

**Hacettepe University**  
**Faculty of Letters**  
**Department of English Language and Literature**  
**Course Syllabus**

Title of the Course	IED 151 (03) Introduction to Britain I
Year and Term	2017-2018 Autumn
Class Hours	Mondays – 9.00-12.00
Classroom	B8-B03
Office Hours	Mondays – 13.30-15.30 & Tuesdays – 9.30-11.30
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**I. Course Objective:** The aim of the course is to make a survey of Britain and British literature in its historical context. In line with this, the historical evolution of British society and literature from the early ages to the 17<sup>th</sup> century will be explored through the study of major social, political, and historical developments together with their reflections in the works of literature dating from the mentioned period.

**II. Course Outline** (based on three classes per week):

Week I (25 Sep.)	General Introduction: Geography, Nationalities (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland), Ethnic Minorities
Week II (02 Oct.)	<u>Early Britain</u> - The Social and Cultural History of British Society in the Early Middle Ages: The Celts, the Romans, <i>Asterix in Britain</i> (1986)
Week III (9 Oct.)	The Saxons, Christianity, Paganism, the Vikings, <i>Vicky the Viking</i> (2009)
Week IV (16 Oct.)	The Outline of Medieval Literature - Major Literary Works: <i>Beowulf</i> , <i>The Dream of the Rood</i> , <i>The Battle of Maldon</i>
Week V (23 Oct.)	<b>Midterm I</b>
Week VI (30 Oct.)	<u>England in the Middle Ages</u> : The Norman Conquest, Feudalism, <i>The Mists of Avalon</i> (2001)
Week VII (06 Nov.)	The Government, Political Developments (Magna Carta), the Church, the Early Parliament, <i>Braveheart</i> (1995)
Week VIII (13 Nov.)	Black Death, Hundred Years' War, Romance Tradition, Chivalric Code, Women Writers, Medieval Drama, <i>A Knight's Tale</i> (2001), <i>The Lion in Winter</i> (2004)
Week IX (20 Nov.)	Major Literary Figures and Modes: Geoffrey Chaucer's <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> , William Langland's <i>Piers Plowman</i> , Sir Thomas Malory's <i>Le Morte D'Arthur</i>
Week X (27 Nov.)	<b>Midterm II</b>
Week XI (04 Dec.)	<u>England in the Renaissance</u> : Humanism, Renaissance, Reformation in Europe and Britain
Week XII (11 Dec.)	Tudor Period (Battle of Roses, Political Developments), Tudor Government, the Church
Week XIII (18 Dec.)	The Act of Supremacy, Catholicism vs Protestantism, Reign of Elizabeth I, Major Literary Figures and Modes: Sonnet Tradition

(Sir Thomas Wyatt and Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey), *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* (2007)

Week XIV (25 Dec.) Major Literary Figures and Modes (cont'd): Sonnet Tradition (William Shakespeare, Sir Phillip Sidney, Edmund Spenser], Dramatic Art, Prose Writing, *Shakespeare in Love* (1998), General Review

### III. Textbook:

McDowall, David. *An Illustrated History of Britain*. Longman, 1993.

Abrams, M.H., et al. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*. Vol.1.

IV. Suggested E-Sources: <http://www.guardian.co.uk>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/>  
<http://www.luminarium.org>

### V. Supplementary Reading:

Morgan, Kenneth O., ed. *The Oxford Illustrated History of Britain*. Oxford: OUP, 1984.

Schulz, Harold J. *British History*. New York: HarperPerennial, 1992.

Gilbert, Martin. *The Dent Atlas of British History*. London: Dent, 1993.

VI. Method of Instruction: The course is going to be in lecture form. However, **class discussions** will also be necessary especially when analysing relevant poems/texts. Students are expected to have their course materials (course books and textbooks) with them. Class and group works may also be carried out.

### VII. Requirements and Attendance:

- ❖ Class attendance is obligatory. **More than 11 hours of absence will be graded as F1** which means the students will have to repeat the course next year.
- ❖ Students should follow the syllabus and come to the class having read the assigned material, having done the given assignments. Participation in class discussions is also necessary. Participation will have an impact on student's mark.
- ❖ Students are expected to turn off electronic devices such as cell phones, beepers and other noise makers.
- ❖ Students may be expected to make three- to five-minute presentations on the topics stated in the course outline individually.

VIII. Assessment: The following criteria will be taken into consideration in the assessment of students' performance:

Midterm I	18 %
Midterm II	18 %
Class Participation, Quizzes, Assignments	14 %
Final examination	50 %

In the exam papers, up to 25% of the total mark might be taken off for grammatical and writing mistakes. Marks below 50 (out of 100) in the Final Exam will be regarded as failure (F3).

**Plagiarism & Cheating in written tasks and exams are to lead to FAILURE and a 6-month suspension.**