University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Golden Laurels: Anglophone Nobelists and Literary Legacy, PG_00191516		
Field of study	English Studies		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2024	Academic year of realisation of subject	2025/2026
Education level	Master'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	2	Language of instruction	Polish 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	dr Marina Ragachewskaya	
	Teachers	dr Marina Ragachewskaya	

Lesson types							
	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	14.0	0.0	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	2.0	59.0	75

Subject objectives	
	Developing students' competencies in analyzing the artistic features, themes, and cultural context of the works of English-language Nobel Prize laureates, fostering a deep understanding of their legacy within the context of global literary processes. Developing critical analysis skills of English-language Nobel Prize laureates through studying their biographies, major works, and the awarding mechanisms, thereby developing aesthetic taste and comparative skills.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[FAMU2_U01] Can innovatively perform analytical and interpretative tasks, formulate and solve complex and unusual problems, and set and test simple research hypotheses in the field of English linguistics and research into English literature, using the acquired subject knowledge and linguistic and literary methodological and theoretical approaches.	Is able to perform analytical and interpretative tasks in an innovative manner, formulate and solve complex and unusual problems, and formulate and test simple research hypotheses in the field of English-language literature, represented by the works of Nobel Prize winners, using the knowledge acquired in the subject and methodological and theoretical approaches in literary studies.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[FAMU2_W06] Knows and understands advanced terminology in the field of literary studies, in particular those used in the study of English-language literature.	Knows and understands at a higher level the advanced terminology in the field of literary studies, in particular that which is applicable to the study of English-language literatures, represented by the works of Nobel Prize winners.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[FAMU2_U03] Can properly select sources and evaluate, select, critically analyze and synthesize and creatively interpret information derived from them, in particular in the field of English linguistic and literary studies.	Is able to select sources appropriately and to evaluate, select, critically analyze, synthesize and creatively interpret information derived from them, particularly in the field of English literary studies, as applied to the works of English-language Nobel laureates in literature.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[FAMU2_K01] Is ready to critically evaluate the extent of their knowledge and skills, in particular in the field of English-language linguistics and literature and English.	Is ready to critically evaluate the scope of his/her knowledge and skills, particularly in the field of English-language literary studies, in particular, on the subject of the Nobel laureates in literature.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
[FAMU2_W04] Knows and understands in depth advanced research methodologies and theories in the field of literary studies relevant to the study of English-language literature.	Knows and understands in depth the advanced research methodologies and theories in literary studies relevant to the study of English-language literature as represented by the works of Nobel Prize winners.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[FAMU2_W08] Knows and understands to an in-depth extent selected issues constituting advanced detailed knowledge in the field of literary studies and English-language literatures.	Knows and understands in depth selected issues constituting advanced detailed knowledge in the field of literary studies and English-language literatures, represented by the works of Nobel Prize winners.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
[FAMU2_U06] Can communicate in speech and writing in English and Polish with diverse audiences on specialized topics in the field of linguistics and literature, also using advanced specialized terminology.	Is able to communicate with a diverse audience on specialist topics in the field of literary studies, also using advanced specialist terminology.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents

The key topics address the historical survey of Anglophone Nobel laureates; study of core literary elements in their oeuvre (imagery, symbolism, dialogue, structure, voice, etc.); introduction to literary movements and contexts (Irish Revival, Modernism, postwar existentialism, etc.); interpretation and comparative study of excerpts from works by W.B. Yeats, W. Faulkner, E. Hemingway, J. M. Coetzee, D. Lessing, Kazuo Ishiguro, etc.; evaluation of Nobel criteria, controversies, and legacies.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Knowledge of English at C2 level.

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
written test or oral colloquium	51.0%	100.0%

<table>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Recommended reading</td><td>Basic literature</td><td>1. Tenngart Paul, The Nobel Prize and the Formation of Contemporary World Literature, Bloomsbury Academic, 2023.
2. Espmark Kjell, "Nobel Prize Criteria in the 20th Century: Focus on Anglophone Laureates", Nobel Foundation Archives, Stockholm, 1994; 2001
3. Harrow Nova, Nobel Prize Winners 19252025: A Century of Genius, Peace, and Discovery. Independently published, 2025
4. Arora Jagdish Krishanlal, The Nobel Prize and Its Global Influence, Independently published, 2025
5. Yeats William Butler, The Collected Poems, Macmillan, London, 1933.
6. Faulkner William, The Sound and the Fury, Jonathan Cape, London, 1930.
7. Hemingway Ernest, The Old Man and the Sea, Scribner, New York, 1952.
8. Lessing Doris, The Golden Notebook, Michael Joseph, London, 1962
9. Coetzee John Maxwell, Disgrace, Secker & Warburg, London, 1999.
10. Ishiguro Kazuo, Never Let Me Go, Faber and Faber, London, 2005.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Supplementary literature</td><td>1. The Routledge History of Literature in English, Routledge, New York, 2017
2. Carter David R., How to win the Nobel Prize in Literature : a handbook for the would-be laureate, Hesperus Press, London, 2012
3. Feldman Burton, The Nobel Prize: A History of Genius, Controversy and Prestige, Arcade Publishing, New York,2000
4. Bloom Harold, "William Butler Yeats", in Blooms Major Poets: W.B. Yeats, Chelsea House, New York, 2006.
5. The Cambridge Companion to William Faulkner, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2007.
6. The Cambridge Companion to Kazuo Ishiguro, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2023.
7. The Cambridge Introduction to J.M. Coetzee, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2009.
8. A Companion to the British and Irish Novel 1945-2000, Blackwell, Oxford, 2004.
9. Sapiro Gisèle, "The Symbolic Economy of the Nobel Prize in Literature", Poetics, Elsevier, Amsterdam, 2023.
10. Poulton James, "The Nobel Prize in Literature: An Analysis of Success Factors", International Journal of Literature Studies, Scholarly Publishing Collective, 2023.
11. Nozen Seyedeh Zahra, "Nobel Novels of Britain: Kipling, Galsworthy, Lessing", Revista Publicando, 5(14), Guayaquil, 2018.
12. Feldman Burton, "Controversies in Nobel Literature Awards to English-Language Writers", Journal of World Literature, Brill, Leiden, 2005.
13. Espmark Kjell, The Nobel Prize in Literature: A Study of the Criteria Behind the Choices, G.K. Hall, Boston, 1991</td></tr>
<tr><td>eResources addresses</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed</td><td colspan="2">1. Nobel Prize: criteria, controversies, legacies. The problems of innovation, universal appeal, overlooked authors, political biases, etc. The laureates speeches, committee rationales, and cultural impact.
2. W. B. Yeats and the Irish Revival. The Second Coming (Easter, 1916 and other poems): symbolism, voice, and imagery. Pre- and post-independence themes.
3. W. Faulkners modernist narrative. The Sound and the Fury: stream-of-consciousness structure, multiple voices, and Southern Gothic elements.
4. E. Hemingways linguistic precision. The Old Man and the Sea: focus on dialogue, iceberg theory, and stylistic minimalism; socio-political resonance in interwar and postwar contexts.
5. J. M. Coetzees postcolonial critique. Disgrace: thematic depth in power dynamics and historical changes; the context of apartheid-era existentialism and global postcolonial theory.
6. D. Lessings thematic innovation. The Golden Notebook: experimental structure, gender politics, and psychological depth, the context of the 1960s feminist and psychological realism movements.
7. K. Ishiguros contemporary memory. Never Let Me Go: narrative unreliability, subtle voice, and themes of memory and ethics, contrasting earlier laureates styles in late 20th-century contexts.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Work placement</td><td colspan="2">Not applicable</td></tr>
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