

A COURSE SYLLABUS – DOCTORAL SCHOOL
regarding the qualification cycle from 2025/2026 to 2028/2029

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT COURSE				
Course title	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY			
Name of the unit running the course	Doctoral School of the University of Rzeszów			
Type of course (<i>obligatory, optional</i>)	compulsory			
Year and semester of studies	I year/I and II semester			
Discipline	literary studies			
Language of Course	Polish language			
Name of Course coordinator	Anna Jamrozek-Sowa			
Name of Course lecturer	Anna Jamrozek-Sowa			
Prerequisites	Knowledge, skills and social competences related to the methodology of conducting scientific research, achieved at level 7 of the Polish Qualifications Framework in the discipline of literary studies.			
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE (100-200 words)				
<p>The course 'Research Methodology' serves to consolidate and deepen the doctoral student's knowledge of the principles, procedures and techniques of conducting research in the field of literary studies. The classes focus on the successive stages of the research process: project planning, selection of appropriate interpretative methods, analysis of research material and critical evaluation of the results obtained. Particular emphasis is placed on the conscious and reflective use of contemporary humanistic methodologies, including cultural studies, hermeneutics and historicism, as well as critical and posthumanist approaches such as ecocriticism, geopoetics, animal studies, feminist and intersectional criticism, memory studies, postcolonialism, psychoanalysis, and affective and spatial turns.</p> <p>The aim of the course is to develop the ability to construct a coherent methodological basis for research, enabling the adequate resolution of research problems and the formulation of reliable and objective scientific conclusions.</p>				
COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND METHODS OF EVALUATING LEARNING OUTCOMES				
Learning outcome	The description of the learning outcome defined for the course	Relation to the degree programme outcomes (symbol)	Learning Format (Lectures, classes,...)	Method of assessment of learning outcomes (e.g. test, oral exam, written exam, project,...)
Knowledge (no.)	knows and understands, has knowledge			
P8S_WG3	Knows, understands and uses specialist terminology used in the national and international scientific and professional environment in the scientific discipline of literary studies, in which scientific research is planned.	P8S_WG	Conversatory	project, discussion
P8S_WG4	Has extensive knowledge of the applied research methodology in the discipline of literary studies, using interdisciplinary research tools and techniques to obtain the most reliable and objective research results.	P8S_WG	Conversatory	written assignments, project

P8S_WK3	Has extensive knowledge of the possibilities of transferring the results of their scientific activity to the economic and social spheres.			P8S_WK	Conversatory	written assignments, project
Skills (no.)	can					
P8S_UW1	He is able to skilfully use interdisciplinary knowledge to define and practically solve research problems encountered by: determining the objective, subject and research hypothesis, developing innovative research methods, techniques and tools, and formulating conclusions based on the research results obtained.			P8S_UW	Conversatory	project, discussion
P8S_UK1	Is able to participate actively in debates in national and international scientific and professional circles, sharing the results of their research work.			P8S_UK	Conversatory	written assignments, project
P8S_UO1	Acts in a planned and responsible manner, undertaking work in national and international scientific bodies; performs various roles in individual and team research projects.			P8S_UO	Conversatory	written assignments, project
Social competence (no.)	is ready to					
P8S_KR1	Strengthen and develop the ethos of research communities, including creative ones, including conducting scientific and artistic activities independently, taking into account the principles of intellectual property protection and the principles of public ownership of research results.			P8S_KR	Conversatory	project, discussion
Semester (no.)	Lectures	seminar	Conversatory / Lab classes	Internships	others	ECTS
I	-	-	-	-	30	3
II	-	-	-	-	30	3
total:	-	-	-	-	60	6
METHODS OF INSTRUCTION						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TRADITIONAL SEMINAR; - SEMINAR WITH MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION; - PROJECT; - DISCUSSION 						
COURSE CONTENT						
<p>The programme content is delivered through systematic reading and analysis of monographs, chapters of monographs and articles indicated in the reading list, published in Polish and English.</p> <p>The course is devoted to the discussion and critical analysis of contemporary methodologies of literary research, with particular emphasis on approaches useful in the study of horror literature, folk and regional narratives, and the relationship between literature and space, memory and affect. The classes prepare students to independently and consciously construct the methodological basis for their doctoral dissertation.</p> <p>Semester I:</p> <p>Classical and critical interpretative methodologies</p> <p>1. Methodology of literary research: theory, method, interpretation; research project and its assumptions.</p>						

