

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

**SYLLABUS**

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

**Year and Term:** 2015-2016 Fall

**Class Hours:** Wednesday 09:00-11:50 --- B2/205

**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 peoples, 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 Outline:**

**Week I:** General outlook on Britain (location, climate, regions, demography, resources)

**Week II: Bank Holiday (Kurban Bayram)**

**Week III:** Peoples of Britain (brief history, national identities, ethnic minorities, multiculturalism)

**Week IV:** Social classes, social mobility in Britain

**Week V:** Gender issues (men/women's employment, sexuality, politics, violence, men/women's position in British society)

**Week VI:** System of government (monarchy, parliament, political parties, central and local government)

**Week VII:** Legal systems and law enforcement

**Week VIII: Midterm I (November 4<sup>th</sup>)**

**Week IX:** Education system (state schools, private schools, universities)

**Week X:** Religion, industry and economy

**Week XI:** Social welfare (NHS, un/employment, housing, family, transportation, communication)

**Week XII:** Everyday life (habits, customs, music, festivals, arts)

**Week XIII: Midterm II (December 9<sup>th</sup>)**

**Week XIV:** Everyday life (food and drink, holidays, leisure, sports)

**Week XV:** Media (radio, television and the press)

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

**Textbook:**

- Oakland, John. *British Civilization: An Introduction*. 6<sup>th</sup> Ed. Routledge: Oxon and New York, 2006. Print.
- Storry, Mike, and Peter Childs. Eds. *British Cultural Identities*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Routledge: New York, 2002. Print.

**Course Requirements and Method:** It is essential for students to read 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. Apart from the textbook, there will be weekly readings from contemporary news sources as well as a movie to be discussed every week. Students should watch the assigned movie before they come to the class and we will discuss it in class together.

**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:** 20% Midterm I  
 20% Midterm II  
 10% In-class activities, short response papers, pop quizzes  
 50% Final

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

### Films

1. *A Hard Day's Night* (Documentary-1964)
2. *To Sir, With Love* (1967)
3. *Remains of the Day* (1993)
4. *Four Weddings and A Funeral* (1994)
5. *Trainspotting* (1996)
6. *Secrets and Lies* (1996)
7. *Full Monty* (1997)
8. *Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* (1998)
9. *East is East* (1999)
10. *Bend it Like Beckham* (2002)
11. *This is England* (2006)
12. *The Queen* (2006)
13. *Happy-Go-Lucky* (2008)
14. *Exit Through the Gift Shop* (Documentary-2010)
15. *The Fall* (TV Series -2013)
16. *Pride* (2014)

**E-Mail Group:** There will be an e-mail group which will be used by the instructor to send out weekly reading materials and links to movies to be watched each week. Every student should give their e-mail address to the instructor and request to be added to the group. It is the responsibility of the student to check their e-mails and do the readings in a timely manner. There might be quizzes and short writing assignments on these reading materials.

### 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.

1. From *The Economist*, "Riots in Britain: Anarchy in the UK"
2. From *The Economist*, "Riots in England: The fire this time"
3. From *Time*, "London's long burn"
4. Abanazır, Can. "The Return of 'Himself'", *H. U. Journal of English Language and Literature* 3 (1995): 107-112. Print.
5. Abanazır, Can. "Hooligans? What Hooligans?" *H. U. Journal of British Literature and Culture* 9 (2002): 1-11. Print.
6. Töngür, Nejat. "Scotland, Home Rule and Independence" *H. U. Journal of British Literature and Culture* 12 (2005): 64-74. Print.
7. Canlı, Gülsen. "Construction and Deconstruction of Gender Stereotypes." *H. U. Journal of English Language and British Culture* 7 (1998): 129-136. Print.
8. Straw, Will. "Characterizing Rock Music: The Case of Heavy Metal." *The Cultural Studies Reader*. Ed. Simon During. London and New York: Routledge, 1993. 368-381. Print.
9. Mattelart, Armand, Xavier Delcourt and Michèle Mattelart, "International Image Markets." *The Cultural Studies Reader*. Ed. Simon During. London and New York: Routledge, 1993. 421-437. Print.

10. Jennifer Gove, and Stuart Watt. "Identity and Gender." *Questioning Identity: Gender, Class, Nation*. Ed. Kath Woodward. London and New York: Routledge, 2000. 43-78. Print.
11. Mackintosh, Maureen, and Gerry Mooney. "Identity, Inequality and Social Class." *Questioning Identity: Gender, Class, Nation*. Ed. Kath Woodward. London and New York: Routledge, 2000. 79-114. Print.
12. Guibernau, Montserrat, and David Goldblatt, "Identity and Nation." *Questioning Identity: Gender, Class, Nation*. Ed. Kath Woodward. London and New York: Routledge, 2000. 115-154. Print.
13. Plummer, Ken. "Gay Cultures / Straight Borders." *British Cultural Studies: Geography, Nationality, and Identity*. Ed. David Morley and Kevin Robins. Oxford and New York: Oxford UP, 2001. 387-398. Print.
14. Westergaard, J. "The Persistence of Class Inequalities." *The Contemporary British Society Reader*. Eds. Nicholas Abercrombie and Alan Warde. Cambridge and Malden, MA: Polity Press, 2001. 68-79. Print.
15. Morris, L. "Work, Gender and Unemployment." *The Contemporary British Society Reader*. Eds. Nicholas Abercrombie and Alan Warde. Cambridge and Malden, MA: Polity Press, 2001. 108-117. Print.
16. S. Virdee "Racial Harassment." *The Contemporary British Society Reader*. Eds. Nicholas Abercrombie and Alan Warde. Cambridge and Malden, MA: Polity Press, 2001. 126-134. Print.
17. Brenton, Howard. *Pravda: A Fleet Street Comedy*. London and New York: Methuen, 1985. Print.

