

Subject card

Subject name and code	Modernism and Postmodernism in American Literature lecture, PG_00144768						
Field of study	American Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2026/2027		
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study 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	3		ECTS credits		4.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
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 hab. Arkadiusz Misztal				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	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		68.0	100
Subject objectives	The purpose of the lectures is to - to acquaint students with the history of American modernist and postmodernist literature and its ideological foundations; - to make students aware of the specific development and potential of postmodern modernist literature and its significance for US culture.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[AMERMU2_K05] Student is ready to inspire and organize activities for the dissemination of knowledge of American literature and culture and to popularize attitudes of tolerance and openness towards other cultures.	Is ready to disseminate and popularize knowledge of literature and American modernism and postmodernism, maintaining openness to different views and showing tolerance towards other cultures.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/report [SK3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_K06] Student is ready to actively participate in literary, cultural and artistic life.	Is ready to actively participate in contemporary literary life as an informed and active viewer of the literature of American modernism and postmodernism.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERMU2_U05] Student is able to communicate with diverse audiences on specialized topics concerning literary and cultural phenomena and processes in North America, using advanced terminology in literary and cultural and religious studies.	Is able to present to a diverse audience issues related to modernist and postmodernist American literature, using advanced concepts from the field of literary studies	[SU3] text preparation/written work [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_W07] Student knows and comprehensively understands selected topics representing advanced detailed knowledge of selected issues in American literature.	knows and understands in depth selected issues specific to the study of American modernism and postmodernism in the context of twentieth-century American literature.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_W01] Student knows and comprehensively understands selected issues that constitute advanced general knowledge of American literature.	knows and understands to a profound degree selected issues in American modernist and postmodernist literature	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_U06] Student is able to conduct a debate on American literature, culture and society, present and evaluate different opinions and positions and discuss them.	Is able to debate the literature of American modernism and postmodernism, present and critically evaluate various opinions and positions on literary phenomena and processes	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_K01] Student is ready to critically assess the extent of her/his knowledge and skills, especially in the fields of American literature and cultural studies, contextual knowledge of American studies and the English language.	ready to critically assess the extent of his knowledge and skills in the literature of American modernism and postmodernism	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/report [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_W13] Student knows and comprehensively understands development trends of American literature and its historical evolution.	knows and understands in-depth the development tendencies of modernist and postmodernist literature and its historical evolution	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_W11] Student knows and comprehensively understands advanced methods of analysis and interpretation specific to American literature.	knows and understands in depth advanced methods of analysis and interpretation specific to the study of American modernism and postmodernism	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_W14] Student has a structured knowledge of literary life in North America and is familiar with main institutions and major literary events.	knows the main institutions and organizations supporting and/or conducting research on American modernism and postmodernism	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_U01] Student is able to use methods and tools appropriate to literary studies and cultural and religious studies to innovatively perform analytical and interpretive tasks concerning phenomena and processes in American literature and culture.	is able to use methods used in literary studies to analyze and interpret modernist and postmodernist works	[SU3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_W05] Student knows and comprehensively understands advanced terminology in literary studies applicable to the study of American literature.	knows and understands advanced terminology in the field of literary studies applicable in the study of modernist and postmodernist literature	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW3] text preparation/written work

Subject contents	ideological context of the modernist breakthrough (pragmatism, sociology, the birth of mass culture) Imagism and early modernism of Pound and Eliot early modernism and prose "Lost Generation" modernist experiment in prose Harlem Renaissance modernist poetry postmodernist prose postmodernism in African-American and ethnic literature postmodern drama postmodern poetry		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	final exam	51.0%	60.0%
	self-reflection report	51.0%	10.0%
	written work	51.0%	30.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	Lauter, Paul (ed.). The Heath Anthology of American Literature. Vols. B and C. Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 2006. Baym, Nina (ed.). The Norton Anthology of American Literature. Vols. 1-2. Norton, 2007. Novels, short stories and dramas Sherwood Anderson, selected short stories Francis Scott Fitzgerald, title indicates Instructor. Ernst Hemingway, title indicates Instructor William Faulkner, title indicates Instructor Donald Barthelme, title indicates Instructor Don De Lillo, title indicates Instructor Thomas Pynchon, title indicates Instructor and others indicated by Instructor Poetry: Ezra Pound, selected poems T.S. Eliot, Waste Land and other poems Robert Frost, "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening, "Mending Wall, After Apple Picking, The Pasture, Fire and Ice, The Road Not Taken, Directive and other selected poems Wallace Stevens, The Snow Man, The Idea of Order at Key West and other poems William Carlos Williams, selected poems H.D., selected poems Frank O'Hara, selected poems
	Supplementary literature	Bercovitch, Sacvan (ed.). The Cambridge History of American Literature. Vol. 5. Cambridge UP, 2003. Elliott Emory (ed.). The Columbia History of the American Novel. Columbia University Press, 1991. Greil Marcus and Werner Sollors (red.). A New Literary History of America. The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2008. Bigsby, C. W. E. The Cambridge Companion to Modern American Culture. Cambridge companions to culture. Cambridge University Press, 2006. Goldfield, David, Carl Abbott, Jo Ann E. Argersinger, and others. Twentieth-Century America, 2nd edition. Pearson, 2013. Halliwell, Martin., and Catherine Morley. American Thought and Culture in the 21st Century. Edinburgh, University Press, 2008. Hart, James D. The Oxford Companion to American Literature. Oxford University Press, 1984. Hutcheon, Linda. A Poetics of Postmodernism. History, Theory, Fiction. Routledge, 1988. Kopcewicz, Andrzej, Siennicka, Maria. Historia Literatury Stanow Zjednoczonych w zarysie. (Tom 1 i 2) Warszawa: PWN, 1982, 1983. Misztal Arkadiusz: Time and vision machines in Thomas Pynchon's novels, Transatlantic Studies in British and North American Culture, nr 29, 2019, Peter Lang Publishing Group. Salska, Agnieszka (red.), Historia literatury amerykańskiej XX wieku. (Tom 1 i 2). Krakow: Universitas, 2003. and articles from electronic databases and textbooks on the history of US literature
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Modernist narrative techniques in Stein; vorticism in Pound's poetry; pastiche and intertextuality in postmodernist novels.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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