



SOUTH-WEST UNIVERSITY "NEOFIT RILSKI"

FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY

2700 Blagoevgrad, Ivan Mihaylov Street 66; 073 / 88 55 01; info@swu.bg; www.swu.bg

INFORMATION PACKAGE ON A DOCTORAL PROGRAM

SCIENTIFIC FIELD: HUMANITIES

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTION: 2.1. PHILOLOGY

DOCTORAL PROGRAM: THEORY AND HISTORY OF LITERATURE

EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC DEGREE: DOCTOR

NQF LEVEL: 8

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: RESEARCHER

TRAINING TERM: 3 /three/ or 4 YEARS

FORM OF TRAINING: REGULAR / PART-TIME / SELF-CONTAINED

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: BULGARIAN , ENGLISH

Blagoevgrad, 2025

1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE DOCTORAL PROGRAM

The preparation of doctoral students in the doctoral program "Theory and History of Literature" is carried out at the Department of Literature and Ethnology at the Faculty of Philology of the South-West University "Neofit Rilski" - Blagoevgrad. The doctoral program was created to meet the needs of higher education institutions, scientific and state institutions with specialists in the field of various thematic fields of literary studies. It expands the basic and specialized preparation acquired in the "Master" program. The preparation for scientific research work of doctoral students goes in parallel with their training to teach. The idea is that the doctoral student should acquire not only narrowly specialized knowledge, but also skills for working in seminars and practical conditions. The duration of the training is three years in full-time education and in independent preparation, and four years for part-time education. The training ends with the defense of a doctoral dissertation. Successfully defended doctoral students acquire the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the doctoral program "Theory and History of Literature".

The learning outcomes are determined according to the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area and the National Qualifications Framework of the Republic of Bulgaria.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE DOCTORAL PROGRAM

2.1. Preparation of highly qualified scientists, researchers and teachers with competencies and competences to carry out scientific research in the field of literary studies.

2.2. Formation of skills for researching various paradigms in the field of literary studies: genreology, psychology of literary creation, sociology of literature, receptive studies, specific features of basic literary schools, etc.;

2.3 Building scientific competence in the various fields of contemporary literary studies;

2.4. Formation of scientific and practical knowledge and skills for independent teaching and research activities, for teamwork, for the application of innovative and technological achievements in the theory and practice of the study of world literature.

2.5. Enrichment of methodological knowledge, skills, competencies and competences for planning, conducting scientific research, as well as for analyzing, presenting and popularizing the obtained results among the scientific literary community.

3. GENERAL QUALIFICATION AND PROGRAM SPECIALIZATION

In the process of educational and scientific training within the doctoral program "Theory and History of Literature", the doctoral student builds conceptual thinking on issues of a methodological and research nature in the field of world literary theory. The opportunity is provided to master the methodology, methodology, tools and techniques of conducting scientific research in the following exemplary areas within the doctoral program:

- ❖ Literary process, literary trends, movements and schools;
- ❖ Specific features of the language of fiction ;
- ❖ Literature and History - problems of artistry;
- ❖ "High" and "low" literature; canonical and non-canonical literature;
- ❖ Aspects of comparative literary studies;
- ❖ Sociogenic functions of the literary text;
- ❖ The female canon - beginnings and historical horizons;
- ❖ The language of power and literature.

During their training, the doctoral student builds skills and professional competencies for planning, organizing and successfully implementing independent research activities. Educational and scientific activities stimulate the development of attitudes and skills for teaching, project and expert activities in the field of literary studies. Attitudes are created and skills are formed for continuous self-education and self-improvement in the process of the doctoral students' scientific and professional development.

4. ACQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND COMPETENCES ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

4.1. Knowledge (theoretical and/or factual)

- ❖ □ possesses and uses specialized and systematized knowledge to perform critical analysis and synthesize new ideas in the field of literary studies; masters the methods of scientific research in the field of literary knowledge;
- ❖ □ The graduate of the doctoral program possesses the basic resources for independent scientific and teaching activity - he is able to define his scientific object, masters the technology of working with and searching for bibliography, can determine his priorities in the science of literature and is trained to work in a team.

