UNIVERSITATEA BABEŞ-BOLYAI
BABEŞ-BOLYAI TUDOMÁNYEGYETEM
BABEŞ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITÄT
BABEŞ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITY
TRADITIO ET EXCELLENTIA

Facultatea de Litere
Str. Horea nr. 31
400202, Cluj-Napoca
Tel: 0264 5322388
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COURSE SYLLABUS

1. Information about the study program

1.1 University	Babeș-Bolyai University
1.2 Faculty	The Faculty of Letters
1.3 Department	English language and literature
1.4 Field of study	Philology
1.5 Study cycle (BA/MA)	Master
1.6 Study program/Qualification	British Cultural Studies/MA in Philology

2. Information about the subject

2.1 Course title/Code		**LME1104 Gender Representations in the Contemporary British Novel (in English)**						
2.2 Course tutor		Associate professor Alina Preda, PhD						
2.3 Seminar tutor		Associate professor Alina Preda, PhD						
2.4 Year of study	I	2.5 Semester	1	2.6 Type of assessment	E	2.7 Course status	Contents	DA
							Mandatory	DO

3. Total estimated time (teaching hours per semester)

3.1 Number of hours per week	2	of which: 3.2 course	1	3.3 seminar/laboratory	1
3.4 Total number of hours in the curriculum	28	of which: 3.5 course	14	3.6 seminar/laboratory	14
Time distribution					Hours
Study based on textbook/course manual/recommended reading/personal notes					40
Additional research in the library, by accessing scientific databases,or during field work					40
Preparation for seminars/laboratory classes, essays, portfolios and reports					30
Tutoring					6
Assessment (examinations)					3
Other activities .....tutoring during office hours.....					3
3.7 Total hours for individual study	122				
3.8 Total hours per semester	150				
3.9 Number of credits	6				

4. Prerequisites (if necessary)

4.1 Curriculum	---
4.2 Skills	Theoretical knowledge in the field of English Literature English proficiency level: advanced (C1)

5. Conditions (if necessary)

5.1. For delivering lectures	• Classroom with media equipment
5.2. For teaching seminars/laboratory classes	• Classroom with media equipment • Course and seminar attendance is not compulsory. Assessment is conditioned by the realization of the practical semester tasks

6. Acquired specific competences

Professional competences	C1 Appropriate use of fundamental concepts in the study of English literature. C2 Efficient written and oral communication in English. C3 Analysis and presentation of literary phenomena in the context of the reference culture. C4 Understanding relationships and influences between literary and critical categories, as well as the relationships among various current methodologies.
Transversal competences	CT1 Using the instruments of linguistics and literary studies in accordance to professional ethics. CT2 Teamwork; interpersonal communication, taking on specific roles. CT3 Setting up an individual project for lifelong training; achieving training by accumulating information, participating in team projects and in institutional and personal development programs.

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7. Course objectives (derived from the specific competencesacquired)

7.1 General objective of course	• Expressing in an academic way a personal point of view regarding the literary phenomenon on the contemporary British arena, starting from the gender-related positions expressed in the critical bibliography.
7.2 Specific objectives	• Explaining the evolution of British literatureandinterpretingthecontemporaryliteraryphenomenonbytakingintoaccountthe cultural and historical context. • Performing an analysis of the British contemporary novel in the cultural context that gave rise to it. • Performing an analysis of some British contemporary novels on the basis of the criticalapparatus provided by the field of gender studies. • Performing a critical interpretation and evaluation of the literary phenomenon on the contemporary British arena in the contemporary postmodernist context. • Writing a critical piece on a British literary text by using the concepts and terminology specific to literary theory, narratology and gender studies. • Creating complex, lexically rich, syntactically accurate and logically coherent oral and written discourse on the selected topics from the *English Literature* field. • Using the components in the *English Literature* field in complete accordance with professional ethical standards.

