

# COURSE GUIDE



UNIVERSITY  
OF APPLIED SCIENCES

PO Box 85029  
3508 AA Utrecht  
The Netherlands

T: +31 88 481 62 00  
F: +31 88 481 62 05  
[www.hu.nl](http://www.hu.nl)

- MC-PROFESW-20
- Term A - C
- Verplicht / Compulsory
- Voltijd / Full Time
- MINOR
- [Edo.das@hu.nl](mailto:Edo.das@hu.nl)
- [edo.das@hu.nl](mailto:edo.das@hu.nl) ; 088-4816402
- 28 October 2020

© Hogeschool Utrecht: University of  
Applied Sciences Utrecht  
Utrecht, 2018

This material is subject to copyright.  
Copies for own or internal use are permitted.

MINOR Professional & (pre-) Master Skills in  
English  
The English Speaking World 2020 -2021.

© Hogeschool Utrecht: Univ  
Utrecht, 2007

This material is subject to co  
Copies for own or internal us

## Contents

1	Course Description	2
2	Course Goals and Learning Objectives	2
3	Place in the Curriculum and Related Courses	3
4	Study Burden	3
5	Pre-requisites	4
6	Exemption Possibilities	4
7	Competencies	4
8	Didactic Forms	4
9	Assessment	4
10	Course Material and Literature	5
11	Course Evaluation	5

# 1 Course Description

The English language has become a, if not to say, *the* dominant language in international trade, politics, culture and many more aspects of modern life. However, not only the language has gained a leading position, also the Anglo-Saxon culture and way of life has great influence around the Globe. This course aims at making you understand and think critically about the basics of the British and American societies, and their role in the world.

# 2 Course Goals and Learning Objectives

After a general introduction to the role of the English Language and its varieties in the world we shall concentrate on an array of subjects.

The following topics will be discussed in this course:

Britain:

- The history of Britain, the British Empire and the Commonwealth of Nations.
- Britain in an international context
- The country and its features
- The people , settlement and immigration
- Religion
- Politics
- The legal system
- The economy
- Social services
- Education
- The media
- Arts, Sports and Leisure

United States of America:

- The history of United States,
- The US in an international context
- The country and its features
- The people , settlement and immigration
- Religion
- Politics
- The legal system
- The economy
- Social services
- Education
- The media
- Arts, Sports and Leisure

The learning objective is to give students insight into the British and American way of life, and the influence it has on the western world. Students who have passed this part of the course have a good basic knowledge of all elements mentioned above. Furthermore, students will be taught to think critically about these topics.

### 3 Place in the Curriculum and Related Courses

ESW is an essential part of the Minor Professional & (pre-) Master Skills in English.

### 4 Study Burden

The study burden is 140 hours. This equals 5 EC.

Weekly schedule ESW

Week	90 min session 1	homework	90 min session 2	homework
1	general introduction English in the world	No homework	Discussion of texts in subgroups abc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and summarise text 1. "The new Elizabethans"</li> </ul>
2	Britain, country, images and context	No homework	Discussion of texts in subgroups abc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and summarise text text 3 "The new tribes"</li> </ul>
3	British politics	No homework	Discussion of texts in subgroups a and b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch "mind the gap 1" link pg 61</li> <li>• Read and prepare text 5-6-7-8-9-10</li> </ul>
4	British education & Legal system	No homework	Discussion of texts in subgroups a and b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch "mind the gap 2" link pg 61</li> <li>• Read and prepare text 13-14-15-16</li> </ul>
5	USA country, images and context	No homework	Discussion of texts in subgroups a and b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and prepare Special Report "Poverty in America" All 7 articles</li> </ul>

6	American Politics	No homework	Discussion of texts in subgroups a and b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read and prepare Special Report "California &amp; Texas" All 7 articles</li> </ul>
7	US education & legal system	No homework	Discussion of texts in subgroups a and b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read and prepare Special Report "The Midwest" All 7 articles</li> </ul>

## 5 Pre-requisites

All students taking part in this course should be able to read and listen on at least C1 level of the CEFR.

## 6 Exemption Possibilities

None

## 7 Competencies

- At the end of this course students should be able to understand and take part in discussions on both the British and American Societies and their roles in the world.
- Students will be able to understand and explain the main elements of the topics discussed during this course.
- Students are capable of critically assessing articles, films, internet material concerning both nations.

## 8 Didactic Forms

There are two sessions per week. The first session is a general lecture of 90 minutes. The second session in smaller groups is a discussion session in which a number of texts are discussed. Two readers (one on the UK and on the USA) as well as all things discussed during the lectures and the two BBC TV programmes (London versus the Rest) have to be studied for the exam.

## 9 Assessment

Type of Assessment	Weighting	Min. Mark
TOETS1	100%	5.5

A written test containing 40 questions will be given at the end of this course in the exam week of term B. A score of 25 correct answers will yield a sufficient score of 5.5

# 10 Course Material and Literature

All course material will be provided by the teacher and is available on Canvas.

. ( Recommended )				
Title:	.			
Authot(s):				
ISBN:		Edition:		Publisher:

  

Title:				
Authot(s):				
ISBN:		Edition:		Publisher:

  

Title:				
Authot(s):				
ISBN:		Edition:		Publisher:

# 11 Course Evaluation

At the end of this course.