

Subject card

Subject name and code	The canon and its margins. Queer theory and Polish literature, PG_00145285						
Field of study	Creative Writing						
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 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	1		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit	Division of History of Polish Literature -> Institute of Polish Philology -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Bartosz Dąbrowski				
	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		18.0	50
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to acquire basic knowledge of basic anthropological concepts in the field of queer theory and to skillfully apply this knowledge in interpretive practice.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[SKPL3_U05] Is able to critically recognize and creatively use the forms, conventions and artistic strategies of contemporary culture in their own texts and statements, especially those distinguished by contemporary literary studies.	The student is able to: critically recognize and creatively use in their own texts and statements the forms, conventions and artistic strategies of queer culture, especially those distinguished by contemporary literary studies (K_U05); create substantive arguments in polemics and debates, using, among others, the discourse of queer studies (K_U08).	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report [SU3] text preparation/written work [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SKPL3_W02] Knows and understands at an advanced level the most important methods and selected literary terms within the art of creative writing.	The student knows and understands at an advanced level: selected issues concerning the specificity of the subject matter (facts, objects, phenomena) and methodology (terminology, theories, methodologies) of queer studies in the field of humanities, within the art of creative writing (K_W01); the latest theories and trends in the humanities, especially in the field of queer studies (K_W03); selected contexts and cultural conditions – including social, philosophical, ethical, religious, political, legal and economic – of historical and contemporary Polish queer literature (K_W08).	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report [SW3] text preparation/written work [SW5] implementation of a problem task
	[SKPL3_K06] Is ready to enter into a partnership dialogue with representatives of different worldviews, artistic attitudes, and cultural circles, while observing the communication rules defined in modern linguistics.	The student is ready to: assess their knowledge and creative skills and the value of their own artistic, critical and applied texts, using, among others, the findings of contemporary queer theories (K_K01); active, self-aware and responsible participation in literary, cultural and social life in various roles (K_K03).	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/report [SK3] text preparation/written work [SK5] implementation of a problem task
	[SKPL3_U02] Is able to use literary and cultural methods and theories to create interpretations and assessments of literary texts.	The student is able to: use literary and cultural methods and theories, especially from the area of queer studies, to create interpretations and evaluations of literary and applied texts (K_U02); critically recognize and creatively use in their own texts and statements the forms, conventions and artistic strategies of queer culture, especially those distinguished by contemporary literary studies (K_U05); create substantive arguments in polemics and debates, using, among others, the discourse of queer studies (K_U08).	[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

