

ENGLISH RENAISSANCE LITERATURE

31036 - ENGLISH RENAISSANCE LITERATURE (2024-25)

General

Code: 31036

Lecturer responsible:

GONZALEZ FERNANDEZ DE SEVILLA, JOSE MANUEL

Credits ECTS:

6,00

Theoretical credits:

1,80

Practical credits:

0,60

Distance-base hours:

3,60

Departments involved

- **Dept:** ENGLISH STUDIES

Area: ENGLISH STUDIES

Theoretical credits: 1,8

Practical credits: 0,6

This Dept. is responsible for the course.

This Dept. is responsible for the final mark record.

Study programmes where this course is taught

- [DEGREE IN ENGLISH STUDIES](#)

Course type: COMPULSORY (Year: 3)

Competencies and objectives

Course context for academic year 2024-25

This subject introduces students to the literature of the English Renaissance through a combination of close reading and contextualisation in the cultural, social and political milieu. It focuses on the study and analysis of the most significant authors and works, particularly of those by William Shakespeare. In working with texts from this period, students will be building on critical and discursive skills developed in previous courses, as well as increasing their literary and historical knowledge.

Course content (verified by ANECA in official undergraduate and Master's degrees) for academic year {0}

No data

Exclusive skill taught in this course

No data

Learning outcomes (Training objectives)

No data

Specific objectives stated by the academic staff for academic year 2024-25

- To determine the constituent parts and basic concepts of the literature of the English Renaissance from the sixteenth century to 1642, and the way they interrelate with other literary manifestations, building up complex units of thought from independent ideas, based on common features.
- To learn not to admit lines of reasoning coming from positions of authority without submitting them to personal judgement, and to do the same with one's own ideas, treating them as if they belonged to others.
- To become convinced that the added perspective resulting from teamwork may improve one's results and prevent one becoming obsessively absorbed in one's own ideas as they can be wrong.
- To be able to undertake tasks and projects without continuous external supervision and to debate the results in an objective and balanced way.
- To distinguish the periods of English literature from the XVI century to 1642, to situate the authors and works, and to describe their outstanding features.
- To learn about the social, economic, political and cultural characteristics of England during this period, and to relate them to authors, works and literary trends included in the different units of this subject.
- To learn about the methods and techniques of literary analysis regarding the works produced during this period.
- To learn how to develop processes to search for information and order it accordingly, as well as being able to summarize bibliographical content related to authors and works from the sixteenth century to 1642.
- To learn how to apply a critical analysis to particular works or extracts from the sixteenth century to 1642, using a consistent method in order to identify their formal characteristics and their relation with a variety of possible meanings.

Content and bibliography

Content for academic year 2024-25

Unit 1 — Introduction to the English Renaissance

- 1.1. Outstanding features of the English Renaissance
- 1.2. The Elizabethan Age

Unit 2 — Elizabethan Poetry

- 2.1. New poetic trends and metrical patterns. The English sonnet
- 2.2. The poetry of Edmund Spenser. *The Faerie Queene*

Unit 3 — Elizabethan Drama

- 3.1. Elizabethan popular theatre. The Playhouses
- 3.2. Elizabethan tragedy. *The Spanish Tragedy*
- 3.3. The original and innovative drama of Christopher Marlowe. *Doctor Faustus*

Unit 4 — Introduction to Shakespeare

- 4.1. Biography and authorship
- 4.2. Shakespeare's language
- 4.3. Structure, problems and topics of Shakespeare's *Sonnets*

Unit 5 — Shakespeare's tragedies

- 5.1. Introduction to the tragedies
- 5.2. Textual analysis and critical interpretations of *King Lear*

Unit 6 — Shakespeare's Final Plays

- 6.1. Introduction to the Final Plays
- 6.2. Textual analysis and critical interpretations of *The Winter's Tale*

Unit 7 — Seventeenth Century Drama (First Part)

- 7.1. Ben Jonson's major comedies. *Volpone*
- 7.2. Jacobean and Caroline Drama. *The Changeling*

Unit 8 — Seventeenth Century Poetry (First Part)

- 8.1. John Donne's Metaphysical Poetry
- 8.2. John Milton's *Paradise Lost*

Set Texts

1/ Edmund Spenser, *The Faerie Queene* (Book I/Canto 1), *Everyman*. 2/ Thomas Kyd, *The Spanish Tragedy*, Bloomsbury. 3/ Christopher Marlowe, *Doctor Faustus*, Oxford Classics. 4/ William Shakespeare, *King Lear*, The Arden Shakespeare. 5/ William Shakespeare, *The Winter's Tale*, The Arden Shakespeare. 6/ Ben Jonson, *Volpone*, Oxford Classics. 7/ Thomas Middleton and William Rowley, *The Changeling*, Oxford Classics. 8/ John Donne, *A Selection of His Poetry* (Songs and Sonnets), Penguin.

Related links

No data

The Renaissance: a sourcebook

Author(s): Orlin, Lena Cowen

Issue: Basingstoke : Palgrave, 2009;

ISBN: 978-0-230-00176-3

Category: Básico

The Oxford Companion to English Literature

Author(s): Drabble, Margaret (ed.)

Issue: Oxford : Oxford University Press , 1995;

ISBN: 0-19-866221-1

Category: Básico

Reconceiving the Renaissance : a critical reader

Author(s): Fernie, Ewan [et al.]

Issue: Oxford : Oxford University Press, 2005;

ISBN: 0-19-926557-7 (rúst.)

