



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Introduction to Modern Lithuanian Literature	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Coordinating: dr. Daiva Litvinskaitė Other:	Faculty of Philology

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
First cycle studies	Compulsory

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Contact (auditorium)	Fall, 3 rd semester	English

Requisites	
Prerequisites:	Co-requisites (if relevant):

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5	130	32	98

Purpose of the course unit
Aim of this course is to provide students' knowledge about modern Lithuanian literature from the end of nineteenth century to the middle of twentieth century and to develop their abilities to analyze and interpret modern Lithuanian literature works in connection with similar phenomena in European literature while taking into consideration the modifications, influenced by historical and national Lithuanian cultural conditions.

Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
After this course students will be: - acquainted with the dynamic historical and cultural factors that shaped the literary landscape of Lithuania in the end of nineteenth to the first half of the twentieth century;	cultural-historical approach, overview lectures; independent study of literary sources;	Active participation in seminars; Presentation; Exam.
- able to identify, characterize and engage in discussion about literary movements and the works of prominent authors of the specific period;	problem solving lectures, inclusive lectures, participation in seminars, group discussions;	

- able to express connections between contemporary Lithuanian literary trends and those prevalent in European literature;	comparative approach, inclusive lectures, overview lectures, work in groups;	
- to apply literary concepts in the analysis and discussion of literary texts, as well as to assess and interpret information effectively.	problem solving lectures, inclusive lectures, participation in seminars, group discussions; independent study of literary works;	
- able to work in a group effectively, discuss and argue, acquire public speaking skills.	participation in seminars, group discussions and activities.	

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 course. Women's literature at the beginning of twentieth century; innovations in prose. Characteristics of realism in Žemaitė's works; artistic interpretation of the individual; epic portrayal of reality.	2		1				3	8	"Autobiography," "Daughter in Law," "Tofylis, or Marriage of Zosė" by Žemaitė. Reading of works, analysis, preparation for discussion.
2. Changes in realistic literature. Jonas Biliūnas : psychological realism in prose; attention to ethical issues, humanistic values; subjective depiction of the world. Vincas Krėvė-Mickevičius : romantic vision of Lithuania; delving into the mysteries of the human spirit and existence.	1		2				3	8	Stories by J. Biliūnas : "The End of Brisius", "I Hit it", "A Beggar"; Stories by V. Krėvė Mickevičius : "The Herdsman and the Linden Tree", "The Eagle". Reading of works, analysis, preparation for discussion.
3. Lithuanian symbolism. Principles of symbolism, stylistic features, and worldview. Symbolic lyrics of Jurgis Baltrušaitis , Vincas Mykolaitis-Putinas , Balys Sruoga .	1		1				2	6	Selected poems in translation: 10 poems of each poet (of choice). Reading of poems, analysis, preparation for discussion.
4. The Lithuanian avant-garde: Manifesto of "The prophet of the Four Winds", magazine "The Third Front". New trends of modernism in prose: expressionist aesthetics in Jurgis Savickis's prose; revolutionary elements in Kazys Boruta's work; orientation towards folklore in a poetic novel <i>Whitehorn's windmill</i> . Impressionism in Lithuanian literature, its characteristics. Ignas Šeinius-Jurkūnas : the conception	2		4				5	12	"The Red Shoes", by J. Savickis ; <i>Whitehorn's windmill</i> , by K. Boruta , p. 1–112; <i>Rejuvenation of Siegfried Immerselbe</i> by I. Šeinius . Reading of works, analysis, preparation for discussion.

