSE DATA

DATA SUBJECT

Code: 35352
Name: Monographic course in English literature
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
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	Monograph on English literature	ELECTIVES
1000 - Degree in English Studies	Monograph on English literature	ELECTIVES

COORDINATION

COPERIAS AGUILAR MARIA JOSE

SUMMARY

Victorian culture and fiction

This course seeks to familiarize students with the Victorian period, ranging from the late 1830s to the very early 20th century, focusing specifically on fiction, as the novel was the most popular genre at the time. Students will be guided 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 ideas. This period will be studied stemming from novels written in those years, although it will also be approached from a contemporary perspective.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

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



OTHER REQUIREMENTS

This course is related to different subjects in the area of literature, but there are no specified enrolment restrictions.

English language knowledge to read the works in the original (not in translation or simplified form) and the necessary bibliography is required. The ability to communicate at C1 (CEFR) level will be required to pass the course.

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction: Victorian Society and culture. Victorian fiction



Main features of Victorian society and culture and how they influenced the novels written in this period.

Development of the novel and main characteristics of the publishing process.

2. How to approach Victorian fiction in the 21st century.

Review of some of the most appropriate literary theories to study and analyse the Victorian novel as readers in the 21st century.

3. Digital humanities for the study of Victorian fiction

Digital humanities applied to literature in general and Victorian fiction in particular.

Review of some of the most relevant digital tools in this area.

4. The Bildungsroman in Victorian fiction

Origin and development of the *bildungsroman*, main features of this subgenre with examples from different fiction works.

Analysis of a representative novel.

5. The industrial and 'Condition of England' novel

The industrial revolution and its consequences, main features of this subgenre with examples from different fiction works.

Analysis of a representative novel.



6. The Victorian novel of manners and the Provincial novel

Predecessors of the novel of manners and the provincial novel, main features of this subgenre with examples from different fiction works.

Analysis of a representative novel.

7. Scandal and Detective Victorian fiction

Origin and development of the scandal and detective novel, main features of this subgenre with examples from different fiction works.

Analysis of a representative novel.

8. Victorian fiction for children

Origin and development of the fiction for children, main features of this subgenre with examples from different fiction works.

Analysis of a representative novel.

9. Rewriting Victorian fiction

The phenomenon of the rewriting of Victorian fiction drawing either on original works or some characteristics of the genre.

Analysis of a representative novel.

On successful completion of this course students should be able to:

-Write essays on topics assigned to by the lecturer or chosen by the student related to one or several literary works in English.



- 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.
- Identify excerpts from literary works in English covered during the course and assess their significance.
- Write a review of a literary work in English, a translation, a theatre production, a film.

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	40,00
Preparation of lessons	30,00
Preparation for assessment activities	20,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	90,00

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

Type of assessment	% of final grade
a. Individual written examination consisting of questions on the contents of the course.	50
b. Written assignments and projects.	40
c. Participation in class and in-class activities.	10

Assessment section a). The exam will consist of two parts:



- Identification and literary commentary of three excerpts from those texts analysed as set readings. Students will have to identify the author, title and subgenre, and then make a literary commentary of those excerpts (1 point x 3 excerpts = 3 points).
- Essay relating and/or analysing some of the works, authors, characteristics and issues seen in class. (2 points)

Assessment section b).

- Literary commentary of an excerpt from those analysed in class. (1 point)
- Essay (up to 500 words). (1 point)
- Project on a work of fiction other than the set readings for this course or the course on 'Nineteenth-Century English Literature'. Guidelines will be given in class and a template uploaded on Aula Virtual. (2 points)
- Active class participation and/or optional activities. (1 point)

A final average mark will only be given if

- the part a) is marked 2 or above (in a scale from 0.1 to 5), and
- the sum of parts b) and c) is marked 2 or above (in a scale from 0.1 to 5).

The marks obtained in part b) Written assignments and projects will be carried over to the second call.

The marks obtained in part c) 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 University of Valencia approved by the Consell de Govern on May 30, 2017. ACG ValenciaUV 108/2017.

REFERENCES

- BASIC REFERENCES
- Baker, William & Womack Kenneth (eds.). 2002. *A Companion to the Victorian Novel*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press.
- Brantlinger, Patrick & Thesing, William B. (eds.). 2005. *A Companion to the Victorian Novel*. Malden, MA; Oxford, UK : Blackwell.
- David, Deirdre (ed.). 2004. *The Cambridge Companion to the Victorian Novel*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- James, Louis. 2006. *The Victorian Novel*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Pub.
- Rodensky, Lisa (ed.). 2016. *The Oxford handbook of the Victorian novel*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Sutherland, John. 2009. *The Longman Companion to Victorian Fiction*, 2nd edition. London: Pearson Longman.
- Wheeler, Michael. 1994 (1985). *English Fiction of the Victorian Period 1830-1890*. London: Longman.

- COMPLEMENTARY REFERENCES
- Boehm-Schnitker, Nadine & Gruss, Susanne (eds.). 2014. *Neo-Victorian literature and culture: immersions and revisitations*. New York: Routledge.
- Downes, Daragh & Ferguson, Trish. 2016. *Victorian Fiction Beyond the Canon*. London: Palgrave.
- Sutherland, John (1995) 2006. *Victorian Fiction: Writers, publishers, readers*. Houndmills / New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

- Further references will be given in class.

- **Digital resources**
- <http://www.gutenberg.org>
- More digital resources will be provided in Unit 3.