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English Literature. The 20th Century and Beyond

UC Code

LAC2.12815

ECTS Credits

6 ECTS

Work Hours

168H (6 ECTS)

Level

BA

Academic year and Semester

2024/2025, S2

Faculty

Miguel Ramalhete Gomes

Class

TP 1

Language of instruction

English

Class Description

This subject considers the representation of the literary-historical past in English literature from the 20th and 21st centuries. Beginning with the work of T. S. Eliot ("The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" [1915], "Tradition and the Individual Talent" [1919], and The Waste Land [1922]), an approach to English modernism will then focus on Virginia Woolf's fictional biography Orlando (1928). The programme will later turn to two examples of hybrid form in English literary postmodernism: the interaction between word and image in Alan Moore and David Lloyd's graphic novel V for Vendetta (1982-9), which imagined a dystopian future for Britain; and the introduction of new voices in a postcolonial context, in Bernardine Evaristo's anachronistic re-imagination of Roman Britain in her

verse novel The Emperor's Babe (2001). Students are thus invited to consider the interplay between continuities and ruptures that restructured the literary canon in England.

Grading and Assessment

The analysis of the texts is always done in dialogue with the students, paying special attention to aspects that may shed light on the relation between the specific texts and the English literary tradition. Students will be expected to have read the primary texts, in English and in the recommended editions, for the appropriate classes and to be prepared to discuss them orally and critically in detail.

Evaluation: two written tests (40% + 40%) and quality of oral participation (20%). This class and its evaluation will be in English.

Bibliography

An advanced command of English is desirable in order to more fully understand literary texts of greater difficulty.

Prerequisites (if applicable)

An advanced command of English is desirable in order to more fully understand literary texts of greater difficulty.