

## Subject card

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| Subject name and code                       | Research Methods in Cultural Studies., PG_00177245                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                          |                                         |                                     |                                                                                                                      |            |     |
| Field of study                              | American Studies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                          |                                         |                                     |                                                                                                                      |            |     |
| Date of commencement of studies             | October 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                          | Academic year of realisation of subject |                                     | 2025/2026                                                                                                            |            |     |
| Education level                             | Bachelor's studies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                          | Subject group                           |                                     | Obligatory subject group in the field of study<br>Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study |            |     |
| Mode of study                               | full-time studies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                          | Mode of delivery                        |                                     | at the university                                                                                                    |            |     |
| Year of study                               | 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                          | Language of instruction                 |                                     | English                                                                                                              |            |     |
| Semester of study                           | 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                          | ECTS credits                            |                                     | 3.0                                                                                                                  |            |     |
| Learning profile                            | academic                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                          | Assessment form                         |                                     | credit                                                                                                               |            |     |
| Conducting unit                             | Division of American Studies -> Institute of English and American Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                          |                                         |                                     |                                                                                                                      |            |     |
| Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)    | Subject supervisor                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                          | mgr Justyna Stiepanow                   |                                     |                                                                                                                      |            |     |
|                                             | Teachers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                          |                                         |                                     |                                                                                                                      |            |     |
| Lesson types                                | Lesson type                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Lecture                                                  | Tutorial                                | Laboratory                          | Project                                                                                                              | Seminar    | SUM |
|                                             | Number of study hours                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 0.0                                                      | 30.0                                    | 0.0                                 | 0.0                                                                                                                  | 0.0        | 30  |
|                                             | E-learning hours included: 0.0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                          |                                         |                                     |                                                                                                                      |            |     |
| Learning activity and number of study hours | Learning activity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Participation in didactic classes included in study plan |                                         | Participation in consultation hours |                                                                                                                      | Self-study | SUM |
|                                             | Number of study hours                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 30                                                       |                                         | 2.0                                 |                                                                                                                      | 43.0       | 75  |
| Subject objectives                          | The chief objective of this course is to familiarize students with the following: the subject of cultural studies; various fields and perspectives within cultural studies; contemporary theories within cultural studies; the interdisciplinary nature of cultural studies and its link to other disciplines within the humanities and social sciences (especially literary studies, linguistics, philosophy, history, sociology, politology, psychology and anthropology). The aim of the course is also to familiarise students with the difference between text form analysis and the interpretation of this texts as well as with reading the texts through the lens of selected methodologies. The Students will also have a chance to get familiar with the theory in four main methodologies used in cultural studies: Postcolonial criticism, critical race theory, feminist criticism and gender studies. |                                                          |                                         |                                     |                                                                                                                      |            |     |