Subject contents	During the classes, I will discuss the issue of the intersection of ideas about gender and sexuality with the category of nation and ethnic community using selected examples of Polish literature from the second half of the 17th century to the present day. The elective will be an attempt to read the literary canon from the perspective of queer theory, taking as a starting point George Mosse's observation about the close connection between the rules governing the expression of sexuality and the division of roles in the family and the construction of the concept of nation. Ideas about gender and sexuality occupy a central place in national ideology and for this reason are an important bond of the nationalist imagination. The issue of sexuality only seems to be marginal in fact, it is the repressed content of national ideas. I will present the issues of relations between these areas using the following issues as an example: 1. The Sarmatian homosocial continuum and its sequels 2. Romantic concepts of friendship and the culture of single men 3. Love relationships between women during the January Uprising 4. Fin de siècle sexual dissidents and the discovery of gender 5. Poetry in the interwar period and forms of sublimation 6. Early forms of emancipation and modern forms of homophobia 7. War, the body, masculinity and the other history 8. Homosexual desire and the purgatory of politics 9. Homosexual intimacy 10. Community and the scar of the other. Solidarity and the late Polish Peoples Republic 11. Languages of breakthrough and transformation 12. Stylizations. Queer and the poetry of late modernity 13. Camp 14. Community, gender and sexuality in the prose of late modernity		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
		51.0%	45.0%
		51.0%	55.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	B. W a r k o c k i, Skradziony list, czyli homoseksualność wobec kanonu. [w:] tegoż, Homo niewiadomo. Polska proza wobec odmienności, Warszawa 2007, s. 183-196. I. I w a s i ó w, Wokół pojęć: kanon, homoerotyzm, historia literatury, Katedra nr 1, 2001. W. Ś m i e j a, Kanon i kanony, czyli jak rozumieć pojęcie literatura homoseksualna, [w:] Teksty Drugie 2008 nr ½, s. 96-116. A. S n e r g l, Mąż. Koncepcja płci w Nie-Boskiej komedii Zygmunta Krasińskiego, [w:] Ciało płęć gender..., s. 69-103. M. J a n i o n, Męska wspólnota i figura matki, [w:] Niesamowita Słowiańszczyzna. Fantazmaty literatury, Kraków 2007, s. 267-274. E. K o s o f s k y S e d g w i c k, Męskie pragnienie homospołeczne i polityka seksualności, [w:] Krytyka polityczna nr 9/10 (jesień) 2005, s. 176-186. K. S z y m a n o w s k i, Szkic do mego Kaina, Symposion (fragment powieści Efebos) [w:] Pisma literackie, oprac. T. Chylińska, Kraków 1989. K. K ł o s i ń s k i, Efebos. Karola Szymanowskiego próba symbolizacji homoseksualizmu, [w:] Eros. Dekonstrukcja. Polityka, Katowice 1999, s. 41-83. G. R i t z, Oktostychy. Wewnętrzne napięcie na Parnasie, Ambivalencje Dionizosa, [w:] Jarosław Iwaszkiewicz. Pogranicza nowoczesności, przeł. A. Kopacki, Kraków 1999, s. 64-75. K ũ h l, Ciało i jego maskowanie u Gombrowicza, Teksty Drugie 1996, nr , s. 59-68. G. R i t z, Język pożądania u Witolda Gombrowicza. Tożsamość seksualna a literatura, [w:] Nić w labiryncie..., s. 196-217. E. K o s o f s k y S e d g w i c k, Gender Asymmetry and Erotic Triangles, [w:] Between Men. English Literature and Male Homosocial Desire, Columbia University Press, New York, 1985, s. 21-27. R. C i e ś l a k, Cieleśne gry wzrokowe. Estetyczne aspekty tematu homoerotycznego w poezji polskiej XX wieku, [w:] Krytyka feministyczna. Siostra teorii i historii literatury, pod red. G. Borkowskiej i L. Sikorskiej, Warszawa 2001, s. 316-327. T. K a l i ś c i a k, Odmienność jako katastrofa. Józef Czechowicz i homoseksualne kontinuum, [w:] Lektury płci. Polskie (kon)teksty, red. naukowa Mieczysław Dąbrowski, Warszawa 2008, s. 165-180. G. R i t z, Iwaszkiewicz, Breza, Mach: Niewypowiadalne pożądanie a poetyka narracji, [w:] Nić w labiryncie pożądania. Gender i płęć w literaturze polskiej od romantyzmu do postmodernizmu, Warszawa 2002, s. 177-195. R. K o r o p e c k y j, Konstrukcja homoseksualizmu w Dzienniku Jana Lechonia (próba innej lektury), Teksty Drugie 1996, nr 4. T. T o m a s i