



UNIVERSITY OF BANJA LUKA
FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY

MASTER'S STUDIES

Study programme(s) All master's degree programmes of Faculty of Philology

Course title	Contemporary Literary Theories			
Code	Status	Semester	Contact hours per week	ECTS credits
	Compulsory	1st	2+2	5
Lecturer(s)	Assoc. Prof. Saša Šmulja, Ph.D., Valentina Milekić, M.A.			

Eligibility requirements

N/A

Course objectives

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the most important aspects of literary theory and methodology of the study of literature today. In Contemporary Literary Theories students learn about a wide and diverse range of approaches to literary works, with the aim of gaining a good insight into modern theoretical and critical thought, and of acquiring quality knowledge, meant to help young philologists in academic research and writing their first papers on topics related to the study of literature.

Learning outcomes

On completing the Contemporary Literary Theories course, students will have acquired a thorough knowledge of literary theory and the ability to apply it in interpreting literary texts. They will also have developed the ability to study literary texts in a quality and comprehensive manner, by selecting for their research papers among the most up-to-date theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of literary works. In that way, the knowledge acquired in this course will help young literary scholars to join and be ready to actively participate in the work of their academic community, write and publish research papers, take part in conferences, etc.

Course topics

An overview of poetic thought from Plato and Aristotle to positivism. Theory and poetics. The anti-positivist turn. *Literary theory* and *literary theories* in the 20th century. Psychoanalytic, archetypal and myth criticism. Stylistics as literary criticism. Russian formalism. Bakhtin. New Criticism. Phenomenology. Hermeneutics. Semiotics. Structuralism. Poststructuralism. Reception theory. Deconstruction. Marxist and neo-Marxist literary criticism. Pragmatism. Postcolonial theory and criticism. Feminist theory and criticism. Gender and queer studies. Comparative literary studies. Imagology and collective mentality studies. Intertextuality. Intermediality. Narratology. Cultural studies. New historicism and cultural materialism. Postmodern literary theory. Post-theory.

Teaching methods and strategies

Lectures, seminars, discussion sessions.

Course reading list

1. Šutić, Miloslav [ed.]. (2004). *Književne teorije XX veka*, Zbornik radova, Beograd: Institut za književnost i umetnost.
2. Lešić, Zdenko, et al. (2006). *Suvremena tumačenja književnosti i književnokritičko naslijeđe XX stoljeća*, Sarajevo: Sarajevo Publishing.
3. Burzyńska, Anna, Michał Paweł Markowski. (2009). *Književne teorije XX veka*, s poljskog prevela Ivana Đokić, Beograd: Službeni glasnik.
4. Selden, Raman, et al. (2005). *A Reader's Guide to Contemporary Literary Theory*, Edinburgh: Pearson.
5. Eagleton, Terry. (1987). *Književna teorija*, s engleskog prevela Mia Pervan-Plavec, Zagreb: Liber.
6. Milosavljević, Petar. (2000). *Metodologija proučavanja književnosti*, Beograd: Trebnik.
7. Grubačić, Slobodan. (2006). *Aleksandrijski svetionik: tumačenja književnosti od Aleksandrijske škole do postmoderne*, Beograd, Sremski Karlovci, Novi Sad: Izdavačka knjižarnica Zorana Stojanovića.
8. Kompanjon, Antoan. (2001). *Demon teorije*, Novi Sad: Svetovi.
9. Doležel, Lubomir. (2013). *Poetike Zapada*, Beograd: Službeni glasnik.
10. Biti, Vladimir. (1997). *Pojmovnik suvremene književne teorije*. Zagreb: Matica hrvatska.
11. Stojanović Pantović, Bojana, et al. [ed.]. (2011). *Pregledni rečnik komparatističke terminologije u književnosti i kulturi*, Novi Sad: Akademska knjiga.
12. Beker, Miroslav [ed.]. (1979). *Povijest književnih teorija (od antike do kraja devetnaestog stoljeća)*. Zagreb: Liber.
13. Beker, Miroslav [ed.]. (1986). *Suvremene književne teorije*, Zagreb: Liber.
14. Đurčinov, M., et al. (1988). *Moderna tumačenja književnosti*, Sarajevo: Svjetlost.
15. Birns, Nicholas. (2010). *Theory After Theory: An Intellectual History of Literary Theory from 1950 to the Early 21st Century*. New York: Broadview Press.

Assessment and marking

Term paper, mid-term test, class participation, written and oral exam.

Class attendance and active participation	10%
Mid-term test	20%
Term paper	20%
End-of-course exam	50%

Special course designation

Syllabus information provided by: Assoc. Prof. Saša Šmulja, Ph.D.

