

English Culture and Literature

Professor Aminat Emma Badmus

Course Objectives

This course aims to provide students with a solid methodological foundation for critically analyzing English literary texts. By examining a selected range of representative works from English literature, the course will explore the evolution of literary forms and genres over time, using both diachronic and synchronic perspectives. The aim is to develop students' skills in textual analysis and independent judgment, while fostering a deep understanding of the English language and promoting interdisciplinary connections.

Course content

Part I: A Historical Overview of English Literature from the 15th to the 20th Centuries

Part II: Critical Analysis of Selected Texts

- Renaissance and Reformation
- Revolution and Restoration;
- The Enlightenment (the rise of journalism and the rise of the novel);
- The Gothic novel;
- The Romantic period;
- The Victorian Age;
- Modernism.

Attendance is highly recommended.

Exam

Oral exam aimed at assessing knowledge and understanding of:

1. The history of English literature (including cultural and philosophical perspectives);
2. The authors and their works.

Bibliography

- Lectures notes;
- Materials handed out in class and uploaded to Google *Classroom*;
- William Shakespeare, *The Tempest* (full text, any edition in English language);

Students can choose one literary text between the following:

- *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë

- *Wilde Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys

Supplementary reading for students who do not attend the lectures:

- Sanders. 1994. *The Short Oxford History of English Literature*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

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