

Subject card

Subject name and code	Contemporary American art, PG_00144813						
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							
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		mgr Justyna Stiepanow				
	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	Introducing students to the artistic currents that have dominated western fine arts since the second half of the twentieth century as well as with the artworks created at the time and their multimedia interdisciplinary nature; analysing artworks through the lens of artistic representation methodologies with the emphasis on the social, cultural and political processes behind artistic creation; appreciating the easthetic diversity of the contemporary American art that mirrors ethnic, racial, nationa,l and cultural heterogeneity of American society.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[AMERL3_W12] Has knowledge of contemporary North American cultural and artistic life.	Students have advanced knowledge of current artistic life in North America.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW3] text preparation/written work [SW5] implementation of a problem task
	[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.	Students are able to communicate in oral and written form topics regarding contemporary American visual art with the use of terminology dedicated for the topic.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU3] text preparation/written work [SU5] implementation of a problem task
	[AMERL3_W07] Has advanced detailed knowledge of selected issues concerning cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	Students have the knowledge of cultural phenomena and processes in contemporary American visual art.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW3] text preparation/written work [SW5] implementation of a problem task
	[AMERL3_K04] is ready to follow contemporary cultural and literary trends in North America and to actively participate in cultural life.	Students are ready to follow the trends in contemporary American visual art and to take part in cultural life.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK3] text preparation/written work [SK5] implementation of a problem task [SK8] observation of student's independent or team 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.	Students are able to cooperate with others as well as organize their work both in group and individual, especially with regard to studying American visual art and their knowledge of cultural contexts and English language.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU5] implementation of a problem task [SU8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[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.	Students are ready to assess critically their skills in and the knowledge of contemporary American visual art as well as their basic contextual knowledge of American studies with regard to history, social sciences and English language.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SK3] text preparation/written work [SK5] implementation of a problem task [SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[AMERL3_W01] Knows and understands to an advanced degree selected issues that constitute basic general knowledge of cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	Students have advanced knowledge and understanding of current American visual art with regard to cultural phenomena and processes observable in North America.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW3] text preparation/written work [SW5] implementation of a problem task
	[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.	Students are able to use and communicate their knowledge of contemporary American visual art as a basic context in studying cultural phenomena and processes observable in North America	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU3] text preparation/written work [SU5] implementation of a problem task [SU8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[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.	Students have advanced knowledge regarding basic apparatus of selected visual art perspectives applicable in studying cultural phenomena and processes observable in Northern America.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW3] text preparation/written work [SW5] implementation of a problem task

	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[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.	Students are ready to make independent decisions and to critical assessment as well as taking responsibility for their own actions and the actions of the groups they participate in, especially when studying contemporary American visual art.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/report [SK3] text preparation/written work [SK5] implementation of a problem task [SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[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.	Students have the knowledge of basic links between human and social sciences, especially they know those selected facts and terminology regarding American history, society, politics and English language which constitute necessary contextual knowledge applied in cultural phenomena and processes observable in North America.	[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report [SW3] text preparation/written work [SW5] implementation of a problem task
Subject contents	- familiarizing students with the notion of contemporary art, its role, relationship with other spheres of human activity (particularly with social and political activism), and variety both aesthetic and formal; - introducing the works of the most prominent contemporary American artists and considering their role in western contemporary art as well as in American cultural and social discourses; - analysing contemporary American artworks as a means of artistic/cultural/social communication, applying the most basic methodologies of studying culture, particularly with regard to postcolonial studies, critical race theory, feminist criticism and gender studies.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	B2 level English competency		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	attendance, group analyses of selected texts, active participation	80.0%	80.0%
	class presentation	51.0%	20.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Berger, John. The Ways of Seeing. 1972. Penguin, 2008. Meyer, Richard. What is Contemporary Art?. MIT Press, 2013. Siegel, Katy. Since '45: America and the Making of Contemporary Art. Reaktion Books, 2013.	
	Supplementary literature	Beauvoir, Simone de. The Second Sex. 1949. Translated by Constance Borde, Sheila Malovany-Chevallier, edited by Judith Thurman, Vintage, 2011. Pickering, M. (ed.), Research Methods for Cultural Studies. Edinburgh University Press, 2008, https://icst3789.files.wordpress.com/2012/01/pickering_ed_research_methods_in_cultural_studies.pdf . Bonilla-Silva, Eduardo. Racism without Racists: Color-Blind Racism and the Persistence of Racial Inequality in America. 2003. 3rd ed., Rowman & Littlefield, 2009. Butler, Judith. Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity. 1990. Routledge, 2011. Lord, Cathrine and Richard Mayers. Art and Queer Culture. Phaidon Press, 2013. Said, Edward. Covering Islam: How the Media and the Experts Determine How We See the Rest of the World. 1982. Knopf Doubleday, 2015. Said, Edward. Orientalism. 1978. Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, 2014	
	eResources addresses		
	Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	not applicable	

Work placement	Not applicable
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