

HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF LETTERS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
SYLLABUS

Title of the Course: İED 257 (02) Life and Society in Britain

Year and Term: 2019-2020 Fall

Instructor: Assist. Prof. Dr. Pınar Taşdelen

Class Hours: Wednesday 13:00-15:50 B2/205

Office Hour: Friday 10:00-12:00

Aim of the Course: The aim of this course is to help the students gain the knowledge, skills and competence required to identify and discuss contemporary life and society in Britain in relation to locale and people, institutions, customs and manners, gender, social class and daily routines. Through this course, the students are expected to discuss life, society and the individual in contemporary Britain.

Course Content: In this course, British institutions such as education, law, administration, family, religion as well as social class, gender, daily life, customs and manners in the multicultural Britain are introduced and discussed.

Course Outline:

Week I: Introduction

Week II: General outlook on Britain as a country

Week III: Ethnic minorities, multiculturalism in Britain; episodes from *Little Britain* and *Come Fly with Me* (TV series)

Week IV: Social classes and social mobility in Britain

Week V: Gender issues in Britain

Week VI: Discussion on *Full Monty* (film) and *Bend it Like Beckham* (film)

Week VII: Midterm I (20.11.2019)

Week VIII: Politics and government in Britain

Week IX: The legal system in Britain

Week X: Education system, religion and social services in Britain

Week XI: Midterm II (18.12.2019)

Week XII: Everyday life: habits, customs, music, festivals, arts, and the media

Week XIII: New Year's Day

Week XIV: Everyday life: food and drink, holidays, leisure, sports, etc.

***There may be changes to the course outline.**

Textbook: Oakland, John. *British Civilization: An Introduction*. 8th Ed. New York: Routledge, 2016. Print.

Course Requirements and Method: It is essential for students to read/watch the assigned material before class meetings because the course will be conducted in the form of class discussions and references to the texts will be made necessary. The background material will be briefly introduced in class, but the students should not rely only on class material and are advised to do reading of the secondary sources in their spare time (If there is no time, make time!). The course will also rely on a wide range of visual material that the students will be responsible for. Needless to say each student should have his/her own text, which will be brought to class.

Attendance: Attendance is compulsory; those who fail to come to class more than 11 hours will get **F1**. Moreover, punctual attendance is required at every class meeting.

Assessment: Midterm I 25%
Midterm II 25%
Final 50%

25% of the marks will be deducted for incorrect English. The lowest passing mark is 50. Plagiarism will end in F3.

Suggested Reading List:

*This list is recommendatory only. There are many other books and articles available at the Beytepe Library and Bilkent Library, in addition to the vast number of online articles.

Storry, Mike and Peter Childs, eds. *British Cultural Identities*.

Abercrombie, Nicholas, et al. *Contemporary British Society: A New Introduction to Sociology*. Woodward, Kath, ed. *Questioning Identity: Gender, Class, Nation*.

Morley, David and Kevin Robins, eds. *British Cultural Studies: Geography, Nationality, and Identity*.

Oakland, John. *A Dictionary of British Institutions: A Student's Guide*.

Room, Adrian. *An A to Z of British Life*.

Kightly, Charles. *The Customs and Ceremonies of Britain: An Encyclopedia of Living Traditions*.

McDowall, David. *Britain in Close-Up*.

Butterworth, Eric, and David Weir, eds. *The New Sociology of Modern Britain*.

Moran, Michael. *Politics and Society in Britain: An Introduction*.

Modood, Tariq. *Multicultural Politics: Racism, Ethnicity, and Muslims in Britain*.

Slapper, Gary. *The English Legal System*.

Films/TV Series:

The Queen

Yes, Minister

Yes, Prime Minister

Educating Rita

North and South

Bend it Like Beckham

This is England

Remains of the Day

My Beautiful Launderette

Billy Eliot

Full Monty

Little Britain

Come Fly with Me