***SYLLABUS***

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| **Course** | **Cultural Theory and Literature** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | **Year** | | | 2023./2024. | |
| **Study programme** | English Department, English Language and Literature | | | | | | | | | | | | | | **ECTS** | | | **4** | |
| **Year of study** | ☒1. | | | | | ☐ 2. | | | | | ☐ 3. | | ☐ 4. | | | | | ☐ 5. | |
| **Status of the course** | ☒ Compulsory | | | ☐ Elective | | | | | ☐Elective course offered to students from other departments | | | | | **Teaching Competencies** | | | | | ☐ YES  ☒ NO |
| **Workload** | 1 | **L** | 1 | | **S** | | 0 | **E** | **Internet sources for e-learning** | | | | | | | | | | ☒ YES  ☐ NO |
| **Location and time of instruction** | **Classroom 143 (Thursday) at 3 PM** | | | | | | | | **Language(s) in which the course is taught** | | | | | | | | | | English |
| **Course start date** | 29.2.2024. | | | | | | | | **Course end date** | | | | | | | | | | 6.6.2024. |
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| **Course coordinator** | Professor dr.sc. Mario Vrbančić | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **E-mail** | [mario\_exile@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:mario_exile@yahoo.co.nz); mavrbanci@unizd.hr | | | | | | | | | | | **Consultation hours** | | | | | Thursday by appointment (zoom consultations are also possible) | | |
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| **Mode of teaching** | ☒ Lectures | | | | | ☒ Seminars and workshops | | | | | ☐Exercises | | ☐E-learning | | | | | ☐Field work | |
| ☒ Individual assignments | | | | | ☒Multimedia and network | | | | | ☐Laboratory | | ☐ Mentoring | | | | | ☐Other | |
| **Learning outcomes** | | | | | | * Students will demonstrate familiarity with the basic of literary and cultural theory * The ability to use the web as a source for research and information * The ability to close read texts * The ability to share ideas with peers (discussions) * The ability to present ideas clearly | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Learning Outcomes at the Programme Level** | | | | | | * Recognize and describe relevant ideas and concepts (27991) (AIO1) * Connect different approaches, perceptions, and knowledge through an interdisciplinary approach (27995) (AI02) * Apply a critical and self-critical approach in argumentation (27997) (AI03) * Consider specific aspects of diversity and multiculturalism (28003) (AI06) * Analyze basic approaches and concepts of contemporary cultural and literary theory (28013) (AI14) * Differentiate and compare literary periods and critically assess literary texts of the English-speaking world in relation to the social, political and cultural contexts in which they were created (28015) (AI16) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Assessment criteria** | ☒Class attendance | | | | | ☒Preparation for class | | | | | ☒Homework | | ☒Continuous evaluation | | | | | ☐Research | |
| ☐Practical work | | | | | ☐Experimental work | | | | | ☒Presentation | | ☐Project | | | | | ☐Seminar | |
| ☐ Test(s) | | | | | ☒Written exam | | | | | ☐Oral exam | | ☐Other | | | | | | |
| **Conditions for permission to take the exam** | **Students must complete all the major assignments to pass the course.**   1. **Attendance and participation in class discussions (5%).** Students should come every week ready to discuss the readings. 2. **Oral presentation (15%)** Oral presentation will be graded on (1) the originality of the interpretation (2) clearly developed argument (3) the organization of the presentation and the quality of the delivery (i.e., maintaining good eye contact with the audience, using power point, clips…). 3. **Final exam (80%)**. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Exam periods** | ☐Winter | | | | | | | | | ☒Summer | | | | | | ☒Autumn­ | | | |
| **Exam dates** |  | | | | | | | | | 13.6.2024.  27.6.2024. | | | | | | 12.9.2024.  26.9.2024. | | | |
| **Course description** | As Jonathan Culler argues ‘in literary studies these days there is a lot of talk about theory – not just theory of literature’, but theory in a much broader context, theory of culture. This course is an introduction to cultural theory and literature. It captures what has happened in cultural theory (and literary theory) since the 1960s. It covers the major theory paradigms such as structuralism, semiotics, psychoanalysis, deconstruction, feminism, queer theory, postcolonial theory…. It aims to give students a basic understanding of various theoretical approaches used to interpret literary texts and their historical contexts. