



Overview and Outcomes

In this course you will look at recent changes and developments in the English language, exploring how such changes are reflected in the wider cultural landscape. The course will give you the chance to refresh and update your knowledge of the language, and look at how it is being used in a variety of different contexts. As a course participant you will have opportunities to discuss and reflect on cultural issues affecting language change, creating practical classroom activities using contemporary English.



Content

British Culture and Contemporary English includes content drawn from some or all of the following areas:

- Keeping up with language change: making decisions about what to teach
- English and popular culture (media, film, TV, music): how the language is used
- Teen slangs: who's really saying what
- English as a global language: different varieties of English around the world
- Contemporary Britain: society and language
- UK Accents and dialects
- Using contemporary literary texts
- A grammar of spoken English
- Field research: exploring one aspect of the language which interests you

Specific course content comes from feedback you and other participants give us through pre-course questionnaires, identifying your needs and priorities.

We build time into the course for reflection, to consider how to adapt the content to your own professional context.

We then support you in creating a strategy for putting your ideas into practice on returning to your institution.

All NILE courses involve a significant element of English language improvement and/or the development of language awareness.

Trainers

NILE's highly experienced trainers are experts, not only in their fields, but also in working with teachers for continuing professional development. Read more about NILE's trainers, their experience and interests at [The NILE Team](#) on the [NILE website](#).



Teaching approaches

- We make courses practical and 'hands-on', with reference to relevant theory
- Our classes are participant-centred and collaborative, designed to build knowledge and confidence
- We use activities and tasks to help you apply the course content to your setting

Who is the course suitable for?

- Teachers wanting to familiarise themselves with or update their knowledge and awareness of contemporary English.
- Teachers of English or other subjects with an interest in cultural or intercultural studies.
- Teachers wanting to know more about life in the UK today.
- Participants with a minimum language level corresponding to B2/C1 on the Common European Framework.

Timetable

This course consists of 50 hours of tuition, delivered between 09:15 and 16:00, Monday - Friday. You will also take part in cross-curricular workshops on a variety of topics, and each course includes a free evening and weekend programme of social and cultural activities and trips.

British Culture and Contemporary English Sample Timetable (actual timetable may vary in its detail)					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
09.00 - 10.30	Welcome and orientation	The grammar of spoken English	'Do you speak Globish?' Towards an international English	Dialect and accent	The internet, social media and language change
11.00 - 12.30	Key words and concepts: reading culture through language	How the world sees us: icons, emblems and Brand UK	A sense of identity: Britishness, Englishness and the North-South divide	Hyphenated identities in multicultural Britain	The Disunited Kingdom
13.30 - 15.30	Discover Norwich	Planning fieldwork	Cross-curricular workshops	State of the parties: the political landscape of Britain	GSOH (Good Sense of Humour)
Week 2					
09.00 - 10.30	Principles of word formation	'Talking proper, innit?' Slang and colloquialism	'Are you a foodie?' Food, language & culture	Idiom, metaphor and proverbs in language and culture	Just jargon? Contemporary English in the workplace
11.00 - 12.30	Our house? Signature buildings	Britpop, the YBAs and after...	Britain and Europe: after the referendum	State of the nation writing in the UK	Reality bites: young adult fiction
13.30 - 15.30	Ethnographic research 1	Ethnographic research 2	Cross-curricular workshops	Project presentations	Course review and action planning

Facilities and resources

Each NILE course has a digital learning platform. This gives you access to the materials and the opportunity to share ideas with others while on the course and after you leave.

While at NILE you will also have the use of NILE's extensive ELT library, an online resource centre, a variety of computing devices, and wi-fi throughout the teaching buildings.

Certification

Your end-of-course NILE certificate details the areas covered on your course. It comes with recommendations for sharing what you have learnt and implementing your action plan at your institution.

NILE offers homestay accommodation with carefully selected hosts and residential accommodation at the University of East Anglia. NILE's dedicated student welfare team can be reached 24 hours a day.

A carefully curated and fully accompanied social and cultural programme of trips and visits is provided for all participants free of charge.

Europass can be validated.

The effort we take to make the experience of being on a NILE course both positive and productive has been recognised by inspections from Eaquls and the British Council. We are proud to be acknowledged as the top-ranking teacher training specialist in the UK.

