

Subject card

Subject name and code	Contemporary American art, PG_00144813						
Field of study	American Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject		2027/2028		
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group 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	2		Language of instruction		English English		
Semester of study	4		ECTS credits		3.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit							
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	Introducing students to the artistic currents that have dominated western fine arts since the second half of the twentieth century as well as with the artworks created at the time and their multimedia interdisciplinary nature; analysing artworks through the lens of artistic representation methodologies with the emphasis on the social, cultural and political processes behind artistic creation; appreciating the easthetic diversity of the contemporary American art that mirrors ethnic, racial, nationa,l and cultural heterogeneity of American society.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[AMERL3_W10] Knows and understands selected issues in geography, history, art, language and socio-political realities, constituting the contextual knowledge necessary for researching cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	Knows and understands selected issues in the field of art that constitute the basic contextual knowledge necessary for researching cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[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.	The student is ready to critically evaluate her knowledge and skills, particularly in the field of American cultural studies, basic contextual knowledge of American studies, and the English language.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERL3_U05] Is able to use knowledge of geography, history, art, language and socio-political realities, which constitute the context for the study of cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	Can use knowledge of art as a basic context for researching cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
Subject contents	- familiarizing students with the notion of contemporary art, its role, relationship with other spheres of human activity (particularly with social and political activism), and variety both easthetic and formal; - introducing the works of the most prominent contemporary American artists and considering their role in western contemporary art as well as in American cultural and social discourses; - analysing contemporary American artworks as a means of artistic/cultural/social communication, applying the most basic methodologies of studying culture, particularly with regard to postcolonial studies, critical race theory, feminist criticism and gender studies.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	B2 level English competency		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	clas ptresentation	51.0%	20.0%
	group analyses of selected texts, active participation	80.0%	80.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Berger, John. The Ways of Seeing. 1972. Penguin, 2008. Meyer, Richard. What is Contemporary Art?. MIT Press, 2013. Siegel, Katy. Since '45: America and the Making of Contemporary Art. Reaktion Books, 2013.	
	Supplementary literature	Beauvoir, Simone de. The Second Sex. 1949. Translated by Constance Borde, Sheila Malovany-Chevallier, edited by Judith Thurman, Vintage, 2011. Pickering, M. (ed.), Research Methods for Cultural Studies. Edinburgh University Press, 2008, https://lcst3789.files.wordpress.com/2012/01/pickering_ed__research_methods_in_cultural_studies.pdf. Bonilla-Silva, Eduardo. Racism without Racists: Color-Blind Racism and the Persistence of Racial Inequality in America. 2003. 3rd ed., Rowman & Littlefield, 2009. Butler, Judith. Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity. 1990. Routledge, 2011. Lord, Cathrine and Richard Mayers. Art and Queer Culture. Phaidon Press, 2013. Said, Edward. Covering Islam: How the Media and the Experts Determine How We See the Rest of the World. 1982. Knopf Doubleday, 2015. Said, Edward. Orientalism. 1978. Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, 2014	
	eResources addresses		

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	- the shift between traditional art (academism) and modern art; - the difference between modern and contemporary art; - Georgia O'Keffe: her work and life; - the works of Andy Warhol; - Bill Viola, his multimedia art and inspirations; - the Chicano/Chicana movement and its works; - Afro-American art.
Work placement	Not applicable

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