

Subject card

Subject name and code	Contemporary American Cinema - classes II, PG_00144831						
Field of study	American Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject		2028/2029		
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study 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	3		Language of instruction		English		
Semester of study	6		ECTS credits		2.0		
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		dr Paweł Biliński				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15
	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	15		1.0		34.0	50
Subject objectives	Introduce students to the issues of contemporary American cinema - from the early 1980s to the cinema of the 21st century.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[AMERL3_K01] Is prepared to critically evaluate their knowledge and skills, particularly in the field of American cultural and literary studies, basic contextual knowledge of American studies and the English language.	Student is ready to critically evaluate her knowledge and skills, particularly in the field of contemporary American cinema—from the early 1980s to 21st-century cinema.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERL3_U04] Is able to participate in debates, present and evaluate different opinions and positions, and discuss them, including issues related to cultural phenomena and processes in North America and American literature.	Student can participate in debates, present and evaluate different opinions and positions, and discuss them, including issues related to contemporary American cinema—from the early 1980s to 21st-century cinema.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[AMERL3_U03] Is able to communicate on issues related to American culture, as well as American and British literature, using specialist terminology from the fields of cultural and literary studies.	Student can communicate on topics related to contemporary American cinema—from the early 1980s to 21st-century cinema.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERL3_U02] Is able to analyse and interpret phenomena, processes and texts of American culture and literature, and formulate and solve complex and untypical problems related to them, using methods and tools appropriate for cultural and literary studies.	Student is able to analyze and interpret phenomena related to contemporary American cinema—from the early 1980s to 21st-century cinema—using methods and tools appropriate to cultural studies, religious studies, and literary studies.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERL3_U01] Is able to select sources appropriately and evaluate, critically analyse, synthesise and present the information gathered, also with the use of advanced information and communication technologies, in particular with regard to issues concerning cultural phenomena and processes in North America and American literature.	Student is able to select sources appropriately and evaluate, critically analyse, synthesize, and present the information gathered, including through the use of advanced information and communication technologies, particularly with regard to issues concerning contemporary American cinema from the early 1980s to the 21st century.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERL3_W07] Has advanced detailed knowledge of selected issues, phenomena and cultural processes in North America.	Student has advanced knowledge of contemporary American cinema, from the early 1980s to the 21st century.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERL3_W05] Has advanced knowledge of the basic conceptual and terminological apparatus in the field of cultural studies applicable to the study of cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	Student has advanced knowledge of the basic conceptual and terminological apparatus of contemporary American cinema, from the early 1980s to the 21st century.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report
Subject contents	American cinema in 1980-2018 , in particular: Cinema in the times of Ronald Reagan; post-classical cinema; postmodern cinema: B. De Palma, J. and E. Coen brothers, Q. Tarantino; "puzzle films: D. Lynch, Ch. Nolan; blockbuster films and films inspired by comic books (from the first adaptations of Batman to Marvel Cinematic Universe); TV series revolution in 21st century; American independent film (S. Soderbergh, J. Jarmusch, S. Coppola, R. Linklater); American documentaries: Eroll Morris, Michael Moore; African-American cinema (hood films, S. Lee)		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Knowledge of English language at B2/C1 level		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	class presentation	80.0%	25.0%
	class discussion/debate	80.0%	25.0%
	test	51.0%	50.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	David Cook, Lost Illusions: American Cinema in the Shadow of Watergate and Vietnam, (History of American Cinema, 9). Stephen Prince, A New Pot of Gold: Hollywood under the Electronic Rainbow (History of American Cinema, 10). Mistrzowie kina amerykańskiego. Bunt i Nostalgia, pod red. Ł. Plesnara i R. Syski, Kraków: Rabid, 2006. Mistrzowie kina amerykańskiego. Współczesność, pod red. Ł. Plesnara i R. Syski, Kraków: Rabid, 2010. The End of Cinema as We Know It: American Film in the Nineties, ed. Jon Lewis, New York: New York University Press, 2001. American Cinema of the 1990s: Themes and Variations, Chris Holmlund (ed), Rutgers University Press, 2008. American Cinema of the 2000s: Themes and Variations, Timothy Corrigan (ed), Rutgers University Press 2012.
	Supplementary literature	other materials on the history of American cinema (articles from academic journals), films.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Characteristics of cinema in the R. Reagan era; Teen movies over the years (from "The Breakfast Club" to the coming-of-age films of the 21st century); The phenomenon of independent American cinema in the late 1980s and early 1990s; The aesthetics and poetics of David Lynch's films	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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