

Course Unit	English Culture III		Field of study	English	
Bachelor in	Foreign Languages: English and Spanish		School	School of Education	
Academic Year	2023/2024	Year of study	2	Level	1-2
Type	Semestral	Semester	1	ECTS credits	6.0
			Code	8323-619-2101-00-23	
Workload (hours)	162	Contact hours	T -	TP 54	PL -
			TC -	S -	E -
			OT -	O 18	

T - Lectures; TP - Lectures and problem-solving; PL - Problem-solving, project or laboratory; TC - Fieldwork; S - Seminar; E - Placement; OT - Tutorial; O - Other

Name(s) of lecturer(s) Elisabete Rosário Mendes Silva

Learning outcomes and competences

At the end of the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:

1. Identify the main social and cultural characteristics of Britain in the periods mentioned
2. Understand the main social and political events in the historical contexts between the 18th and 20th centuries
3. Assess the impact of British history on the contemporary anglophone world
4. Become aware of the political, cultural and social consequences of the events taking place in the periods covered
5. Critically analyse some major events in the history of Britain and assess their impact on English/British culture

Prerequisites

Before the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:
Non-applicable

Course contents

1. The 19th century. The Age of Reform and Empire; 2. Imperialism and Britain's positioning in the world; 3. Victorianism; 4. The 20th Century. The age of wars. 5. The two World Wars; 6. The Welfare State; 7. The decline of the British Empire; 8. The Cold War; 9. Britain and Europe.

Course contents (extended version)

1. The 19th century: the Age of Reform and Empire
 - Political and social reforms in Britain
 - Scientific development and the workshop of the world during the 1851 Great Exhibition
 - Victorianism; Victorian ethos
 - Effects of Victorianism in art (the Pre-Raphaelite movement)
 - The British Empire
 - Economic and Imperial Challenges. Imperialism and Britain's positioning in the World
 - Nations and nationalism: secularization of thought, Anti-clericalism, social darwinism
 - Liberalism and utilitarianism (Jeremy Bentham, James Mill and JSMill)
2. The 20th century: the Age of Wars
 - The wars and the post-war periods: hopes and expectations
 - The creation of the Welfare state
 - The Cold War and the Suez crisis
 - The social revolution of the 60s (The Swinging sixties); Multicultural and multi-racial Britain
 - The economic crisis in the 70s; the Thatcher years: end of the consensus
 - Britain and Europe: understanding Brexit

Recommended reading

1. Carnevali, F. & Strange, J. M. (eds.) (2007). 20th Century Britain. Economic, Cultural and Social Change. Pearson Education Limited.
2. Fawcett, E. (2014). Liberalism. The Life of an Idea. Princeton University Press.
3. Kearney, H. (2012). The British Isles: A History of Four Nations. Cambridge University Press (Canto Classics).
4. Orwell, O. (2000). Essays. The Lion and the Unicorn. Penguin Classics. pp. 138-188.
5. Vernon, J. (2017). Modern Britain. 1750 to the Present. Cambridge University Press.

Teaching and learning methods

This syllabus will be carried out through presentations by the teacher on the topics followed by a discussion after the reading of the documents and individual research on the topics; task-based learning, complemented by audio, video and audiovisual materials (e. g. movies, documentaries, podcasts), digital resources and collaborative work.

Assessment methods

1. Continuous Assessment - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final)
 - Intermediate Written Test - 30%
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 - Presentations - 30% (Oral presentation on one of the topics covered in the syllabus)
 - Practical Work - 10% (Practical work done in class (reflections, assignment discussion and presentation))
2. Exam - (Regular, Student Worker) (Supplementary, Special)
 - Final Written Exam - 100%

Language of instruction

English

Electronic validation

Elisabete Rosário Mendes Silva	Isabel Augusta Chumbo	Alexia Dotras Bravo	Carlos Manuel Costa Teixeira
18-12-2023	26-12-2023	27-12-2023	11-02-2024