4.2. Skills (cognitive and/or practical)

- independent scientific thinking, shaping one's own scientific language and style;
- knowledge and application of scientific methods of literary analysis, which he applies in the researched areas and problems;
- synthesis, modeling, construction and testing of hypotheses in the field of literary theory;
- operating with literary and historical facts and interpreting them in an appropriate context;
- ability to conduct scientific communication when participating in scientific discussions, presenting the results of scientific activity to a different audience.
- building and modifying research tools;
- to develop professional contacts with members of the professional community from different countries;
- to transfer their knowledge and competencies to colleagues and students.

4.3. Independence and responsibility

The doctoral student in the doctoral program "Theory and History of Literature" must possess personal attitudes and a desire for self-realization, revealing one's own potential in the position of researcher and teacher. An important place is also occupied by skills, attitudes and relationships related to:

- formation of adequate self-esteem, in-depth interests and motivation for professional research activities;
- development of skills and motivation for professional communication and adaptability;

4.4. Learning competence:

During the preparation, the doctoral student masters:

- skills for working with scientific literature;
- presentation skills (including key points of the concept of your doctoral thesis);
- skills to prepare and defend one's own point of view on the methodology of one's research; competences to participate in White-border seminars (with other doctoral students or with the scientific unit) - discussion and defense of stage results of the research on the doctoral thesis, a thesis on problems in the scientific field, etc.;
- discussing at a scientific level in the preparation and defense of a scientific communication (before a committee, before the training unit, etc.) for a scientific symposium, conference or congress;
- participation with scientific communications in scientific forums;
- independent preparation and publication of articles in scientific collections and journals;
- delivering a public lecture on the results of the scientific research (to the scientific unit, student audience, teachers, etc.);
- participation in developing models for individual or collective research projects, participation in university competitions for funding research projects.

4.5. Communicative and social competences

The doctoral student in the doctoral program "Theory and History of Literature":

- presents qualities and transferable skills requiring the display of high personal responsibility, independent initiative in complex and unpredictable circumstances, as well as in a professional or equivalent environment;

- demonstrates general abilities to conceptualize, design and implement projects to generate new knowledge, apply or understand state-of-the-art achievements, as well as adapt project design to unforeseen circumstances;
- fully communicates in some of the most common European languages.

4.6. Professional competencies :

- understands in detail techniques applied to scientific research and complex academic studies;
- makes informed judgments on complex issues in the relevant field, often in the absence of complete data; presents ideas and conclusions clearly and effectively to specialists and non-specialists;
- has the ability to continue research in the field of literature and literary theory at increasingly complex levels, contributing to the development of new techniques, ideas or approaches.

5. AREAS OF PROFESSIONAL REALIZATION

The person who has acquired the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the doctoral program "Theory and History of Literature" has the opportunity to realize himself in the following areas:

- ❖ academic training - a lecturer in the relevant literature at a higher education institution;
- ❖ scientific research - a researcher conducting independent scientific research;
- ❖ secondary school teacher;
- ❖ specialist (consultant) in publishing houses and cultural institutions;
- ❖ a specialist with skills in implementing project activities.

CURRICULUM CONTENT

No.	NAME OF ACTIVITIES	Form of preparation and implementation			Form of recognition
		CREDITS	HORARIUM – hours	lectures, seminars, laboratory exercises, independent preparation, consultations, participation, other	exam, current assessment, interview, certificate, report, protocol, certification, other
I. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY					
1.	Compulsory course 1 (according to the thematic focus of the dissertation – selected from Module-A)	7.0	210	30 hrs lectures (30 audit hours / 180 hours of independent preparation)	I-III semester exam, essay , interview, presentation
2.	Compulsory course 2: (according to the thematic focus of the dissertation – selected from Module-A)	7.0	210	30 hrs lectures (30 audit hours / 180 hours of independent preparation)	- III semester exam, essay , interview, presentation
3.	Project preparation and management	5.0	150	30 hrs lectures (30 hours of audit work / 120 hours of independent preparation)	I-III semester exam, essay , test, interview, presentation
4.	English language	5.0	150	60 hours seminar (60 AZ / 90 SP)	I-III semester exam, essay , test, interview, presentation
5.	Elective course 1 (chosen from module B)	6.0	180	30 hrs lectures (30 hours of audit work / 150 hours of independent preparation)	I-III semester exam, essay , interview, presentation
TOTAL: 30.0		900			
II. RESEARCH ACTIVITY					

