



UNIVERSITAT DE
BARCELONA

Teaching plan for the course unit

General information

Course unit name: Migrations and Diasporas in Literatures and Cultures in English

Course unit code: 569576

Academic year: 2019-2020

Coordinator: Cristina Alsina Risquez

Department: Department of Modern Languages, Modern Literature and English Studies

Credits: 6

Single program: S

Estimated learning time

Total number of hours 150

Face-to-face learning activities	60
- Cultural trip	6
- Seminar	42
- Experimental workshop	12
Supervised project	45
Independent learning	45

Recommendations

The subject will be taught in English. However, students may use Catalan or Spanish for presentations

and written work.

Competences to be gained during study

Basic and general competences

CB7. Capacity to apply the acquired knowledge to problem-solving in new or relatively unknown environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to the specific field of study.

G2. Capacity to interpret texts from different eras and cultural traditions.

G4. Capacity to develop independent thought: critical and self-critical capabilities, capacity to develop original problem-solving strategies, capacity to generate new ideas, and capacity to delimit an object or field of study in terms of the construction and representation of cultural identities.

CB6. Knowledge forming the basis of original thinking in the development and/or application of ideas, typically in a research context.

CB8. Capacity to integrate knowledge and tackle the complexity of formulating judgements based on incomplete or limited information, taking due consideration of the social and ethical responsibilities involved in applying knowledge and making judgements.

CB9. Capacity to communicate knowledge and conclusions and the grounds on which they have been reached to specialist and non-specialist audiences in a clear and unambiguous manner.

CB10. Skills to enable lifelong self-directed and independent learning.

G1. Capacity to understand: identification of concepts, problems and key questions in debates on the construction of cultural identities.

G3. Capacity for reflection: awareness of one's own thought process, and ability to acknowledge and appraise different theories and points of view in the field of literary and cultural studies.

G5. Capacity to manage information: capacity to extract and integrate information from different sources, making effective use of libraries, archives, newspaper archives and other resources (particularly digital resources) relevant to research in the humanities.

G6. Capacity to conduct basic research and monitor recent developments in the international scientific community in the fields of cultural studies, literary studies and gender studies.

G7. Ability to work in a team (capacity to collaborate with others and contribute to a common project/capacity to work in cross-disciplinary and intercultural teams).

Specific competences

E1. Advanced understanding of the different theories and methodologies applied to interculturality, globalization and post-colonial studies and the analysis of different types of texts in these fields; more

detailed knowledge of the tools of philology needed to analyse complex texts and conduct comparative studies.

E5. Capacity to analyse the links between contemporary artistic creation and history, cultural institutions and social and political trends, taking into account the influences of colonization and globalization.

E3. Theoretical and critical capabilities for constructing discourse on interculturality, otherness and globalization.

Learning objectives

Referring to knowledge

- To gain an extensive and in-depth understanding of theories on migration and diasporas that have emerged in recent decades as a result of intense population movements at global scale in the contemporary era.
- To understand the complexity of situations that lead to major population movements within different English-speaking contexts.
- To associate current discussions of migrations and diasporas with an analysis of their representation in a selection of contemporary literary and cinematic texts in English.

Referring to abilities, skills

- To develop the capacity to construct robust, complex arguments that address the state of the art on an international level.
- To develop the capacity to manage information effectively, to identify the literary, sociological and cultural theories and methodologies applicable to specific cases, and to contribute clearly and accurately to discussions of literary and cultural issues.

Referring to attitudes, values and norms

- To demonstrate a respect for all reasonably argued and well-founded viewpoints.

Teaching blocks

- 1. Theories on migration and *diaspora studies***
- 2. "Black Atlantic" diasporas**
- 3. Indian Ocean Diasporas**

Teaching methods and general organization

The teaching methodology combines theoretical and practical work, comprising lectures and a range of applied activities, such as guided debates, group work, oral presentations, written assignments and research tasks.

Official assessment of learning outcomes

The following aspects will be assessed:

- Attendance and participation in face-to-face sessions and activities specified at the beginning of the course: 25%.
- Outline of the proposed written assignment (25%):

— Week 6: individual tutorial session with the lecturer to select a primary source (literary or cinematic text) and a secondary source (critical essay on migration and/or diaspora) that will form the basis of the assignment, the aim of which is to apply the concepts outlined in the secondary source to the content of the primary text.

— Week 10: presentation of the assignment proposal to the rest of the group.

— Final week: written proposal of the assignment (approx. 400 words).

- Written assignment (approx. 2,500 words): 50%.

Students must complete each of the assessed exercises to be eligible to pass the subject.

Examination-based assessment

Students who are unable to meet the requirements for continuous assessment may change to the one-off assessment option, in which case a written request must be submitted before the deadline stipulated by the Faculty.

The one-off assessment option consists of a written assignment (approximately 2,500 words) worth 100% of the final grade.

Re-sit

It is the same as the one-off assessment option.

Reading and study resources

[Consulteu la disponibilitat a CERCABIB](#)

Book

Braziel, Jana Evans and Anita Mannur, ed. (2003). *Theorizing Diaspora: A Reader*. Malden, MA: Blackwell.

Castles, Stephen and Mark J. Miller (2009). *The Age of Migration*. New Yor: Palgrave Mc Millian.

Cohen, Robin (2008), *Global Diasporas: An Introduction*. London and New York: Routledge.

Esman, Milton J. (2009), *Diasporas in the Contemporary World*. Cambridge: Polity.

Mishra, Vijay (2007), *The Literature of the Indian Diaspora: Theorizing the Diasporic Imaginary*. London and New York: Routledge.