

Literary Thought

Code: 100262
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500243 Classics	OT	3	0
2500243 Classics	OT	4	0
2500245 English Studies	OT	3	0
2500245 English Studies	OT	4	0
2500247 Catalan Language and Literature	OT	3	0
2500247 Catalan Language and Literature	OT	4	0
2500248 Spanish Language and Literature	OT	3	0
2500248 Spanish Language and Literature	OT	4	0
2501801 Catalan and Spanish	OT	3	0
2501801 Catalan and Spanish	OT	4	0
2501902 English and Catalan	OT	3	0
2501902 English and Catalan	OT	4	0
2501907 English and Classics	OT	3	0
2501907 English and Classics	OT	4	0
2501910 English and Spanish	OT	3	0
2501910 English and Spanish	OT	4	0
2501913 English and French	OT	3	0
2501913 English and French	OT	4	0

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: spanish (spa)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: No
Some groups entirely in Spanish: Yes

Prerequisites

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.

It would be highly desirable -albeit in no way demanding- that the students had a clear interest in theoretical and literary texts prior to 1900.

Objectives and Contextualisation

OBJECTIVES AND CONTEXTUALIZATION

The course is a historical and thematic overview through the main ideas that have shaped the western way of thinking, defining, explaining and evaluating literature from classical Greece to positivism and impressionistic criticism of the second half of the nineteenth century.

The subject combines the presentation of theoretical contents (about historical periods, authors and concepts) with the reading and commentary of the main texts of ancient, medieval and modern literary thought.

Competences

Classics

- Analysing the formal, thematic, cultural and historical characteristics of the works of literary creation and reflection on literature of different languages and countries.
- Applying different analytical tools to several types of literary works.
- Demonstrating they know the basic theoretical foundations of the main methods and currents of literature and criticism.
- Interpreting and assessing literary texts and explaining the results of the process.
- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- 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.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Summarising the basic theoretical foundations of the reflection on the literary fact in its various forms since ancient times.

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.
- Applying different analytical tools to several types of literary works.
- Demonstrating they know the basic theoretical foundations of the main methods and currents of literature and criticism.
- Interpreting and assessing literary texts and explaining the process results.
- Students can apply the knowledge to their own work or vocation in a professional manner and have the powers generally demonstrated by preparing and defending arguments and solving problems within their area of study.
- 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.

- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Summarising the basic theoretical foundations of the reflection on literature in every of its forms since ancient times.

Catalan Language and Literature

- Analysing the formal, thematic, cultural and historical characteristics of the literary works and works of reflection on literature of different languages and countries.
- Applying different analytical tools to several types of literary works.
- Demonstrating they know the basic theoretical foundations of the main methods and currents of literature and criticism.
- Interpreting and assessing literary texts and explaining the process results.
- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- 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.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Summarising the basic theoretical foundations of the reflection on literature in every of its forms since ancient times.

Spanish Language and Literature

- Analysing the formal, thematic, cultural and historical characteristics of the literary works and works of reflection on literature of different languages and countries.
- Applying different analytical tools to several types of literary works.
- Demonstrating they know the basic theoretical foundations of the main methods and currents of literature and criticism.
- Interpreting and assessing literary texts and explaining the process results.
- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- 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.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Summarising the basic theoretical foundations of the reflection on literature in every of its forms since ancient times.

Catalan and Spanish

- Analysing the formal, thematic, cultural and historical characteristics of the works of literary creation and reflection on literature of different languages and countries.
- Applying different analytical tools to several types of literary works.
- Demonstrating they know the basic theoretical foundations of the main methods and currents of literature and criticism.
- Interpreting and assessing literary texts and explaining the process results.
- Students can apply the knowledge to their own work or vocation in a professional manner and have the powers generally demonstrated by preparing and defending arguments and solving problems within their area of study.
- 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.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.

- Summarising the basic theoretical foundations of the reflection on literature in every of its forms since ancient times.

