

Course Unit	Option 6 - Contemporary British Culture		Field of study	-	
Bachelor in	Languages for International Relations		School	School of Education	
Academic Year	2022/2023	Year of study	3	Level	1-3
Type	Semestral	Semester	2	ECTS credits	6.0
			Code	8374-767-3203-02-22	
Workload (hours)	162	Contact hours	T	-	TP
			54	PL	-
			TC	-	S
			-	E	-
			OT	18	O
			-		

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. Be aware of the difference between Englishness and Britishness and its implications
2. Gain a better understanding of British institutions and everyday life
3. Understand the main ideas that set the contemporary British historical, geographical, attitudinal and political scene
4. Become aware of the cultural differences in Britain
5. Analyse the discourses of Englishness/Britishness in contemporary cultural/artistic expressions
6. Problematicize Britain's position in Europe and in the world (Brexit and the future of Britain)

Prerequisites

Before the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:
Not applicable

Course contents

1. Aspects of contemporary Britain and its role (and relation) within the UK (Great Britain and Ireland) context; 2. Discourses of Englishness/Britishness in contemporary cultural/artistic expressions; 3. Britain's position in Europe and in the World

Course contents (extended version)

1. Aspects of contemporary Britain and its role (and relation) within the UK context
 - National and cultural identities (English, Scottish, Welsh and Irish)
 - Aspects of everyday life
 - country and people
 - family and social relations
 - customs and lifestyle; beliefs
 - politics
 - history
 - education
 - food and drink
2. Discourses of Englishness/Britishness in contemporary cultural/artistic expressions
 - theatre
 - cinema
 - art and museums
 - music
 - literature
3. Britain's position in Europe and in the World
 - Britain joining the ECC in 1973 (causes and consequences)
 - Britain leaving the EU in 2020 (causes and consequences of the Brexit, terms of the EU departure)

Recommended reading

1. Bryson, B. (2010). Icons of England. London: Blackswan.
2. Cuklin, N. & Simmons, R. (2019). Tales of Brexits Past and Present. Understanding the choices, threats, and opportunities in our separation from the EU. Bingley: Emerald Publishing Limited.
3. Kearney, H. (2012). The British Isles: A History of Four Nations. Cambridge: CUP (Canto Classics).
4. McCormick, J. (2018). Contemporary Britain. London: Red Globe Press.
5. O'Driscoll, J. (2009). Britain for Learners of English. Oxford: OUP.

Teaching and learning methods

The syllabus will be carried out through 1. lectures by the teacher on the topics followed by a discussion after the reading of documents which can be accessed online on the IPB's platform Virtual 2. reading of texts and individual research on the topics 3. support and supervision of the students' work 4. Viewing of documentaries and historical films and subsequent critical discussion.

Assessment methods

1. Continuous assessment - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final)
 - Practical Work - 50% (written assignments done in class or as individual projects either orally or in written form)
 - Intermediate Written Test - 50%
2. Exam - (Regular, Student Worker) (Supplementary, Special)
 - Final Written Exam - 100%

Language of instruction

English

Electronic validation

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07-12-2022	07-12-2022	07-12-2022	02-01-2023