Category: Básico

El teatro de William Shakespeare hoy: una interpretación radical actualizada

Author(s): González Fernández de Sevilla, José Manuel

Issue: Barcelona : Montesinos, 1993;

ISBN: 84-7639-159-5

Category: Básico

The Cambridge companion to Shakespeare

Author(s): De Grazia, Margreta

Issue: Cambridge : Cambridge Univ., 2001;

ISBN: 0-521-65881-0

Category: Básico

The Routledge guide to William Shakespeare

Author(s): Shaughnessy, Robert

Issue: London : Routledge, 2011;

ISBN: 978-0-415-27540-8

Category: Básico

The Cambridge companion to English Renaissance drama

Author(s): Braunmuller, A. R.

Issue: Cambridge : Cambridge Univ., 1990;

ISBN: 0-521-38662-4

Category: Básico

The Renaissance literature handbook

Author(s): Bruce, Susan; Steinberger, Rebecca

Issue: London : Continuum, 2009;

ISBN: 978-0-8264-9500-6

Category: Básico

Renaissance literature : an anthology

Author(s): Payne, Michael; Hunter, John

Issue: Malden, MA : Blackwell Pub., 2003;

ISBN: 0-631-19898-9 (rústica)

Category: Básico

Key concepts in Renaissance literature

Author(s): Hebron, Malcolm

Issue: Houndmills : Palgrave, 2008;

ISBN: 978-0-230-50767-8

Category: Básico

Essential Shakespeare : the Arden guide o text an interpretation

Author(s): Bickley, Pamela; Stevens, Jenny

Issue: London : Bloomsbury, 2014;

ISBN: 978-1-4081-5873-9

Category: Complementario

Renaissance literature

Author(s): Keenan, Siobhan

Issue: Edinburgh : Edinburgh Univ., 2008;

ISBN: 978-0-7486-2584-0

Category: Básico

The Oxford handbook of the age of Shakespeare

Author(s): Smuts, Malcolm

Issue: Oxford : Oxford Univ., 2016;

ISBN: 978-0-19-966084-1

Category: Complementario

Assessment

Assessment procedures and criteria 2024-25

The final mark will be the result of the continuous assessment [50% of the mark] and a final test [50% of the mark]. Students are expected to attend class regularly, read the hand-outs, participate in class discussions, and to complete all assigned work on schedule. Class absence should be conveniently justified. Students who are unable to attend classes regularly should contact the coordinator during the first month of classes. The continuous assessment activities include class discussions, critical debates, literary commentaries of the course units and essays on Shakespeare plays. Students are not allowed to retake the continuous assessment activities. The final test will consist of three parts: 1. Questions on the social and historical background as well as on the literary content of the syllabus [60% of the mark] 2. A critical/literary commentary to gauge the development of the students' critical skills and to measure the degree of their literary knowledge [30% of the mark] 3. Identification of the given fragments or quiz from the set books to assess the students' understanding and critical appreciation [10% of the mark]. The final mark will be the arithmetic mean of the continuous assessment and the final test. To get a pass, students must obtain more than 5 points out of 10. If it were less than 5, students should resit for the July test. To calculate the arithmetic mean, students must get more than 4 points in the June and July final test. They should also demonstrate a minimum English language level of B2. Unacceptable grammatical mistakes, incompatible with a B2 level of English, such as omission of subject or Saxon genitive, plural adjectives or verbs in third person singular without the final-s as well as copying and plagiarism will mean failure of the final test. Students can only sit for the final tests on the official dates and modality.

Description	Criteria	Type	Weighting system
Supervised academic activities	Type: Continuous assessment. Description: Supervised academic activities. Students 'attendance and participation. Criteria: See general remarks. Weighting system: 50%.	ACTIVITIES OF EVALUATION DURING THE SEMESTER	50
Final test	Type: Final test. Description: Written exam. Criteria: See general remarks. Weighting system: 50%.	FINAL TEST	50

Official exam dates for academic year 2024-25

Exam session	Date	Time	Group - Classroom(s) allocated	Comments
(C3) Periodo ordinario para asignaturas de segundo semestre y anuales	28/05/2025			
(C4) Pruebas extraordinarias para asignaturas de grado y máster	04/07/2025			

Academic staff



GONZALEZ FERNANDEZ DE SEVILLA, JOSE MANUEL
Lecturer responsible

THEORY CLASS: Groups: 1
PROBLEM PRACTICALS / WORKSHOP: Groups: 1.1PROB , 1.2PROB

Groups

THEORY CLASS



Group	Semester	Morning or afternoon session	Language	No. of enrolled students
Gr. 1 (THEORY CLASS) : 1	2S	Morning	English	67

PROBLEM PRACTICALS / WORKSHOP


Group	Semester	Morning or afternoon session	Language	No. of enrolled students	On registration, distribution
Gr. 1.1PROB (PROBLEM PRACTICALS / WORKSHOP) : 1.1	2S	Morning	English	27	From ID document number A - To ID document number L
Gr. 1.2PROB (PROBLEM PRACTICALS / WORKSHOP) : 1.2	2S	Morning	English	40	From ID document number M - To ID document number Z

Timetables

THEORY CLASS

Group	Start date	End date	Day	Start time	End time	Lecture room
1	27/01/2025	23/05/2025	JUE	08:00	10:00	FI/1-01G 
1	27/01/2025	23/05/2025	VIE	09:00	10:00	FI/1-01G 

PROBLEM PRACTICALS / WORKSHOP

Group	Start date	End date	Day	Start time	End time	Lecture room
1.1PROB	27/01/2025	23/05/2025	VIE	12:00	13:00	FI/3-12P 
1.2PROB	27/01/2025	23/05/2025	VIE	10:00	11:00	FI/3-12P 