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| **General Information** |
| **Course name** | **Anglophonic Literatures - Selected Chapters**  | **ECTS Credits** | **3** |
| **Semester** | **winter** |
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| **Aims** |
| The course focuses on the most contemporary American literature and its major themes as reflections of various aspects of American society. The aim is to discuss the latest issues in America within literary postmodern discourse, its genres, major tropes and the interdisciplinary nature of contemporary American literature in respect to politics, cultural studies, sociology etc. Apart from discussing fiction, the course will also go through the cinematic representation of some of the literary works and discuss the possibilities and limitations of visual representation of a literary work  |
| **Contents** |
| 1. Suburban mythology (Geoffrey Eugenides, The Virgin Suicides 1993) 2. Gender and Marriage (Geoffrey Eugenides, Middlesex, The Marriage Plot) 3. Mothers/daughters (Amy Tan, The Joy Luck Club 1989) 4. Historical trauma and the problem of cultural translation (J.Safran Foer, Everything Is Illuminated 2001) 5. Post-apocalypse, Environment and Consumerism (Cormac Mccarthy, The Road (2006) 6. Terrorism, Politics, Violence (Don DeLillo, The Falling Man, 2007, Cosmopolis, Underworld, White Noise)7. Curse of the immigration, (Junot Diaz, The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao 2007) 8. Perpetrator ́s trauma in Marcus Zusak ́s The Book Thief9. Religion and Atheism in Cormac McCarthy ́s Sunset Limited 10. Presentations 11. Presentations 12. Presentations |
| **Evaluation** |
| Each student is required to prepare 25-30 minute presentation on selected work of fiction. The student is also encouraged to do comparative analysis of literary work and its cinematic representation (if possible). If the presentation is assigned to 2 students, it should take 45-50 minutes. The presentation should include the following: 1. Placing the work and the author within literary context (10 points) 2. Very brief account of the plot (20 points) 3. Perception of the literary criticism (including reviews, newspaper sources, academic databases) (30 points) 4. Major themes and their discussion, characterization, the use of the language (30 points) 5. Conclusion, comments, discussion (10 points) |
| **Bibliography** |
| Geoffrey Eugenides, The Virgin Suicides 1993, The Marriage Plot 2011 Amy Tan, The Joy Luck Club 1989 J.Safran Foer, Everything Is Illuminated 2001 Cormac Mccarthy, The Road (2006), Blood Meridian 1985, The Sunset Limited 2006 Don DeLillo, The Falling Man, 2007, White Noise 1985, Cosmopolis 2003 Junot Diaz, The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao 2007 M. Zusak, The Book Thief 2005 |