of human, satirical polemics with political topics in <i>Rejuvenation of Siegfried Immerselbe</i> .									
5. Developments in drama. Kostas Ostraukas, Algirdas Landsbergis, Antanas Škëma	1		2				2	8	“Gravediggers” by K. Ostraukas ; “Everybody (or the Beard)” by A. Landsbergis, “The Christmas Skit” by A. Škëma . Reading of works, analysis, preparation for discussion.
6. Characteristics of Lithuanian neo-romanticism in poetry. Salomėja Nėris, Bernardas Brazdžionis, Jonas Aistis, Antanas Miškinis, Henrikas Radauskas .	1		1				2	6	Selected works in translation. 10 poems of each poet (of choice). Reading of poems, analysis, preparation for discussion.
7. War and postwar themes in literature. Trauma and memory narratives; Balys Sruoga’s <i>The Forest of Gods</i> – an autobiographic novel about the Stutthof concentration camp; theme of Holocaust in Ichokas Meras’s <i>Stalemate</i> .	1		2				3	12	<i>The Forest of Gods</i> , by B. Sruoga , p. 1-60; <i>Stalemate</i> by I. Meras . Reading of works, analysis, preparation for discussion.
8. Soviet era literature. Requirements for literature, employment of Aesopian language. Transformations of the tradition of agrarian culture in Romualdas Granauskas’s modern prose.	1		1				4	8	“The Bread Eaters” by R. Granauskas . Reading of works, analysis, preparation for discussion.
9. Possibilities of new poetic language: the contrasting Sigitas Geda ; the creator of expressive lyric Judita Vaičiūnaitė ; mythologic imagination in Marcelijus Martinaitis’s poetry.	1		1				2	8	Selected poems in translation. 10 poems of each poet (of choice). Reading of poems, analysis, preparation for discussion.
10. Émigré situation, themes in émigré literature. Human in the period of catastrophes. Antanas Škëma, Birutė Pūkelevičiūtė . Common lines in poetry: Algimantas Mackus, Liūnė Sutema. Poetic language of Alfonas Nyka-Niliūnas and Tomas Venclova .	2		2				4	10	“Three Songs of the Celesta,” “Steps and Stairs” by A. Škëma; “The Ninth Leaf” by B. Pūkelevičiūtė; <i>Chimeras in the Tower</i> , trans. by J. Zdanys Selected poems in translation. 10 poems of each poet (of choice). Reading of works, analysis, preparation for discussion.
12. Review.	1		1				2	8	Review of read literature, lecture material and seminar.
Preparation for presentation								4	Student prepares to give a presentation on chosen literary work during the

									seminar. Sources: lecture material, outside sources, individual analysis.
Total	14		18				32	98	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Participation in seminars (students are expected to read the assigned literature before class, participate in discussions, and complete seminar assignments), with at least 70% attendance required.	20%	during seminars	2 points: actively participates in all seminars, responds appropriately to questions, formulates problematic and accurate questions to audience, properly argues text analysis problems; 1 point: misses up to 3 seminars, participates in the discussion, answers the questions correctly, properly performs practical tasks; 0 points: does not prepare for seminars, hardly participates in the discussion.
Presentation (10-15 min) during the seminar	20%	throughout the semester	2 points: presentation is well structured; questions of the analysis are clearly formulated; analysis is coherent and adequate, conclusions are accurate. 1 point: the presentation corresponds to the topic, coherency and adequacy are lacking; 0 points: the presentation is not prepared or does not meet the criteria.
Exam consists of two types of questions: <u>1st question</u> : knowledge of literary development, cultural contexts, authors and their works, themes, aesthetic preferences; <u>2nd question</u> : analysis of the text. Each question is worthy 30%.	60 %	at the end of semester	3 points: understands the historical and cultural contexts of the era very well; excellently demonstrates knowledge of the development of literature; knows very well the artistic programs of the main authors, knows their works and aesthetics very well; noted connections with European literature; 2 points: correctly presents the historical and cultural contexts of the era, is able to describe the development of literature, knows authors and their works but presents the knowledge sporadically; 1 point: the knowledge about historical and cultural contexts of the era is partially revealed; knowledge of authors, their works, and their artistic programs is sporadic. 0 points: question is not answered or does not meet the criteria. 3 points: excellent knowledge of the authors and works, excellent knowledge of the context; the problematic of the work, its originality of representation is insightfully discussed, analysis based on quotations from the work; 2 points: good knowledge of the authors and works, brief but correct knowledge of the context, problematic of the works is discussed in correct but somewhat general way; quotations are missing or redundant; 1 point: knowledge of the authors and works is inaccurate, no critical approach to the text, analysis of the text is too general. 0 points: question is not answered or does not meet the criteria.

Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or web link
Required reading				
Žemaitė	2020	“Autobiography,” “Daughter in Law,” “Tofylis, or Marriage of Zosė”	<i>Marriage for Love</i> , transl. by V. Kelertas	Birchwood Press
Jonas Biliūnas	1999	“The End of Brisius”, “A Sad Tale”, “I Hit it”, “A	<i>Vilnius</i> , No. 9	

