



SYLLABUS

SAMUEL BECKETT

Academic year 2025-2026

1. Information about the study program

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|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 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's |
| 1.6 Study program/Qualification | Irish Studies/M.A. in Philology |
| 1.7 Enrolment type | Full time |

2. Information about the subject

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|-------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2.1 Course title | Samuel Beckett | Course code | LME1129/2129 |
| 2.2 Course tutor | Associate professor Rareș Moldovan | | |
| 2.3 Seminar tutor | Associate professor Rareș Moldovan | | |
| 2.4 Year of study | I/II | 2.5 Semester | 1/3 |
| | | 2.6 Type of assessment | E |
| | | 2.7 Course status | Contents Mandatory |
| | | | DSIN DOb |

3. Total estimated time (teaching hours per semester)

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|----------------------|----|------------------------|---------|
| 3.1 Number of hours per week | 3 | of which: 3.2 course | 2 | 3.3 seminar/laboratory | 1 |
| 3.4 Total number of hours in the curriculum | 42 | of which: 3.5 course | 28 | 3.6 seminar/laboratory | 14 |
| Allotted time for individual study (ID) and self-study activities (SA) | | | | | 108 hrs |
| Study based on textbook/course manual/recommended reading/personal notes | | | | | 34 |
| Additional research in the library, by accessing scientific databases, or during field work | | | | | 34 |
| Preparation for seminars/laboratory classes, essays, portfolios and reports | | | | | 34 |
| Tutoring | | | | | 4 |
| Assessment (examinations) | | | | | 2 |
| Other activities | | | | | |
| 3.7 Total hours for individual study | 108 | | | | |
| 3.8 Total hours per semester | 150 | | | | |
| 3.9 Number of credits | 6 | | | | |

4. Prerequisites (if necessary)

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|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 4.1 Curriculum | - |
| 4.2 Skills | Advanced knowledge of English |

5. Conditions (if necessary)

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| 5.1. For delivering lectures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom with media equipment, internet access/ Microsoft Teams, Zoom (for online teaching, if necessary) |
| 5.2. For teaching seminars/laboratory classes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom with media equipment, internet access/ Microsoft Teams, Zoom (for online teaching, if necessary) |

Date of Dean's endorsement
Dean name and signature



6. Acquired specific competences

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Professional competences | C2. Efficient written and oral communication in English. C. Analysis and presentation of literary phenomena in the context of the reference culture. |
| Transversal competences | TC1 Using the instruments of linguistics and literary studies in accordance to professional ethics. TC2 Teamwork; interpersonal communication, taking on specific roles. TC3 Setting up an individual project for lifelong training; achieving training by accumulating information, participating in team projects and in institutional and personal development programs. |

7. Course objectives (derived from the specific competences acquired)

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|---------------------------------|--|
| 7.1 General objective of course | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The course is designed to familiarize students with various aspects of Samuel Beckett's works, from short prose to novels and plays. Besides lectures on the major issues in Beckett, the course will undertake a series of focused analyses on Beckettian prose and theatre. |
| 7.2 Specific objectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Familiarize students with the life and works of Samuel Beckett, in their essential aspects; Familiarize students with how Irish culture informs Beckettian works, and with Beckett's view of Ireland; Students will be able to discuss and interpret works of fiction and drama in relation to various aspects of their language and cultural contexts; Students will be able to write a research paper in the field in accordance with the requirements of the program and of professional ethics. |