8. Contents

8.1 Lectures	Teaching methods	Remarks
1.**Terminologicaldistinctions** Keywords:ContemporaryLiterature, Modern Literature, Modernism, Postmodernism, Post-postmodernism..	Lecturing. Exemplification, problematizing, dialogue.	
2. **Feminism or feminisms?** Keywords:liberal feminism, cultural feminism, radical feminism, genderresistant feminism, sex-positive feminism, ecofeminism, postfeminism.	Lecturing. Exemplification, problematizing, dialogue.	
3.**Feminist Studies versus Masculinity Studies** Keywords:first-wave, second-wave, third-waveandfourth-wave feminism, biological sex versus genderdifferences, cultural constructs, feminine, masculine.	Lecturing. Exemplification, problematizing, dialogue.	
4.**Gender as a cultural construct** Keywords:personal identity, social perception, non-binary gender identity, hepeated, mansplaining.	Lecturing. Exemplification, problematizing, dialogue.	
5.**Living stories, tellinglives I(a)** JeanetteWinterson – *Oranges Are NottheOnlyFruit* Keywords:personal identity, social perception, cultural sense of belonging, non-binary gender identity.	Lecturing. Exemplification, problematizing, dialogue.	
6.**Living stories, tellinglives II(a)** JeanetteWinterson – *Why Be Happy WhenYouCould Be Normal?* Keywords:autobiographicalnovel, memoir, thefourthgenre, creative non-fiction, trauma andrecovery.	Lecturing. Exemplification, problematizing, dialogue.	
7.**FromFictiontoFact (a)** Keywords:childood, adulthood, recreatingyourself as fiction, healing, survival.	Lecturing. Exemplification, problematizing, dialogue.	
8. **The shifting landscape of interpersonal relationships (a)** Jeanette Winterson – *The Stone Gods* Keywords:posthumanism, ecocriticism, anthropocentrism, non-anthropocentric post-humanistmodels.	Lecturing. Exemplification, problematizing, dialogue.	
9.**Masculinity in crisis:** NickHornby – *About a Boy* Keywords:complicitmasculinities, marginalizedmasculinities, subordinate masculinities, hierarchy.	Lecturing. Exemplification, problematizing, dialogue.	
10.**Representations of masculinity I:** NickHornby – *HighFidelity* Keywords:malelanguage, power, dominance, difference, men in feminism.	Problematizing, problem-solving tasks, exercises.	

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11.**Representations of masculinity II:** NickHornby – *FeverPitch* Keywords:hegemonicmasculinities, footballculture, ultras, pubs, commitment.	Problematizing, problem-solving tasks, exercises, dialogue.	
12. **On GenderandGenre I** Keywords: firstpersonnarratives, autofiction, theimpossibility of (auto)biography, creative non-fiction.	Exemplification, problematizing, text interpretation.	
13.**On GenderandGenre II** Keywords:gender stereotyping, cross-sex interaction, cross-cultural communication, nature versus nurture.	Exemplification, problematizing, text interpretation.	
14.**Conclusions.Revision.**	Exercises, dialogue.	

