



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Introduction to the Literature of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Coordinating: dr Eleonora Terleckienė	Department of Lithuanian Literature Institute for Literary, Cultural and Translation Studies Faculty of Philology

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
First cycle	Compulsory

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Face-to-faced	2 nd semester	English

Requisites	
Prerequisites: Advanced English language proficiency (C1)	Co-requisites (if relevant):

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5	125	32	93

Purpose of the course unit		
The aim of this course is to introduce students to the historical, cultural, and linguistic aspects of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania through the study of its textual heritage, to familiarize them with a wide range of literary and visual genres from different periods and develop their abilities to read and analyze historical and literary texts.		
Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Students will be acquainted with the historical and cultural context of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania.	Interactive lectures and seminars; reading of the assigned texts; analysing and discussing the assigned texts.	6 tests Final test (exam)
Students will be acquainted with the concept of materiality in the study of texts, with special emphasis on the physical aspects of books and manuscripts and will be able to explore how the materiality of texts influences their production, circulation, and reception throughout history.	Interactive lectures and seminars; reading of the assigned texts; analysing and discussing the assigned texts; familiarizing with rare books, prints and maps at Vilnius university library.	
Students will be acquainted with visual representations, including sketches, engravings, prints and maps, and their role in shaping the cultural landscape of the time; also, will understand role of maps and spatial representation, considering how maps were used for exploration and representation of territories.	Interactive lectures and seminars; reading of the assigned texts; analysing and discussing the assigned texts; familiarizing with rare books, prints and maps at Vilnius university library.	

Students will be acquainted with the variety of writers, their education and social status; they will also focus on readers from diverse backgrounds engaged with literary texts through annotations, marginalia, and other forms of readerly engagement.	Interactive lectures and seminars; reading of the assigned texts; analysing and discussing the assigned texts.	
Students will be familiar with various genres of texts, such as epic poetry, epigram, drama, dedicatory letter and others, to gain a comprehensive view of the diversity.		
Students will develop the ability to critically evaluate information presented in various texts from the 16th to the 18th centuries, analyze cultural phenomena, and distinguish their components and interrelationships.		
Students will engage in both independent work and group activities during the seminars, thereby gaining an understanding of the possibilities, advantages, and disadvantages of collaboration and teamwork.		
Students will know the core values, beliefs, interests and behavioural norms of their own and other surrounding cultures and subcultures; be able to develop cultural awareness and sensitivity: will be able to evaluate phenomena and processes of Lithuanian and other cultures critically and objectively.		

Content	Contact hours							Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops	Laboratory work	Internship	Contact hours, total	Individual work	Tasks for individual work
1. Introduction to the module and the subject. Early modern literature studies today and its future.	2						2	2	
2. Reading in context. Historical overview: dates, personalities, borders, terms.	2		2				4	7	Individual reading and analysis of Jan Chryzostom Pasek's text (p. 1–92; p. 93–188).
3. Says who? Multilingualism and multiconfessionalism of the region.			2				2	8	
4. Materiality matters: production, circulation and reception of texts as physical objects. Printers and printing-houses in Vilnius. Paratext and bibliographical code.	2			2			4	7	Individual reading of Griffiths (2016) text for discussion in the workshop; workshop will be held at library, more information during the course.
5. Early modern visual culture. Sketch, engraving, print. Emblem books. Map and spatial relationship.			2				2	5	Individual reading and analysis of Makowski's text.
6. Writer as a profession? Author and authorship and readerly engagement. Cultural and intellectual life. Schools and education.	2		2				4	12	Individual reading and analysis of Mažvydas' text.
7. Trials of Orpheus: lyric and epic poetry and its challenges. Epideictic Rhetoric.	2		2				4	12	Individual reading and analysis of Hussovianus' text.
8. Triumph, theatricality, morality: drama, occasional poetry, sermon.	2		2				4	12	Individual reading and analysis of the text by Radziwiłłowa.

9. Reinventing the hero and his/her foe: <i>The Seasons</i> by Kristijonas Donelaitis	2		2				4	12	Individual reading and analysis of Donelaitis' text.
10. Exam. Feedback and conclusions.	2						2	16	
Total	16		14	2			32	93	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
6 tests	60 %	Throughout the term (at the appointed time and dates)	Each test consists of 10 questions. A test (on literary sources – Pasek, Makowski, Mažvydas, Hussovianus, Radziwiłłowa and Donelaitis) consists of 10 questions: 8 of them are closed-ended, intended to test the knowledge of the text; the other 2 questions are open-ended, to encourage critical thinking). Assessment: one question is one point. The duration of the test is 15-20 minutes.
Final test (exam)	40 %	At the end of the course	The final test will cover all literary sources read throughout the semester. It consists of four open-ended questions prepared in advance. Assessment: demonstrated grasp of the major ideas and themes of the text (4), ability to identify and draw on relevant contexts (4), effective and appropriate use of terminology (2).

Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or web link
Required reading				
Donelaitis, Kristijonas	[1765–1775], 1985	<i>The seasons</i> , translated by Peter Tempest, notes and editing by Lionginas Pažūsis		Vilnius: Vaga
Griffiths, Antony	2016	“The European print 1550–1820”	<i>The Print before Photography. An Introduction to European Printmaking 1550–1820</i> , pp. 15–25.	London: The British Museum
Hussovianus, Nicolaus	[1523], 2021	<i>Song of the Bison. Text and Translation of Nicolaus Hussovianus's 'Carmen De Statura, Feritate Ac Venatione Bisontis'</i> , edited and translated by Frederick J. Booth		Amsterdam University Press
Makowski, Tomasz	[1603]	<i>Description of Lithuania</i> in the appendix of the map of Radziwiłł the Orphan, prepared by Tomasz Makowski. Unpublished translation from Latin to English is prepared by Eleonora Terleckienė and will be provided during the course.		
Mažvydas, Martynas	[1547], 2022	“Simple Words of Catechism”	<i>Pagans in the Early Modern Baltic. Sixteenth-Century Ethnographic Accounts of Baltic Paganism</i> , edited and translated by Francis Young, pp. 80–85.	Amsterdam: ARC Humanities Press

Pasek, Jan Chryzostom	[1656–1688], 1976	<i>Memoirs of the Polish Baroque. The Writings of Jan Chryzostom Pasek, a Squire of the Commonwealth of Poland and Lithuania</i> , edited and translated by Catherine S. Leach		Berkeley, Los Angeles, London: University of California Press
Radziwiłłowa, Franciszka Urszula	[1746], 2015	„Witty Love“	Franciszka Urszula Radziwiłłowa, <i>Selected Drama and Verse</i> , ed. by Patrick John Corness and Barbara Judkowiak; translated by Patrick John Corness, pp. 79–116.	Iter Press and the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Recommended reading				
Narbutas, Sigitas	2000	<i>The mysterious island: a review of 13th-18th century literature of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania</i> , translation in English Diana Bartkutė		Vilnius: Lietuvių literatūros ir tautosakos institutas
Frick, David A.	2013	<i>Kith, Kin, and Neighbors. Communities and Confessions in Seventeenth-Century Wilno</i>		Ithaca: Cornell University Press
	2019	<i>Social and Cultural Relations in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Microhistories</i> , edited by Richard Butterwick, Wioletta Pawlikowska		New York, London: Routledge. Taylor & Francis Group
Niedzwiedz, Jakub	2023	<i>Literacy in Medieval and Early Modern Vilnius. Forms of Writing and Rhetorical Spaces in the City</i>		Brepols N.V.
	1996	<i>Polish Baroque and Enlightenment Literature: An Anthology</i> , edited and translated by Michael J. Mikoś		Columbus, Ohio/Bloomington, IN: Slavica Publishers
	1989	<i>Monumenta Polonica: The First Four Centuries of Polish Poetry. A Bilingual Anthology</i> , edited and translated by Bogdana Carpenter and John R. Carpenter		Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Slavic Publications
Tereškinas, Artūras	2005	<i>Imperfect communities: identity, discourse and nation in the seventeenth-century Grand Duchy of Lithuania</i>		Vilnius: Lietuvių literatūros ir tautosakos institutas
Sidabraitė, Žavinta	2017	„Kristijonas Donelaitis - a Lithuanian Homer?“	<i>Komunikaty Mazursko-Warmińskie</i> , nr. 4 (298), p. 693-706	
Vaškelienė, Asta	2018	„Literary Theory in the Eighteenth-Century Grand Duchy of Lithuania: From the Classical Tradition to Classicism“	<i>Interlitteraria: Influence and Originality in Literary Creation – Miscelanea</i> , 23/2, p. 295-311	
Werner, Sarah	2019	<i>Studying Early Printed Books, 1450-1800: A Practical Guide</i>		NJ: Wiley Blackwell

Designed 19 October 2023