



DEGREE IN ENGLISH STUDIES. SUBJECT CONTENTS.

4th year

English in the Media (C2). This subject aims at the study and development of the five skills (written production, oral production, oral interaction, written comprehension and oral comprehension) in order to complete the proficiency cycle in accordance with the descriptors of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (2002: 25).

English Semantics. This subject focuses on the main theoretical and practical underpinnings of English semantics, presenting an overview of the different models used to explain crucial features of both lexical and sentence semantics, with particular attention to functional and cognitive standpoints.

Pragmatics and Discourse in English. This subject aims at the acquisition of a general perspective of the basic concepts of pragmatics and discourse analysis, and at the students' knowledge of a number theories and their application in this field of linguistics.

Basic contents:

- Introduction: Pragmatics and discourse. Context.
- Basic notions of pragmatics: Speech Act Theory. The Cooperative Principle and Conversational Implicature. Politeness: face and facework.
- Basic notions of discourse analysis: Cohesion and coherence. Information structure. Theme and Rheme. Syntactic variation within the scope of the clause.

Anglo-American Modernist Fiction. The course analyzes canonical Modernist works, and studies artistic, cultural, and political principles put forth by Modernist authors. Critical responses to Modernism will also be object of scrutiny. Historical contexts will also be studied, especially their impact on Modernism and authors' responses to historical and political changes. The relationship between the aesthetic underpinnings of Modernism and their practical manifestations in fiction will also be object of analysis.

Anglo-American Modernist Poetry. In this course we teach our students the poetry and poetics written by the most significant Anglo-American poets. First, our students become familiar with symbolism and imagism, and then most of the course is dedicated to the main figures of high modernism, namely: T. S. Eliot, Ezra Pound, Gertrude Stein, William Carlos Williams and Wallace Stevens. The pedagogical approach is fundamentally practical and oriented towards the development of critical reading ability.
