

**Course title:** Special Course and Seminar of English Literature: Modernist Aesthetics in the British Arts

**Course code:** MCEN0944

**Type of course:** compulsory

**Level of course:** MA

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

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

**Number of ECTS credits allocated:** 7

**Name of the lecturer:** Dana Bădulescu

**Course objective:** Course of lectures given in English aimed at familiarizing students with the new aesthetics of modernism, with examples from literature and the arts, focusing upon the importance of their iconoclastic and heterodox spirit. The interactive approach is used with a view to improving the students' skills of debating and arguing coherently in English about various aspects of modernist aesthetics.

**Contents:** Informing students about the major and radical paradigm shift known as modernism through the articulation of aesthetics which were in marked opposition with the norms and codes of tradition. Some lectures will debate the cultural shock of modernism starting from Virginia Woolf's manifesto "Mr. Bennett and Mrs. Brown", urbanist arts and aesthetics, the bohemian spirit of the Bloomsbury Group, the main promoter of modernism in the London of the 1920s. Some other lectures will introduce the main modernist avant-gardes and principles of modernist aesthetics: collage/montage, modernist abstractionism and primitivism.

**Recommended reading:** Bucknell, Brad, *Literary Modernism and Musical Aesthetics: Walter Pater, Ezra Pound, James Joyce and Gertrude Stein*, CUP, 2001; Dowling, David, *Bloomsbury Aesthetics and the Novels of Forster and Woolf*, St. Martin's Press, New York, 1985; Goldman, Jane, *The Feminist Aesthetics of Virginia Woolf: Modernism, Post-Impressionism and the Politics of the Visual*, Cambridge: CUP, 1998; Matz, Jesse, *Literary Impressionism and Modernist Aesthetics*, CUP, 2001; Schwartz, Stanford, *The Matrix of Modernism: Pound, Eliot, and Early Twentieth-Century Thought*, Princeton University Press, 1985

**Teaching methods:** lectures, interactive approaches, portfolio presentations

**Assessment:** (a) mid-term (written) test; (b) final (written) test

**Teaching language:** English