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| <b>SUBJECT :</b>  | <b>LITERATURA I CULTURA D'ESCÒCIA I D'IRLANDA :</b><br><b>Literatura i cultura escoceses.</b> |
| <b>Code:</b>      | <b>28480</b>                                                                                  |
| <b>Credits:</b>   | <b>6</b>                                                                                      |
| <b>Semester:</b>  | <b>1</b>                                                                                      |
| <b>Groups:</b>    | <b>1</b>                                                                                      |
| <b>Teacher:</b>   | <b>Sara Martín Alegre</b>                                                                     |
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### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT**

An introduction to the contemporary Scottish Literature and Culture of the last twenty years, focused on a selection of representative texts.

### **OBJECTIVES**

On completion of “Literatura Escocesa/Irlandesa: Scottish Literature and Culture” students should be able to:

- ⇒ demonstrate their knowledge of the diverse trends in contemporary Scottish Literature
- ⇒ demonstrate advanced reading skills developed by training on a selection of Scottish Literature texts from the 1980s onwards
- ⇒ demonstrate an advanced understanding of the evolution of Scottish culture in the last two decades
- ⇒ demonstrate advanced skills in cultural criticism regarding Scottish Literature and Culture developed by taking part in class discussion and writing critical essays

### **SYLLABUS**

The course consists of four units of approximately three weeks each, preceded by an introductory week:

1. The Scottish short story
2. The Scottish literary novel
3. The Scottish popular novel
4. Scotland from page to screen

### **ASSESSMENT**

#### **Assessment Criteria**

There is no final exam. The final mark for this subject is based on:

|                                                       |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Class participation (including Virtual Campus forum): | 30% |
| Writing of two critical reviews:                      | 70% |

### **Assessment Description**

- Class participation: Students are expected to contribute to class discussion of the texts (both in the classroom and the forum on Virtual Campus). This will also include a brief presentation of a review of a volume of Scottish Literature.
- Students are expected to write two critical reviews applying the methodology used in class and using at least three secondary sources in each (1000/1500 words). The topic will be freely chosen and can be based on one of the set texts or on another work of Scottish Literature or film (only for one of the reviews).

### **TUTORIALS**

Virtual. Weekly tutorials will be posted to the subject's virtual classroom on the UAB's Virtual Campus.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY / MATERIALS**

UNIT 1: The Scottish short story

Short stories by A.L. Kennedy, Ali Smith, Jackie Kay; Janice Galloway and other women authors (max. 150 pages). This collection will be available at the beginning of the course.

UNIT 2: The Scottish literary novel

Alasdair Gray, *Poor Things* (1993), 336 pages, Bloomsbury Publishing PLC; New edition (2002), ISBN-10: 0747562288

UNIT 3: The Scottish popular novel

Ian Rankin, *Black and Blue* (1997), 512 pages, Orion, New Ed edition (2005), ISBN-10: 0752877151

UNIT 4: Scotland from page to screen

Danny Boyle, *Trainspotting* (1996), film based on Irvine Welsh's novel (recommended reading).

### **Background reading**

- Selections (max 100 pages) from relevant secondary sources covering Scottish Literature and Culture
- Highly recommended: *The Edinburgh Companion to Contemporary Scottish Literature*, Berthold Schoene (ed.), 2006.

### **OTHER COMMENTS**

Classroom activities will be open to students' suggestions about other aspects of Scottish Culture (music, television, stand-up comedy, etc.)