

Course title: Optional Literature Course: *The American South*

Course code: EN1066 (B)

Type of course: optional

Level of course: BA

Year of study: 3rd

Semester: 6th

Number of ECTS credits allocated: 5

Name of the lecturer: Iulia Milică

Course objective: The main purpose of the course is to familiarize the students with the cultural diversity of the United States by introducing them to the different subcultures, cultural regions and their distinctive traits. Afterwards, the students will be able to understand the American South as a distinct geographical and mental region. This type of approach will diversify their analytic abilities which will help them understand the cultural complexity of the American South: history, geography, politics, economy, literature.

Course contents: The course is thematically organized as follows: the geography and history of the American South; Southern literature: continuity and specificity; the South as real and imaginary world; history, myth, nostalgia and fiction; the Civil War in history and fiction; social structure and racial relationships; from slavery to Civil Rights; the creole world; the South in the 20th century – new perspectives. These themes will be discussed and analyzed in connection to representative works of such authors as Thomas Nelson Page, Augustus Longstreet, Mark Twain, Kate Chopin, George Washington Cable, William Faulkner, Flannery O'Connor, Katherine Anne Porter, Eudora Welty, Alice Walker.

Recommended reading: Conn, Peter, *O Istorie a Literaturii Americane*, trad. și note de Cosana Nicolae și Dalida Pavlovici, Editura Univers, București, 1996; Hoffman, Frederick, *The Art of Southern Fiction. A Study of Some Modern Novelists*, Carbondale and Edwardsville, Southern Illinois University Press, Feffer & Simon Inc., 1967; Rubin Jr., Louis D. (ed.), *The American South. Portrait of a Culture*, United States Information Agency, Forum Reader Series, Washington, 1991; Rupp, Richard, *Celebration in Postwar American Fiction*, University of Miami Press, Coral Gables; Stanciu, Virgil, *Orientări în literatura sudului american*, Editura Dacia, Cluj-Napoca, 1977

Teaching methods: lectures, workshops

Assessment methods: mid-term essay; final (written) test

Language of instruction: English