

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

Literature and Writing Workshop (2AN1035)

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

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

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps, Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante

Mr. William Edwards
Ms. Gemma Allred

Contenu

Literature and Writing Workshops must be taken in conjunction with the lecture An Introduction to Literature (Mondays 10h-11h). Students must attend one workshop per week in addition to the lecture. This mandatory, year-long course will equip students with the skills of analysis and the knowledge required for study of literature in English at the BA level. The workshops provide students with an opportunity to study the texts mentioned below in greater depth. Students will also receive detailed instruction on how to write academic essays on literature in English as one third of workshop class time is devoted to learning how to do research and how to write about literature.

Students will be introduced to approaches to literature, to key works of drama, prose, poetry and critical theory and to the vocabulary and terminology used to describe literary texts. They will also be invited to explore definitions of literature, the politics of the English literary canon, and the value of the humanities and social sciences in today's society. In the autumn semester we will study William Shakespeare's Hamlet, select short stories, and non-fictional prose (essays and speeches). Students will be invited to ponder questions such as 'what is literature?' and 'why do we study literature?' Lectures and workshops will explore the history of the dramatic genre, rhetoric and persuasive writing, and the development of prose fiction. Students will be encouraged to explore key topics such as dramatic language, character types and constellations, narrative voices and techniques, and dramatic structure.

The second part of the year-long course (spring semester) will begin with poetry. Within the framing question — what is poetry? — we will explore how to analyse characteristic features, such as patterns of sounds, imagery and rhetorical figures, in order to appreciate how form works with content to produce meanings. In the second half of the spring semester students will be introduced to different critical and theoretical approaches to literature. Taking Joseph Conrad's novella Heart of Darkness as our focus we will discuss the interpretations generated by different theoretical and critical approaches.

Forme de l'évaluation

Students will write four essays, two per semester. The overall mark for the year-long course is the average of the four grades received in the autumn and spring semesters. To pass the year, an overall average of 4.0 is needed.

Modalités de rattrapage

Students are entitled to one essay "rattrapage" (rewrite) per semester. If a graded essay is insufficient, it must be rewritten before the end of the semester. If an essay is rewritten, it is the revised mark and not the original mark that counts.

Documentation

Autumn:

- William Shakespeare. Hamlet. Ed. by Barbara A. Mowat and Paul Werstine. Folger Shakespeare Library Edition. 2012, Paperback, 432 Pages. Copies are available cheaply from Payot, Neuchâtel. Unine students are entitled to 20% discount during the rentrée.
- A reader will be available for purchase from the English Institute secretariat, containing the short stories and essays to be covered in the second half of the autumn semester.

Spring:

- Poetry dossier, available on the Moodle teaching platform.
- Joseph Conrad. Heart of Darkness. Also available on Moodle.

Pré-requis

Regular attendance. No more than three justified absences will be allowed (see institute regulations). • Reading of the assigned texts for each week's workshop • Group presentation and active participation during workshops • Two essays per semester.

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Forme de l'enseignement

A 2-hour workshop per week.

Objectifs d'apprentissage

Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Examine links between literary texts and the historical periods in and for which they were produced
- Analyse texts from different literary periods
- Apply appropriate vocabulary to describe literary texts and the literary devices they contain
- Communicate ideas orally and in written essays
- Review and analyse the politics of the English literary canon, and the value of the humanities and social sciences in today's society
- Develop their critical thinking skills
- Compare texts written in different genres – drama, prose, poetry and theory – and identify key developments in the history of each genre
- Identify different literary devices

Compétences transférables

- Carry out a critical and evidence-based analyses
- Manage a project
- Discuss complex issues and interactions