| Learning outcomes | Course outcome                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Subject outcome                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Method of verification                                                                                              |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                   | [AMERL3_U02] is able to formulate and solve complex and unusual analytical and interpretive problems concerning cultural phenomena and processes in North America and American literature, using methodological and theoretical approaches from cultural, religious, as well as literary studies. | Using methodological and theoretical perspectives, students are able to formulate and solve atypical and complex, analytical and interpretational problems.                                                                                                | [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report<br>[SU3] text preparation/written work                                      |
|                   | [AMERL3_U03] is able to use acquired subject knowledge to identify, analyze, interpret and explain cultural phenomena and processes in North America, using concepts and methods from cultural and religious studies.                                                                             | Students are able to use selected concepts and methodologies of cultural studies such as postcolonial criticism, feminist criticism, critical race theory and gender studies to identify, analyse, interpret and explain cultural phenomena and processes. | [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report<br>[SU3] text preparation/written work<br>[SU4] test/exam - oral or written |
|                   | [AMERL3_K01] is ready to critically evaluate his knowledge and skills, especially in American cultural and literary studies, as well as the basic contextual knowledge of American studies concerning history, social sciences, geography, linguistics and art and English.                       | is ready to critically evaluate his knowledge and skills in the methodologies used in American cultural studies.                                                                                                                                           | [SK2] presentation/project/paper/report<br>[SK3] text preparation/written work                                      |
|                   | [AMERL3_W01] Knows and understands to an advanced degree selected issues that constitute basic general knowledge of cultural phenomena and processes in North America.                                                                                                                            | Students have advanced knowledge and understanding of selected methodologies in cultural studies.                                                                                                                                                          | [SW4] test/exam - oral or written                                                                                   |
|                   | [AMERL3_U07] Is able to prepare written work and oral presentations in English, including using specialized terminology in cultural and religious sciences and literary studies.                                                                                                                  | Students are able to prepare written work and oral presentations in English on problems of cultural studies methodology using appropriate specialist terminology.                                                                                          | [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report<br>[SU3] text preparation/written work                                      |
|                   | [AMERL3_U06] Able to communicate orally and in writing on issues related to American and British culture and literature, using specialized terminology in cultural and religious studies and literary studies.                                                                                    | Students are able to communicate in oral and written form on topics regarding American culture with the use of terminology dedicated for methodology of cultural studies                                                                                   | [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report<br>[SU3] text preparation/written work                                      |
|                   | [AMERL3_K02] recognizes the importance of knowledge and skills in American Studies in solving cognitive and practical problems, and is ready to consult a research supervisor or mentor at the chosen workplace in case of difficulties in solving problems independently.                        | Students recognises the importance of knowledge and skills in cultural studies methodology in solving cognitive problems.                                                                                                                                  | [SK2] presentation/project/paper/report                                                                             |
|                   | [AMERL3_W05] Has advanced knowledge of the basic conceptual and terminological apparatus of cultural and religious studies applicable to the study of cultural phenomena and processes in North America.                                                                                          | Has advanced knowledge of basic concepts and ideas in selected issues of cultural studies methodology applicable to the study of cultural phenomena and processes in North America.                                                                        | [SW4] test/exam - oral or written<br>[SW2] presentation/project/paper/report                                        |
|                   | [AMERL3_W03] Knows and understands to an advanced degree the basic theories and methodologies of cultural and religious studies applicable to the study of cultural phenomena and processes in North America.                                                                                     | Students have advanced knowledge and understanding of theories and methodologies in cultural studies such as: postcolonial studies, feminist criticism, critical race theory and gender studies.                                                           | [SW4] test/exam - oral or written<br>[SW2] presentation/project/paper/report<br>[SW3] text preparation/written work |

| Subject contents                   | <p>Students acquire competencies sufficient to distinguish between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- the most basic methodologies of studying culture;</li><li>- the key methodological terms in cultural studies, particularly with regard to postcolonial studies, critical race theory, feminist criticism and gender studies;</li><li>- literary discourse and other ways of cultural/artistic/social communication.</li></ul> <p>Students are familiar with different levels of communication in a text of culture and can discriminate between literary and social/cultural communication levels. They can recognize and describe the methodologies and domains of human and social sciences that influence and fall within the scope of cultural studies such as history, philosophy, sociology, psychology, anthropology, etc.</p> <p>Examples of class topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Binary opposition in Jacques Derrida's take.</li><li>2. Binary representation in American political adverts.</li><li>3. Orientalism in American espionage TV series.</li><li>4. Feminism criticism of an excerpt from a selected novel.</li><li>5. Gender, gender performance and gender performativity in a selected American movie.</li></ol> |                               |  |                          |                   |                               |              |       |       |                                    |       |       |      |       |       |
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| Prerequisites and co-requisites    | Knowledge of English at B2 level                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                               |  |                          |                   |                               |              |       |       |                                    |       |       |      |       |       |
| Assessment methods and criteria    | <table><tr><th>Subject passing criteria</th><th>Passing threshold</th><th>Percentage of the final grade</th></tr><tr><td>presentation</td><td>51.0%</td><td>20.0%</td></tr><tr><td>written analyses of selected texts</td><td>51.0%</td><td>20.0%</td></tr><tr><td>test</td><td>51.0%</td><td>60.0%</td></tr></table>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                               |  | Subject passing criteria | Passing threshold | Percentage of the final grade | presentation | 51.0% | 20.0% | written analyses of selected texts | 51.0% | 20.0% | test | 51.0% | 60.0% |
| Subject passing criteria           | Passing threshold                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Percentage of the final grade |  |                          |                   |                               |              |       |       |                                    |       |       |      |       |       |
| presentation                       | 51.0%                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 20.0%                         |  |                          |                   |                               |              |       |       |                                    |       |       |      |       |       |
| written analyses of selected texts | 51.0%                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 20.0%                         |  |                          |                   |                               |              |       |       |                                    |       |       |      |       |       |
| test                               | 51.0%                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 60.0%                         |  |                          |                   |                               |              |       |       |                                    |       |       |      |       |       |

