

Course title: American Studies: "Old" and "New" Paradigms: *American Typologies*

Course code: MSA0811

Type of course: compulsory

Level of course: MA

Year of study: 1st

Semester: 1st

Number of ECTS credits allocated: 6

Name of the lecturer: Codrin Liviu Cuțitaru

Course objective: To develop the knowledge on *identitary* terminology in the American culture and literature; to understand American liberalism as a mental and spiritual element included in ethnogenesis; to develop the knowledge on American art as interdisciplinary phenomenon.

Course contents: Fictional and historical America: John Smith and Th.Morton. The New Canaan. The religious experiment; The Puritan Experiment; the Gulf Colony, the Massachusetts colony; religious America; The Great Awakening: Edwards, American rationalism, the new mentality; The Great Crisis: the Revolution, the Independence, the Founding Fathers (Jefferson, Franklin); American Liberalism: the Constitution, industrialization, the legal system: Modern America: denying the European model, the great prophets, psychological expansion; Pre-modern American Culture: the pioneers of literature, prairie literature; Modern American Culture: the Romantics (Poe, Melville, Hawthorne), vertical constructions; Transcendentalism: Emerson, Thoreau, Whitman; 20th century culture: alienation, revolt; Postmodernism: Barthes, Hassan; the „Death of the author“: campus literature, the academic diary; The death of literature: Lentricchia.

Recommended reading: *Finding Freedom*. J.H.McElroy. Illinois UP, Chicago, 1991; *The Norton Anthology of American Civilisation*. Ed.J.Pope. Norton Comp.: NY, 1992; *The History of America*. Ed. E.Dryden.Arizona UP, Tucson, 1994; *The Making of America*. Ed.Ivonne Bryant. UP of America, NY, 1981; *The Americans*. David Boorstine. Yale UP, New Haven, 1976; *The Insular Dream*. Paul Smith. Harvard UP, Cambridge, 1991

Teaching methods: lecture, discussions

Assessment methods: written exam, essay

Language of instruction: English