

Subject card

Subject name and code	American Film Canon I, PG_00141028						
Field of study	English Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject			2025/2026	
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group			Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group	
Mode of study	part-time studies		Mode of delivery			at the university	
Year of study	1		Language of instruction			English	
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits			2.0	
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form			credit	
Conducting unit	Institute of English and American Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Alicja Chmielek				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	14.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14
	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	14		1.0		35.0	50
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to learn about classic American cinema. Students gain knowledge of the historical, socio-political, literary and cultural contexts of classic American film genres, become familiar with the most important American film directors active in the 20th century, and learn to recognize their influences in contemporary cultural works.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[FAL3_K01] Critically evaluates the extent of their knowledge and skills, in particular in the field of the English language, linguistics and English-language literature.	Is ready to critically evaluate the extent of their knowledge and skills in the field of film studies and the history of American cinema. (K_K01)	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK3] text preparation/written work
	[FAL3_K04] Is ready to follow contemporary linguistic, literary and cultural trends in English-speaking countries and to actively participate in cultural life.	Is ready to follow contemporary cultural trends in the United States in the area of film studies and contemporary American cinema, and to actively participate in cultural life. (K_K04)	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK3] text preparation/written work
	[FAL3_U08] Talks and writes about the history, culture and realities of English-speaking countries.	Able to use and communicate in speech and in writing basic knowledge of American film studies. (K_U08)	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU3] text preparation/written work
	[FAL3_W12] Knows and understands selected issues and terminology relevant to the study of history, culture and realities of English-speaking countries, which constitute the basic context for research on the English language and English-language literature.	Knows and understands selected issues and terminology in American film studies.	[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[FAL3_W13] Knows and understands selected basic issues, concepts and terminology of the humanities and social sciences which are related to English Studies and support the professional development of an English philologist.	Knows and understands selected basic issues, concepts and terminology of American film studies.	[SW3] text preparation/written work
Subject contents	Topics discussed: - main genres and trends of American cinema (including: romantic comedy, film noir, melodrama, gangster film, western, horror, musical) - works of selected American film directors - film adaptation		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Course selection. Knowledge of English at the level of min. B1.		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	Class activity	51.0%	50.0%
	Written work	51.0%	50.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	1. Altman, Rick. <i>Film/Genre</i> . Reprinted, BFI Publishing, 2000. 2. Bordwell David, et al. <i>Film Art: An Introduction</i> . Twelfth edition. McGraw-Hill Education, 2020. 3. Lucia, Cynthia, et al., editors. <i>American Film History. Selected Readings, 1960 to the Present</i> . John Wiley & Sons, 2016. 4. Pendergast, Tom and Sara Pendergast, editors. <i>International Dictionary of Films and Filmmakers. 2. Directors</i> . Fourth edition. St. James Press, 2000.	
	Supplementary literature	Selection of films watched individually by a student, selected by the instructor.	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Gilda (1946) as an example of film noir with a femme fatale character. Cabaret (1972) as an example of breaking genre conventions in the American musical. Steven Spielberg's films. Alfred Hitchcock's films.		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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