

Subject card

Subject name and code	Contexts of English-language literatures of the British Isles, PG_00188683						
Field of study	English Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject		2026/2027		
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	1		Language of instruction		English		
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit	Institute of English and American Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Maria Fengler				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		2.0		18.0	50
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to familiarise students with selected aspects of linguistic, literary, cultural and historical contexts of English-language literatures of Britain and Ireland, with emphasis on their relations and tensions between their different components.						
Learning outcomes	Course outcome		Subject outcome		Method of verification		
	[FAMU2_W12] Knows and understands the main development trends in literature, in particular with regard to research into English-language literature.		Knows and understands selected issues in the fields of linguistic, geographical, historical, cultural contexts of English-language literatures of the British Isles.		[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report		
	[FAMU2_K01] Is ready to critically evaluate the extent of their knowledge and skills, in particular in the field of English-language linguistics and literature and English.		Is ready to critically evaluate the extent of their knowledge and skills in the field of linguistic, geographical, historical, cultural and literary contexts of English-language literatures of the British Isles.		[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SK4] test/exam - oral or written		
	[FAMU2_U05] Can use and present orally and in writing knowledge in the field of auxiliary and related sciences, which is a context for English linguistic and literary studies and supports the professional work of an English philologist.		Can use and present orally and in writing knowledge in the field of linguistic, geographical, historical, cultural and literary contexts of English-language literatures of the British Isles.		[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU4] test/exam - oral or written		

Subject contents	The course provides background information supporting the courses in English-language literatures of the British Isles. We are going to ask the question: what connects and what divides England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland? We will consider different aspects of history, geography and culture of the Isles, viewed from a peripheral rather than Anglocentric perspective. We will also pay attention to mythology and legends of Britain and Ireland, e.g. the legend of King Arthur, its connection with the landscape and Celtic tradtion and its presence in modern culture. We will also try to understand tensions - sometimes very creative ones - between the English language and English-language literature and other languages, especially Celtic ones, used in Britain and Ireland and the literary works written in those languages.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Knowledge of English at C1 level. Choice of the specialisation Language, Literature, Education; Literary Studies. ATTENDANCE AT CLASSES IS MANDATORY, UNLESS THE STUDENT HAS OBTAINED THE DEAN'S APPROVAL TO FOLLOW AN INDIVIDUALSTUDY PLAN		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	oral/written examination	51.0%	70.0%
	active participation in class	51.0%	15.0%
	presentation	51.0%	15.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Murray G.H. Pittock, <i>Celtic Identity and the British Image</i>, Manchester UP, 1999. Hugh Kearney, <i>The British Isles</i>, 2nd ed., Cambridge UP, 2006. Seamus Heaney, "Frontiers of Writing", in: <i>The Redress of Poetry</i>, Faber and Faber, 1995. poems by Welsh, Scottish and Irish poets, selected by the teacher and/or students	
	Supplementary literature	Proinsias Mac Cana, <i>Celtic Mythology</i>, Chancellor Press, 1997. Richard Alan Barlow, <i>Modern Irish and Scottish Literature: Connections, Contrasts, Celticisms</i>, Oxford University Press, 2023. Maria Fengler, "In the Dream He Was Awake: Ontological Instability in James Robertson's <i>The Fanatic</i>", <i>Beyond Philology</i> 20/3, 2023. BBC Radio 4 podcast The Invention of Britain (4 episodes) Documentary about the landscape in <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x6pzj1u	
		eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed			
Work placement	Not applicable		