

AMERYKANISTYKA

Studia I stopnia

Stacjonarne

Seminaria licencjackie 2025/2026

Liczebność grup: 8-12 osób

Dr Iwona Świąteczak-Wasilewska

RHETORIC AND US POLITICAL CULTURE

US political culture is marked by visionary speeches which can lay the groundwork for presidential/ political careers. This BA seminar is dedicated to the study of US political rhetorical genres, including inaugural addresses, farewell addresses, campaign speeches, concession speeches, war rhetoric, apologia, eulogies, and state speeches (i.e. state of the union, state of the state, and state of the city addresses). In their BA theses, students will attempt: 1) to uncover distinctive conventions governing US political speeches, 2) to investigate how American politicians, presidents, or presidential candidates use language to comprehend, create, and respond to rhetorical situations; and also, 3) to understand and explain American values, ideologies, identities, and the role of religion in American public life. Regular attendance as well as timely submission of parts of the thesis are required.

dr Beata Williamson

SUBJECT: AMERICAN LITERATURE

The aim of this seminar is to lead students towards a BA thesis which analyzes and interprets a selected text (texts) of American literature (prose, but poetry is also an option). The classes will be devoted to:

- discussion of literary texts and aspects of American culture
- revising major critical approaches
- formalist text analysis, close reading
- research
- discussing progress of work

Requirements:

- active participation in classes and doing home assignments (connected with research and text analysis)
- attendance (one “unexcused” absence per semester)

In order to get my signature for the 1st semester, a seminarist must deliver the second draft of the theoretical (research) part of the BA paper (8 pages); for the 2nd semester—the finished paper.

Dr Alicja Chmielek

FILM ADAPTATIONS OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

The seminar will be devoted to film adaptations of American literary works. A special emphasis will be put on novels and short stories from the American literary canon adapted into feature films. Nevertheless, students will be able to choose more contemporary literary works as well. While writing about film adaptations representing various genres, conventions and tropes will be supported, choosing genres such as horror, science fiction, thriller and fantasy will be especially encouraged.

The seminar will introduce students to the process of writing BA papers: choosing a topic, developing research questions, analyzing and interpreting filmmakers’ approaches, gathering and analyzing source materials, creating a bibliography and writing a coherent thesis.

Students are expected to do their homework assignments (bibliography exercises, assigned readings) and submit parts of their BA papers on time as well as attend the seminar regularly.

Dr Barbara Miceli

HISTORICAL EVENTS AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN AMERICAN LITERATURE, FILM, AND TELEVISION

This seminar explores how American literature, film, and television engage with historical events, news stories, and pressing contemporary issues such as gender and racial discrimination, pandemics, and political conflict. Through the analysis of selected novels and audiovisual texts—including films and TV series—students will examine the ways in which these works creatively reinterpret, manipulate, or respond to real-world events.

The seminar will also provide students with the analytical tools to distinguish among a range of narrative forms and genres, including the novel, nonfiction novel, memoir, biography, and biopic, and to approach them through critical and comparative frameworks.

This course serves as a foundation for the development of a BA dissertation on a related topic.

Seminar Requirements:

- Regular attendance;
- Active participation in class discussions;
- Submission of a written outline and a preliminary bibliography for the BA dissertation at the end of the winter semester and a completed thesis by the end of the summer term.