

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTTPC.

Academic School/Department:	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
Programme:	Combined Studies
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	Modern Britain : A Social Analysis
Course Code:	SCL 5400
Course Leader:	Alex Seago
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	22.5
Seminars/Tutorials/Visits:	22.5
Independent / Guided Learning :	75
Semester:	Spring
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

A general presentation of British society for students who arrive in the country and are keen to know about its way of life, patterns of thought, and socio-cultural background.

Prerequisites: None.

Aims and Objectives:

This course offers students an insight into to Modern Britain by examining the history of its major social and political institutions, the cultural values of its peoples and significant contemporary socio-political issues and debates. Topics covered local and national cultures, multi-culturalism, urban/rural issues, local and national politics, welfare, immigration, religion, class, gender, race and ethnicity. The course encourages critical discussion about the differences between US and British society and will address the relation of Britain to Europe, past, present and future. The course aims to facilitate student orientation in the context of British society and to offer an important socio-historical framework relevant to the other courses they will take.

Programme Outcomes :

A5(i); A5(ii);B5(i);B5(ii);B5(iii);C5(i);C5(ii);C5(iii);D5(1);D5(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental/Schools page of the portal.

Learning Outcomes:

- Detailed understanding of key differences between UK & US culture and society.
- Detailed understanding of key UK social and political institutions..
- Detailed understanding of the ways in which key political and sociological ideas apply to practical issues in British life and culture.
- Critical engagement with intercultural issues in contemporary British society.
- Critical engagement with aesthetics of the built environment
- Demonstrates well-developed skills (eg; group work, report writing, oral presentation) which translate to workplace.
- Completes assigned work with a degree of clarity, technical competence and critical thinking, and a degree of independence and capacity for self-evaluation, appropriate for a 5000-level course

Indicative Content:

- Growth of urban & industrial Britain
- British class structure
- Social mobility
- Education system
- Race, ethnicity and immigration.
- Gender issues
- Political system & Parliament
- Britain's changing global role.

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Council on 28 June 2012.

Teaching Methodology:

The course will be taught through classroom lectures, seminar classes, student presentations and field trips.

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

Indicative Text(s):

Rojek,C. Brit Myth: Who do the British Think They Are? (Reaktion 2007)

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

