



Welcome to study at the Faculty of Languages at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń!



Adress: Faculty of Languages, Fosa Staromiejska 3, 87-100 Toruń, Poland

Website: www.fil.umk.pl/en,

Email: Dziekanat\_WF@umk.pl

Erasmus+ Coordinator at the Faculty of Languages: dr Jarosław Hetman, jarekhetman@umk.pl





Candidates are most welcome to study at the Faculty of Languages at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń. NCU is one of the leading academic centres in Poland and it is located in the beautiful Gothic city that can take pride in its extensive cultural life and modern facilities. The Faculty itself is strongly connected with the city which was entered in the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage Register in 1997. In 2012 and 2013 the Faculty was one of the winners of the best undergraduate study programmes competition organised by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education.

By studying languages and cultures, the students of the Faculty will receive a solid knowledge and skills that are highly appreciated on the European labour market. Graduates of language and culture studies can pursue their professional paths as journalists, translators, diplomatic staff, teachers, animators of culture, specialists in legal language or copywriters. The Faculty provides opportunities to develop professional linguistic competence, a deep insight into the cultures of antiquity, Poland, European and non-European countries (such as Australia, Japan, Canada, and the United States) as well as the Arab countries.



Spanish French German Chinese Polish

English
Japanese
Russian
Classical
Romance

The Faculty enables its students to develop their research passions and interests through taking part in the activities of 30 research and artistic clubs and associations. Foreign students are offered support and assistance in finding accommodation in student dormitories.

Not only do experienced and professional university teachers share their knowledge and experience with students but also help them in everyday issues. Nearly all major language studies, including these in English, Balkan, German, Classical, Polish, Romance, and Russian, as well as culture studies can be taken as first and second cycle studies. and Italian The Japanese studies. Mediterranean studies applied linguistics (French with Arabic Spanish, and Italian with Spanish) offer first cycle programmes. The Faculty also runs courses for persons who want to learn Chinese

The Faculty of Languages has been working very actively within the Erasmus Lifelong Learning Programme. Several hundreds of the Faculty's students have gone abroad to study at foreign universities since 1998, and the Faculty admitted foreign students who expressed their willingness to study foreign languages and the Polish language. At present, the Faculty cooperates with sixty foreign partners (mostly from Turkey, France, Italy and Germany).





# WINTER SEMESTER

Editing literatures in English across Cultures: Theory and Practice	Grzegorz Koneczniak
Introduction to Analysis of the Texts in the First Literary Language of the Slavs	Arleta Szulc
Music in TV Series: Analysis of Case Studies	Małgorzata Lisecka
Contemporary American Literary Essay	Jarosław Hetman
Languages of Ancient Coins	Bartosz Awianowicz
Language, Culture and Identity. Ethnic Minorities in Poland	Michał Głuszkowski





# SUMMER SEMESTER

Sublime in Culture: Literature and Plastic Arts	Dariusz Pniewski
What Is the Source of Human Language and How Children Learn to Speak	Krystyna Bojałkowska
Identity and Improvisation. The Cultural History of Jazz	Dariusz Brzostek
Carnival in Culture - Carnivalisation in Literature	Anna Skubaczewska-Pniewska
Socio-political and Cultural Changes in Post-Yugoslavia States	Agata Domachowska
Language in Communication: How It Works	Izabela Duraj-Nowosielska



# **ABSTRACTS**

#### WINTER SEMESTER

#### Grzegorz Koneczniak (20 h / 4 ECTS)

#### Editing literatures in English across Cultures: Theory and Practice

The aim of the course is to discuss selected typographical and editorial aspects pertaining to the creation, publication and distribution of literary works and cultural artefacts in English. The main focus is on the paratextual features of literary works and cultural artefacts in the context of their existence and use in different contexts and environments. The course participants will also develop basic desktop and digital publishing skills in designing covers, posters, blurbs, cultural and literary ephemera (show bills and programmes), and even short literary works.

### Arleta Szulc (20 h / 4 ECTS)

Introduction to Analysis of the Texts in the First Literary Language of the Slavs
The course "Introduction to Analysis of the Texts in the First Literary Language of the
Slavs" aims at providing a basic theoretical knowledge on: (1) circumstances and
conditions of the origin and development of the first Slavic literary language, (2)
characteristic features (graphic, phonetic, morphological, syntactic) of the texts created
in the language, (3) the importance of OCS to the evolution of Slavic languages and
acquiring a practical ability to analyse the forms contained in excerpts from OCS texts as
well.

## Małgorzata Lisecka (20 h / 4 ECTS)

### Music in TV Series: Analysis of Case Studies

Although the study of film and television series music is conducted with similar tools, the latter is characterised by a series of specific traits, such as the opening credits, using parts of the previous episodes as a resume, connecting vast fields of narration with lead themes and making references to various cinematic genres within the TV series.

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# Jarosław Hetman (20 h / 4 ECTS)

## Contemporary American Literary Essay

The seminar attempts to introduce the students to an interesting and relatively distinctive genre of American letters, the literary essay. A combination of classical journalism and literary narrative techniques, the literary essay ties in with a century-long tradition of bringing together fact and fiction in American literature. The classes will cover the work of David Foster Wallace and essays edited by his close friend and collaborator, Jonathan Franzen.

### Bartosz Awianowicz (20 h / 4 ECTS) Languages of Ancient Coins

The purpose of the course is to provide the Erasmus+ students with knowledge about ancient alphabets, geography of the ancient world and especially about ancient coins from the beginning of the coinage in the 7th century BC towards the end of the 5th century AD from a linguistic, palaeographic and epigraphic perspective.