1. Research and referencing of scientific literature	5.0	150	Self-study , consultations	I-VI semester report, evidence
2. Excerpt of basic data regarding the dissertation	5.0	150	Self-study , consultations	II-III semester report, evidence
3. Structuring future work – content, applications, formatting of source data	10.0	300	Self-study , consultations	III semester. report, evidence
4. Synchronization of the methodological tools of the dissertation work	5.0	150	Self-study , consultations	IV semester interview, evidence
5. Participation in a scientific forum (seminar, workshop, conference) as a listener or author of a scientific communication	15.0	450	Participation	II-IV semester report, certificate
6. Participation in a scientific forum (seminar, workshop, symposium, conference, congress, etc.) with a report	15.0	450	Participation	III-VI semester report, certificate
7. Preparing an article/study for publication	20.0	600	Self-study , consultations	IV-VI semester interview , evidence
8. Published article/study in Bulgaria	20.0	600	Publication	IV-VI semester certificate
9. Published article/studies abroad	25.0	750	Publication	IV-VI semester certificate
10. Published article in a refereed publication	30.0	900	Publication	V-VI semester certificate
11. Preparation, formatting and presentation of completed parts of the dissertation work	15.0	450	self-study, consultations	V-VI semester report, evidence
12. Preparation of the dissertation for	15.0	450	self-study, consultations	VI semester report,

	presentation to the teaching department				interview, evidentiary material
	13. Discussion of the dissertation at a meeting of the teaching department	15.0	450	evidentiary material	VI semester minutes of the meeting
	14. Editing and finalizing the dissertation text after discussion in the teaching department	15.0	450	self-study, consultations	VI semester report, interview, evidentiary material
	Defense of the doctoral dissertation				
	TOTAL:	140	4200		
III.	PEDAGOGICAL ACTIVITY				
	1. Leading seminar classes	6.0	180	minimum 30 hours of seminar classes + 150 hours of independent preparation	IV-V semester report, certified by the head of the department
2.	Participation in an exam	1.0	30	5 AZ, 25 SP	III-VI semester report, certified by the course holder
	3. Preparation of written test papers	1.0	30	5 AZ, 25 SP	III-VI semester report, certified by the course holder
	4. Checking written work	1.0	30	5 AZ, 25 SP	III-VI semester report, certified by the course holder
	5. Student consultations	1.0	30	5 AZ, 25 SP	III-VI semester report, certified by the head of the department

	TOTAL: 8.0		240	
IV. OTHERS				
1. Participation (as a listener or referent) in the permanent Scientific Seminar of the teaching Department	1.0	30	5 hours AZ, 25 hours SP	I-VI semester report, certified by the seminar leader
2. Participation in the preparation and holding of a scientific forum at the Faculty of Philology	1.0	30	5 AZ, 25 SP	I-VI semester report, certified by the dean
3. Work on educational or other documentation	1.0	30	5 AZ, 25 SP	I-VI semester report, certified by the head of the department
4. Quaestorship of state exams at the Faculty of Philology	1.0	30	5 AZ, 25 SP	I-VI semester report, certified by the head of the department
5. Participation in meetings of the teaching department council	1.0	30	5 AZ, 25 SP	I-VI semester report, certified by the head of the department
TOTAL: 2.0		60		
TOTAL (for the entire training period) :		180	5400	

V. MODULE A – COMPULSORY SUBJECTS				
1. The literary text – theoretical aspects	7.0	210	(30 hours of audit work / 180 hours of independent preparation)	I-III . essay , presentation

2. Literature, gender and social roles	7.0	210	(30 audit hours / 180 hours of independent preparation)	I-III semester. essay , presentation
V. MODULE-B – ELECTIVE SUBJECTS				
1. Literary criticism – ideas, ideologies, institutions	6.0	180	(30 hours of audit work / 150 hours of independent preparation)	I-III semester. essay, interview, presentation
2. Literature and technology	6.0	180	(30 hours of audit work / 150 hours of independent preparation)	
3. The text – boundaries and structures	6.0	180	(30 hours of audit work / 150 hours of independent preparation)	I-III semester. essay, interview, presentation
4. Western European Literature – Readings and Dialogues	6.0	180	(30 hours of audit work / 150 hours of independent preparation)	I-III semester. essay, interview, presentation
5. Symbolism – signs, theories, influences	6.0	180	(30 hours of audit work / 150 hours of independent preparation)	I-III semester. essay, interview, presentation
6. Methods and methodology of literary analysis	6.0	180	(30 hours of audit work / 150 hours of independent preparation)	I-III semester. essay, interview, presentation
7. Metamorphoses of the literary work	6.0	180	(30 hours of audit work / 150 hours of independent preparation)	I-III semester. essay, interview, presentation