2. Hermeneutics and historicism in contemporary literary studies; cultural and historical context of horror narratives.
3. Cultural studies and anthropology of literature; horror literature as a cultural practice.
4. Mythographic criticism and studies of folk imagination; figures of myth, demonology and beliefs in folk horror prose.
5. Psychoanalysis in horror studies; the uncanny, fear and affective mechanisms of the text.
6. Feminist and intersectional criticism; gender, body, power and marginalisation in folk narratives.
7. Postcolonialism and studies of peripherality; centre–periphery, province, rurality and ‘internal colonialisms’.

Semester II:

Methodological turns and spatial-affective perspectives

1. The spatial turn; space, place and landscape as categories of literary analysis.
2. Geopoetics; topographies of horror, locality, region and ‘non-places’ in Polish prose after 2000.
3. Eco-criticism and anthropocene studies; environment, nature and catastrophe as sources of fear and anxiety.
4. Animal studies; animality, interspecies relations and posthuman figures of horror.
5. Affective turn; emotions, atmosphere and reading experience in folk horror and folk noir literature.
6. Posthumanism; deconstruction of anthropocentrism and new ontologies of the subject in horror narratives.
7. Horror as an aesthetic and cultural category; folk horror and folk noir as forms of social diagnosis.
8. Hybrid and interdisciplinary methodologies; combining spatial, affective and cultural perspectives in literary analysis.

COURSE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The course is taught in semesters I and II; after semester I, the course ends with a ZO1 grade, and after semester II, it ends with an E2 examination. Classes are conducted in direct contact between the doctoral student and the supervisor.

In order to pass the course after semester I, a report on the completion of the task must be submitted.

In order to pass the exam after semester II, at least

51% of the points must be obtained in a written test checking the knowledge of the methodologies used in literary studies discussed during the course.

In order to obtain a positive grade, the following conversion table is used for the corresponding percentage of points obtained:

- up to 50% - unsatisfactory (the doctoral student is not making progress in scientific research, is not expanding their knowledge, is not studying the reading list, is not participating in substantive discussions, is not fulfilling their scientific obligations);

- 51% - 60% - satisfactory (the doctoral student makes negligible progress in scientific research, expands their knowledge, studies basic literature, the discussion is limited to a narrow range of substantive knowledge, fulfils basic scientific duties);

- 61% - 70% - satisfactory plus (the doctoral student is making progress in scientific research, expanding their knowledge, studying basic literature, participating substantively in discussions, fulfilling their scientific duties);

- 71% - 80% - good (the doctoral student makes significant progress in scientific research, expands their knowledge, studies basic and supplementary literature, participates substantively in discussions, fulfils all scientific duties);

- 81% - 90% - good plus (the doctoral student makes significant progress in scientific research, systematically expands their knowledge, studies basic and supplementary literature, participates substantively in discussions, fulfils all scientific duties);

- 91% - 100% - very good (the doctoral student makes significant progress in scientific research, systematically expands their knowledge, studies basic, supplementary and advanced literature, participates substantively in discussions, fulfils all scientific obligations);

**TOTAL PhD STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE THE INTENDED LEARNING
OUTCOMES
– NUMBER OF HOURS AND ECTS CREDITS**

Activity

Number of hours

Scheduled course contact hours	2 x 30 hrs. – 60 hrs.
Other contact hours involving the teacher (consultation hours, examinations)	4
Non-contact hours – student`s own work (preparation for classes or examinations, project, etc.)	116 hrs
Total number of hours	180 hrs.
Total number of ECTS credits	6 ECTS

