

**Course title:** Evolution of Literature: Diachrony of Forms and Genres

**Course code:** MCEN0822

**Type of course:** compulsory

**Level of course:** MA

**Year of study:** 1<sup>st</sup>

**Semester:** 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Number of ECTS credits allocated:** 7

**Name of the lecturer:** Radu Andriescu

**Course objective:** The course offers the students a perspective upon the American fiction of the last decades, with emphasis on the cultural diversity of the United States. Multicultural awareness will be enhanced. Intellectual flexibility, openness to new ideas and an ability to adapt to a changing cultural environment are encouraged.

**Course contents:** Short stories by a number of male and female writers are analysed, the authors being selected according to two criteria: power of innovation and diversity. Authors to be studied: 1 Saul Bellow, 2 Bernard Malamud, 3 E.L. Doctorow, 4 Richard Ford, 5 Raymond Carver, 6 Charles Bukowski, 7 John Barth and Donald Barthelme, 8 Alexie Sherman, 9 Mukherjee Bharati, 10 David Louie Wong and Min Jin Lee, 11 Sandra Cisneros and Junot Diaz, 12 Edward P. Jones.

**Recommended reading:** Williford, Lex, Michael Martone, *The Scribner Anthology of contemporary Short fiction*, Scribner Paperback Fiction, Simon & Schuster, New York, 1999; Geyh, Paula, Fred G. Leebron, Andrew Levy, *Postmodern American Fiction. A Norton Anthology*, W.W. Norton & Company, New York, London, 1998

**Teaching methods:** lectures, workshops

**Assessment methods:** (a) midterm examination (written); (b) final examination (written)

**Language of instruction:** English