#### Michał Głuszkowski (20 h / 4 ECTS)

#### Language, Culture and Identity. Ethnic Minorities in Poland

The lecture characterises various aspects of minority ethnic groups' life. Although national and ethnic minorities constitute less than 5% of the whole population of Poland, their social and cultural life is relatively vivid. During the lectures students get to know the minority groups' language situation, social problems and cultural identity. Their legal and political situation as well as relations with the majority are also characterised.

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#### SUMMER SEMESTER

#### Dariusz Pniewski (20 h / 4 ECTS)

#### **Sublime in Culture: Literature and Plastic Arts**

The course is dedicated to the analysis of the sublime (aesthetic and philosophical category) and relations between culture, religion and politics. It will present concepts and definitions of sublime, and (widely understood) postsecularism, theoaesthetics, political theology as well as the origins of such phenomena and their relevance.

#### Krystyna Bojałkowska (20 h / 4 ECTS)

### What Is the Source of Human Language and How Children Learn to Speak

The lecture is devoted to the phenomenon of human speech. The following issues will be discussed: – The origin of human speech;

- Typology of contemporary used languages in the world;
- Differences between human languages and animal communication systems;
- Neurobiological mechanisms responsible for human language and some effects of damage to these mechanisms (e.g. aphasia);
- Acquisition of a native language by a child (from birth to achieving communication skills allowing for efficient communication in the mother tongue early school age);
- Factors conditioning speech development and their impact on communication skills of people in later life.

On the lecture many audiovisual materials and other types of aids (e.g. the neuroanatomical model of the human brain) will be used.

### Dariusz Brzostek (20 h / 4 ECTS)

### Identity and Improvisation. The Cultural History of Jazz

The theme of this course is an introduction to cultural history of jazz music, including the problems such as: the history of the African diaspora in America, the African-American roots of jazz music (negro spirituals, plantation songs, blues, ragtime), the origin of swing and big band era, bebop and cool jazz, problems of improvisation – free jazz and freely improvised music in the USA and Europe, jazz in Poland and the countries of the Eastern Bloc, Great Black Music (AACM in Chicago), afrofuturism – jazz electronic and technology, jazz and rock Fusion, the future of jazz.

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**Faculty of Languages** 

#### Anna Skubaczewska-Pniewska (20 h / 4 ECTS Carnival in Culture - Carnivalisation in Literature

The aim of the course is to present a brief history of carnival and carnival-type celebrations (eg. feast of fools, feast of the ass). The course also includes a detailed presentation and discussion of Bakhtin's theory of carnival as well as an analysis of carnivalesque literature (e.g. F. Rabelais, "Gargantua and Pantagruel", F. Dostoyevsky, "The Village of Stepanchikovo, "Bobok", "The Dream of Ridiculous Man", M. Bulgakov, "The Master and Margarita", V. Ruczinski, "The Return of Woland or New Diaboliad", S. Mrożek, "Tango", W. Gombrowicz, "Diary", "Operetta") and painting (H. Bosh, "The Garden of Earthly Delights", P. Breugel, "The Fight Between Carnival and Lent").

#### Agata Domachowska (20 h / 4 ECTS)

#### Socio-political and Cultural Changes in Post-Yugoslavia States

This course aims to present to the student the following topics:

- 1. The creation of Yugoslavia
- 2. 'After Tito' the causes of Yugoslavia's disintegration
- 3. Wartime Part I Slovenia, Croatia, Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
- 4. War in Bosnia and the Conference in Dayton & Conflict in Kosovo
- 5. The post-Yugoslav states and the Euro-Atlantic integration & The post-Yugoslav states and regional cooperation
- 6. Yugo-nostalgia as a social and cultural phenomenon
- 7. The status of minorities in post-Yugoslav states & The role of religion in post-Yugoslav states
- 8. Diasporas and the post-Yugoslav states connection or disconnection?
- 9. The aftermath of decades of wars and conflicts any chance for reconciliation and good neighbor relations? (debate)
- 10. The final exam

### Izabela Duraj-Nowosielska (20 h / 4 ECTS) Language in Communication: How It Works

A series of conversational lectures is dedicated to those who would like to get some basic knowledge of the most important instrument they use in everyday interpersonal interactions, i.e. language – both in its theoretical aspect (how this "machinery" works while producing utterances) and practical one (how it works in particular communicative situations). The lecture consists of 3 parts. The first one is planned as a general introduction to linguistics. The second part refers to the problems of linguistic pragmatics. The final part refers directly to contemporarily burning issues of ethical use of language, especially in the context of public interactions: it focuses mostly on persuasive speech genres and from ethical perspective it presents in detail some mechanisms of language persuasion and manipulation.



# Grzegorz Koneczniak (60 h / 8 ECTS) Academic English in multicultural perspectives\*

The course aims to involve students in a discussion of topical issues from multicultural standpoints. It offers a variety of topics related to such areas as culture, communication, arts, films and literature, media and technology. Course activities will also include the use of grammar and vocabulary in academic contexts, both spoken and written. Students are welcome to share and exchange their ideas in a multicultural university environment and by means of communicative language skills and competencies in English, developed at CEFR B2 level (IELTS band: 6).

\* Please kindly note that this course is addressed only to students coming from universities with which The Faculty of Languages signed a bilateral agreement.

# How to apply?

#### ACADEMIC YEAR

Winter Semester: from October to mid-February
Summer Semester: from mid-February to the end of June

DEADLINES FOR APPLICATIONS

1 JUNE – full academic year or frst semester students

1 NOVEMBER – second semester students.

The more detailed description may be found at http://www.umk.pl/en/erasmus/students/applying/

