

Specimens of English Literature: A Cultural Guide

Global Program on Economics and Finance (2022 Fall)

Course Title	Specimens of English Literature: A Cultural Guide		
Credit	3	Credit Hours	48 credit hours
Course Objectives	The module will introduce the most representative and influential English literary works and writers. Students will be trained to 1)analyze and interpret literary texts;2)apply proper theoretical approaches to critical reading of literary texts;3)understand in what way a certain literary text could reflect the contemporary historical and cultural contexts. Through a set of exercises and projects centering on literary analysis, students are expected to sharpen their capability in reading, writing and speaking.		
Course Description	The course is intended to familiarize students with a variety of literary works and genres ranging from Romantic poetry to modernist fiction. The authors to be examined include William Wordsworth, Charlotte Brontë, William Makepeace Thackeray, Virginia Woolf, Charles Dickens, and William Shakespeare, etc. Sessions will be primarily organized in the form of lecture with discussion.		
Course Requirements: Students are expected to			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) properly understand the key idea of selected literary works 2) properly understand the characteristics of different literary genres 3) use appropriate theories to analyze literary texts 4) understand significant development of the history of English literature 			
Teaching Methods: Lecture with discussion sessions			
Course Schedule			
Week 1	Introduction to English Literature (about Literary Periods and Genres)		
Week 2	The Romantic Period <i>I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud</i> by William Wordsworth		
Week 3	The Victorian Period (1) <i>Jane Eyre</i> by Charlotte Brontë		

Week 4	The Victorian Period (2) <i>Vanity Fair</i> by William Makepeace Thackeray
Week 5	The Modern Period and The Postmodern Period <i>Orlando</i> by Virginia Woolf
Week 6	Theories and Methods of Literary Study (2)
Week 7	Theories and Methods of Literary Study (2)
Week 8	Poetry <i>Ode to the West Wind</i> by Percy Bysshe Shelley
Week 9	Fiction (1) <i>Great Expectations</i> by Charles Dickens
Week 10	Fiction (2) (with a focus on fantasy novels) <i>Harry Potter</i> by J.K. Rowling
Week 11	Drama <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> by William Shakespeare
Week 12	Oral Presentation
Week 13	Short Story <i>The Lagoon</i> by Joseph Conrad
Week 14	Children's Literature <i>Paddington Bear</i> by Thomas Michael Bond
Week 15	Literature and Literary Translation (1)
Week 16	Literature and Literary Translation (1)

The design of class discussion or exercise, practice, experience and so on:

Class discussion of the course will be organized in the form of group discussion (Students will be divided into groups at the very beginning of the term).

Grading & Evaluation:

Attendance	10%
Oral presentation	10%
Mid-term assignment	30%
The final paper	50%

Evaluation of the course will be based on attendance, oral presentation, the mid-term assignment and the final essay. As for the mid-term assignment, students are required to write an annotated bibliography based on the literary works they have read; the annotated bibliography should include at least 4 entries. By the end of the term, students should submit an academic paper (1500 words) which should be an literary analysis based on any one of the selected literary texts the course covers.

Teaching Materials & References:

- 《英国文学选读新编》 吕洪灵、汪凯主编， 北京大学出版社， 2015
《英国短篇小说经典（上卷）》 朱源、徐华东 主编， 北京大学出版社， 2019
《英国短篇小说经典（上卷）》 朱源、徐华东 主编， 北京大学出版社， 2019