

## Programa | Course Description 2019/2020

Unidade Curricular | *Course Unit*

### O Estudo das Culturas | The Study of Cultures

ECTS | *Credits*

6 ECTS

Ciclo de Estudos | *Degree*

1.º Ciclo | Undergraduate

Semestre | *Semester*

2.º Semestre | Spring Semester

Docente(s) | *Faculty*

Miguel dos Santos Silva Ramalhete Gomes

Língua de ensino | *Language of instruction*

Inglês | English

**Programa (na língua de ensino) | *Course description (in the language of instruction)***

The Study of Cultures critically focuses on themes and methods that allow one to think about several concepts of culture, through the discussion of essayistic texts from the 20th century, a period defined by a number of crises, and throughout which culture and its analysis were understood as ways to respond to these crises. The course offers a historically situated introduction to the study of cultures and prepares for the continuation of that work in Cultural Studies. Ideological aspects of the distinctions between high and low culture in the Modernist period will be evinced, as well as the Frankfurt School's contribution to the study of mass culture and the culture industry, touching also on Cultural Materialism in the transition to Cultural Studies.

**Avaliação (na língua de ensino) | *Grading and Assessment (in the language of instruction)***

Students are expected to read the texts chosen for each class. The analysis of the texts is performed in dialogue with the students, who are encouraged to devise their own critical conclusions. Parallel to the gradual presentation of theoretical tools and of elements of historical context, the analysis and discussion of short texts in a "small group" will also be practised, based on a script with specific questions, after which the results of the discussion will be shared in the context of the "large group".

This course will be taught in English.

Evaluation: two written tests (40% + 40%), with the possibility of replacing the second test with a written assignment, as well as quality of class participation (20%).

**Bibliografia (selection) | *Bibliography (selection)***

Arnold, Matthew. Culture and Anarchy, ed. Jane Garnett. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2006.

Eliot, T. S. Notes Towards the Definition of Culture. London: Faber & Faber, 1962.

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Horkheimer, Max & Theodor W. Adorno. *Dialectic of Enlightenment: Philosophical Fragments*, ed. Gunzelin Schmid Noerr, trans. Edmund Jephcott. Stanford: Stanford UP, 2002.

Williams, Raymond. *Culture and Society 1780-1950*. London: Vintage, 2017.

Woolf, Virginia. *Selected Essays*, ed. David Bradshaw. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2009.