

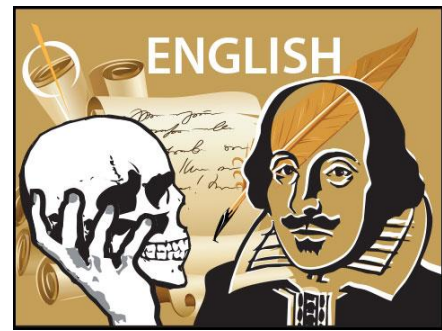
# History of English Literature I. (DAL1)

## Course description 2022

**Teacher:** doc. PaedDr. Andrea Puskás, PhD.

**E-mail:** puskasa@ujss.sk

**Form:** 1 lecture + 1 seminar



## Tentative Syllabus:

### Lectures

1. The first English literature. Beowulf.
2. Chaucer and after. The Canterbury Tales. The beginnings of drama.
3. The English Renaissance. Theatres and city life. Early Elizabethan drama.
4. William Shakespeare. Life and works. Other Elizabethan dramatists.
5. Tudor Poetry and Prose. John Milton. Restoration period.
6. The Age of Reason: Classicism. Defoe, Swift, Fielding, Sterne.
7. The Romantics. Burns, Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, Keats .
8. Jane Austen. Life and works.
9. The Victorian Period. Puritanism, philosophy and religion. Charles Dickens. The Brontës.
10. Thomas Hardy. Novels – naturalism, pessimism and determinism. Imperialism. Rudyard Kipling.
11. Fresh life in drama. Melodrama. G. B. Shaw. Oscar Wilde.
12. Oscar Wilde. Life and works. Aestheticism. Beginnings of Modernism.
13. Concluding thoughts.

### Seminars

1. Introduction, discussion of course syllabus
2. Geoffrey Chaucer: The Canterbury Tales – **The Wife of Bath's Prologue and The Wife of Bath's Tale.**
3. Shakespeare: **A Midsummer Night's Dream.**
4. Shakespeare: **Macbeth.**
5. Classicism: Defoe: Robinson Crusoe. Sterne: The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy Gentleman.
6. British Romanticism. Samuel Taylor Coleridge: **The Rime of the Ancient Mariner.**
7. **Mid-term test.**
8. Jane Austen: **Pride and Prejudice.**
9. The Victorian Period. Charles Dickens: **A Christmas Carol.** Oliver Twist.
10. The Brontë sisters. Emily Brontë: **Wuthering Heights**, Charlotte Brontë: Jane Eyre.
11. George Bernard Shaw: **Pygmalion.**
12. Oscar Wilde: **The Picture of Dorian Grey, The Happy Prince and Other Stories.**
13. **End-of-term test.**

### Assessment based on:

• **oral exam** – it will be based on the information given at the lectures on the history of English literature until the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the compulsory textbook and your readings; it is highly recommended to **take notes during lectures and seminars**. The syllabus of the course (the order of lectures) might change due to holidays or other circumstances).

#### **The books/literary works you need to read for the oral exam:**

1. Geoffrey Chaucer: Canterbury Tales – The Wife of Bath's Prologue and The Wife of Bath's Tale
2. Shakespeare: A Midsummer Night's Dream
3. Shakespeare: Macbeth
4. Samuel Taylor Coleridge: The Rime of the Ancient Mariner

5. Jane Austen: *Pride and Prejudice*
6. Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*
7. Emily Brontë: *Wuthering Heights*
8. George Bernard Shaw: *Pygmalion*
9. Oscar Wilde: *The Picture of Dorian Grey*
10. Oscar Wilde: *The Happy Prince and Other Stories* (*The Selfish Giant*, *The Happy Prince*, *The Nightingale and the Rose*)

- **regular class attendance** – no more than **2 absences** – for these two you do not have to bring any doctor's notes; **attendance of lectures is obligatory, too**, similarly to the seminars, you can miss no more than 2 lectures. And no, the first week does not count.
- **2 tests on theory** – a mid-term and an end-of-term test, including questions on theory and reading assignments; if your result is at least 50% on average (out of the two tests), you can take the oral exam during the exam period; if you fail to achieve 50% or more, you have to take the test again during the exam period (1 test from all the topics of the semester) – you have 3 opportunities. After succeeding in the test, you take the oral exam immediately after the test.
- **a presentation** – each student has to give a presentation on a selected topic; if you fail to turn up on the day of the presentation without any prior notice, you will be given 2 absences. All students are asked to **upload the presentation in Moodle, final deadline: 18 Dec 2022**. The presentation has to be prepared in **Power Point** or **Prezi**, the minimum number of slides: 10 (does not include the first slide with your name and the title of presentation). Do not read the presentation, talk to the audience. The presentation should be about 10-15 minutes long.
- **active participation in class discussions during the lessons**
- **reading in English** – the secret of the course is reading the above literary works and talk about them in English, therefore, you will only be able to pass the exam if you look like this during the **whole** semester (not just the exam period):



#### Compulsory literature:

☞ PUSKÁS, A. 2015. *History of English Literature I. A Textbook for University Students of English as a Foreign Language*. Komárno: J. Selye University.

#### Recommended literature:

☞ BRADLEY, A. C. 1992. *Shakespearean Tragedy*. Palgrave. Third Edition.

☞ BURGESS, Anthony. 2001. *English Literature*. Longman.

☞ DAY, Aidan. 2004. *Romanticism*. London: Routledge.

☞ GILMOUR, Robin. 1993. *The Victorian Period. The Intellectual and Cultural Context of English Literature 1830-1890*. Longman.

☞ GUY, Josephine M. – SMALL, Ian. 2011. *The Routledge Concise History of Nineteenth-Century Literature*. Routledge.

☞ ROGERS, Pat, ed. 1987. *An Outline of English Literature*. Oxford University Press.

☞ *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*. Volume 1. Seventh Edition.

☞ THORNLEY, G. C. – ROBERTS, Gwyneth. 2003, *An Outline of English Literature*. Longman.

**Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Enjoy the course and most of all enjoy reading.**