University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Contemporary German Literature and Culture, PG_00200524		
Field of study	German Studies		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject	2026/2027
Education level	Bachelor'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	1	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	2	ECTS credits	2.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Division of German Literature and Culture -> Institute of German Philology -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr hab. Eliza Szymańska	
	Teachers	dr hab. Eliza Szymańska	

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	18.0	50

Subject objectives

The aim of the course is to familiarise students with the most important developments in German contemporary literature and culture (post-1945) in the context of world literature and taking into account the historical and cultural context. Students should learn about the processes of development of literary works and practise the ability to interpret works. In addition, the teaching of literary history should serve to improve understanding of the culture of the German-speaking area.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[NIEML3_U02] Is able to select sources correctly and apply research methods appropriate to the research skills of a historian and/or literary scholar	Able to select sources correctly and apply research methods appropriate to the research skills of a historian, linguist or literary scholar to the study of contemporary German literature and culture	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[NIEML3_U03] Is able to recognise different types of cultural production and identify their significance, social impact, place in the historical-cultural process	Be able to recognise different types of contemporary literary and cultural products and identify their significance, social impact, place in the historical-cultural process	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
[NIEML3_K03] Is aware of the importance of the cultural heritage of Europe, especially of Central and Eastern Europe and the historical and cultural landscape of the German-Polish border region; is willing to act to protect and promote this heritage	Is aware of the importance of the cultural heritage of Europe, in particular Central and Eastern Europe and the historical and cultural landscape of the German-Polish border region in cultural texts.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
[NIEML3_W05] Has an advanced knowledge of selected topics in literary studies related to the field of study	Advanced knowledge of selected topics in contemporary German literature and culture.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[NIEML3_W06] Has a structured detailed knowledge of German language communication and culture	He/She has well-structured, in-depth knowledge of contemporary German literature	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion

Subject contents

German literature after 1945 (selected issues): Literatur und die Vergangenheitsaufarbeitung - Günter Grass: Die Blechtrommel; Katz und Maus, Im Krebsgang, Beim Häuten der Zwiebel; Max Frisch: Homo faber; documentary theatre - Rolf Hochhuth: Der Stellvertreter; Peter Weiß: Die Ermittlung; post-dramatic theatre - Peter Handke: Kaspar; Heiner Müller: Hamlet/Maschine; Heinrich Böll: Ansichten eines Clowns; JurekBecker: Jakob der Lügner; Uwe Timm: Die Entdeckung der Currywurst, Am Beispiel meines Bruders; Bernhard Schlink: Der Vorleser; Tanja Dückers:HimelskörperL

German literature after 1989 (selected issues): Wendeliteratur - Thomas Brussig: Am kürzeren Ende der Sonnenallee; Jana Hansel: Zonenkinder; SvenRegener: Herr Lehmann; Claudia Rusch: Meine freie deutsche Jugend; Literatur und die Migration/Flucht - Vladimir Vertlib: Zwischenstationen; Emine Sevgi Özdamar: Die Brücke vom goldenen Horn; Saša Stanišić: Wie der Soldat das Grammofon repariert, Die Herkunft (Fragmente); Emilia Smechowski: Wir Strebermigranten; Mithu Sanyal: Identitti; Dariusz Muszer: Die Freiheit riecht nach Vanille, Radek Knapp: Der Gipfeldieb, Brygida Helbig: Engel und Schweine. In Berlin; Matthias Nawrat: Der traurige Gast; Irena Brezna: Die undankbare Fremde; Sasha Marianna Salzmann: Ausser sich, Im Menschen muss alles herrlich sein; Katja Pertowskaja: Vielleicht Esther; Olga Grjasnowa: Der Russe ist einer, der Birken liebt, Gott ist nichtschüchtern;

Prerequisites and co-requisites

no entry requirements

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
final test	51.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	Max Frisch: Homo faber, Andorra; Günter Grass: Die Blechtrommel, Katz und Maus, Im Krebsgang, Beim Häuten der Zwiebel; Rolf Hochhuth: Der Stellvertreter; Peter Weiß: Die Ermittlung; Peter Handke: Kaspar; Heiner Müller: Hamlet/Maschine; Heinrich Böll: Ansichten eines Clowns; Jurek Becker: Jakob der Lügner; Uwe Timm: Die Entdeckung der Currywurst, Am Beispiel meines Bruders; Bernhard Schlink: Der Vorleser; Tanja Dückers: Himelskörper / Thomas Brussig: Am kürzeren Ende der Sonnenallee; Jana Hansel: Zonenkinder; Sven Regener: Herr Lehmann; Claudia Rusch: Meine freie deutsche Jugend; /Jenny Erpenbeck: Aller Tage Abend; Vladimir Vertlib: Zwischenstationen; Emine Sevgi Özdamar:Die Brücke vom goldenen Horn; Saša Stanišić: Wie der Soldat das Grammofon repariert; Die Herkunft (Fragmente); Emilia Smechowski: Wir Strebermigranten; Mithu Sanyal: Identitti; Dariusz Muszer: Die Freiheitriecht nach Vanille, Radek Knapp: Der Gipfeldieb, Brygida Helbig: Engel und Schweine, Irena Brezna: Die undankbare Fremde; Sasha Marianna Salzmann: Ausser sich, Im Menschen muss alles herrlich sein; Katja Pertowskaja: Vielleicht Esther; Olga Grjasnowa: Der Russe ist einer, der Birken liebt, Gott ist nicht schüchtern
Supplementary literature	-
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed

Literature and the discourse of the past (Literatur und die Vergangenheitsaufarbeitung)

Literature of transition (Wendeliteratur)

Literature and/ or migration (Literatur und Migration)

Work placement

Not applicable

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