English and Catalan

- Analysing the formal, thematic, cultural and historical characteristics of the works of literary creation and reflection on literature of different languages and countries.
- Applying different analytical tools to several types of literary works.
- Demonstrating they know the basic theoretical foundations of the main methods and currents of literature and criticism.
- Interpreting and assessing literary texts and explaining the process results.
- Students can apply the knowledge to their own work or vocation in a professional manner and have the powers generally demonstrated by preparing and defending arguments and solving problems within their area of study.
- 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.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Summarising the basic theoretical foundations of the reflection on literature in every of its forms since ancient times.

English and Classics

- Analysing the formal, thematic, cultural and historical characteristics of the works of literary creation and reflection on literature of different languages and countries.
- Applying different analytical tools to several types of literary works.
- Demonstrating they know the basic theoretical foundations of the main methods and currents of literature and criticism.
- Interpreting and assessing literary texts and explaining the process results.
- Students can apply the knowledge to their own work or vocation in a professional manner and have the powers generally demonstrated by preparing and defending arguments and solving problems within their area of study.
- 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.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Summarising the basic theoretical foundations of the reflection on literature in every of its forms since ancient times.

English and Spanish

- Analysing the formal, thematic, cultural and historical characteristics of the works of literary creation and reflection on literature of different languages and countries.
- Applying different analytical tools to several types of literary works.
- Demonstrating they know the basic theoretical foundations of the main methods and currents of literature and criticism.
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- 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.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Summarising the basic theoretical foundations of the reflection on literature in every of its forms since ancient times.

English and French

- Analysing the formal, thematic, cultural and historical characteristics of the works of literary creation and reflection on literature of different languages and countries.
- Applying different analytical tools to several types of literary works.
- Demonstrating they know the basic theoretical foundations of the main methods and currents of literature and criticism.
- Interpreting and assessing literary texts and explaining the process results.
- Students can apply the knowledge to their own work or vocation in a professional manner and have the powers generally demonstrated by preparing and defending arguments and solving problems within their area of study.
- 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.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Summarising the basic theoretical foundations of the reflection on literature in every of its forms since ancient times.

Learning Outcomes

1. Argue about several issues and literary problems for the purpose of different works and the assessment of the results.
2. Arguing about several issues and literary problems for the purpose of different works and the assessment of the results.
3. Arguing on various subjects and literary works about different problems and evaluate the results.
4. Carry out a play for the development of a subject-related work.
5. Carrying out a planning for the development of a subject-related work.
6. Commenting on literary texts, applying the acquired tools and taking into account the historical and sociocultural context.
7. Critically interpret literary works considering the relationships between different fields of literature and its relation to human, artistic and social areas.
8. Critically interpret literary works take into account the relationships between different areas of literature and its relationships with human, artistic and social areas.
9. Critically interpreting literary works taking into account the relationships between different areas of literature and its relationships with human, artistic and social areas.
10. Critically interpreting literary works taking into account the relationships between the different areas of literature and its relationships with human, artistic and social areas.
11. Effectively communicating and applying the argumentative and textual processes to formal and scientific texts.
12. Identifying and explaining the basic characteristics of literary texts and the interpretation process.
13. Place the literary texts in their corresponding formal and cultural contexts.
14. Placing the literary texts in their corresponding formal and cultural contexts.
15. Present works in formats tailored to the needs and personal styles, both individual and small group.
16. Solve problems about writers, methods and currents of comparative literature, connecting them with knowledge of other humanistic disciplines.
17. Solve problems related to the historical contextualization of literary texts.
18. Solve problems related to the theoretical foundations and main concepts of the study of literary criticism.
19. Solving problems about authors and currents of comparative literature, connecting them with knowledge of other humanistic disciplines.
20. Solving problems about writers, methods and currents of comparative literature, and connecting them with knowledge of other humanistic disciplines.
21. Solving problems about writers, methods and currents of comparative literature, connecting them with knowledge of other humanistic disciplines.
22. Solving problems related to the historical contextualization of literary texts.