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| Recommended reading                                            | Basic literature         | <p>Beauvoir, Simone de. The Second Sex. 1949. Translated by Constance Borde, Sheila Malovany-Chevallier, edited by Judith Thurman, Vintage, 2011.</p> <p>Bonilla-Silva, Eduardo. Racism without Racists: Color-Blind Racism and the Persistence of Racial Inequality in America. 2003. 3rd ed., Rowman &amp; Littlefield, 2009.</p> <p>Butler, Judith. Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity. 1990. Routledge, 2011.</p> <p>Dziamski, Grzegorz. Kulturoznawstwo czyli wprowadzenie do kultury ponowoczesnej. Katedra, 2016.</p> <p>Gajda, Janusz. Antropologia kulturowa. Wprowadzenie do wiedzy o kulturze. Impuls, 2008.</p> <p>Irimia, Mihaela, Dragos Manea, and Andrea Paris, editors. Literature and Cultural Memory. Brill Rodopi, 2017.</p> <p>Jones, Camara Phyllis. "Confronting Institutionalized Racism," Phylon. vol. 50, no. 1/2, 2002, pp. 722.</p> <p>Pickering, M. (ed.), Research Methods for Cultural Studies. Edinburgh University Press, 2008, <a href="https://lcst3789.files.wordpress.com/2012/01/pickering_ed__research_methods_in_cultural_studies.pdf">https://lcst3789.files.wordpress.com/2012/01/pickering_ed__research_methods_in_cultural_studies.pdf</a>.</p> <p>Said, Edward. Orientalism. 1978. Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, 2014.</p> <p>Wiszniowska, Marta. Introducing Cultural Studies. Wydawnictwo Kardynała Stefana Wyszyńskiego, 2012.</p> <p>Wiszniowska, Marta. Introducing Cultural Studies. Wydawnictwo Kardynała Stefana Wyszyńskiego, 2012.</p> |
|                                                                | Supplementary literature | <p>Butler, Judith. Undoing Gender. Routledge, 2004.</p> <p>Gajda, Janusz. Antropologia kulturowa. Kultura obyczajowa początku XXI wieku. Impuls, 2010.</p> <p>Said, Edward. Covering Islam: How the Media and the Experts Determine How We See the Rest of the World. 1982. Knopf Doubleday, 2015.</p> <p>Stiepanow, Justyna. "The Personally Ugly and Socially Unacceptable: Villains by Choice, Nature, or Circumstances." The Word Hoard, vol. 5, 2016, pp. 39-59.</p> <p>Stiepanow, Justyna. "Two Modes of Killing: Murder as an Anomaly and the Death Penalty as a Norm." Norm and Anomaly in Language, Literature, and Culture, edited by Jarosław Wilinski and Joanna Stolarek, Peter Lang, 2016, pp. 147-158.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                                | eResources addresses     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Example issues/<br>example questions/<br>tasks being completed | nie dotyczy              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Work placement                                                 | Not applicable           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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