

**Course title:** American Cultural Studies IV: Critical Theory

**Course code:** SA0941

**Type of course:** compulsory

**Level of course:** BA

**Year of study:** 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Semester:** 4<sup>th</sup>

**Name of the lecturer:** Codrin Liviu Cuțitaru

**Number of ECTS credits allocated:** 5

**Course objective:** Develop general knowledge of students on Modern and Postmodern American critical theory.

**Course contents:** Introduction, Psychoanalysis (Freud – The Uncanny si Creative Writers and Daydreaming; C.G.Jung – On the Relation of Analytical Psychology to Poetry), Case Studies. Hamlet, Jane Eyre, Wuthering Heights, Feminism. (V.Woolf – A Room of One's Own, S.de Beauvoir – The Second Sex, E.Showalter – Toward a Feminist Poetics, S.M.Gilbert – Literary Paternity), Case Studies. Vanity Fair, Macbeth, Structuralism. (F.de Saussure – Course in general Linguistics, C.L.-Strauss – The Structural Analysis of Myth, R.Barthes – The Death of the Author, The Structuralist Activity), Case Studies. 465, The Raven, Deconstructivism (F.Nietzsche – Truth and Falsity in an Ultramoral Sense, J.Derrida – Of Grammatology. P.de Man – Semiology and Rhetoric), Case Studies. The Cask of Amontillado, Hamlet, Marxism. (K.Marx – German Ideology, M.Bakhtin – Discourse in the Novel, G.Bataille – The Notion of Expenditure), Case Study. Wuthering Heights (Terry Eagleton – Myth of Power in 'Wuthering Heights'), Cultural Studies. (M.Foucault – Truth and Power, What is an Author?), Case Study. King Lear, Case Study. Great Expectations, Vanity Fair.

**Recommended reading:** *Critical Terms for Literary Study*. Ed.by F.Lentricchia. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1991; *A Glossary of Literary Criticism*. By J.Hawthorn. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1992; *Critical Theory Since Plato*. Ed.by H Adams. NY: Brace Jovanovich College Publ., 1994; *Critical Theory Since 1965*. Ed.by H.Adams & Leroy Searle. Tallahassee: Florida State UP, 1996

**Teaching methods:** lectures, seminars

**Assessment methods:** written/oral exam

**Language of instruction:** English