		Beggar”, transl. by I. Geniušienė		
Vincas Krėvė-Mickevičius	1977	“The Herdsman and the Linden Tree”, transl. by A. Baranauskas	<i>The Lithuanian Short Story: Fifty Years</i> . Ed. by Stepas Zobarskas	New York: Manyland Books
Vincas Krėvė-Mickevičius	1956	“The Eagle”	http://www.old.lituanus.org/1956/56_1_06-2Aras.html	<i>Lituanus</i> , vol. 6, No 1
Jurgis Baltrušaitis	1974 1979	10 poems of choice	http://www.old.lituanus.org/1974/74_1_03.htm <i>Lithuanian Writers in the West</i> , ed. by Alina Skrupskelis	<i>Lituanus</i> , vol. 20, No. 1 Chicago: Lithuanian Library Press
Vincas Mykolaitis-Putinas		10 poems of choice	https://allpoetry.com/Vincas_Mykolaitis-Putinas	
Balys Sruoga		10 poems of choice	https://allpoetry.com/Balys-Sruoga	
Jurgis Savickis	1963	“The Red Shoes”	<i>Selected Lithuanian Short Stories</i> , ed. by S. Zobarskas	Manyland books
Kazys Boruta	2010	<i>Whitehorn’s windmill</i> , transl. by E. Novickas, p. 1-112		Central European University Press
Ignas Šeinius-Jurkūnas	1965	<i>Rejuvenation of Siegfried Immerselbe</i> , transl. by A. Baranauskas		New York
Kostas Ostrauskas	1986	“Lazarus”	http://www.old.lituanus.org/1986/86_2_02.htm	<i>Lituanus</i> , vol. 32, No 2.
Antanas Škėma	1967	“A Christmas Skit”	http://www.old.lituanus.org/1967/67_3_04Skema.html	<i>Lituanus</i> , vol. 13, No 3
Algirdas Landsbergis	1967	“Everybody (or Beard)”	https://www.spauda2.org/lituanus/archive/1967/1967-nr04-LITUANUS.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com	<i>Lituanus</i> , vol. 13, No 4
Antanas Škėma	1958 1978	“Three Songs of the Celesta” “Steps and Stairs”	http://www.old.lituanus.org/1958/58_2_06-2Celesta.html http://www.old.lituanus.org/1978/78_1_05.htm	<i>Lituanus</i> , vol. 2, No 2 <i>Lituanus</i> , vol. 24, No 1
Salomėja Nėris		10 poems of choice	https://allpoetry.com/Salomėja-Neris	
Bernardas Brazdžionis		10 poems of choice	https://allpoetry.com/Bernardas-Brazdžionis	
Jonas Aistis		10 poems of choice	https://allpoetry.com/Jonas-Aistis	
Antanas Miškinis		10 poems of choice	https://allpoetry.com/Antanas-Miskinis	
Henrikas Radauskas		10 poems of choice	https://allpoetry.com/Henrikas-Radauskas-	
Balys Sruoga	1996	<i>The Forest of Gods</i> , trans. by Aušrinė Byla, p. 1–60		Vilnius: Versus aureus
Ichokas Meras	2005	<i>Stalemate</i> , transl. by Jonas Zdanys		New York: Open Press
Romualdas Granauskas	1992	“The Bread Eaters”	<i>Come into my Time: Lithuania in Prose Fiction</i>	University of Illinois Press

			1970-90, ed. by V. Kelertas	
Sigitas Geda	2002	10 poems of choice	<i>Žiemos biopsija=Biopsy of Winter</i> , transl. by Kerry Swan Keys	Vilnius: Spauda
Judita Vaičiūnaitė		10 poems of choice	https://allpoetry.com/Judita-Vaiciunaite	
Marcelijus Martinaitis	1993	10 poems of choice	<i>The Ballads of Kukutis</i> , transl. by L. Sruoginis http://www.old.lituanus.org/1990_4/90_4_07.htm	Portland
Birutė Pūkelevičiūtė	1982	<i>The Ninth Leaf</i> , an excerpt	http://www.old.lituanus.org/1982_4/82_4_06.htm	<i>Lituanus</i> , vol. 28, No. 4
Algimantas Mackus		10 poems of choice	https://allpoetry.com/Algimantas-Mackus	
Liūnė Sutema		10 poems of choice	http://www.old.lituanus.org/2008/08_3_02%20Sutema.html	
Alfonas Nyka-Niliūnas	1999	10 poems of choice	<i>The Theology of Rain</i> , transl. by J. Zdanys	Vilnius
Tomas Venclova	2008	10 poems of choice	<i>The Junction</i> , transl. Ellen Hinsey et al.	Vilnius
Recommended reading				
V. Kubilius, A. Samulionis, A. Zalatorius, V. Vanagas	1997	<i>Lithuanian Literature</i>		Vilnius: Vaga.
Dalia Kuiziniene (compiled by)	2014	<i>Trumpa lietuvių literatūros istorija / A Brief History of Lithuanian Literature</i>		Vytauto Didžiojo universitetas.
Stepas Zobarskas	1963	<i>Selected Lithuanian Short Stories</i>		Manyland Books

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