



Premaster Letterkunde, programma Literatures in English  
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Faculteit der Letteren - P Letterkunde - 2013-2014

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## Ba-Dissertation Colloquium English Literature

<b>Vakcode</b>	L_ELBAELKCOL ()
<b>Periode</b>	Periode 5
<b>Credits</b>	3.0
<b>Voertaal</b>	Engels
<b>Faculteit</b>	Faculteit der Letteren
<b>Coördinator</b>	dr. B. Boter
<b>Docent(en)</b>	prof. dr. D.M. Oostdijk, dr. A.S. Raghunath, dr. B. Boter
<b>Lesmethode(n)</b>	Werkcollege
<b>Niveau</b>	300

### Doel vak

In this course students acquire the skills necessary to write their bachelor thesis.

### Inhoud vak

After signing up for one of the Thesis Tutorial Groups in October 2012, students will be assigned a supervisor in December 2012 or January 2013. He or she will meet regularly with the Thesis Tutorial Group in period 4 in the Bachelor Thesis Colloquium, reading secondary literature pertaining to that group and helping students devise their own topic.

### Onderwijsvorm

Students will meet three or four times with their supervisor during period 4, discussing secondary literature that is relevant for the theme at hand and helping them set up their own research project. Peer review is also central in this course as students will also help their fellow students with their own research.

### Toetsvorm

At the end of period 4 students will hand in their own research plan to be carried out in period 5, for which they will receive a grade. Students will also be assessed on their participation during the Bachelor Thesis Colloquium and on the feedback they have given to fellow students.

### Literatuur

The reading material will be announced at the end of Period 3.

### Vereiste voorkennis

Students will have to have earned roughly 150 credits to start on this course. Please contact the student advisor if you are doubting whether you are eligible to follow this course.

### Doelgroep

Third-year students with Literatures in English as their first major.

## BA-Thesis Literatures in English

<b>Vakcode</b>	L_ELBAELKSCR (510451)
<b>Periode</b>	Ac. Jaar (september)
<b>Credits</b>	9.0
<b>Voertaal</b>	Nederlands

<b>Faculteit</b>	Faculteit der Letteren
<b>Coördinator</b>	prof. dr. D.M. Oostdijk
<b>Niveau</b>	300

### Doel vak

Students will acquire theoretical, methodological, and practical knowledge about conducting research within the field of Literatures in English or American Studies. Together with their supervisors, they will learn how to set up their own research proposals. They will select both primary and secondary sources and learn how to use these to construct their own argument in a thesis of roughly 8,000 to 12,000 words about texts relating to Literatures in English.

### Inhoud vak

Students will write a thesis of roughly 8,000 to 12,000 words on an independent topic that fits within one of the four Thesis Tutorial Groups, which will be announced in October 2011.

### Onderwijsvorm

After signing up for one of the Thesis Tutorial Groups, students will be assigned to a supervisor. He or she will meet regularly with the Thesis Tutorial Group in period 4 during the Bachelor Thesis Colloquium, reading secondary literature pertaining to that group and helping students devise their own topic. Students will embark on their own individual project in period 5 and need to finish their thesis by June 30, 2012.

### Toetsvorm

Students will be assessed on the finished project, but also on the way they have contributed to the Thesis Tutorial Group and on their independence and efficiency carrying out their thesis.

### Literatuur

The supervisor will introduce secondary literature in period 4, but in period 5 students are also responsible for finding relevant material for their own projects.

### Vereiste voorkennis

Students need to have roughly 150 credits to start with their BA-thesis. Please contact the student advisor if you are not sure whether you are allowed to start.

### Doelgroep

Third-year students with Literatures in English as their first major

## British and American Literature 1780-1900

<b>Vakcode</b>	L_ELBAELK210 ()
<b>Periode</b>	Periode 5+6
<b>Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Voertaal</b>	Engels
<b>Faculteit</b>	Faculteit der Letteren
<b>Coördinator</b>	dr. B. Boter
<b>Docent(en)</b>	dr. B. Boter
<b>Lesmethode(n)</b>	Werkcollege

<b>Niveau</b>	200
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### Doel vak

This course introduces the so-called transnational turn in the Literatures of English programme. Traditionally a historical study of literature emphasizes how literary works are part of a national canon and thereby contribute to nation building, as British Literature 1688-1800 showed. This course teaches you how British and American authors and their works are also influenced and affected by literary developments abroad.