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Course content** | 1. Introduction (29.2.2024)  2. Culture, Language and the question of Representation (7.3.2024)  3. Structuralism (14.3.2024)  4. Linguistics to Semiotics: Myth Today (21.3.2024)  5. EASTER HOLIDAY (28.3.2024)  6. Discourse, power and the subject (4.4.2024)  7. Carnival and the Grotesque body (11.4.2024)  8. Discourse and the dialogic imagination (18.4.2024)  9. Psychoanalysis and literature (25.4.2024)  10. Lacanian psychoanalysis and ideology (2.5.2024)  11. Feminist Literary Theories (9.5.2024)  12. Queer Theory (16.5.2024)  13. Postcolonial theories (23.5.2024)  14. HOLIDAY (30.5.2024)  15. Closing lecture (6.6.2024) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Required reading** | * Aschroft, Bill. *Edward Said*. New York: Routledge. Selected parts (pp.13-27) * Barry Peter. Chapter 5. Psychoanalytic criticism*.* In *Beginning Theory:* *An Introduction to Literally and Cultural Theory*. 2010. * Barthes, Roland. *Mythologies.* The Noonday Press. 1972.   + The world of wrestling (pp. 15-26)   + Romans in Film (pp. 26- 29)   + The face of Greta Garbo (pp.55-57)   + Striptease (pp. 84-88) * Dentith, Simon. *Bakhtinian Thought. An Introductory Reader.* Routledge. New York. 2006. (pp. 41-64; 65-87; 155-193; 225-252). * Jagger, Gill. *Judith Butler.* *Sexual Politics, Social Change, and the Power of Performative.* Routledge. London. 2008. (selected parts) * Hall, Stuart (ed). *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices.* London: SAGE Publications Ltd, 2012. (pp.15-51). * Kul-Want, Cristopher & Piero Pierini,*Introducing Slavoj Žižek*. Icon Books. London. 2011. (graphic guide) * Said, Edward. *Culture and Imperialism*. New York. Random House. 1994. (pp. 3-43) * Selden Peter, R & Widdowson, & Brooker, P. *A Reader’s Guide to Contemporary Literary Theory*. Logman. London. 2005. (pp. 115-144). * Sturken, M & Cartwright, Lisa. *Practices of Looking: An Introduction to Visual Culture*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2018. (pp. 113-132). | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Additional reading** | * Auerbach, Erich. Odysseus’ Scar, in *Mimesis: The Representation of Reality in Western Literature,* Princeton University Press, 2003. (pp. 3-23). * Brooks, Peter. *Reading for the Plot.* Harvard University Press. 1992. (pp. 1-13; 37-44, 54-61) Chapter 10: Fictions of the Wolf Man (pp.264-286) * Culler, Jonathan. *Literary Theory: a Very Short Introduction.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997. Selected parts * Bennett, A & Robyle, N. *An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory*. London: Longman, 2009. pp.199-207. * Custle, Gregory. *The Encyclopedia of Literary and Cultural Theory*. Blackwell. 2011. Selected parts. * Greenblatt, Stephen. The Rise and Fall of Adam and Eve. London. Bodley Head. 2018.   + Bare Bones (pp.20-63)   + Eve's Murder (pp.279-319)   + Darwin's Doubts (pp.603-637) * Millett, Kate. *Sexual politics.* The University of Illinois Press. 2000.   + Instances of sexual politics (pp. 3-23)   + Theory of sexual politics: Adam and Eve (pp. 52-54)   + The narrative how humanity invented sexual intercourse (pp.25-59). * Schatz, Thomas. *Hollywood Genres. Formulas, Filmmaking and Studio System.* Random House New York. 1981. (pp.14-41). | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Internet sources** | Introduction to Theory of Literature (Open Yale Courses)  <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YY4CTSQ8nY>  Terry Eagleton on the Event of Literature (part 1) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKDH1h2wt80&list=PL2M8HxkGYgBNvZ5TDNVYazM7ixaY-uJgh>  On Orientalism-Edward Said <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xwCOSkXR_Cw&list=PLE7E164171E6300A6>  Stuart Hall on Representation  <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6sbYyw1mPdQ> An Introduction to Erich Auerbach's Mimesis, by Professor Andrew White<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ip68qhIlrKs> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Calculation of final grade** | 5% Attendance and participation in class discussions; Homework  15% Seminar (oral presentation)  80% Final exam | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| **SEMINARS**  **Weekly assignment (15%).**  • For seminars students will be divided in groups (or teams)  • Each week one team will present its seminar.  • Each team must present their topic clearly.  • Each student in the team should present the part of the topic (give a speech, or a visual presentation) (all presentations together 25 min), please work together as a team  • Every team should prepare for discussion with all class students. (10 - 15 min). (we will discuss how theory push us to see from new angles, to contextualize, to ask new questions and offer new interpretations)  • Each team MUST WORK TOGETHER in order to prepare their seminar presentation (at the end I will mark the team - 15% of the final grade)  **ALL STUDENTS MUST come every week ready to discuss the readings (+ bring in at least ONE written question for discussion – 5% of the final grade)**  **FINAL EXAM: 80% of the final grade**  **I strongly encourage all students to participate in our discussions** and express their opinion on some concepts and ideas. | | | |
