

- 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	Voir ci-dessous	10
Pilier secondaire B A - langue et littérature anglaises (*)	Cours: 1 ph	Voir ci-dessous	10

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

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps, Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante

Prof. Emma Depledge
Prof. Patrick Vincent
Ms. Gemma Allred
Mr. Philip Gerard
Ms. Honor Jackson
Ms. Anne-Claire Michoux

Contenu

Lecture Course (Monday, 10h-11h)

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. 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, sample short stories, and Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice. 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 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, which students often find hard but also deeply rewarding. 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 Kate Chopin's The Awakening as our focus we will discuss the interpretations generated by different theoretical and critical approaches.

Literature and Writing Workshop

The lecture course must be taken in conjunction with a workshop. The accompanying workshops will provide students with an opportunity to study the aforementioned texts in greater depth. They will also receive detailed instruction on how to write academic essays on literature in English as one third of class time is devoted to learning how to do research and how to write about literature.

Honor Jackson (A + S): Group 1, Monday 14-16, B.1.49
Anne-Claire Michoux (A), Gemma Allred (S): Group 2, Tuesday 14-16, B.1.02
Anne-Claire Michoux (A), Philip Gerard (S): Group 3, Thursday 10-12, B.2.61

Forme de l'évaluation

Students will write four essays and sit four in-class exams, two of each per semester. The overall mark for the year-long course is the average of the grades received in the autumn and spring semesters. To pass the year, an overall average of 4.0 is needed. If a graded essay is insufficient, it must be rewritten before the end of the semester. This applies to one essay per semester. If an essay is rewritten, it is the revised mark and not the original mark that counts. If the overall mark for the course is a fail, the student will be required to take a rattrapage. The rattrapage consists of an in-class essay and an oral exam of thirty minutes that cover the work done in the whole year. The essay and the oral exam carry equal weight (50%) in the assessment of the student's performance.

Note: Failure to hand in a written assignment in the accorded time, without an accepted reason, will automatically result in a failing grade.

Documentation

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Autumn

William Shakespeare. Hamlet. Ed. by Barbara A. Mowat and Paul Werstine. Folger Shakespeare Library Edition. 2012, Paperback, 432 Pages. ISBN-13: 978-0-7434-7712-3.
Jane Austen. Pride and Prejudice. Ed. by Vivien Jones. Penguin Classics. Rev Ed edition. 2003, Paperback, 448 pages. ISBN-13: 978-0141439518.

Both texts are available cheaply from Payot, Neuchâtel. Unine students are entitled to 20% discount during the rentrée. You are strongly encouraged to buy your course texts from Payot.

Spring

Poetry dossier and The Awakening, all available on the Moodle teaching platform: Lettres et sciences humaines / Langue et littérature anglaises / Introduction to English Literature

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 lecture and workshop
- Group presentation and active participation during workshops
- Two essays per semester
- Two in-class written exams (based on the lecture and workshop) per semester

Forme de l'enseignement

A 1-hour lecture and 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 critical and evidence-based analyses
- Manage a project
- Discuss complex issues and interactions

(*) Cette matière est combinée avec d'autres matières pour l'évaluation