Bibliography

Cornwall, Andrea, Elizabeth Harrison and Ann Whitehead. *Feminisms in development. Contradictions, contestations and challenges*, London/New York, Zed Books, 2007, pp. 1–21.
Frunză, Mihaela. *Feminismul ca/și ideologie (Feminism as/andIdeology)*, în: „Journal for theStudy of ReligionsandIdeologies", volumul 16, 2017, numerele 46-48, pp. 4–28.
Head, Dominic. *The Cambridge Introductionto Modern British Fiction, 1950-2000*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2002.
Hornby, Nick. *FeverPitch*, New York,RiverheadBooks, 1992.
---.*HighFidelity*, New York,RiverheadBooks, 1995.
---.*About a Boy*, New York,RiverheadBooks, 1998.
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Neal, Brandi. "What Does 'Hepeated' Mean? This Term Might Be The New Mansplaining", (23 September, 2017), https://www.bustle.com/p/what-does-hepeated-mean-this-term-might-be-the-new-mansplaining-2437535
Preda, Alina. "Language and Society: Misogyny, Homophobia and Heterosexism", *StudiaUniversitatisBabeş-Bolyai, Philologia*, XLIX, 1, 2004, 99-108.
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Rothman, Lily. "A Cultural History of Mansplaining", *The Atlantic*, (Nov 1, 2012)
Tannen, Deborah. "The Power of Talk: Who Gets Heard and Why", *Harvard Business Review* 73, September-October 1995.
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Thorne, Barrie and Nancy Henley (eds.).*Language and Sex: Difference and Dominance*, Rowley, Mass.: Newbury House Publishers, 1975.
Winterson, Jeanette. *Oranges Are NottheOnlyFruit*, London,Vintage, 1991 [1985].
---.*The Stone Gods*, London: PenguinBooks Ltd., 2007.
---.*Why Be Happy WhenYouCould Be Normal?* London, Jonathan Cape, 2011.

8.2 Seminars	Teaching methods	Remarks
1.**Is gendernecessary? Narratorialgames in JeanetteWinterson's*Written on the Body*.** Keywords: genderlessnarrator, fix versus flux, thediseased body, medical discourse, loveandloss.	Conversations; text analysis; problematizing.	
2.**Gender in thecyberneticworld: JeanetteWinterson's*The.PowerBook*.** Keywords: printedbook, hyperbook, hypetext, levels of narrativeframes, embeddedstories.	Conversations; text analysis; problematizing.	
3.**Limitinggenderstereotypes: JeanetteWinterson – *Sexingthe Cherry*** Keywords: eccentricnarrativechallenges, firstpersonnarrators, monstrouscorporealotherness, magical realism.	Conversations; text analysis; problematizing.	
4.**Male andfemale interior journeys: JeanetteWinterson – *The Passion*** Keywords: intertextuality, historiographicmetafiction, eccentricnarrativechallenges, firstpersonnarrators,magical realism.	Analyses of texts on the basis of the theoretical information delivered during the course. Pair work. Exemplifications.	

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5.**Living stories, tellinglives I (b)** **JeanetteWinterson –** ***Oranges Are NottheOnlyFruit*** Keywords: heteronormativity, heterosexism, forced exorcism, childabuse, religious fundamentalism.	Analyses of texts on the basis of the theoretical information delivered during the course. Pair work. Exemplifications.	
6. **Living stories, tellinglives II(b)** **JeanetteWinterson –** ***Why Be Happy WhenYouCould Be Normal?*** Keywords: deliberate ignorance, sexual fluidity, genderfluidity, stages of healing, trauma and recovery.	Analyses of texts on the basis of the theoretical information delivered during the course. Pair work. Exemplifications.	
7. **FromFictiontoFact (b)** Keywords: childood, adulthood, recreatingyourself as fiction, healing, survival.	Analyses of texts on the basis of the theoretical information delivered during the course. Group work.	
8.**The shifting landscape of interpersonal relationships (b)** Jeanette Winterson – *The Stone Gods* Keywords: posthumanism, ecocriticism, anthropocentrism, non-anthropocentric post-humanistmodels.	Analyses of texts on the basis of the theoretical information delivered during the course. Group work.	
9.**Multiple selvesandworlds: JeanetteWinterson –** ***GUT Symmetries*** Keywords:grandunifiedtheories,quantum physics, cosmology, physics, poetry.	Conversations; text analysis; problematizing.	
10.**The burdens of gender I** **JeanetteWinterson –** ***Lighthousekeeping*** Keywords: disconnectedness, loss, doublelife, thelighthousemetaphor, Robert Louis Stevenson andDarwiniantheories.	Conversations; text analysis; problematizing.	
11.**The burdens of gender II** **JeanetteWinterson –** ***Weight: The Myth of Atlas and Heracles*** Keywords: coverversions, rewriting, revisions, mythology, intertextuality.	Conversations; text analysis; problematizing.	
12.**Genderrolesunderscrutiny I** Keywords:coverversions, rewriting, revisions,intertextuality, historiographicmetafiction, magical realism, eccentricnarrativechallenges, firstpersonnarrative.	Conversations; text analysis; problematizing.	
13.**Genderrolesunderscrutiny II** Keywords: coverversions, rewriting, revisions, intertextuality, historiographicmetafiction, magical realism, eccentricnarrativechallenges, firstpersonnarrative, trauma and recovery.	Practical application of the theoretical knowledge, analyses of texts, debate.	
14.**Conclusions.Revision.**	Practical application of the theoretical knowledge gained during the course regarding gender representations in the contemporary British novel.	

