



123LE - LETTERATURA INGLESE III

Anno Accademico 2019/2020

Docente	<u>ROBERTA GEFTER WONDRICH (Tit.)</u>
Periodo	Secondo Semestre
Modalità d'Erogazione	Convenzionale
Lingua Insegnamento	INGLESE

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Informazioni aggiuntive

Corso	Percorso	CFU	Durata(h)
<u>[LE04] LINGUE E LETTERATURE STRANIERE</u>	[PDS0-2016 - Ord. 2016] comune	9	45

Obiettivi

The course aims at introducing students to the knowledge and the critical appraisal of an outline of English literature of the twentieth century, and it will mainly focus on the development of the novel and its evolving forms of intertextuality and metafictionality, as well as on the centrality of the city and of the urban imagination, its dystopic connotations and the tensions and conflicts embedded in the urban dimension. On completion of this module, students should be able to demonstrate understanding of how historical contexts inform the form and content of texts, to recognize the different stylistic features and cultural contexts and to identify thematic and formal correspondences. They should also be able to assess the relevance of literary criticism to the set texts. Students who will write a paper on a specific topic pertaining to the course will have the opportunity to enhance their critical writing skills in preparation of their final paper.

Prerequisiti

II year English literature exam.

Contenuti

The course aims at introducing students to some defining features of twentieth-century English literature, and specifically modernism and its legacy and breakups in postmodern and contemporary literature. Lectures will specifically focus on the metaliterary, intertextual dimension of twentieth-century literary politics, and on the rhetorical strategies with which writers engaged with the idea of tradition, the cultural past and the literary canon. In parallel, it will also consider the centrality of the city and of the urban imagination, its dystopic connotations as well as the tensions and conflicts embedded in the urban dimension. A selection of texts will provide an essential outline of these defining and connected aspects of literary modernity, starting with Joyce's *Kustlerroman*, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (1916), two great canonical Modernist works, T.S.Eliot's *The Waste Land* (1922) and Woolf's *Mrs Dalloway* (1925). The second part of the course will consider British (and Anglophone) fiction since the 1960s through three great novels which identify some of the most significant trends of recent British literary fiction, such as postcolonial and feminist poetics (J. Rhys' *Wide Sargasso Sea* (1966), postcolonial and postmodernist rewritings of the canon (J.M.Coetzee, *Foe* (1987), and the return of realism, the tribute to the tradition of the English novel, metafiction and the ethical challenge of postmodernist fiction (*Atonement* , 2001).

Erasmus students and non-attending students are invited to contact the lecturer at the beginning of the course for any specific requirement.

Metodi Didattici

Lectures, textual analysis, close reading. Film screenings may also be included.

Verifica dell'apprendimento

The exam is oral and will last approximately 30. It consists of a discussion of the topics of the course through the textual analysis and commentary of relevant passages from the primary sources, and it aims at determining the level of knowledge and competence reached by the students, together with their argumentative and analytical skills. Students will be asked to prove their grounding in the main features and authors of British literary history and to answer questions concerning the main concepts, themes and contexts considered during the course. At the conclusion of the course, students will have the opportunity to write and discuss a paper of approximately 2000 words focussed on a specific topic that will be part of the final assessment.

Testi

Primary sources/ testi di riferimento:

T.S.Eliot. *Tradition and the Individual Talent* . (1919), In *Selected Essays*, London: Faber and Faber (moodle)

J.Joyce, *Dubliners*, ed. by Jeri Johnston, Oxford World Classics

V.WOOLF, *Mrs Dalloway* ed. by . D.Bradshaw, Oxford UP, 2008.

T.S.Eliot, *The Waste Land/La Terra Desolata*, ed. Italiana con testo a fronte, a cura di Alessandro Serpieri, BUR (highly recommended edition).

George Orwell, Penguin Modern Classics.

J.RHYS, *Wide Sargasso Sea*. Penguin Modern Classics.

John M.Coetzee, Foe, Vintage.

I.McEwan, Atonement, Vintage.

CRITICAL READING:

Michael Alexander, A History of English Literature, Part 5, The Twentieth Century, pp. 309-379, OR
Laura Winkiel, Modernism: The Basics, Routledge Basics.(selected reading, photocopies/moodle)

T.S.Eliot. Tradition and the Individual Talent . (1919), In Selected Essays, London: Faber and Faber
(moodle)

“Intertextuality”, in The Encyclopedia of the Novel, Oxford, Wiley Blackwell, 2011. (moodle)

D.Bradshaw,Introduction to V.Woolf's Mrs Dalloway, Oxford World Classics.

Postmodernism, Postcolonialism, entries from J.Wolfreys, R.Romath, K.Womack, Key Concepts in
Literary Theory, Edinburgh, Edinburgh UP, 2006. (moodle)

J.Mc Leod, “Re-Reading And Re-Writing English Literature” In Beginning Postcolonialism , London,
Verso, 2000. Pp.139-171 (Moodle)

D.Head, “Foe” in The Cambridge Introduction to J.M.Coetzee, Cambridge UP , pp. 60-66. (moodle)
J.Ellam, Atonement, A Reader's Guide, Continuum, 2009 (moodle) (a longer but student-friendly
guide to the novel

OR

Nick Bentley “Atonement” in Contemporary British Fiction, Edinburgh, Edinburgh UP, 2006. pp.
148-159.(moodle)

J.Mullan, “Who's afraid of influence?” Review of I.McEwan's Atonement. (moodle)

Altre Informazioni

Critical reading (also in selected parts) will be available to students on moodle, in the Department
library or in photocopies.

Further critical references may be provided during the course module.

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of the course for any specific requirement.

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ROBERTA GEFTER WONDRICH - LETTERATURA INGLESE III - Partizione Unica

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