### General

1. Abercrombie, Nicholas, and Alan Warde, eds. *The Contemporary British Society Reader*. Cambridge and Malden, MA: Polity Press, 2001. Print
2. Oakland, John. *A Dictionary of British Institutions: A Student's Guide*. London: Routledge, 1993. Print.
3. Room, Adrian. *An A to Z of British Life*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1990. Print.
4. Kightly, Charles. *The Customs and Ceremonies of Britain : An Encyclopedia of living Traditions*. Thames and Hudson , 1986. Print.
5. McDowall, David. *Britain in Close-Up*. Harlow: Longman, 2003. Print.
6. Butterworth, Eric, and David Weir, eds. *The New Sociology of Modern Britain*. N.p.: Fontana Paperbacks, 1984. Print.
7. Kocabaşoğlu, Uygur. *İngiliz Sicimi*. Ankara: İmge Kitabevi, 1995. Print.

### Politics

8. Coxall, Bill. *Contemporary British Politics*. London: MacMillan, 1998. Print.
9. Moran, Michael. *Politics and Society in Britain: An Introduction*. London: Macmillan 1992. Print.
10. Dorey, Peter. *British Politics since 1945* .Oxford and Cambridge: Blackwell Publishers, 1995. Print.
11. Jones, Bill. *Political Issues in Britain Today*. Manchester: Manchester UP, 1999. Print.
12. Driver, Stephen. *New Labour: Politics after Thatcherism*. Malden, MA: Polity Press, 1998. Print.
13. Thorpe, Andrew. *A History of the British Labour Party*. Houndmills, Basingstoke; New York: Palgrave, 2001. Print.

### Race

14. Goulbourne, Harry. *Race Relations in Britain Since 1945*. New York: St. Martin's Press. 1998. Print.
15. Croall, Hazel. *Crime and Society in Britain*. London: Longman. 1998. Print.
16. Obelkevich, Jim. *Understanding Post-war British Society*. London: Routledge, 1994. Print.

### **Multiculturalism**

17. Burton, Antoinette M. *Empire in Question: Reading, Writing, and Teaching British Imperialism*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2011. Print.
18. Fawcett, Helen. *Welfare Policy in Britain: The Road from 1945*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1999. Print.
19. Preston, John. *Whiteness and Class in Education*. Dordrecht: Springer, 2007. Print.
20. Modood, Tariq. *Multicultural Politics: Racism, Ethnicity, and Muslims in Britain*. Minneapolis: U of Minnesota P, 2005. Print.

### **Class**

21. Adonis, Andrew. *A Class Act: The Myth of Britain's Classless Society*. London: Hamish Hamilton, 1997. Print.
22. Hudson, Raymond. *Divided Britain*. Chichester: John Wiley, 1995. Print.
23. Ball, Michael. *The Transformation of Britain: Contemporary Social and Economic Change*. 1995. Print.

### **Women**

24. Lewis, Jane. *Women in Britain since 1945: Women, Family, Work, and the State in the Post-war Years*. Oxford and Cambridge: Blackwell, 1992. Print.
25. Smith, Harold L. *The British Women's Suffrage Campaign, 1866-1928*. Harlow and New York: Longman, 2010. Print.
26. Barker, Hannah. *Women's History: Britain, 1700-1850: An Introduction*. London and New York: Routledge, 2005. Print.

### **Law**

27. Slapper, Gary. *The English Legal System*. London and New York: Routledge, 2011. Print.
28. Leyland, Peter. *The Constitution of the United Kingdom: A Contextual Analysis*. Oxford: Hart Publishing, 2007. Print.
29. Gordon, R. J. F. *Repairing British Politics: A Blueprint for Constitutional Change*. Oxford: Hart, 2010. Print.

### **Religion**

30. Carey, Hilary M. *Empires of Religion*. New York: Palgrave, 2008. Print.
31. Tallett, Frank. *Catholicism in Britain and France since 1789*. London and Rio Grande, OH: Hambledon Press, 1996. Print.

### **Leisure**

32. *Sport in Britain: A Social History*. Ed. Tony Mason. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1989.
33. Birley, Derek. *Sport and the Making of Britain*. Manchester and New York: Manchester UP, 1993. Print.
34. Tranter, Neil. *Sport, Economy, and Society in Britain, 1750-1914*. Cambridge and New York: Cambridge UP, 1998. Print.

### **Media**

35. Seymour-Ure, Colin. *The British Press and Broadcasting since 1945*. Oxford and Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1996. Print.
36. Edwards, David. *Guardians of Power: The Myth of the Liberal Media*. London: Pluto Press, 2006. Print.
37. Malik, Sarita. *Representing Black Britain: A History of Black and Asian Images on British Television*. London: Sage Publications, 2002. Print.

### **Social Welfare**

38. Page, Robert M. *British Social Welfare in the Twentieth Century*. New York: Palgrave, 1999. Print.
39. Fawcett, Helen. *Welfare Policy in Britain: The Road from 1945*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1999. Print.

40. King, Desmond S. *In the Name of Liberalism: Illiberal Social Policy in the USA and Britain*. Oxford and New York: Oxford UP, 1999. Print.