8. Contents

| 8.1 Lectures | Teaching methods | Remarks |
|---|--|---------|
| Overview of the course | Lecture, participatory lecture, exposition, demonstration, exemplification, debate, heuristic dialogue | |
| Beckett and Ireland, it's complicated | | |
| Beckett's early short fiction | | |
| Beckett's initial modernism | | |
| <i>Murphy</i> : Joyce and Beckett. Joycean hero, modernist her? | | |
| Beckett, action and the spaces of the mind | | |
| Watt: spaces, dissolution, knowledge | | |
| Beckett's trilogy and its developments | | |
| Beckett's theatre and writing in French | | |
| Beckett's hero in prose and drama | | |
| | | |
| 8.2 Seminars | Teaching methods | Remarks |
| <i>More Pricks than Kicks</i> (focus on „Dante and the Lobster” and „Fingal”) | Presentations by students, discussion, watching parts of films and interpreting them in groups | |
| <i>Murphy</i> | | |
| <i>Molloy</i> | | |
| <i>Waiting for Godot</i> | | |
| <i>Krapp's last tape</i> . | | |
| <i>Film</i> (text and film) | | |
| Another 2 Beckett play chosen by the class | | |
| | | |
| Bibliography | | |
| <i>More Pricks than Kicks</i> , New York: Grove Press, 1972 (2004) | | |
| <i>Murphy</i> , New York: Grove Press, 1994 | | |
| <i>Watt</i> , London: Faber & Faber, 2009 | | |



Three Novels: Molloy, Malone Dies, The Unnamable, New York: Grove Press, 1994
Film, in The Complete Dramatic Works, London: Faber and Faber, 2006, 321-334
Endgame, New York: Grove Press, 1994
Krapp's Last Tape and Other Dramatic Pieces, New York: Grove Press, 1994
Waiting for Godot: A Tragicomedy in Two Acts, New York: Grove Press, 1994

Ronan McDonald, *The Cambridge Introduction to Beckett*, Cambridge University Press, 2006
John P. Harrington, *The Irish Beckett*, Syracuse UP, 1999
Vivian Mercier, *Beckett/Beckett*, Souvenir Press, 1977
John Pilling (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Beckett*, Cambridge UP, 1994
John Pilling, *Samuel Beckett*, London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1976
Harold Bloom (ed.), *Samuel Beckett's 'Waiting for Godot'*, London: Chelsea House, 1987
Anthony Ullman, *Beckett and the Philosophical Image*, Cambridge UP, 2006
Pascale Casanova, *Samuel Beckett, anatomy of a literary revolution*, Verso, 2006

9. Validating course contents based on the expectations of epistemic communities, professional associations and of potential employers related to the field of study.

- The content of the course is relevant, in accordance with the academic curricula at graduate levels, in Romania and abroad. Its interdisciplinary openness provides a wider spectrum of information and knowledge in connected cultural areas.

10. Assessment (examination)

| Type of activity | 10.1 Assessment criteria | 10.2 Assessment methods | 10.3 Weight in the final grade |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------|
| 10.4 Lecture | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accuracy of knowledge, proficiency of written expression, coherence and originality of interpretation | Exam | 75% |
| 10.5 Seminar | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accuracy and proficiency of oral expression, coherence and originality of presentation and interpretation | Class participation, seminar presentation, midterm | 25% |
| 10.6 Basic performance standard | | | |
| 1. General knowledge of the literary and cinematic issues discussed on the course; 2. Good knowledge of the literary works studied; 3. Level of English proficiency: B2 (CEF), upper-intermediate and above; 4. Correct use of concepts and terms; 5. Plagiarism of any kind (including the use of AI for essays/papers) automatically results in failing the course and will be managed as stipulated in the University regulations. 6. Using AI tools for generating ideas or discourse is allowed only with the tutor's permission and with explicit acknowledgment. This applies to both class discussions or assessment tasks and examinations. Unauthorized use of AI amounts to plagiarism. According to UBB regulations, plagiarism of any type triggers expulsion from university studies. | | | |

11. SDG Labels (Sustainable Development Goals)

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| | General label for Sustainable Development |
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TRADITIO ET EXCELLENTIA



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400202, Cluj-Napoca
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Date:
11.02.2025

Course tutor's name and signature
Rareș Moldovan

Seminar tutor's name and signature,
Rareș Moldovan

Date of approval:
14.02.2025

Head of Department's name and signature,
Popa Petrar Petronia

Date of Dean's endorsement
Dean name and signature