

Degree	Type	Year
English Studies: Linguistic, Literary and Sociocultural Perspectives	OP	1

## Contact

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## Teachers

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## Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

## Prerequisites

Apart from fulfilling the general requirements of this MA programme, in particular as regards linguistic and academic skills, registering for this subject entails the need to take an active role in class and demands intense intellectual curiosity about the way in which textual meaning is established, transmitted and debated.

## Objectives and Contextualisation

This course offers an introduction to the critical analysis of academic texts and analytical arguments in English literature, criticism, and linguistics.

Specific objectives:

- Understand the key concepts in critical reading.
- Select relevant, up-to-date and reliable texts for research projects in English linguistics and literature.
- Analyse the structure, argumentation and ideological positioning of academic texts.
- Reflect upon reading and subjective processes.
- Communicate, orally and in writing, complex ideas in English at C2-level.

## Learning Outcomes

1. CA18 (Competence) Critically analyse academic texts selected by students and related to their research interests.
2. CA19 (Competence) Design actions for the improvement of the comprehension of academic texts through group analysis of the structure of arguments and rhetorical patterns.
3. KA19 (Knowledge) List the main theoretical currents in the field of academic writing.
4. KA20 (Knowledge) Identify the differences between corpus-based and non-corpus-based text analysis.
5. KA21 (Knowledge) Distinguish the main types of academic writing in the fields of language, literary and cultural studies in the English language.
6. SA27 (Skill) Critically analyse the linguistic features that are typical of academic writing based on texts from various sub-disciplines within the field of English studies.
7. SA28 (Skill) Identify types of argumentation and implicit political-ideological positions in academic texts selected from the field of English Studies.
8. SA29 (Skill) Produce written texts at an advanced level that address key aspects of academic writing and correspond to the rhetorical requirements of such texts.

## Content

This introduction to critical reading skills in English literature and linguistics analyses a variety of academic texts. The subject is divided into two parts: the first on critical reading of texts in the field of sociolinguistics and the second on critical reading of texts in the field of literary studies. However, these two parts share a common thematic frame: the politics of the English language. Throughout the semester, we will collaboratively examine the sociopolitical implications of the English language through our critical reading of texts in these two fields.

An anthology of primary source excerpts and a selection of related secondary sources/ academic articles will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

### PART 1: SOCIOLINGUISTICS

Dr. Maria Rosa Garrido Sardà, 29th September - 29th October 2025

1. The power of language
2. English as a 'lingua franca'
3. Multilingualism and migration

### PART 2: LITERARY STUDIES

Dr. Nicholas Spengler, 3rd November - 3rd December 2025

1. The power of language
2. English as a 'lingua franca'
3. Multilingualism and migration

## Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Practical exercises	16.25	0.65	
Presentation of theoretical concepts	15	0.6	

Type: Supervised

Critical analysis of texts	10	0.4
Discussion of academic texts	15	0.6

Type: Autonomous

Project preparation	30	1.2
Reading academic texts	38.75	1.55

This course methodology will be predominantly dialogical. Students are expected to contribute actively to in-class discussions and to do all the preparatory reading.

We will use Academic Reading Circles as a methodology for students to engage with academic texts. Groups of 5 students will read the same text and each of them will be assigned a different role for preparation. Attendance and active class participation is therefore essential given the collaborative nature of the course. Academic Reading Circles will also shape the student's individual portfolios.

The lecturers will provide a course calendar and a list of primary and secondary texts (literature) / academic articles (linguistics) at the beginning of the semester. These will all be related to the shared thematic framework: the politics of the English language.

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.

## Assessment

### Continous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Active participation	10%	0	0	CA18, CA19, KA19, KA20, KA21, SA27, SA28, SA29
In-class essay	40%	0	0	CA18, KA19, KA21, SA27, SA28, SA29
Portfolio (Part 1)	25%	0	0	CA18, CA19, KA19, KA20, KA21, SA27, SA28, SA29
Portfolio (Part 2)	25%	0	0	CA18, CA19, KA19, KA20, KA21, SA27, SA28, SA29

ASSESSMENT of the module is based on the following PERCENTAGES:

- Portfolio (linguistics) 25%
- Portfolio (literature). 25%
- In-class final essay 40%
- Active participation and contribution 10%

The minimum pass mark is 5/10 for all essays and activities.

For each individual assessment activity, the teacher will inform the students (via Moodle) of the procedure and date for reviewing the grades.

#### NOT ASSESSED AS FINAL GRADE:

Students will obtain a Not assessed/Not submitted course grade unless they have submitted more than 30% of the assessment items.

#### ITEM-BY-ITEM RE-ASSESSMENT:

- a) Students should have a course average mark of 3,5 or higher to be eligible for re-assessment.
- b) The maximum mark awarded for each reassessed item is 5/10.
- c) Class attendance and active participation will not be re-assessed.

#### SINGLE-ASSESSMENT OPTION:

Students will be assessed on the basis of the following components:

- Portfolio (literature). 25%
- Portfolio (linguistics) 25%
- In-class final essay 40%
- Active participation and contribution 10%

By contrast to the continuous assessment, the due date for the portfolios will be the same as the date of the final essay.

The same re-assessment method as continuous assessment will be used.

#### PLAGIARISM:

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.

Irregularities refer, for instance, to copying in an exam, copying from sources without indicating authorship, or a misuse of AI such as presenting work as original that has been generated by an AI tool or programme. These evaluation activities will not be re-assessed.

#### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI):

This subject allows the use of AI technologies exclusively for linguistic correction. The work of critical reading and searching for bibliography is solely the responsibility of the student.

## **Bibliography**

During the semester detailed bibliographical references will be provided for each of the main topics.

(\*) Accessible through our library webpage (Biblioteca d'Humanitats (UAB))

#### GENERAL REFERENCES

DiYanni, Robert and Brost, Anton (2017). *Critical Reading Across the Curriculum: Humanities*. Wiley. (\*)

Fairclough, Norman (2006). *Language and Globalization*. Routledge. (\*)

Freire, Paolo (1987). The Importance of the Act of Reading. In Paolo Freire and Donaldo Macedo (Eds.), *Literacy: Reading the Word and the World* (pp.29-36). Bergin & Garvey.

Handford, Michael and James P. Gee (2023) (Eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Discourse Analysis* (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.). Routledge. (\*)

Wallace, Mike and Wray, Alison (2021, 4th Ed). *Critical Reading and Writing for Postgraduates*. Sage.

<https://subjectguides.york.ac.uk/critical/reading>

## Software

No specific software will be required.

## Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(TEM) Theory (master)	1	English	first semester	morning-mixed