

Subject card

Subject name and code	Recent Trends in American Literature, PG_00144771						
Field of study	American Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject		2027/2028		
Education level	Master'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	2		Language of instruction		English		
Semester of study	4		ECTS credits		4.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
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 hab. Marta Koval				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	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		68.0	100
Subject objectives	To give students an overview of the history of American literature after 1985. To familiarize students with recent trends in US literature and the transformation of literary conventions in the late 20th and early 21st centuries.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[AMERMU2_K01] Is prepared to critically assess the scope of their knowledge and skills, especially in the field of American literary and cultural studies, contextual knowledge of American studies and the English language.	A student is ready to critically assess their knowledge and skills in the field of American literary studies.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_W11] Has in-depth knowledge and understanding of the historical evolution and contemporary trends in American literature.	A student knows and understands trends in American literature from 1985 onward.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_W07] Has in-depth understanding of selected issues constituting advanced detailed knowledge of selected issues in the field of American literature.	Has an in-depth knowledge and understanding of advanced topics in American literature from 1985 onward	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_W05] Knows and understands in depth advanced terminology in the field of literary studies applicable to the study of American literature.	A student understands the literary terminology used in the study of American literature from 1985 onward.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_W01] Has in-depth knowledge and understanding of selected issues constituting advanced general knowledge in the field of American literature.	Possesses extensive knowledge and understanding of issues related to American literature from 1985 onward.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
Subject contents	[AMERMU2_U05] Can communicate with diverse audiences on specialised topics related to literary and cultural phenomena and processes in North America, also using advanced terminology in the fields of literary and cultural studies	A student can communicate with diverse audiences about literary and cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written [SU5] implementation of a problem task
	- Revival of the Realist tradition, neorealism, family sagas (Carver, Beatie, Baker, Robinson, Eugenides); - History revisited: historical novel vs novel about history (Powers, Baker, Doctorow); - Literature of 9/11 (DeLillo, Updike, Foer); - Post-apocalyptic fiction (McCarthy); - African American writing (Morrison, Naylor, Walker, Whitehead, Everett, et al.); - Native American writing (Silko, Erdrich, Alexie, Owen, et al.); - Chicano/Chicana writing (Anaya, Chavez, Castillo, Cisneros, et al.); - Asian American literature and dilemmas of identity (Tan, Mukherjee, Nguyen, et al.); - American writers of European descent and challenges of memory; exile fiction (Melnyczuk, Hemon, Radulescu, et al.); - Jewish American literature; dilemmas of identity and memory of the Holocaust (Bellow, Roth, Ozick); - Feminist literature, LGBT literature - Environmentalism in literature - Graphic novels - Popular literature		
	No formal requirements		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	No formal requirements		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	two tests	51.0%	20.0%
	written or oral examination	51.0%	60.0%
	written assignment (reader's response)	51.0%	20.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature		
	Bercovitch, Sacvan, editor. <i>The Cambridge History of American Literature</i> . Vol. 5. Cambridge UP, 2003.		
	Halliwell, Martin., and Catherine Morley. <i>American Thought and Culture in the 21st Century</i> . Edinburgh UP, 2008.		
	Irr, Caren. <i>Toward the Geopolitical Novel. U.S. Fiction in the Twenty-First Century</i> . Columbia UP, 2013.		
Recommended reading	O'Donnell, Patrick. <i>The American Novel Now</i> . Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.		
	Wagner-Martin, Linda. <i>A History of American Literature</i> . Wiley Blackwell, 2013.		

	Supplementary literature	Antologie literatury amerykańskiej, np.: (wiersze, opowiadania, eseje) Lauter, Paul, editor. <i>The Heath Anthology of American Literature</i>. Volume E. Wadsworth, 2006 Powers, Richard. <i>The Overstory</i> McCarthy, Cormac. <i>Blood Meridian</i> Hemon, Aleksandar. <i>The Book of My Lives</i> (selected essays) Esciffery, Jonathan. <i>If I Survive You</i> (selected stories) Mukherjee, Bharati. Selected stories Robinson, Marilynne. <i>Home</i> Other novels and stories selected by the teaching Bewes, Timothy. <i>Free Indirect. The Novel in a Postfictopnal Age</i>. Cambridge UP, 2022. Greil, Marcus, and Werner Sollors, editors. <i>A New Literary History of America</i>. The Belknap Press of Harvard UP, 2008. Bigsby, C. W. E. <i>The Cambridge Companion to Modern American Culture</i>. Cambridge UP, 2006. Koval, Marta. Indigestible America and the Crisis of Multiculturalism in Aleksandar Hemon's Fiction." <i>Eating America: Crisis, Sustenance, Sustainability</i>, edited by Marek Wilczyński & Andrzej Ceynowa, Peter Lang, 2015. pp. 155-162. Koval, Marta. <i>We Search the Past for Our Own Lost Selves. Representations of Historical Experience in Recent American Fiction</i>. Peter Lang, 2013. Koval, Marta. "The Image of Home Lost and Rediscovered." <i>Austria and America: 20th-Century Cross-Cultural Encounters</i>, edited by Joshua Parker, Ralph J. Poole, LIT Verlag, 2017, pp. 163-174. Koval, Marta. <i>Frameworks of Memory in Recent American Fiction. Narratives of East-Central European Immigrant Experience</i>. Peter Lang, 2022
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Evolution of Realist tradition: new issues and socio-political awareness Minority literature: aesthetic values versus social mission Transformation of the historical novel	

Work placement	Not applicable
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