

**COURSE DATA****Data Subject**

Code	35353
Name	Monographic course in American literature
Cycle	Grade
ECTS Credits	6.0
Academic year	2018 - 2019

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1000 - Degree in English Studies	Faculty of Philology, Translation and Communication	4	First term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1000 - Degree in English Studies	13 - Monograph on English literature	Optional

Coordination

Name	Department
DI NAPOLI HUEHNERBEIN, RUSSELL M.	155 - English and German

SUMMARY

The course will explore American Theatre literary development from the colonial period to the present. The subject will be approached from a theoretical and historical perspective. Students will become familiar with some of the more outstanding playwrights and their works from the colonial period to the twenty-first century. Students will be expected to read all of the selected plays in English and be prepared to comment in class on their reading.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE**Relationship to other subjects of the same degree**



There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

Other requirements

3.1. Restrictions: None

3.2. Recommended previous knowledge

It is highly recommended that students have at least a sufficient knowledge of English to be able to read and understand the primary and secondary texts required for the subject.

OUTCOMES

1000 - Degree in English Studies

- Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually in their field of study) to make judgements that take relevant social, scientific or ethical issues into consideration.
- Students must be able to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both expert and lay audiences.
- Demonstrate communicative and social competence in the English language (oral and written comprehension and expression, communicative interaction and mediation that includes correct grammar and style).
- Develop a critical ability to explain literary texts in English and to identify aesthetic conventions, movements, periods, genres, authors and works in English language and their modes of production.
- Know and apply the currents and methodologies of literary theory and criticism.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Having successfully completed this course, students will be able to:

1. apply concepts and knowledge related with the esthetic conventions, evolution, modes of production and the reception of works, genres and movements in North American literature to the following learning outcomes,
2. identify passages from literary works they have read during the course or seen in class
3. evaluate the meaning and significance of these passages within their respective works
4. write a stylistic commentary on a passage or a short text
5. explicate, interpret or criticize a literary text from the United States using various methodological approaches

**DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS****1. Unit 1**

American Theatre during the Colonial Period

2. Unit 2

American Theatre in the 19th Century

3. Unit 3

American Theatre in the Twentieth Century up to World War II

4. Unit 4

American Theatre after the Second World War

5. Unit 5

American Theatre in the Twenty-First Century

WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theory classes	60,00	100
Attendance at events and external activities	2,00	0
Development of group work	8,00	0
Development of individual work	20,00	0
Study and independent work	40,00	0
Readings supplementary material	10,00	0
Preparation of evaluation activities	10,00	0
TOTAL	150,00	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Theory-based classes: This subject will be structured around lecture classes that aim to provide the necessary historical and cultural context for each movement or period under consideration, and commentary and group discussion of representative texts included in the reading list.



Practical classes: Group discussion of all representative texts of each unit.

EVALUATION

Assessment in the FIRST and SECOND CALLS:

Type of assessment	% of final grade
a) Individual written examination	80%
b) Practical written tests, essays	20%

Assessment Criteria

The written examination—in English—will evaluate both theoretical and practical aspects of the course. The final sitting will consist of four excerpts from the texts covered during the course. The students will be asked to write a composition for each one. The aim of the examination is

- 1) to assess the students's assimilation of knowledge and concepts imparted during lectures and
- 2) to assess their understanding of and critical response to texts studied in class as reflected in the ability to manage the appropriate methods and techniques of analysis

Note: In addition, the final sitting will include an optional practical written composition task, worth 20% of the final grade, on a topic the students will have previously prepared on their own in accordance with the following procedure: Halfway through the course, the students will be given a list of topics from which they are to choose just one and be prepared to write a thoughtful, intelligent, and well-reasoned discussion on it when they take final examination.

REFERENCES

Basic

- Auslander, Philip. *Presence and Resistance Postmodernism and Cultural Politics in Contemporary American Performance*. Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press, 1999.
- Brockett, Oscar G. *History of the Theatre*. 7th ed. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1995.



- Broussard, Louis. *American Drama: Contemporary Allegory from Eugene O'Neill to Tennessee Williams*. Norman, Oklahoma: U of Oklahoma Press, 1962
- Brustein, Robert. *The Theatre of Revolt: An Approach to Modern Drama*. Boston, Little Brown, 1964.
- Chaikin, Joseph. *The Presence of the Actor*. NY: Theatre Communications Group, 1991.
- Clurman, Harold. *All People Are Famous (Instead of an Autobiography)*. NY & London: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1974.
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- Flexner, Eleanor. *American Playwrights: 1918-1938 The Theatre Retreats from Reality*. Freeport, NY: Books for Libraries, 1969.
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- Hewett, Bernard. *Theatre USA: 1668-1957*. NY: McGraw-Hill, 1959.
- Hill, Errol, ed. *The Theatre of Black Americans*. Applause theatre NY: Book Publishers, 1987.
- Himmelstein, Morgan Yales. *Drama Was a Weapon: The Left-Wing theatre in New York 1929-1941*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers UP, 1963.
- Krutch, Joseph Wood. *The American Drama since 1918*. NY: George Braziller, 1965.
- Lewis, Emory. *Stages: The Fifty-Year Childhood of the American Theatre*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1969.
- Mordden, Ethan. *The American Theatre*. Oxford UP: 1981.
- Nathan, George Jean. *The theatre in the Fifties*. NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 1953.
- O'Hara, Frank Hubert. *Today in American Drama*. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 1939.
- Rabkin, Gerald. *Drama and Commitment Politics in the American Theatre of the Thirties*. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1964.
- Taubman, Howard. *The Making of American Theatre*. Rev. ed. NY: Coward & McCann, 1967.
- Williams, Henry B. *The American theatre A Sum of Its Parts*. NY: Samuel French, Inc., 1971.
- Wilson, Garff B. *Three Hundred Years of American Drama and Theatre*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1982.
- Zeigler, Joseph Wesley. *Regional Theatre: The Revolutionary Stage*. NY: Da Capo Press, 1977.