



CULTURAL POLICIES IN THE UK (LECTURE)

Bachelor in English and American Language, Literature and History
Faculty of Liberal Arts

Course information

Bachelor year 3 12 HOURS
Fall Semester 5 ECTS
Lectures (CM)
Professor: Lucie de Carvalho (ENS; PhD Sorbonne University)

Course description

This class focusses on contemporary British cultural policies. It aims to study its key traditional actors and institutions, its economic and operational models, as well as the values and ambitions which have driven them since its major components were established. In that sense, the creation of the Welfare state institutions in postwar Britain was a major turning point in cementing the links between public institutions and the arts. We shall also study how cultural policies have been greatly influenced by the Victorian liberal understanding of public service and later by the contribution of the British Cultural Studies and its major scholarly voices, including Hoggart, Raymond or Hall, who questioned the fundamentally elitist and class-based nature of national cultural policies in the 1950s and 1970s. Besides, the idea will be to analyse which culture(s) have actually been promoted and represented, especially during key national events, such as The 1951 Festival of Britain or the opening ceremony of the 2012 Olympic Games in London. These events speak volumes on the way Britain's multicultural diversity has been construed and represented. Finally, specific case studies will also allow students to discuss the influence of often marginalised BAME artists and how contemporary controversies around the legacy of Britain's imperial past have contributed to reshaping its cultural policies as reflected in new museum practices.