

**SEMINARIA MAGISTERSKIE- AMERYKANISTYKA  
W ROKU AKADEMICKIM 2019-20**

**DR HAB. MARTA KOVAL, PROF. UG**

**Contemporary American Literature and Culture: Challenges of Tradition and New Trends /  
Współczesna literatura i kultura USA: wyzwania tradycji i nowe tendencje.**

During the seminar, we will discuss major trends in the American literature and culture from the mid-1960's until the early 21st century. We will look at narrative, esthetic, political, gender, ethnic. and racial heterogeneity and multivocality of the contemporary US fiction, film and other cultural practices that challenge the idea of canon and tradition. We will read and discuss theoretical works of European and American intellectuals in order to develop an interpretive perspective for the analysis of esthetic, artistic, and social values of literary texts, films and cultural activities.

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The title of the elective course/seminar conducted during the spring semester 2019 was entitled "Lectures and discussion of selected novels by Paul Auster. The works discussed included "Portrait of an Invisible Man", "City of Glass", "The Book of Illusions", "Sunset Park", and "4321".

The literary motifs relative to the novels included identity, ethnic, social and cultural; the search for and the creation of a new language fit to represent reality and truth; name change and change of individual identity; the exploration of time and space, travel; the creative process; art and truth.

The master's students present participated actively in the course and gave oral presentations on selected topics relating to the literary works.