8. Western European Literature – Readings and Dialogues	6.0	180	(30 hours of audit work / 150 hours of independent preparation)	I-III semester. essay, interview, presentation
Sociocultural contexts of literary research	6.0	180	(30 hours of audit work / 150 hours of independent preparation)	I-III semester. essay, interview, presentation

COMPULSORY COURSES

THE TEXT – THEORETICAL ASPECTS

ECTS credits: 7

Assessment form: ongoing control and exam

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l + 0 + 12ind

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department of Literature and Ethnology
Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Stiliyan Stoyanov, Department of Literature and Ethnology,
tel. 073/ 588 528; E-mail: stilyan@swu.bg

Course outline: The main goal of the discipline is to build an idea of the essence and specificity of the literary text. The subject of the discipline is the various aspects of the literary text – linguistic, structural, ideological, semiotic, etc. The main theoretical concepts commenting on the literary text are examined. Particular attention is paid to the way in which general cultural processes (movements and ideologies), literary trends (genres, aesthetics), the specific features of individual national literatures shape the literary text. At the end of the course, doctoral students are expected to have a thorough understanding of the dynamics in the development of the literary text and its determination by certain ideological doctrines, receptive attitudes, literary fashion, manner and style of writing, and the biography of the writer.

Course content: Specificity of the literary text. Language and style. Tropes and figures. Structure and composition – formal, substantive and pragmatic aspects. The literary text from a receptive point of view. The implicit reader. Literary fashion. The literary text in the context of the generic-species division of literature. Text and meaning. Sign and interpretation. Said and unspoken in the literary text. Functions of the riddle. The literary text in the contexts of popular and mass literature.

Teaching and assessment: The training is carried out in the form of lectures and extracurricular activities. The assessment of knowledge in the discipline is carried out through current control and a semester exam. Current control is formed on the basis of classroom (attendance and participation in classes) and extracurricular activities (preparation of presentations, essays) and

is assessed on a scale from 2 to 6. The semester exam is conducted in written form (development of a topic from the questionnaire, defense of an essay, presentation). The final grade is formed on the basis of the grades from the current control and the semester exam in a ratio of 65% : 35% and is transformed into a letter designation (A, B, C, D, E) on the ECTS scale. All written work is stored and subject to control according to the Regulations for the educational activities of the university.

LITERATURE, GENDER AND SOCIAL ROLES

ECTS credits: 7

Weekly workload: 2l + 0 + 12ind

Assessment form: ongoing control and exam

Course status: compulsory

Semester: I- III

Methodological management:

Department of Literature and Ethnology

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Albena Vacheva, Department of Literature and Ethnology,
tel. +359 73 588 528, vacheva@swu.bg

Course outline: The course aims to explore the processes in literature by revealing in detail some of the social and aesthetic mechanisms that influence the formation of the literary field. This allows the program to discuss the issues of literary history and theory from a different angle and more conceptually, by examining the specific problems of reception, the place of mass media in the era of modernity, the role of various women's associations and publications. The main place in the lecture course is occupied by the question of the aesthetic and ideological features of women's writing in the overall development of Bulgarian literature in the twentieth century. Attention is paid to the problem of the overall presence of women in the Bulgarian cultural space, their place in the history and canon of Bulgarian literature, political changes and ideological transformations in the literary field.

Course content: Gender and Gender - Literary and Cultural Dimensions, Women and Literary Life at the Beginning of the 20th Century, Canon, Women, History, Generations and Trends in Bulgarian Women's Literature: Fiction, Generations and Trends in Bulgarian Women's Literature: Poetry, Women's Literature in the Era of Socialism, Feminism and Literature - Women's Writing after 1990

Teaching and assessment: The training consists of classroom lessons and independent work of the doctoral students. Extracurricular activities include: consultations with the lecturer, written development of tasks and topics (coursework), etc. The assessment of the acquired knowledge in the discipline is carried out through an exam and ongoing control, the result of the overall work during the course .