| **No.** | **Date** | **Title** | **Literature** |
| 1. | 29.2.2024 | Introduction to the course |  |
| 2. | 7.3. | Culture and Representation | LECTURE:  Hall, Stuart (ed) *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices.* London: SAGE Publications Ltd, 2012 (pp.15- 26) Student Presentations:An Introduction to Erich Auerbach's Mimesis, by Professor Andrew White (YOU TUBE) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ip68qhIlrKs)  * Auerbach, Erich. Odysseus’ Scar, in *Mimesis: The Representation of Reality in Western Literature,* Princeton University Press, 2003. (pp. 3-23).   **Presenters:** |
| 3. | 14.3. | Structuralism | LECTURE:  Hall, Stuart (ed) *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices.* London: SAGE Publications Ltd, 2012 (pp.26- 35)  **Student Presentation:**   * Thomas Schatz. *Hollywood Genres. Formulas, filmmaking and studio system.* Random House New York. 1981. (pp. 14-41)   **Presenters:** |
| 4. | 21.3. | Linguistics to Semiotics: Myth Today | LECTURE:  Hall, Stuart (ed) *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices.* London: SAGE Publications Ltd, 2012 (pp. 36-41)  **Student Presentation:**   * Barthes, Roland. *Mythologies.* The Noonday Press. 1972.   + The world of wrestling (pp. 15-26)   + Romans in Film (pp. 26- 29)   + The face of Greta Garbo (pp.55-57)   + Striptease (pp. 84-88)   **Presenters:** |
| 5. | 28.3. | EASTER HOLIDAY |  |
| 6. | 4.4. | Discourse, power and the subject | LECTURE:  Hall, Stuart (ed) *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices.* London: SAGE Publications Ltd, 2012 (pp.41-51)  **Student Presentation:**   * Greenblatt, Stephen. The Rise and Fall of Adam and Eve. London. Bodley Head. 2018.   + Bare Bones (pp.20-63)   + Eve's Murder (pp.279-319)   + Darwin's Doubts (pp.603-637)   **Presenters:** |
| 7. | 11.4. | Carnival and the Grotesque body | LECTURE:  Dentith, Simon (ed). *Bakhtinian thought. An Introductory Reader.* Routledge. New York. 2006. (pp. 65-87)  **Student Presentation:**   * Bakhtin, Mikhail.The Grotesque Image of the Body and its Sources. In Dentith, Simon. *Bakhtinian thought. An Introductory Reader* Routledge. New York. 2006. (pp. 225-252).   **Presenters:** |
| 8. | 18.4. | Discourse and the dialogic imagination | LECTURE:  Dentith, Simon. *Bakhtinian thought. An introductory reader.* Routledge. New York. 2006. (pp. 41-64)  **Student Presentation:**   * Bakhtin, M. ‘The hero’s monologic discourse and narrational discourse in Dostoevsky’s short novels’. In Dentith, Simon. *Bakhtinian thought. An Introductory Reader* Routledge. New York. 2006. (pp. 155-193).   **Presenters:** |
| 9. | 25.4. | Psychoanalysis and literature | LECTURE:  Barry Peter. *Beginning Theory:* *An Introduction to Literally and Cultural Theory*. Chapter 5. Psychoanalytic criticism. 2010.  **Student Presentation:**   * Brooks, Peter. *Reading for the Plot.* Harvard University Press. 1992. (pp. 1-13; 37-44; 54-61; 264-286)   **Presenters:** |
| 10. | 2.5. | Žižek and ideology | LECTURE:  Slavoj Žižek, Lacanian psychoanalysis and ideology  **Student Presentation:**   * Kul-Want, Cristopher & Piero Pierini,*Introducing Slavoj Žižek*. Icon Books. London. 2011. (graphic guide) * Žižek, Slavoj. *The Pervert’s Guide to Ideology* (FILM, choose parts from you tube which you want to present and discuss)   **Presenters:** |
| 11. | 9.5 | Feminist Literary Theories | LECTURE:  Sturken, M & Cartwright, Lisa. Practices of Looking An Introduction to Visual Culture. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2018. (pp. 120-132)  Selden Peter, R & Widdowson, & Brooker, P. *A Reader’s Guide to Contemporary Literary Theory*. Logman. London. 2005. (pp. 115-144)  **Student Presentation:**   * Millett, Kate. *Sexual politics.* The University of Illinois Press. 2000.   + Instances of sexual politics (pp. 3-23)   + The narrative how humanity invented sexual intercourse (pp.25-59).   **Presenters:** |
| 12. | 16.5. | Queer Theory. | LECTURE:Feminist and queer studies: Judith Butler’s conceptualization of gender **Student Presentation.**   * Jagger. G. Judith Butler. *Sexual politics, social change, and the power of performative.* Routledge. London. 2008. (selected parts)   **Presenters:** |
| 13. | 23.5. | Postcolonial theories | LECTURE:  Introduction to Visual Culture. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2018. (pp 113-120)  Aschroft, Bill. *Edward Said*. New York: Routledge.  **Student Presentation:**   * Said, Edward. Culture and Imperialism. New York. Random House. 1994. (pp. 3-43)   **Presenters:** |
| 14. | 30.5. | HOLIDAY |  |
| 14. | 6.6.  2024 | Closing Lecture | Preparation for exam  EXAM DATES:  13.6.2024.  27.6.2024. |