



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
LALI-302DL	America in Literature and Film	6
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
LALI-200DL	Languages & Literature	Spring
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Elective	Literature	English
Level of Course	Lecturer(s)	Year of Study
1 st Cycle	Dr Polina Mackay	2 nd , 3 rd
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Corequisites
Distance Learning	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are to teach students how to:

- Study a range of modern and contemporary texts and films which are centrally concerned with the idea of America as a distinct cultural space
- Explore some classic American works in relation to, among others, issues of history, race, materialism, class, violence and sexuality

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Evaluate the significance of the idea of America in modern and
2. contemporary American literature and film
3. Expand on America as myth, concept and narrative in the body of work under study
4. Situate these texts within a broader historical and cultural context,
5. Assess the major literary, theoretical and cultural movements that inform this work
6. Formulate interpretations in coherent essays, assignments and research projects.

Course Content:

1. Introduction: American Mythologies
2. The Cowboy and the Superhero
3. Film studies
4. Wonder Woman
5. The Great Gatsby (novel)
6. The Great Gatsby (films)
7. Naked Lunch (novel)
8. Naked Lunch (film)
9. The Color Purple (novel)
10. The Color Purple (film)
11. "This is what it means to say Phoenix, Arizona"
12. Smoke Signals (film)

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, forums, individual and group work.

Assessment Methods:

Essay, Course Participation, Final Exam

Required Textbooks / Reading:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Great Gatsby	F. Scott Fitzgerald	Penguin	2007	9781853260414
<i>Day of the Locust</i>	Nathaniel West	Penguin	2000	0141182881
<i>Last Exit to Brooklyn</i>	Hubert Selby	Grove	2007	9780802131379

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
America on Film	Harry Benshoff, et al.	Blackwell	2009	9781405170550

A New Introduction to American Studies	Christopher Bigsby	Pearson	2006	0582894379
Companion to American Literature and Culture	Paul Lauter			