

Subject card

Subject name and code	Contemporary theories of culture and cultural identities, PG_00144744						
Field of study	American Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject		2026/2027		
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	1		Language of instruction		English		
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits		2.0		
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 Barbara Miceli				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	15.0	0.0	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		2.0		33.0	50
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to familiarize students with issues related to contemporary theories of culture and cultural identities, with basic theoretical concepts related to cultural issues and the relationships between them, and with the changes taking place in various areas of culture in society.						

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.	Is prepared to critically assess the scope of her own knowledge and skills, particularly in the field of American cultural studies.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[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	Is able to communicate with diverse audiences on specialized topics concerning contemporary cultural phenomena and processes in twenty-first-century US, using advanced terminology from the fields of cultural and religious studies.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[AMERMU2_U03] Is able to properly select sources and evaluate, select, critically analyse, synthesise, creatively interpret and present the collected information, using advanced information and communication techniques, in particular in the field of American literary and cultural studies.	They are able to select sources appropriately and evaluate, select, critically analyze, synthesize, and creatively interpret and present the information gathered, using advanced information and communication technologies, particularly in the field of contemporary American cultural studies.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERMU2_W10] Knows and understands the main trends in cultural studies, particularly in relation to research on American culture.	Knows and understands the main trends in the development of cultural and religious studies, particularly with regard to research on 21st-century American culture.	[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[AMERMU2_W06] Knows and understands in depth advanced terminology in the field of cultural studies applicable to the study of cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	Knows and understands, at an advanced level, the specialized terminology of cultural and religious studies used in research on cultural phenomena and processes in twenty-first-century US.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
Assessment methods and criteria	[AMERMU2_W04] Has in-depth knowledge and understanding of advanced methodologies and theories in the field of cultural studies applicable to the study of cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	Knows and understands, at an advanced level, advanced methodologies and theories from the fields of cultural and religious studies used in research on cultural identity and cultural processes in the 21st-century US.	[SW3] text preparation/written work
Subject contents	Main issues: Cultural theory and philosophy of culture; high culture vs mass culture, Theories of popular culture; Psychological concepts of culture (Concepts of culture from the field of depth psychology (Freud, Jung, Horney, Fromm); Culture as a system of values, Cultural and civilizational determinants of identity formation. Individual identity and collective identity in modern and postmodern culture.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	English knowledge at C1 level		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	active participation in classes	70.0%	20.0%
	test	51.0%	50.0%
	tasks	51.0%	30.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Rubaker, R. and Cooper, F. (2000). Beyond Identity. Theory and Society, 29, 1-47. Giddens, A. (1991). Modernity and Self-Identity. Cambridge: Polity Press. Ch. 1 - The Contours of High Modernity, pp. 10-34. Grossberg, Lawrence. Identity and Cultural Studies: Is That All There is? Habermas, J. (1990). Modernity Versus Postmodernity. Alexander, J. and Seidman, S. (eds.). Culture and Society: Contemporary Debates. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. pp. 355-375. Hall, S. (2002). Notes on Deconstructing the Popular. Duncombe, S. (ed.). Cultural Resistance Reader. London and NY: Verso. pp. 185-192 Kellner, D. (1995). Media Culture: Cultural Studies, Identity and Politics between the Modern and the Postmodern. Londong and NY: Routledge. Ch. 7 - Television, Advertising and the Construction of Postmodern Identities, pp. 231- 262. other selected texts/videos	
	Supplementary literature	.	
	eResources addresses		

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	The student analyzes concepts and concepts of culture in selected readings. Characterizes the state of contemporary culture using selected theoretical categories (multi/trans/interculturality, hybridity, creolization, fragmentation).
Work placement	Not applicable

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