



ICP
INSTITUT
CATHOLIQUE
DE PARIS

L'esprit grand ouvert sur le monde

BRITISH CIVILISATION

Bachelor in Applied Foreign Languages
Faculty of Liberal Arts

Course information

Bachelor year 3 24 HOURS

Fall Semester 5 ECTS

Lectures (CM)

Professor: Robert Ivermee

Course Code: FDL_LEA_L3_S5_AN_CIVI_C1

Course description

In this course, we will explore key aspects of British civilisation, including politics, society, economics and culture. Emphasis is placed on questions of identity: What does it mean to be British today? Is there such a thing as British culture? These questions will be explored in relation to British history and contemporary society. We will consider the diversity of Britain today in relation to race, religion, class, gender and other characteristics. Britain's role as a colonial and postcolonial power is studied, alongside the complicated place of Europe in British thought and public life. The contemporary transformation of British civilisation into a global commodity is examined.

Indicative topics:

Introduction: Britain today

Nations and national identities

Religion in Britain

Race in Britain

Class in Britain

Gender in Britain

Neoliberalism

The climate emergency

Legacies of empire

Culture and commodification

Britain and Europe

Exam preparation

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand key issues related to contemporary Britain
- Critically reflect on contemporary political, economic and social trends like the rise of inequality
- Deconstruct key concepts like national identity and British culture
- Write short analyses on the topics studied in class

Course Prerequisites

Minimum level of English B1

Methods of Instruction

A 2-hour weekly lecture. 12 weeks of teaching in total, with the final week dedicated to exam preparation. Interaction and discussion are encouraged.

Assessment and Final grade

A 2-hour written exam during the exam period at the end of the semester. Students write short responses to 3 questions, from a choice of about 11.

Course Requirements

Material to help prepare each lecture is made available on the learning platform. Students are expected to spend 1-2 hours per week preparing for the lecture.