k, Katolik, pisarz, poseł, homoseksualista. Jerzy Zawieyski (1902-1969); Kronikarz. Zygmunt Mycielski (1907-1987); Prototyp konserwatywnego homoseksualisty. Jan Lechoń (1899-1956), [w:] Homobiografie. Pisarki i pisarze polscy XIX i XX wieku, Warszawa 2008, s. 100-108, 124-136, 70-81. P. S o b o l c z y k, Hermetyczne pornografie Białoszewskiego, Teksty Drugie 2006 nr 6, s. 173. E. P ł o n o w s k a Z i a r e k, Blizna cudzoziemca i barokowa fałda. Przynależność narodowa a homoseksualizm w Trans-Atlantyku Witolda Gombrowicza, [w:] Grymasy Gombrowicza, red. Ewa Płonowska-Ziarek, przekład Janusz Margański, Kraków 2001, s. 243-278. A. A m e n t a, Podwójna inność. Homoseksualność i cudzoziemskość jako figury transgresyjnego poszukiwania dialogu na przykładzie Rudolfa Mariana Pankowskiego, [w:] Unigender 1/2006 (2). A. M e d h u r s t, Kamp, przeł. P. Czapliński, [w:] Poznańskie Studia Polonistyczne. Seria Literacka XIII(XXXIII), Poznań 2006, s. 93-114. D. B e r g m a n, Kamp, przeł. Anna Mizerka, [w:] Poznańskie Studia Polonistyczne. Seria Literacka XIII(XXXIII), Poznań 2006, s. 114-125. A. S e r a f i n, Krótki kurs historii campu, [w:] CAMPania. Zjawisko campu we współczesnej kulturze, pod red. Piotra Oczki, Warszawa 2008, s. 8-19. S. S o n t a g, Notatki o campie, przeł. W. Wertenstein, Literatura na Świecie 1979, nr 9. P. P i l a r s k i, Za-gay-enie, [w:] Lektury inności, pod red. Mieczysława Dąbrowskiego i Roberta Pruszyńskiego, Warszawa 2007, s. 252-262. R. C i e ś l a k, Mężczyzna w teatrze płcikulturowej. Poetycki paradygmat pożądania homoerotycznego. (Rzecz o wierszach Jacka Dehnela), [w:] Lektury płci..., s. 355-366. M. Ż ó ł k o ś, Ktoś musi za nas to robić. Tragizm homoseksualnego pożądania w Lubiewie Michała Witkowskiego, [w:] Księga Janion, oprac. Zbigniew Majchrowski i Stanisław Rosiek, Gdańsk 2006, s. 579-587.
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	Supplementary literature After Sex? On Writing since Queer Theory, ed. Janet Halley and Andrew Parker, 2009. Leo Bersani, The Freudian Body: Psychoanalysis and Art (1986); Is a Rectum a Grave? (1987); The Culture of Redemption (1990), Homos (1995); Intimacies (2008); Is a Rectum a Grave? (2010). Judith Butler, Subjects of Desire. Hegelian Reflections in Twentieth-Century France (1987); Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity (1990); Bodies That Matter. On the Discursive Limits of Sex (1993); The Psychic Life of Power: Theories in Subjection (1997); Antigona Claim: Kinship Between Life and Death (2000); Contingency, Hegemony, Universality. Contemporary Dialogues on the Left (2000). Jan Campbell, Arguing with the Phallus. Feminist, Queer and Postcolonial Theory. A Psychoanalytic Contribution, Zed Books, London and New York 2000. Terrell Carver and Samuel Chambers, Judith Butlers Precarious Politics. Critical Encounters, Routledge, London and New York 2008. Robert W. Connell, Masculinities. (1995) Second Edition (2005). Tim Dean, Beyond Sexuality (2001) [How to Read Lacan, Lacan Meets Queer Theory]; Homosexuality and Psychoanalysis (2001), Unlimited Intimacy. Reflections on the Subculture of Barebacking, The University of Chicago Press, Chicago and London 2009. Lee Edelman, Homographesis. Essays in Gay Literary and Cultural Theory (1994); NoFuture. Queer Theory and Death Drive (2004). Feminism Meets Queer Theory, ed. Elizabeth Weed and Naomi Schor, Bloomington 1997. Michel Foucault, Abnormal. Lectures at the College de France 1974-1975, Verso London New York 2003. Stephen Frosh, Sexual Difference. Masculinity and Psychoanalysis (1994); The Politics of Psychoanalysis: An Introduction to Freudian and Post Freudian Theory (1987). Diana Fuss, Inside/Out. Lesbian Theories, Gay Theories (1991); Identification Paper. Readings on Psychoanalysis, Sexuality and Culture (1995); Essentially Speaking. Feminist, Nature and Difference (1989); The Sense of Interior: Four Rooms and the Writers that Shaped Them (2004). Linda Garber, Identity Poetics: Race, Class, and the Lesbian-Feminist Roots of