

ÇANKAYA UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND LETTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE  
2025-2026 SPRING

ELL 130 Course Syllabus – British Culture and Society

Assist. Prof. Dr. Berkem Sağlam

**Aim of the course:** The aim of this course is to provide the student with the knowledge and skills to survey and interpret the cultural, social, and political developments in Britain. In this course, British institutions such as politics, education, family, religion as well as social class, daily life, customs and manners in the multicultural Britain are introduced and discussed.

**Requirements:** As the course aims to enhance students' abilities in understanding British culture and society, course activities will be based on group discussions of the readings and documentaries, and lectures.

For each class, students are expected to:

1. Don't forget your responsibilities – that means, bring your assigned text with you to class, as well as pen, pencil and paper
2. Put away your mobile phone during class, I do not accept the use of phones for any reason whatsoever

Additionally, tardiness is considered rude and distracting, before being late to class, so please refrain from doing it.

**Evaluation:** There will be one midterm and one final examination. For **every week**, each student is also responsible for bringing in a piece of noteworthy news concerning a contemporary topic of interest (this could relate to culture, literature, media, history, sports, archeology, climate change, health, celebrity and so on). You are required to bring at least one of these throughout the semester, and your explanation of them will count towards the "discussion" part of your grade. You may bring in more for extra credit, as well as comment on others' discussions. The news selected by you should be from a reputable source, not from wikipedia or social media. **The first hour of every week** will be devoted to this exercise.

A minimum attendance of 60% is mandatory. Students who do not meet this requirement will not be permitted to take the final examination. Students are responsible for keeping track of their own attendance.

Students can make use of generative AI tools in developing their academic skills but unethical use of AI technology will be treated as plagiarism and will be subject to academic penalties.

The grade breakdown is as follows:

Midterm 45%  
Final Exam 45%  
Discussions 10%

**Textbook:** The textbook for this course will be John Oakland's, *British Civilization: An Introduction*. (9th edition)

#### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Week 1	19.02.2026	Introduction to the Course
Week 2	26.02.2026	Read: <b>Chapter 1 The British Context</b>
Week 3	05.03.2026	Read: <b>Chapter 2 The Country</b> Documentary: The Grumpy Guide to Class, Parts 1,2& 3 ( <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ZAyYBDUNug">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ZAyYBDUNug</a> )
Week 4	12.03.2026	Read: <b>Chapter 3 The People</b>
Week 5	19.03.2026	<i>Fawlty Towers</i>
Week 6	26.03.2026	Read: <b>Chapter 4 Religion</b>
Week 7	02.03.2026	<b>Review &amp; Midterm</b>
Week 8	09.04.2026	Cont. Documentary: Henry VIII – The Most Iconic King of English History ( <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hc5AkPJFV1E">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hc5AkPJFV1E</a> )
Week 9	16.04.2026	Read: <b>Chapter 5 Politics and Government</b>
Week 10	23.04.2026	<b>NO CLASS</b>
Week 11	30.05.2026	Cont.
Week 12	07.05.2026	Read: <b>Chapter 6 International Relations</b>
Week 13	14.05.2026	Cont.
Week 14	21.05.2026	Read: <b>Chapter 10 Education &amp; Chapter 11 The Media</b>