

Modernity: Art, War, and Crisis

2013/2014

Codi: 42293

Crèdits: 6

Titulació	Tipus	Curs	Semestre
4313157 Estudis Anglesos Avançats / Advanced English Studies	P	1	0

Professor de contacte

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Prerequisits

Objectius

2014 marks one hundred years of the beginning of the First World War, a fact that invites scholars to a careful reconsideration of events and of their highly controversial literary and cultural expression. This course will try to understand the war by choosing to analyse its impact on some of the most outstanding literary texts of the period. In spite of its great complexity we will try to provide some of the different interpretations they offer on the war and the cultural changes it provokes. The course wishes to prove how the chosen texts represent the main anxieties, ideas and themes of the period deeply connected to the war, such as:

- The representation of life in the trenches and in the home fronts
- The loss of innocence and faith, and the despair of the lost generation
- The emergence of the New Woman
- The emergence of Modernism
- Suffering and death
- Irony and satire
- Imagining back to peace.

Competències

Estudis Anglesos Avançats / Advanced English Studies

- Analyse and synthesise information at an advanced level.
- Analyse the relationship between factors, processes or phenomena in the acquisition of English as a second language, its learning and teaching methods, and its literature, history and culture.
- Apply methodological knowledge of statistical analysis and data generation, treatment and codification of multilingual databases, analysis of literary texts, etc. to research.
- Communicate the knowledge acquired and the contributions of ones research correctly, accurately and clearly both orally and in writing.

- Critically argue, issue judgements and present ideas on the basis of the analysis of information originating from scientific production in these areas.
- Develop autonomous learning skills applicable to the research process.
- Distinguish and contrast between the different methodological and theoretical models applied to the academic study of the acquisition, teaching and use of English as a second language in multilingual and multicultural contexts, literary studies and cultural studies.
- Show respect towards the opinions, values, behaviours and/or practices of others.
- Use the English language for academic and professional purposes related to research into the acquisition, teaching and use of English as a second language in multilingual and multicultural contexts, literary studies and cultural studies.

Resultats d'aprenentatge

1. Analyse and interpret at an advanced level literary texts on the English Literature of Modernism (early 20th century)
2. Analyse and interpret at an advanced level scientifically produced texts on the Modernist English Literature, extracting relevant citations and making content summaries.
3. Analyse and synthesise information at an advanced level.
4. Communicate the knowledge acquired and the contributions of ones research correctly, accurately and clearly both orally and in writing.
5. Develop autonomous learning skills applicable to the research process.
6. Distinguish and contrast the different theoretical and methodological models applied to the academic study of Modernism in the English language.
7. Make oral presentations in English on subjects and texts related to advanced research into Modernist English Literature.
8. Read and analyse literary and cultural representation in the English language on the subject of the impact of war on the art and literature of Modernism.
9. Show respect towards the opinions, values, behaviours and/or practices of others.
10. Write texts defending an idea in relation to a Modernist literary text in English, applying secondary sources to the critical argumentation.

Continguts

The course wishes to prove how the chosen texts represent the main anxieties, ideas and themes of the period deeply connected to the war, such as:

- The representation of life in the trenches and in the home fronts
- The loss of innocence and faith, and the despair of the lost generation
- The emergence of the New Woman
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- Irony and satire
- Imagining back to peace

All students will have to have read or begin by reading **A.J.P. Taylor's *The First World War. An Illustrated History*** (Penguin 1968) and **Paul Fussell's *The Great War and Modern Memory*** (OUP 1976) as well as a recent history of WWI (see bibliography). They will also be asked to read a number of critical articles. All students are expected to read the primary and secondary texts studied and discussed in class.

The texts to be discussed in class are:

Borden, Mary. *The Forbidden Zone: A Nurse's Impressions of the First World War* (1929).

Selections from this book will be uploaded on the virtual campus.

Brittain, Vera. *Testament of Youth* (1933)

Selections from this book will be uploaded on the virtual campus.

Eliot, T.S. "The Waste Land"

This poem will be uploaded on the virtual campus.

Hobberd, D. and Onions, J. *Poetry of the Great War. An Anthology* (MacMillan, 1988)

Selections from this book will be uploaded on the virtual campus.

