

Subject card

Subject name and code	American Contemporary Theater, PG_00144814						
Field of study	American Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2026/2027		
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group 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		3.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
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 Beata Williamson				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	30.0	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		43.0	75
Subject objectives	Introduction to the history of development of American theater (since the 1940s) and its contemporary phenomena.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[AMERL3_W12] Has knowledge of contemporary North American cultural and artistic life.	Has advanced knowledge of contemporary North American theater life.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERL3_U06] Able to communicate orally and in writing on issues related to American and British culture and literature, using specialized terminology in cultural and religious studies and literary studies.	Is able to communicate orally and in writing on issues related to American culture and literature, using specialized terminology in the field of cultural and religious studies, in particular theater studies and theater history.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERL3_W07] Has advanced detailed knowledge of selected issues concerning cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	Has detailed knowledge of selected issues regarding phenomena and processes in the North American theater.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERL3_K04] is ready to follow contemporary cultural and literary trends in North America and to actively participate in cultural life.	Is ready to follow contemporary trends in American theater and to actively participate in cultural life, in particular theater life.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERL3_W05] Has advanced knowledge of the basic conceptual and terminological apparatus of cultural and religious studies applicable to the study of cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	Has advanced knowledge of the basic conceptual and terminological apparatus in the field of cultural and religious sciences applicable in the study of phenomena and processes taking place in the theater of North America.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERL3_U03] is able to use acquired subject knowledge to identify, analyze, interpret and explain cultural phenomena and processes in North America, using concepts and methods from cultural and religious studies.	Is able to use the acquired subject knowledge to identify, analyze, interpret and explain cultural phenomena and processes in North America, using concepts and methods from the field of cultural and religious studies, in particular theater studies and theater history.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report [SU3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERL3_U12] Is able to interact with others and plan and organize individual and team work, especially in the field of American Studies and in a selected sphere of cultural or economic activity related to knowledge of cultural contexts and the English language.	Is able to cooperate with others and plan and organize individual and team work, in particular within the framework of American studies on American theater and in a selected sphere of cultural or economic activity related to knowledge of the contexts of American theater and the English language.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERL3_U08] Is able to participate in debate, present and evaluate different opinions and positions and discuss them, especially in relation to issues concerning cultural phenomena and processes in North America, American literature and the basic contextual knowledge of American studies in American history and art.	Is able to take part in a debate, present and evaluate various opinions and positions and discuss them, in particular in relation to issues related to phenomena and processes taking place in the North American theater and basic contextual knowledge of American studies in the history of theater and American theater studies.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[AMERL3_U09] Is able to use and communicate knowledge of history, social sciences, geography, linguistics and the arts, providing a basic context in the study of North American cultural phenomena and processes.	Is able to use and communicate knowledge of the history of American theater, which constitutes the basic context in the study of phenomena and processes taking place in the theater of North America.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report [SU3] text preparation/written work

	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[AMERL3_W11] Knows and understands the basic interrelationships of American cultural and literary studies with other humanity studies and social sciences, including, in particular, knowledge of selected issues and basic terminology in American history, society, language, politics and art, constituting the basic contextual knowledge necessary for the study of North American cultural phenomena and processes.	Knows and understands the basic connections of American cultural studies and theater studies with other humanities and social sciences, in particular he knows selected issues and basic terminology in the field of American history, which constitute the basic contextual knowledge necessary in the study of phenomena and processes related to the theater of North America.	[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERL3_K03] is ready to make decisions independently and to critically evaluate and accept responsibility for the consequences of her/his own actions and the actions of the teams in which s/he participates, in particular while performing tasks in American Studies and in professional practice.	Is ready to make independent decisions and to critically evaluate and take responsibility for the effects of his/her own actions and the actions of the teams in which he/she participates, in particular when performing tasks within the framework of American theater studies and in professional practice.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERL3_K01] is ready to critically evaluate his knowledge and skills, especially in American cultural and literary studies, as well as the basic contextual knowledge of American studies concerning history, social sciences, geography, linguistics and art and English.	Is ready to critically assess his knowledge and skills, in particular in the field of American cultural studies and theater studies, as well as basic contextual knowledge of American studies regarding the history and contemporary phenomena in American theater.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK3] text preparation/written work
Subject contents	History of American theater since 1940, theater avant-garde, ethnic theater, mainstream theater, regional theaters, new phenomena in American theater		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	attendance	85.0%	10.0%
	quizzes	51.0%	15.0%
	active participation	80.0%	10.0%
	written responses	51.0%	15.0%
	final presentation	51.0%	30.0%
	mid-term presentation	51.0%	20.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	LoMonaco, Martha. Regional/Resident Theatre in <i>Cambridge History of American Theatre</i>. Vol. 3 Postlewait, Thomas. American Spectatorium in <i>The Cambridge History of American Theatre</i>. Don B. Wilmeth and Christopher Bigsby, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999 [2007]. 107-195. Wilmeth, Don B. and Christopher Bigsby, <i>The Cambridge History of American Theatre</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999. Wilson, Edwin. <i>The Theatre Experience</i>. McGraw Hill, 2014.	

	Supplementary literature	Boehm, Mike. <i>Angels in America</i> twenty years later. <i>Los Angeles Times</i>. 2012. Cruz, Nilo. <i>Anna in the Tropics</i>. Culture Clash <i>A Bowl of Beings</i>, <i>Culture Clash in Americca</i> Darby, Jaye T. Come to the Ceremonial Circle: Ceremony and Renewal in Hanay Geiogamahs 49 195-227. Denning, Michael. <i>The Cultural Front</i>. 1997. Geiogamah, Hanay. 49 Mike Nichols, dir. <i>Angels in America</i> (2003) NYT Black-Theater-Is-Having-a-Moment.-Thank-Tyler-Perry.-Seriously.-The-New-York-Times (1) Perry, Tyler. <i>For Colored Girls</i> Gotanda, Philip Kan. <i>The Wash</i> Harris, Jeremy O. <i>The Slave Play</i> Hwang H.D., Interview with Philip Kan Gotanda Hwang, Henry David. <i>M. Butterfly</i>. Kushner, Tony. <i>Angels in America</i>. Majok, Martyna. <i>Ironbound</i> Pinzazzi, Annamaria. <i>The Theater of Hanay Geoigamah</i> 185-186 Shange, Ntozake. <i>for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf</i>, Shepard, Sam. <i>Buried Child</i>. Valdez, Luis. <i>Zoot Suit</i>. Wilder, Thornton. <i>Our Town</i> Williams, Tennessee. <i>The Glass Menagerie</i>. Wolfe, George C. <i>The Colored Museum</i> Worthen, W.B. The American Theatre? in <i>Harcourt Brace Anthology of Theater</i>. 2000.
	eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	regional theater, multicultural theater, African-American theater, Chicano theater, Asian theater
Work placement	Not applicable

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