

Rok akademicki 2023/24
Seminarium magisterskie

Specjalność:
Amerykanistyka dla komunikacji międzykulturowej i dyplomacji

Dr hab. Paweł Jędrzejko, prof. UŚ

The 2023–2025 M.A. Seminar in American Studies will be keyed to my own research projects in the field of Hemispheric and Transoceanic American Studies. Among others, the problem areas that I intend to address include, but are not limited to:

- 1) The Stockholm Wits: American Expatriate Poets in Stockholm:
 - a) Paul Schreiber
 - b) Tom Lavalle
 - c) Other Poets and Prosateurs of the Stockholm Circle
- 2) Agnieszka Pajor: Polish-Canadian Photographer and Filmmaker – her work and philosophy
- 3) The History of International American Studies Association

The subject areas above, thus far, have not been addressed. The work of the Candidates will therefore be entirely original, based on direct contact with the artists in Sweden and in Canada, and with IASA ex-Presidents and Executive Council Members. Ideally, the research projects carried out within the frame of the Seminar should generate at least two publications per person over the next two years. I will be ready to six willing, committed, dedicated students, who would not hesitate to apply for travel grants and for Erasmus grants to carry out the research in the field.

I am also open to original proposals, related to more general areas of my expertise:

- 4) Literature as philosophy;
- 5) Correspondences of literature and music;
- 6) Literature of the „American Renaissance”

In any case, the M.A. Seminar I envisage will offer the willing and dedicated students hands-on experience in academic research, in which methodological soundness and the observance of time constraints will be essential.

Dr hab. Eugenia Sojka

NATIONAL, MINORITY AND INDIGENOUS CULTURES IN LITERATURE, FILM, VISUAL ARTS AND THEATRE

The seminar will focus on various manifestations of mainstream, minority and Indigenous topics in select literary, dramatic/theatrical, cinematic and visual arts discourses, with a primary concentration on Canada. Other national/cultural perspectives can also be explored. We will discuss the role of contemporary writers, artists, filmmakers, and critics not only in the construction but also decolonization and indigenization of dominant cultures, including the reclamation and validation of Indigenous thought, values, traditions, languages and holistic philosophies. Students will be encouraged to employ decolonial/ postcolonial and Indigenous research methodologies in their projects (to be introduced and/or systematized in class).

Prospective M.A. theses may explore but are not limited to the topics from the list below. These broad themes/ categories will be narrowed down, depending on students' interests and the selection of "texts" to be examined in their theses.

- Cultural, ethnic, Indigenous and other minorities and their representation in literature, film, theatre, visual arts and new media
- Re-reading of Canadian history from an Indigenous, Black or immigrant perspective
- Canadian and American Indigenous literature, film, drama/theatre/ performance and visual arts
- Comparative Canadian and American perspectives: national myths, relation to the past and nature, a sense of place, changing notions of gender, ethnicity, race and class as inscribed in literature, culture, film and visual arts
- Literature, visual arts, theatre and film as an expression of trauma (fear, shame, guilt)
- Belonging, affect and the senses – diasporic/minority and Indigenous perspectives
- Polish reception of Canadian culture – film and drama/ theatre/ performance
- Polish diaspora in Canada and its contribution to Canadian literature, arts, film and theatre/ performance
- Canadian and/or American popular culture and identity construction
- Canadian and American popular culture – comparative perspectives
- Ecocritical readings of literature, visual arts and film

- Racism and sexism in literature, visual arts and film
- Feminist re-writings of cultural texts
- Representation of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people in works/ texts by non-Indigenous cultures
- Importance of Indigenous/Aboriginal knowledges and philosophies in the contemporary world plunged in the environmental and spiritual crisis
- Transfer of Indigenous knowledges and contemporary artistic practices
- Indigenous and Western pedagogy – comparative perspectives
- Indigenous drama, theatre and performance in the context of traditional knowledge, alternative methodologies and techniques of representation
- Indigenization processes in literature, film, photography, visual arts, theatre/drama and public spaces