

# TRADUCTORADO

## CULTURA DE LA LENGUA INGLESA

### CULTURAL BACKGROUND TO THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

#### OUTLINE OF THE COURSE

General Introduction. Definitions of culture and English language.

#### 1 Literary and Historical Background : A brief overview.

English: Old, Middle and Modern. Texts: Beowulf, The Canterbury Tales, Shakespeare's Sonnets.

Early invaders of the British Isles. The Norman Conquest. Co-existence of 3 languages, Anglo-Saxon, Norman French and Latin. The consolidation of English.

Historical events: Constitutions of Clarendon .Thomas a Becket ( Canterbury Tales. Murder in the Cathedral) The Magna Carta. Simon de Montfort and Parliament. The Peasant's Revolt. Henry VIII and the establishment of the Anglican Church.( A Man for All Seasons The King James Authorized Version of the Bible). Protestantism. Puritanism. The Civil War. Oliver Cromwell. The Plague .The Fire.( Pepys. Defoe) Independence of the United States. The United Kingdom. Reform Bill. The Chartists. American Civil War. Education Acts . The Empire. Two World Wars. Commonwealth.

Development of English Drama. The Golden Age of Elizabethan and Jacobean Drama. Shakespeare. Restoration Comedy. Comedy of Manners. Victorian Drama. Wilde. Shaw. 1956: Angries and After. Drama in Britain Today.

Development of the Novel. Defoe. Richardson Fielding. The 19th century novel. Dickens. The novel in the US. Hawthorne. Melville. The 20th century. Modernism. Joyce .Lawrence. Contemporary novels in a multi-racial context. The Booker Prize.

Poetry. Shakespeare's Sonnets. Metaphysical Poetry. Donne. Romanticism. Shelley. Keats. Victorian poetry. American Poetry. Walt Whitman. 20th century poetry. TS Eliot. The Movement. Larkin Dylan Thomas. Seamus Heaney. Black British Poets.

2 The Multi-racial Society. The US and Britain as Multiracial societies. Multi-culturalism. Colonialism. Imperialism. Segregation. Human Rights. The situation in Ireland. This module will be based on literary texts and texts dealing with current affairs.