Lawrence, D.H. *Lady Chatterley's Lover* (1928)

Students must buy a copy of the book. We recommend:

<http://www.bookdepository.co.uk/Lady-Chatterleys-Lover-Propos-Lady-Chatterleys-Lover-I>

Porter, K. A. *Pale Horse, Pale Rider* (1939)

Students must buy a copy of the book. We recommend:

<http://www.bookdepository.co.uk/Pale-Horse-Pale-Rider-Selected-Stories-Katherine-Anne>

Tale, Trudi (ed.). *Women, Men and the Great War. An Anthology of Stories*. (Manchester University Press, 1995)

Selections from this book will be uploaded on the virtual campus.

Walter, George. *The Penguin Book of First World War Poetry* (Penguin 2006)

<http://www.bookdepository.co.uk/Penguin-First-World-War-Poetry-Matthew-George-Walter>

Woolf, V. *To the Lighthouse* (1928)

Students must buy a copy of the book. We recommend:

<http://www.bookdepository.co.uk/Lighthouse-Virginia-Woolf/9780199536610>

Other short stories and poems will be uploaded on the virtual campus

Metodología

The subject is run as a seminar and its sessions will be based on in-class discussions of the texts. There will also be presentations, an in-class exercise and several assignments which will be returned with comments and suggestions. We expect students to:

- read all the texts (both primary and secondary sources)
- participate in the discussions
- prepare the activities properly, using bibliography and reliable websites

Activitats formatives

Títol	Hores	ECTS	Resultats d'aprenentatge
Tipus: Dirigides			
Debates, analysis and discussion of texts in class	30	1,2	1, 2, 6, 8
Tipus: Supervisades			
Tutorials (office/virtual)	22,5	0,9	3, 4, 5
Tipus: Autònomes			
Reading and writing (reading primary and secondary sources, writing papers, preparing presentations, locating and contrasting sources)	97,5	3,9	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Avaluació

Class presentation and debates (in class and/or virtual): All students will be expected to present in class a subject chosen from the syllabus. Students will be responsible for finding at the UAB library and on the internet the secondary material related to the subject they choose to present in class after having discussed it with his/her instructor. Students will have to justify and briefly comment on their bibliographical selection during their presentation. Besides, students are expected to **actively participate in class** and in any possible **virtual debate(s)** that the teacher(s) may want to initiate on the virtual forum.

Short assignments (at least 4): a one-page answer to one of three questions asked by the instructor after the reading of each text. One of these assignments will be answered in class; class participation and presentations.

Academic paper (between 5 and 7 pages): To be handed in at the end of term.

Activitats d'avaluació

Títol	Pes	Hores	ECTS	Resultats d'aprenentatge
Class participation and debates	15%	0	0	1, 2, 4, 7, 9
Oral presentations (individual or in groups)	15%	0	0	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9
Written assignments	70%	0	0	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10

Bibliografia

1. Primary bibliography:

Borden, Mary. *The Forbidden Zone: A Nurse's Impressions of the First World War*

(1929).

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<http://www.bookdepository.co.uk/Penguin-First-World-War-Poetry-Matthew-George-Walter>

Woolf, V. *To the Lighthouse* (1928)

Students must buy a copy of the book. We recommend:

<http://www.bookdepository.co.uk/Lighthouse-Virginia-Woolf/9780199536610>

Other short stories and poems will be uploaded on the virtual campus

2. Secondary bibliography:

Fussell, Paul. *The Great War and Modern Memory*. London: Oxford University Press, 1977.

Gilbert, S. M. "Soldier's Heart: Literary Men, Literary Women and the Great War", *Signs* 8:3, Spring 1983.

Sherry, Vincent. *The Cambridge Companion to the Literature of the First World War*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

Available as hard and digital copy at the Humanities Library.

Taylor, A.J.P. *The First World War. An Illustrated History* (Penguin 1968)

<http://www.bookdepository.co.uk/First-World-War-AJP-Taylor/9780140024814>

3. Further Reading and Other Resources

The Great War - BBC Series 6 Disc Boxset [DVD]

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/The-Great-War-Series-Boxset/dp/B002VPXZ0Y>

First World War Centenary

<http://www.1914.org/>

Keegan, John. *The First World War: An Illustrated History*. London: Hutchinson, 2001.

Stevenson, David. *1914-1918: The History of the First World War*. London: Penguin, 2005

Strachan, Hew. *The Oxford Illustrated History of the First World War*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998.

Tuchman, Barbara. *The Proud Tower*. New York: Bantam Books, 1962.

Tuchman, Barbara. *The Guns of August*. New York: Ballantine Books, 2004.