

**Western Literary Tradition II**

Code: 100252  
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500245 English Studies	OT	3	0
2500245 English Studies	OT	4	0
2503998 Catalan Philology: Literary Studies and Linguistics	OT	4	2

## Contact

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## Teaching groups languages

You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject. Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2023.

## Teachers

Miriam Ruiz-Ruano Risquez

Andrea Pereira Rueda

## Prerequisites

By obtaining the minimum of credits *in basic training subjects*, students have demonstrated to have acquired the basic competences and they will be able to express themselves orally and in writing. For this reason, any spelling and expression errors that may be committed will lead to a score decrease in the final grade.

Activities, practical sessions and papers submitted in the course must be original and under no circumstances will the total or partial plagiarism of third-party materials published on any medium be admitted. Any submission of non-original material without properly indicating its origin will automatically result in a failure rating (0).

It is also expected that students know the general rules of submission of an academic work. However, students could apply the specific rules that the teacher of the subject may indicate to them, if they deem it necessary.

## Objectives and Contextualisation

The course is an approach to the debate around literary modernity and postmodernity. The texts chosen to reflect about these themes hold an eminent place in the current canon, they have been studied from different methodologies and they have received some of the most celebrated practical achievements of literary criticism.

In conversation with the previous ones, we will study texts that, due to their poetic capacity and critical force, appear as vanishing points to the Western canon, and have shown to be capable of generating their own genealogies. The objective of this module is that the selected readings constitute the starting point for a critical reflection on the Western literary tradition.

We will work on the development of a critical perspective informed by feminisms and cultural studies.

## Competences

### English Studies

- Analysing the formal, thematic, cultural and historical characteristics of the works of literary creation and reflection on literature of different languages and countries.
- Identifying the specific concepts and methods of each of the fields of comparatism.
- Interpreting and assessing literary texts and explaining the process results.
- Relating literary works from different countries, languages, periods and authors according to genres, topics, modalities and forms.
- Students have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (normally within their study area) to issue judgments that include reflection on important issues of social, scientific or ethical.

### Catalan Philology: Literary Studies and Linguistics

- Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Analysing literary texts using different concepts and methods of comparative literature.
2. Explaining the basic characteristics of comparative literary texts.
3. Identify and explaining the basic structures of literary works.
4. Identifying various literary elements and inserting them into different texts and discursive styles.
5. Resolve tasks on authors, methods and trends in comparative literature by drawing on knowledge of other humanistic disciplines.
6. Solving problems about writers, methods and currents of comparative literature, and connecting them with knowledge of other humanistic disciplines.

## Content

### Contents

1. Modernity and Postmodernity. History, meaning and discussion of two concepts
2. Modern Poetry Anthology [Campus Virtual]
3. Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*
4. Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
5. Franz Kafka, *The Castle*
6. Jorge Luis Borges, *Ficciones* [Selection of stories]
7. Italo Calvino, *If on a winter's night traveler* [Selection of chapters]
8. Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home*

## Methodology

The learning of this subject by the students is distributed as follows:

- Directed activities (35%). These activities are divided into master classes and seminars and classroom practices led by the faculty, in which theoretical explanation is combined with discussion of all types of texts.
- Supervised activities (15%). These tutorials are programmed by the teacher, dedicated to correcting and commenting on problems both related to the syllabus of the subject and, above all, to the written papers that the student must present.
- Autonomous activities. These activities include both time devoted to individual study and production of written papers.

15 minutes of a class will be reserved, within the calendar established by the center/degree, to complement the student's assessment surveys of the teaching staff's performance and assessment of the subject.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

## Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Master classes	55	2.2	
Type: Supervised			
Programmed tutorials	20	0.8	
Type: Autonomous			
written papers	75	3	

## Assessment

The evaluation will be carried through two mandatory written assignments to be submitted in May and June, together with a critical review. Students can only apply for re-evaluation if they have submitted all the papers and have been suspended for failing to achieve the required grade point average.

In the event that tests or exams cannot be taken onsite, they will be adapted to an online format made available through the UAB's virtual tools (original weighting will be maintained). Homework, activities and class participation will be carried out through forums, wikis and/or discussion on Teams, etc. Lecturers will ensure that students are able to access these virtual tools, or will offer them feasible alternatives.

In the event of a student committing any irregularity that may lead to a significant variation in the grade awarded to an assessment activity, the student will be given a zero for this activity, regardless of any disciplinary process that may take place. In the event of several irregularities in assessment activities of the same subject, the student will be given a zero as the final grade for this subject.

Unique assessment

Students who decide to take the single assessment will have to take two final exams to prove they have read all the required readings of each blocks (35% + 35%) and deliver two critical reviews (30%) at the end of the semester.

## Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Essay on one of the mandatory readings of the course (block Andrea Pereira)	35%	0	0	1, 2, 4, 3, 6, 5
Essay on one of the mandatory readings of the course (block Míriam Ruiz-Ruano)	35%	0	0	1, 2, 4, 3, 6, 5
Two critical reviews	30%	0	0	1, 2, 4, 3, 6, 5

## Bibliography

### Mandatory readings

Bechdel, Alison, *Fun home. Una familia tragicomica*, Reservoir Books, Barcelona, 2008.

