

Department of British and American Culture

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What is British and American Culture?

The 21st century may rightly be called the age of culture. The ability to understand, analyze, and produce culture is pivotal for the survival and growth of individuals and nations. Thus in-depth study of culture in the English-speaking world is significant and inevitable to meet the challenges of the new century. As English becomes the global language, American and British culture is expanding its influence on the rest of the world. In order to be able to collaborate and compete in the increasingly competitive world led by English-speaking culture, it is necessary to become familiar with and understand the ways of thinking and living in these countries as well as embark on a thorough and concrete study not only of their language and literature but also of their culture. The major in British and American Culture offers a variety of courses that will provide practical and comprehensive understanding of British and American culture.

British and American Culture at Kyung Hee

The major of British and American Culture deals with the comprehensive culture in the English-speaking world, but with special emphasis on British and American culture. Culture in its broad sense is a whole way of life, or a signifying system, through which a social order is communicated, reproduced, experienced, and explored. It is not just the high intellectual and artistic activity but also everyday life such as eating, clothing, feeling, and consuming. In order to cover the whole area constituting culture, British and American Culture offers courses on the popular as well as high cultures in the English speaking countries. It provides courses on performing arts such as drama and musical, narrative that constitutes the basis of all arts, and film that has already ascended as the leading genre of the contemporary world. Special critical attention is paid to language both as the central tool of communication and the arena in which social and cultural differences are reflected and produced. The major also deals with several central cultural phenomena that have recently gained their political importance such as feminism, globalization, and sexual revolution. In order to see these contemporary issues in the historical context, it provides courses on the history of British and American cultural thoughts and criticism. Successful completion of the major will prepare students to become specialists in the British and American culture and leaders in today's global society.

Degree Requirements

To receive the Bachelor of Arts in British and American Language and Literature, a student must:

- complete a minimum of 130 credit units.
- complete 9 units of Essential General Subjects of Kyung Hee University in the areas of foreign language and computer (6 credits of College English: Special English Lecture 1 and Special English Lecture 2 and 3 credits of Language and Computer, a course offered by the Department of Korean as Essential General Subject of the College of Foreign Languages and Literature).
 - ※ Requirement for the area of computer can be exempted with the acquisition of certificates issued by publicly acknowledged computation institutions.
- complete 9 credits of the General Studies of the College of Foreign Language and Literature (2 courses from the General Subjects of the College and one from the courses of Each Country's History and Culture).
- complete 36 units of Major Courses for English : 12 credits of Required Courses and 24 credits of Elective Courses.
- students who study English as a minor have to take at least 21 credits of major courses.
- students must meet the requirements of minimum English competency [TOEFL score of 520 (PBT) or 190 (CBT) or TOEIC score of 720 or TEPS score of 620].

Courses

Year 1

Speech and Discussion 1, Introduction to Cultural Studies, Introduction to English Linguistics, Introduction to English Literature

Year 2

Film and American Culture, Culture and Performing Arts, Storytelling, Advanced English Reading, Critical Reading and Writing 1, Speech and Discussion 2

Year 3

Globalization and Multiculturalism, Studies on Characters, Cultural Studies on SF and Fantasy, American Popular Culture, Language and Culture, Critical Reading and Writing 2

Year 4

Feminism Culture, Criticism of American Culture, Cultural and Sexuality, History of American Thought, Practice in Cultural Criticism, Language and Gender, Business English, English Translation and Interpretation 1, English Translation and Interpretation 2

Careers and Graduate Destinations

Our students have variety of choices in various fields such as communications, media, trade, business, banking, publishing, education, and other areas requiring background knowledge and understanding of cultures in English-speaking world. With strong undergraduate background in interdisciplinary study provided by the major, graduate study is also possible in all areas including English literature, British and American history, philosophy, religion, anthropology, cultural studies, sociology, and education.

Faculty

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