

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- [www.unine.ch/lettres](http://www.unine.ch/lettres)

#### Seminar 4: Modern and Contemporary Literature: British fiction since 1945 (2AN1454)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
<b>Pilier B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	6
<b>Pilier principal B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	6
<b>Pilier secondaire B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	6

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

#### Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

#### Equipe enseignante

Professor Patrick Vincent

#### Contenu

This reading-intensive course is an introduction to British fiction after 1945, focusing on five major works set in and around London that are interested in the complexity of human relationships and the impact of public events on the private self. We will discuss how setting, but also style, character, dialogue, and point of view are used to address some of the main issues in British politics, society, and culture since WWII, including, among other themes, the Cold War, counterculture, Thatcher, immigration, sexuality, religion, class, music, AIDS, and the function of art.

#### Forme de l'évaluation

Either 1. two shorter essays (4-6 double-spaced pages each), 2. one long essay (10-12 pages), or 3. a reading journal and one shorter essay.

#### Documentation

- Graham Greene, *The End of the Affair* (1951)
- Iris Murdoch, *Under the Net* (1954)
- Hanif Kureishi, *The Buddha of Suburbia* (1990)
- Alan Hollinghurst, *The Line of Beauty* (2004)
- Zadie Smith, *NW* (2013)

Available at Payot. All other texts will be made available on the Moodle course platform.

#### Pré-requis

First-year courses are required; « Modern and Contemporary Literature » lecture is recommended.

#### Forme de l'enseignement

Seminar : 10% lecture, 90% discussion. Because this course is mainly discussion-driven, attendance is mandatory. More than three unexcused absences can lead to a fail.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The aims of this course are the following:

- To develop students' close reading skills, learned in the first-year Introduction to Literature course.
- To pursue in more depth a specific genre, period, or theme in modern literary history.
- To improve expository and critical writing skills, notably through class participation and through critical essays.
- To improve research-paper writing skills, notably by learning how to integrate secondary criticism into the essay.
- To learn about British history and culture.

#### COMPETENCES TRANSFERABLES

oral discussion skills in English

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close reading skills  
critical thinking skills  
general knowledge in history and culture