Bibliography

Winterson, Jeanette.*Oranges Are NottheOnlyFruit*, London,Vintage, 1991 [1985].
---. *The Passion*, Harmondsworth, Penguin Books Ltd., 1987.
---.*Sexing the Cherry*, London, Vintage, 1990 [1989].
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---. *GutSymmetries*, London,Granta Books1998 [1997].
---.*The.PowerBook*, London,Vintage, 2001 [2000].
---.*Lighthousekeeping*, London,HarperPerennial, 2005 [2004].
---.*Weight*. Edinburgh,Canongate, 2005.
---.*The Stone Gods*, London,PenguinBooks Ltd., 2007.
---.*Why Be Happy WhenYouCould Be Normal?* London, Jonathan Cape, 2011.

9. Validatingcourse contents based onthe expectations of epistemic communities, professional associations and of potential employers related to the field of study.

- The content of the course is useful and relevant, in accordance with the academic curricula at undergraduate and

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graduate levels, as well as with what is taught in other universities in Romania and abroad (catering to the requirements placed on the school's graduates by the foremost potential employers on the market).
- The topics have been selected having in view the most relevant bibliographical sources in the field.
- Some of the course/seminar components have been presented at various national and international conferences.

10. Assessment (examination)

Type of activity	10.1 Assessment criteria	10.2 Assessment methods	10.3 Weight in the final grade
10.4 Lecture	• awareness of the advantages that interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary studies bring to contemporary research in the field • good comprehension of the importance of the topics presented during the lectures and during the seminars • a clear understanding of the concepts • the ability to provide an original analysis of an art work, literary text or film on the basis of the issues touched upon in class and detailed in the bibliography • the honest acknowledgement of all sources when performing an internally coherent critical interpretation of an art work, film or literary text (from the religious, political or cultural realm) on the basis of the concepts and terminology specific to literary theory, narratology and gender studies • the full and correct accomplishment of the tasks	Written exam	50%
10.5 Seminar	• Writing a presentation on a given topic, actively participating in discussions, identifying the main points made in the bibliographical sources. Practically applying the theoretical knowledge.	Written examination	50%
10.6 Basic performance standard			
Good comprehension of the importance of the topics presented during the lectures and during the seminars and of the advantages that interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary studies bring to contemporary research in the field; a clear understanding of the concepts; the ability to provide an original analysis of an art work, literary text or film on the basis of the issues touched upon in class and detailed in the bibliography; the honest acknowledgement of all sources when performing an internally coherent critical interpretation of an art work, film or literary text (from the religious, political or cultural realm) on the basis of the concepts and terminology specific to gender studies. Level of English proficiency: B2 and above. Correct use of terminology.			
Organizational details, exceptional situation management: • Administrative issues, exceptional situations: Sitting the exam is not subject to minimal or full levels of attendance. Malpractice (fraud)leads to the automatic cessation of the examination process and the awarding of grade 1 (one).			

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Date 30.03.2022	Course tutor's signature	Seminar tutor's signature
Date of department endorsement 14.04.2022	Head of department's signature	
Date of Dean's endorsement	Signature of the vice-Dean in charge	Faculty stamp