

COURSE UNIT DESCRIPTION

Course unit title	Research field, branch, code	Faculty	Department, Institute
Tendencies of Modernism in Lithuanian Exile poetry	Philology, Linguistics, H004	Philology	Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore

Study cycle	3 rd (doctoral)
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Mode of delivery	ECTS credits	Type of the course unit	Language of instruction
Contact (lectures, workshops, tutorials)	8		
Individual or in a group			

Annotation of the course content
<p>The aim of this course is to research Lithuanian exile poetry of the post-WWII period (1940-1990) emphasizing the prevailing Modernist paradigm of aesthetics. The works of poets' generation <i>Žemininkai</i> of the early post-war period were deeply influenced by Existentialist philosophy (they borrowed the name of the group from poetical anthology <i>Žemė [The Land]</i>, published in Los Angeles, 1951). Those Northern America-based poets (K. Bradūnas, A. Nyka-Niliūnas, H. Nagys) created a magazine <i>Literatūros lankai [Literary Sheets]</i> (1952-1959, published in Buenos Aires) and focused on Modernist Western literature, thoroughly examined the debates on Modernist music, art, theatre, cinema. By that time, Lithuanian émigré writers realized their exclusive role as they had a privilege to spread Modernist ideas while literary field of Soviet-occupied Lithuania was dominated by dogmatic Social Realism and totalitarian censorship. The course material consists not only of poetry but also of letters, diaries and translations. The main aspects: academic environment that helped to develop the <i>Žemininkai</i> generation; Existentialism as an intellectual trend; individual attempts to meditate on heritage of Western thought; relations of Catholic-reformist thinkers Antanas Maceina and Juozas Girnius with <i>Žemininkai</i> group. The predominance of right-wing Catholic ideology in the diaspora and agnostic manifestations in the exile Modernism. The legacy of Vytautas Mačernis (1921-1944) and self-estimations of generation. Conflicts with earlier Neo-Romantic generation which prevailed in the literary field of the last decade of independent Republic of Lithuania (1930-1940). The main target of Lithuanian Modernist criticism of 1950's was the lyrical tradition of Neo-Romantic trend. The poetical evolution of Alfonsas Nyka-Niliūnas and semantic isotopies of his works. The repertoire of conceptual and intellectual poetry. Meditations on the Modernist literature in A. Nyka-Niliūnas' diaries. Henrikas Radauskas as a medium between Modernist and Neo-Classicalist aesthetic trends. The influences of German Expressionism and French Symbolism. Which Western poets were translated, reviewed and praised in the Modernist criticism? Henrikas Nagys as a Modernist poet full of emotional tension. Jonas Mekas: poetical reflections of everyday existence and radical programs of avant-garde. Aesthetical programs of Liūnė Sutema and Algimantas Mackus, the most characteristic representatives of <i>Bežemiai</i> generation ["Those who lost their land"]. Modernist poetic tradition as an integral part of the classical Lithuanian literary canon of the 20th century. The role of exile-based literary critics legitimizing the poetics of Modernism.</p>

Reading
<i>Lietuvių egzodo literatūra 1945-1990</i> , Chicago, 1992/Vilnius, 1997.
<i>Literatūros lankai</i> , Buenos Airės, 1952-1959 (faksmilinis leidinys, Vilnius, 1998).
<i>Egzodo literatūros atšvaitai</i> , Vilnius, 1989.
Aistis Jonas, <i>Raštai</i> , t. 3, Chicago, 2004.
Bradūnas Kazys, <i>Kertinė paraštė: kritikos ir kultūrinės publicistikos rinktinė</i> , Vilnius, 2017.
Girnius Juozas, <i>Literatūros ir kultūros kritikos rinktinė</i> , Vilnius, 2014.
Gražytė-Maziliauskienė Iona, <i>Idėjų inventoriųs</i> , Vilnius, 2004.
Greimas Algirdas Julius, <i>Apie viską ir nieką. Žmogus, visuomenė, kultūra</i> , Vilnius, 2019.
Greimas Algirdas Julius, <i>Iš arti ir iš toli</i> , Vilnius, 1991.
Jonynas Vytautas A., <i>Rinktiniai raštai</i> , Vilnius, 2006.
Kavolis Vytautas, <i>Žmogus istorijoje</i> , Vilnius, 1994.
Nyka-Niliūnas Alfonsas, <i>Dienoraščio fragmentai 1938-1975</i> , Vilnius, 2002; <i>Dienoraščio fragmentai 1976-2000</i> , Vilnius, 2003.
Nyka-Niliūnas Alfonsas, <i>Temos ir variacijos</i> , Vilnius, 1996.
Šilbajoris Rimvydas, <i>Netekties ženklai</i> , Vilnius, 1991.
Vaičiulaitis Antanas, <i>Knygos ir žmonės</i> , Vilnius, 1992.
Venclova Tomas, <i>Pertrūkis tikrovėje: straipsniai apie literatūrą ir kultūrą</i> , Vilnius, 2013.
Girnius Juozas, „Žmogaus prasmės žemėje poezija (Trečiajai mūsų poezijos kartai atėjus)“, in: <i>Žemė</i> , antologija, Los Angeles, 1951.
Maceina Antanas, „Patriotų sukilimas, arba poetų ginčas su tautybe“, in: <i>Literatūros lankai</i> , 1955, Nr. 6.
Skrupskelytė Viktorija, „Egzodo poezijos šuoliai“, in: <i>Lietuvių poezija iševijoje, 1945-1971</i> , Chicago, 1971.

Lecturer	Degree	Main works published in the research field during the last five years
Manfredas Žvirgždas	Doctor of the Humanities	„Maironio politinės pasaulėžiūros raiška ankstyvuojau tautinio sąjūdžio laikotarpiu“, in: <i>Žmogus ir žodis: Literatūrologija</i> , t. 19, Nr. 2, 2017, p. 16-32.
		„Discovering Distant Neighbours: Scandinavian Images in Lithuanian Poetry“, in: <i>Imagology Profiles: The Dynamics of National Imagery in Literature</i> , edited by Laura Laurušaitė, Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2018, p. 214-231.
		„Henriko Nagio dialogai su lietuvių egzodo poetų „Nužemintųjų generacija““, in: <i>Darbai ir dienos</i> , Nr. 69, 2018, p. 151-165.
		„Maironis ir politika: poetas, įsipareigojęs visuomenei“, in: <i>Maironio balsai: kūryba, veikla, atmintis</i> , Vilnius: LLTI, 2019, p. 549-623.
		“Ethnolinguistic Nationalism and Other Political Contexts of Maironis”, in: <i>Interlitteraria</i> , 2019, t. 24/2: <i>Global Contexts, National Literatures. Miscellanea</i> , p. 436-449.
		„Iš sakalo skrydžio“, in: Henrikas

	Nagys, <i>Pasakų sakalas</i> , Vilnius: LLTI, 2019, p. 7–47.
	„Apie mus visus slankioja mirties šešėliai: neramių laikų dienoraštis“, in: Vincas Mykolaitis-Putinas, <i>Dienoraštis 1938–1945</i> , Vilnius: LLTI, 2022, p. 9–43

Approved by decision of Doctoral Committee (date, record No) January 13, 2023. Protocol No. (7.17 E) 15600-KT-16.

Chair of Committee Prof. Dr Meilutė Ramonienė