Queer Theory, Columbia of University Press, New York 2001. Elizabeth Grosz, Jacques Lacan. A Feminist Introduction (1990); Sexual Subversions: Three French Feminists (1989); Space, Time and Perversion: Essays on the Politics of Bodies (1995); Animal Sex. Libido as Desire and Death (1995). Judith Halberstam, Female Masculinity (1998), The Queer Art of Failure (2011). Donald Hall, Queer Theories, Palgrave Macmillan, New York 2003. David Halperin, Saint Foucault: Towards a Gay Hagiography (1997); One Hundred Years of Homosexuality. And Other Essays on Greek Love (1989) How to Do the History of Homosexuality (2004). Lynne Huffer, Mad for Foucault. Rethinking the Foundations of Queer Theory, Columbia University Press, New York 2010. Guy Hocquenghem, Homosexual Desire (1978); The Screwball Asses (1972). Intersections Between Feminist and Queer Theory, ed. Diane Richardson, Janice McLaughlin and Mark E. Casey, Palgrave Macmillan, New York 2006. Anna Maria Jagose, Queer Theory. An Introduction (1997). Max H. Kirsch, Queer Theory and Social Change, Routledge, London and New York 2000. Eve Kosofsky-Sedgwick, Between Men: English Literature and Male Homosocial Desire (1985); Epistemology of the Closet (1991); Tendencies (1993); A Dialogue on Love (2000); Touching Feeling: Affect, Pedagogy, Performativity (2003). Alan Sinfield, Cultural Politics Queer Reading, Routledge, London and New York 2006. Bill Marshall, Guy Hocquenghem, Pluto Press, London 1996. Mario Mieli, Homosexuality and Liberation. Elements of Gay Critic (1980). Jose Esteban Munoz, Disidentifications. Queers of Color and the Performance of Politics, University of Minnesota Press Minneapolis London 1999; Cruising Utopia. The Then and There of Queer Futurity, New York University Press, New York and London 2009. V. Namaste, Invisible Lives: The Erasure of Transsexual and Transgendered People, The Chicago of University Press, Chicago 2000. V. Namaste, Sex Changes, Social Change: Reflections on Identity, Institution, Imperialism, Toronto, 2005. Teresa de Lauretis, Technologies of Gender. Essays on Theory, Film and Fiction (1987); The Practice of Love. Lesbian Sexuality and Perverse Desire (1994); Figures of Resistance. Essays in Feminist Theory (2007); Freud's Drive. Psychoanalysis, Literature and Film (2008). Ken Lewes, The Psychoanalytic Theory of Male Homosexuality (1989). Jana Sawicki, Foucault Pleasures: Desexualizing Queer Politics, in Feminism and the Final Foucault, University of Illinois Press, Urbana 2004. Sexual Orientation and Psychoanalysis. Sexual Science and Clinical Practice, ed. Richard C. Friedman and Jennifer I. Downey, Columbia University Press, New York 2002. Kaja Silverman, Male Subjectivity at the Margins (1992); The Threshold of the Visible World (1995); Flesh of My Flesh (2008). Tasmin Spargo, Foucault and Queer Theory, 1999. N. Sullivan, A Critical Introduction to Queer Theory, New York University Press, New York 2003. William Turner, A Genealogy of Queer Theory, Temple University Press, Philadelphia 2000. J. Rajchman, Truth and Eros: Foucault, Lacan, and the Question of Ethics, Routledge, New York 1991. Resources addresses	
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Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Interpretation of a selected poetic work in the context of queer theory (A. Mickiewicz, J. Słowacki, M. Komornicka, M. Konopnicka, J. Iwaszkiewicz, J. Lechoń, J. Czechowicz, M. Napierski, M. Białoszewski, E. Tkaczyszyn-Dycki, J. Dehnel, B. Konstrat). Analysis of a selected cultural artifact in the perspective of queer theory (operas by S. Moniuszko, K. Szymanowski; paintings by J. Matejko; films of the Polish Film School; theatrical productions by K. Lupa and K. Warlikowski). Analysis and interpretation of a selected prose or theatrical work (J. Słowacki, Z. Krasiński, B. Prus, J. Iwaszkiewicz, J. Andrzejewski, W. Gombrowicz, M. Dąbrowski, A. Kowalska, T. Breza, M. Witkowski, J. Dehnel).
Work placement	Not applicable

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