Borges, Jorge Luis, *Ficciones*, Debolsillo, Barcelona, 2011.

Calvino, Italo, *Si una nit d'hivern un viatger*, Labutxaca, Barcelona, 2010.

Conrad, Joseph, *El cor de les tenebres*, Sembra Llibres, València, 2017.

Kafka, Franz, *El castell*, Club Editor, Barcelona, 2009.

Woolf, Virginia, *La senyora Dalloway*, La Magrana, Barcelona, 2021.

The anthology of modern poetry can be found on the Virtual Campus. Each reading will be accompanied by a set of complementary texts.

### Bibliography

This list contains the basic bibliographic references for the theoretical framework of the subject (definition and study of modernity and postmodernity).

The specific bibliography for each author will be shared during the course.

AA.VV.,  
*La polémica de la postmodernidad*, monográfico de  
*Revista de Occidente*, núm. 66 (noviembre de 1986).

Barth, John, «Literatura postmoderna», *Quimera*, 46/47 (1984-1985), pp. 13-21.

Calinescu, Matei, *Cinco caras de la modernidad*, Tecnos, Madrid, 1991.

- Calvino, Italo, *Seis propuestas para el próximo milenio*, Ediciones Siruela, Madrid, 1989.
- Feher, Ferenc, "Comentario sobre el *intermezzo* postmodernista", *Revista de Occidente*, núm. 66 (noviembre de 1986), pp. 57-74.
- Foster, Hal (ed.), *La posmodernidad*, Kairós, Barcelona, 1985.
- Gay, Peter, *Modernidad. La atracción de la herejía de Baudelaire a Beckett*, Paidós, Barcelona, 2007.
- Habermas, Jürgen, *El discurso filosófico de la modernidad*, Taurus, Madrid, 1989.
- Hart, J., "Comparative Poetics, Postmodernism and the Canon: An Introduction", *Canadian Canadian Review of Comparative Literature / Revue Canadienne de Littérature Comparée*, 20:1-2 (1993), pp. 1-8.
- Hutcheon, Linda, *A Poetics of Postmodernism: History, Theory and Fiction*, Routledge, Londres, 1988.
- Jameson, Fredric, *Teoría de la postmodernidad*, Trotta, Madrid, 1996.
- Jauss, Hans-Robert, «Italo Calvino: *Si una noche de invierno un viajero*. Informe sobre una estética postmoderna», en *Las transformaciones de lo moderno*, Visor, Madrid, 1995, pp. 223-251.
- Lipovetski, Gilles, *La era del vacío. Ensayos sobre el individualismo contemporáneo*, Anagrama, Barcelona, 1993.
- Lipovetski, Gilles, y Sébastien Charles, *Los tiempos hipermodernos*, Anagrama, Barcelona, 2006.
- Llovet, Jordi, "Vigencia de la modernidad", *La Página*, núm. 3 (junio de 1990), pp. 8-15.
- Lyon, David, *Postmodernidad*, Alianza Editorial, Madrid, 1996.
- Lyotard, Jean-François, *La condición postmoderna*, Cátedra, Madrid, 1986.
- Lyotard, Jean-François, «Reescribir la modernidad», *Revista de Occidente*, 66 (noviembre de 1986), pp. 23-33.
- Marchán Fiz, Simón, «*Le bateau ivre*: para una genealogía de la sensibilidad postmoderna», *Revista de Occidente*, 42 (noviembre de 1984), pp. 7-28.
- Navajas, Gonzalo, «Retórica de la novela postmoderna española», en *Teoría y práctica de la novela española posmoderna*, Edicions del Mall, Barcelona, 1987, pp. 13-40.
- Navajas, Gonzalo, *Más allá de la posmodernidad*, EUB, Barcelona, 1996.
- Pardo, José Luis, «Filosofía y clausura de la modernidad», *Revista de Occidente*, 66 (noviembre de 1986), pp. 35-47.
- Perloff, Marjorie, «Modernist Studies», en S. Greenblatt-G. Gunn, *Redrawing the Boundaries*, Modern Language Association, Nueva York, 1992, pp. 154-178.
- Picó, Josep (comp.), *Modernidad y postmodernidad*, Alianza Editorial, Madrid, 1988.
- Roas, David, *Tras los límites de lo real. Una definición de lo fantástico*, Páginas de Espuma, Madrid, 2011.
- Rowe, John Carlos, «Postmodernist Studies», en S. Greenblatt-G. Gunn, *Redrawing the Boundaries*, Modern Language Association, Nueva York, 1992, pp. 179-208.
- Saldaña, Alfredo, "Postmodernidad: *Todo vale*, aunque de nada sirva", *Tropelías*, núm. 5-6 (1994-1995), pp. 349-369.
- Santiáñez, Nil, *Investigaciones literarias. Modernidad, historia de la literatura y modernismo*, Crítica, Barcelona, 2002.

Vattimo, Gianni, *et al.*, *En torno a la posmodernidad*, Anthropos, Barcelona, 1990.

Wellmer, Albrecht, *Sobre la dialéctica de modernidad y postmodernidad*, Visor, Madrid, 1993.

## **Software**

No