

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- www.unine.ch/lettres

Introduction to Literature in English (2AN1004)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Pilier principal B A - langue et littérature anglaises	Cours: 1 ph	cont. continu	
Pilier secondaire B A - langue et littérature anglaises	Cours: 1 ph	cont. continu	
Polyvalence HEP - langue et littérature anglaises	Cours: 1 ph	cont. continu	

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps, Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante:

- TUDEAU-CLAYTON Margaret (autumn semester)
- VINCENT Patrick (spring semester)

Objectifs:

The aim of this course is to equip first year students with a conceptual framework and a set of tools for their understanding and appreciation of literature in English.

As an introduction to more advanced literature courses, students will learn how to:

- read a text closely, looking at form and language
- interpret different meanings of a literary text
- recognize defining features of narrative, dramatic and poetic genres,
- read and evaluate secondary criticism
- define and apply literary and critical terminology to texts

Contenu:

This general introduction to the study of literature in English will start with the crucial question 'what is literature?' and will go on to examine, first, narrative fiction. Telling stories is as crucial to the human species as language, but what makes a story literary? Within the framework of this question we will look at how stories are structured; how they are told and by whom; the representation of character and time and place. We will think too about the work that particular stories do in the world today as well as in their original historical context. These will be questions that we will take up when we go on to study drama. Taking Othello by William Shakespeare as our example we will examine defining features of drama, both as written text and performance. The first half of the Spring semester will be devoted to poetry, a genre with which many students often feel uncomfortable. We will learn to appreciate the many features of poetry, including sound, structure, imagery and rhetorical figures, in order to understand how form is constitutive of meaning in poetic language. The second half of the semester will serve as an introduction to contemporary literary criticism. Using Henry James's *The Turn of the Screw* as our primary text, we will discuss several approaches in order to familiarize students with contemporary critical discourse.

Forme de l'évaluation:

The evaluation will comprise two written tests in the autumn semester and one in the spring semester, and two essays each semester on the material read and discussed in the lecture.

This course must be taken in conjunction with the Literature and Writing Workshop (LWW). Requirements include regular attendance (maximum of 2 justified absences) and reading of the assigned texts for each week's lecture. The evaluation will comprise the written tests and essays on the texts discussed in the lecture and studied in the workshop.

Documentation:

Course Readers (distributed in class). The course reader will be made available to students at the beginning of each semester.

Pré-requis:

This course must be taken in conjunction with the Literature and Writing Workshop (LWW). Participants will be tested on this course in the LWW.