### Inhoud vak

The United States proclaimed its independence from Great Britain in 1776, but for a long time it remained dependent on the motherland in a literary and cultural sense. This course focuses on the transnational relationships and rivalries that were formed in the first century after America's independence.

### Onderwijsvorm

Two-hour seminars each week.

### Toetsvorm

Exam, essay (2,500 words), presentation.

### Literatuur

To be announced.

### Doelgroep

Students of Literatures in English; premaster-students of English; exchange students; students following the American Studies minor; optional course for third-year students of Literary Studies.

### Overige informatie

This course is taught in English; attendance is compulsory; exchange students need to contact the lecturer before registering for this course.

## British Literature 1900-present

<b>Vakcode</b>	L_ELBAELK205 ()
<b>Periode</b>	Periode 1
<b>Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Voertaal</b>	Engels
<b>Faculteit</b>	Faculteit der Letteren
<b>Coördinator</b>	prof. dr. D.M. Oostdijk
<b>Docent(en)</b>	prof. dr. D.M. Oostdijk
<b>Lesmethode(n)</b>	Werkcollege
<b>Niveau</b>	200

### Doel vak

This course introduces students to British texts (prose, poetry and drama) to provide a literary-historical overview of the most significant themes and developments from 1900-2000. Students are asked to analyse how British literature has developed in this period, and especially how

literature reflects history and how historical developments have influenced literary styles and themes. The written exam tests students' insights into the most prominent themes discussed during class. For the essay students are required to write a coherent and independent analysis of one or more aspects of twentieth-century British literature. Students will be assessed on the ability to write, originally and with clarity, on both details and overarching themes in their chosen texts.

### **Inhoud vak**

This course tracks the history of British literature chronologically, from the poets of the First World War to multicultural voices from contemporary Britain. It seeks to understand how novelists, poets and playwrights reflected on the trials and tribulations of the twentieth century, when Britain stopped being a daunting world power with colonies around the globe and needed to adjust to a more humble role. We will examine relevant cultural and literary contexts, including modernism, postmodernism and post-colonialism against their historical backdrop.

### **Onderwijsvorm**

Core lecture

The course is taught in six seminars. Students are expected to have prepared the relevant text(s) before class and they should be ready to discuss them with their peers and instructor. Students can choose their own topic for the essay as long as it is related to one of the authors and/or texts discussed in class.

### **Toetsvorm**

Exam at the end of period 2 (40 percent); essay due first Monday of period 2, (40 percent); participation/attendance/Blackboard discussions (20 percent).

### **Literatuur**

Primary literature: The Norton Anthology of English Literature, Part 2 (8th Edition); Peter Barry, *Beginning Theory* (Manchester UP); Alan Hollinghurst, *The Stranger's Child*; Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway* (Penguin). Secondary literature: Students need to find appropriate secondary sources for their essay themselves.

### **Vereiste voorkennis**

Ordinarily students will have to have finished all the first-year courses. Please contact the instructor if you do not fulfill this requirement and want to follow this course anyway.

### **Doelgroep**

Second-year students of English literature; pre-master-students of English; exchange students; optional course for third-year students of Literary Studies.

### **Overige informatie**

This course is taught in English; attendance is compulsory; exchange students need to contact the lecturer before registering for this course.

## **Shakespeare Adaptations**

<b>Vakcode</b>	L_ELBAELK306 ()
<b>Periode</b>	Periode 5+6

<b>Credits</b>	3.0
<b>Voertaal</b>	Engels
<b>Faculteit</b>	Faculteit der Letteren
<b>Coördinator</b>	dr. R.V.J. van den Oever
<b>Docent(en)</b>	dr. R.V.J. van den Oever
<b>Lesmethode(n)</b>	Werkcollege
<b>Niveau</b>	300

#### **Doel vak**

Students learn how to analyze a film adaptation of a Shakespeare play.

#### **Inhoud vak**

The course consists of two sections. First, we discuss a number of theoretical issues that arise when studying Shakespeare adaptations ("original" source text, adaptation criteria, intertextuality). Second, we zoom in on interpretive approaches that link to identity politics (ethnicity, sexuality).

#### **Onderwijsvorm**

A weekly film screening and a weekly two-hour seminar.

#### **Toetsvorm**

Final essay

#### **Literatuur**

To be announced.

#### **Vereiste voorkennis**

None.

#### **Doelgroep**

BA students in the Literatures in English program; exchange students.

#### **Overige informatie**

1) Students should be fluent in English. 2) Attendance is compulsory.