23. Solving problems related to the theoretical foundations and main concepts of the study of literary criticism.
24. Solving tasks on authors, and current methods of comparative literature, relating knowledge from other human disciplines.
25. Submitting works in accordance with both individual and small group demands and personal styles.
26. Summarising acquired knowledge about the origin and transformations experienced in its several fields of study.

Content

CONTENT

Preliminary: the great models of literary thought throughout history

1. Mimesis: poetics of classical antiquity
2. Hermeneutics: classical and medieval theories of interpretation
3. Ancient and modern: classicist poetics of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries
4. Taste: artistic judgment, the sublime and the emancipation of art in the eighteenth century
5. Expression: the concept of genius, romantic poetics and modern subjectivity.
6. Context: positivist scientificism and impressionistic reaction

Methodology

The course follows the pattern of continued learning, with seminary-type classes.

The primary texts are submitted to discussion in class, and they will be interrogated based on the general historical and critical contents. Students must commit to read and reflect on the texts prior to the discussions in class, which will be led by the professor.

This form of learning is evaluated through three written essays.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lecture sessions, seminar and/or practical sessions	52.5	2.1	
Type: Supervised			
Tutorials & e-mail consultations	15	0.6	
Type: Autonomous			
Individual work (reading, studying, writing course's papers)	82.5	3.3	10, 7, 9, 8, 20, 24, 21, 19, 16, 26

Assessment

Students must deliver 3 medium-length written essays (between 3.000 and 4.000 words).

Each essay accounts for 30% of the final grade. The remaining 10% will be evaluated according to active participation in the seminar sessions.

The 3 essays are compulsory, and only 2 of them can be submitted to recovery. In order to pass the course, all 3 essays need to obtain at least a C+.

Students are allowed to voluntarily hand in a critical review of any of the works of the course's general bibliography.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Paper 1	30%	0	0	3, 2, 1, 6, 5, 4, 10, 7, 9, 8, 25, 11, 15, 18, 23, 20, 24, 21, 19, 16, 26
Paper 2	30%	0	0	2, 1, 14, 13, 10, 7, 9, 8, 20, 24, 21, 19, 16, 26
Paper 3	30%	0	0	12, 22, 17
Seminar sessions' participation	10%	0	0	10, 7, 9, 8, 20, 24, 21, 19, 16, 26

Bibliography

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Blamires, Harry, *A History of Literary Criticism*, MacMillan, Londres, 1991.

Bobes, Carmen, et al., *Historia de la teoría literaria. I: La antigüedad grecolatina*, Gredos, Madrid, 1995.

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Burguera, María Luisa, *Textos clásicos de teoría de la literatura*, Cátedra, Madrid, 2004.

Eagleton, Terry., *La función de la crítica*, Paidós, Barcelona, 1999.

Habib, M.A.R., *A History of Literary Criticism. From Plato to the Present*, Blackwell, Oxford, 2007.

Marino, Adrian., *The Biography of the 'Idea of Literature'. From Antiquity to the Baroque*, State University of New York Press, Nueva York, 1996.

Nisbet, Barry, y Claude Rawson (eds.), *The Cambridge History of Literary Criticism*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1989-, 9 vols.

Pozuelo Yvancos José María (dir.), *Las ideas literarias (1214-2010)*, vol. 8 de José Carlos Mainer (dir.), *Historia de la literatura española*, Crítica, Barcelona, 2011.

Pulido Tirado, Genara, *El pensamiento literario: introducción teórica e histórica*, Universidad de Jaén, Jaén, 1995.

Richter, David H. (ed.), *The Critical Tradition. Classic Texts and Contemporary Trends*, Bedford Books, Boston, 1998.

Rivas Hernández, Ascensión, *De la poética a la teoría de la literatura (una introducción)*, Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca, 2005.

Viñas, David, *Historia de la crítica literaria*, Ariel, Barcelona, 2002.

Wahnón Bensusan, Susana, *Introducción a la historia de la teorías literarias*, Universidad de Granada, Granada, 1991.

Wellek, René, (1955-1986), *Historia de la crítica moderna (1750-1950)*, Gredos, Madrid, 1959-1988, 6 vols.

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