British Literature Lectures (Bachelor Year 2 / Fall)

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

Introduction

The lecture course examines 19th and 20th-century British literature as much through artistic movements (linking Romanticism, Realism, Naturalism, Modernism, and its successors) as through the period's socio-cultural contexts. Moving across the genres, we explore the, oft-
recurring, themes of: industrialisation, urbanisation, the state of civil society, the colonial project, anarchism, the class system, the impact of war, stream of consciousness, allegory, dystopia, theatre as confrontation, conformism, regionalism, vernacular speech, and politics. We will look at the work of authors such as Dickens, Charlotte Brontë, Wells, Wilde, Conrad, A. Bennett, Shaw, the First-World-War poets, West, Eliot, Woolf, Orwell, Golding, Sillitoe, K. Amis, Beckett, Pinter, Orton, Welsh, and McEwan.

Objectives

This survey course seeks to plot historical development against the developing literatures of its periods to enable students to understand the literary innovations of writers, who are often keenly aware of one another. Students will be introduced to the methodology of textual commentary and hone their skills in reading, textual analysis, note-taking and essay writing.

Admission

Prerequisite

Prerequisites training

Students should have an advanced English level, read extracts in the course booklet ahead of the lectures, take copious notes, and be ready to read, annotate and weigh up secondary material on at least five of the authors.

Program

Methods of Instruction

Duration

1 semester

Teaching languages

- English

Conditions of submission

If you need more information about this course, kindly send an email to: incomingdri@icp.fr

Lectures will cover key periods with authors' reactions to these contexts. There will be some recitation and acting, and the use of primary and secondary sources, including cinema. By contextualising the authors, students will learn to critically discuss shared themes and the
differing approaches of literary movements.

Assessment and Final Grade

The assessment will be by a final exam of two hours.

Course Requirements

Regular attendance, constant reading from the bibliography, and judicious notetaking are the requirements of the course.