

Course title: American Cultural Studies III. Gender Studies

Course code: SA0931

Type of course: compulsory

Level of course: BA

Year of study: 2nd

Semester: 3rd

Number of ECTS credits allocated: 5

Name of the lecturer: Odette Blumenfeld

Course objective: The aim of the course is to familiarize the students with the well-known critical and theoretical concepts in gender and sexuality studies and to guide them in reading and interpreting fundamental texts. The students will be encouraged to apply the information acquired on relevant literary texts .

Course contents: The course is based on concepts such as gender, sex, sexuality, subject, heterosexuality, homosexuality, identity, narcissism, femininity, masculinity; on the works of famous theoreticians of psychoanalysis (Freud, Lacan), and of some promoters of feminism (Kristeva, Cisoux, Irigaray, Showalter); on a brief history of feminism as political activism in America and on a brief presentation of the efforts to recognize the fundamental rights of sexual minorities in the United States.

Recommended reading: Abelove, Henry, Alina Barale Michèle și David Halperin (editori), 1993. *The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader*. London: Routledge; Braidotti, Rosi, 1994. *Nomadic Subjects: Embodiment and Sexual Difference in Contemporary Feminist Theory*. New York: Columbia University Press; Butler, Judith, 1990. *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. London: Routledge; Jaggar, Alison and Bordo, Susan (editoare), 1989. *Gender/Body/Knowledge: Feminist Reconstructions of Being and Knowing*. New Jersey: Rutgers University Press; Kauffman, Linda (editor), 1993. *American Feminist Thought at Century's End: A Reader*, London: Blackwell

Teaching methods: lectures, debates, case studies (literary analyses)

Assessment methods: (a) mid-term test (written) and seminar participation (40%) and (b) final test (60%)

Language of instruction: English