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Compulsory literature:	<p>Bacon S. (ed.), <i>Future Folk Horror: Contemporary Anxieties and Possible Futures</i>, Lexington Books, Londyn 2023.</p> <p>Balanzategui J., Craven A. (ed.), <i>Monstrous Beings and Media Cultures. Folk Monsters, Im/materiality, Regionality</i>, Routledge 2025.</p> <p>Brzostek D., <i>Literatura i nierozum: antropologia fantastyki grozy</i>, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Uniwersytetu Mikołaja Kopernika, Toruń 2009.</p> <p>Burzyńska A., Markowski M.P., <i>Teorie literatury XX wieku. Antologia</i>, Znak, Kraków 2006.</p> <p>Burzyńska A., Markowski M.P., <i>Teorie literatury XX wieku. Podręcznik</i>, Znak, Kraków 2006.</p> <p>Czyżak A., <i>Przestrzenie w tekście, w przestrzeni tekstów</i>, Wydawnictwo Naukowe UAM, Poznań 2018.</p> <p>Evans E.F. (ed.), <i>Space and Literary Studies</i>, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 2025.</p> <p>Keetley D., Heholt R. (ed.), <i>Folk Horror: New Global Pathways (Horror Studies)</i>, University of Wales Press, Walia 2023.</p> <p>Konończuk E., Sidoruk E., <i>Poetyki doświadczenia przestrzennego</i>, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu w Białymstoku, Białystok 2020.</p> <p>Kronenberg A., <i>Geopoetyka. Związki literatury i środowiska</i>, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Łódzkiego, Łódź 2015.</p> <p>Marzec A., <i>Antropocień: filozofia i estetyka po końcu świata</i>, PWN, Warszawa 2021.</p> <p>Morton T., <i>Mroczna ekologia: ku logice przyszłego współistnienia</i>, tłum. A. Marzec, Oficyna Związek Otwarty, Warszawa 2023.</p> <p>Nycz R., <i>Poetyka doświadczenia. Teoria – nowoczesność – literatura</i>, Wydawnictwo Instytutu Badań Literackich PAN, Warszawa 2012.</p> <p>Paciorek A., Malkin G., Hing R., Peach K. (ed.), <i>Folk Horror Revival: Field Studies</i>, Wyrd Harvest Press, Durham 2018.</p> <p>Rybicka E., <i>Geopoetyka. Przestrzeń i miejsce we współczesnych teoriach i praktykach literackich</i>, Universitas, Kraków 2014.</p> <p><i>Space and literary studies</i>, ed by Elizabeth Evans, Cambridge University Press 2025.</p> <p>Szopa K., <i>Krytyczne ujęcie feminizmu interseksjonalnego z perspektywy feministycznej teorii społecznej reprodukcji</i>, „Teksty Drugie” 2023 nr 3, 249-264.</p> <p><i>Teoria – literatura – życie. Praktykowanie teorii w humanistyce współczesnej</i>, red. A. Legeżyńska, R. Nycz, Instytut Badań Literackich, Warszawa 2012 (tutaj artykuły: Rewers E., <i>Praktyka jako badanie: nowe metodologie w humanistyce</i>; Heise U. K., <i>Zwrot postludzki. Nowa narracja o gatunkach we współczesnej literaturze amerykańskiej</i>).</p> <p>Ulicka D., <i>Wiek Teorii. Sto lat nowoczesnego literaturoznawstwa</i>, t.1-2, IBL, Warszawa 2020.</p>
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	I. Kopytoff <i>Kulturowa biografia rzeczy - utowarowienie jako proces</i> , przeł. E. Klekot, w: <i>Badanie kultury. Elementy teorii antropologicznej</i> , red. M. Kempny, E. Nowicka, PWN, Warszawa 2005.
Complementary literature:	<p>Gutkowska B., Nowicka B., <i>Literatura i przestrzeń: postacie autobiografizmu w literaturze polskiej XX i XXI wieku</i>, Oficyna Wydawnicza Waław Walasek, Katowice 2008.</p> <p>Has-Tokarz A., <i>Horror w literaturze współczesnej i filmie</i>, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej, Lublin 2010.</p> <p>Ingham H.D., <i>We Don't Go Back: A Watcher's Guide to Folk Horror</i>, Room 207 Press 2018.</p> <p><i>Powieść dziś. Teorie, tradycje, interpretacje</i>, red. Anna Skubaczewska-Pniewska, Justyna Tuszyńska, Toruń 2019</p>

*(1 ECTS CREDIT CORRESPONDS TO 25 - 30 HOURS OF THE TOTAL WORKLOAD OF A DOCTORAL STUDENT, NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE ESTABLISHED EFFECTS).

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Date and signature of the Course lecturer

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Approved by the Head of the Department or an authorised person