

HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY  
Faculty of Letters  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

*Title of the course:* IED 257 (01) Life and Society in Britain

*Instructor:* Assoc. Prof. Dr. Aytül Özüm

*Year and Term:* 2015 - 2016 Autumn

*Class Hours:* 09.00-11.50

*Classroom:* B6/B1

**AIM:** The purpose of the course is to introduce the students with contemporary life and society in Britain through the brief survey of the lands, climate, peoples, institutions, political structure, media, sports, customs and habits of the isles. Furthermore, the course will assess the changes taking place in Britain today.

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

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

*Week II* **Bayram Holiday**

*Week III* Continued

*Week IV* The People (brief history, national identities, ethnic minorities, multiculturalism)

*Week V* Class and Gender (Working-class women)

*Week VI* British System of Government (the monarchy, the Parliament, political parties, central and local government)

*Week VII* Legal System and Law Enforcement in Britain

*Week VIII I. Mid-Term Examination*

*Week IX* Education System (state schools, private schools, universities)

*Week X* Social Welfare (NHS, un/employment, housing, transportation)

*Week XI* Industry and Economy, Agriculture and Production

*Week XII* Religion

*Week XIII II. Mid-Term Examination*

*Week XIV* Media, Habits, Customs (Presentations)

*Week XV* Holidays, leisure sports, arts (Presentations)

**TEXTBOOKS:** John Oakland *British Civilization: An Introduction*. 5th ed. London: Routledge, 2002.

**METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:** The class meetings will consist of the discussion of the assigned material. The students are expected to come to the class having read the assigned material as it is essential to take part in all kinds of class activities and discussions. The students will also be responsible for all the visual material shown in the class. The students are most welcome to bring extra materials like films, DVDs or CDs and newspaper articles, news. The students will prepare presentations in groups on the assigned topics on the last two weeks of the class, and present them in the class.

**REQUIREMENTS:** Attendance is obligatory. More than 11 hours of absence will result in **F1**. Students are expected to come to class on time, with the relevant text and having read the assigned material.

**ASSESSMENT:** There will be two mid-term examinations, presentations, class participation and discussions and a final exam. The evaluation of the students' academic work will be based upon:

I.Mid-Term Examination	% 15
II.Mid-Term Examination	% 15
Class Participation	% 5
Presentations	% 15
Final Examination	% 50

The students' English will definitely be taken into consideration. In the grading of the exam papers, up to %25 of the total mark will be taken off for grammatical mistakes.

**FURTHER READING:** The students are expected to make use of the rich material available in the Beytepe and Bilkent Libraries as well as other libraries. Some of the sources available in these two libraries are listed below. Each student is expected to read these sources, take notes from them, and watch the films listed below.

Abanazır, Can. "The return of 'Himself,'" *H.U. Journal of English Language and Literature* 3 (1995): 107-112. Print.

Adrian Room. *A Dictionary of Britain: An A-Z of the British Way of Life* Oxford, 1986. Print.

Ball, Michael. *The Transformation of Britain: Contemporary Social and Economic Change*. 1995. Print.

Carey, Hilary M. *Empires of Religion*. New York: Palgrave, 2008. Print.

Coxall, Bill. *Contemporary British Politics*. London: MacMillan, 1998. Print.

Croall, Hazel. *Crime and Society in Britain*. London: Longman, 1998. Print.

Driver, Stephen. *New Labour: Politics After Thatcherism*. Malden, MA: Polity Press, 1998. Print.

Nicholas Abercrombie. et.al. *Contemporary British Society* 1995. Print.

Hudson, Raymond. *Divided Britain*. Chichester: John Wiley, 1995. Print.

Oakland, John. *A Dictionary of British Institutions: A Student's Guide*. London: Routledge, 1993. Print.

Preston, John. *Whiteness and Class in Education*. Dordrecht: Springer, 2007. Print.

Thorpe, Andrew. *A History of the British Labour Party*. Houndsmill, Basingstoke; New York: Palgrave, 2001. Print.

Uygur Kocabaşoğlu. *İngiliz Sicimi İmge*, 1995. Print.

Films:

1. *This is England*
2. *My Beautiful Laundrette*
3. *Bend It Like Beckham*
4. *Remains of the Day*
5. *The Queen*
6. *Yes, Minister*
7. *Billy Eliot*
8. *The Iron Lady*
9. *Yes, Prime Minister*
10. *London River*