PROJECT PREPARATION AND MANAGEMENT

ECTS credits: 5.0

Weekly workload: 2l + 8ind

Assessment form: exam

Course status: compulsory

Semester: I

Methodological management:

Department of Finance and Accounting

Lecturer : Prof. Dr. Ivan Todorov

Email: ivanK.todorov@swu.bg

Course outline: The aim of the training in the discipline "Project Preparation and Management" is to prepare highly qualified specialists in the preparation and management of projects at the national and trans-European level, providing knowledge and skills for various types of projects and programs.

Course content: National and international instruments for supporting projects and programs with different focuses; Essence and main characteristics of project management and project team management; Making strategic and tactical management decisions related to project management. Project development, project design in various fields

Teaching and assessment methods: The achievement of the course objectives is controlled by conducting two tests - entrance and final.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ECTS credits : 5

Assessment form: exam

Semester : I

Weekly workload: 4s + 6ind.

Course status: compulsory

Methodological management:

Department : "German Studies and Romance Studies"

Faculty of Philology

Lecturer : Prof. Dr. Ivanka Sakareva

E-mail: vanyasakareva@swu.bg

Course outline: The course aims to provide practical training for students in English, with the focus on mastering basic knowledge of vocabulary and grammar at lower levels and improving and expanding knowledge and increasing the level of language proficiency at higher levels.

Course content: Special emphasis is placed on developing speaking and listening skills, as well as on mastering the basic principles of constructing an academic text in English, as well as the skills of preparing presentations, CVs, abstracts and articles in English. The English course for doctoral students necessarily contains the following modules: practical grammar, vocabulary, written exercises, reading and listening comprehension and conversation. Depending on the specific needs of students from different faculties and specialties, specialized vocabulary for the field is also introduced, as well as exercises in specialized and general translation.

Teaching and assessment : The course is held (usually every year in the first month after the end of the summer semester) and its duration may vary depending on the formation of groups by language proficiency levels. The level of proficiency is determined by a preliminary entrance test, on the basis of which the participants are divided into levels - beginners, intermediate and advanced, corresponding to levels A1, A2 - B1 and B2 - C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. The training is based on an integrative approach, in which the acquisition of new knowledge and skills for doctoral students is based on the development of the four main types of skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking.

ELECTIVE DISCIPLINES

LITERARY CRITICISM – IDEAS, IDEOLOGIES, INSTITUTIONS

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment form: continuous assessment

Semester: I- III

Weekly workload 2l+0+10ind

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Literature and Ethnology

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Albena Vacheva, Department of Literature and Ethnology,

tel. +359 73 588 528, vacheva@swu.bg

Course outline: The present program aims to implement an educational project on the emergence, development and main problems of Bulgarian literary theory and criticism, which will enable them to acquire a comprehensive professional view of the movement of literary theoretical and critical thought in the twentieth century. Getting acquainted with the dynamics of the ongoing debates in operational criticism, the institutionalization of the field and the mechanisms of affirmation of one or another literary texts as part of the classical heritage, is also among the primary goals of the course. The main task facing this lecture course is to allow philological students to orient themselves in the immediate reception of literary texts, as well as in the knowledge of the various critical readings in their complex unity and discussion dynamics.

Course content: Literary historiography: critical inventions, Literature and periodicals – structuring publicity, The “Thought” Circle – models and alternatives, Literary-critical zigzags, Power and the languages of criticism, Theory and practice of critical reflection, New criticism, Challenges to theory

Teaching and assessment: The training consists of lectures and independent work of the doctoral students. Extracurricular activities include: consultations with the lecturer, written development of tasks and topics (coursework), etc. The assessment of the acquired knowledge in the discipline is carried out through an ongoing assessment, the result of the overall work during the course.

LITERATURE AND TECHNOLOGIES

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment form: continuous assessment

Course status: elective

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l+0+10 ind

Methodological management:

Department of Literature and Ethnology

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Stiliyan Stoyanov, Department of Literature and Ethnology,

tel. 073/ 588 528; E-mail: stilyan@swu.bg

Course outline: The main goal The aim of the discipline is to build an idea of the relationship between the theme, character system, plots and features of the style of the literary work and technological development. In this sense, technologies are that extraneous point (according to M. Bakhtin) that makes it possible to trace essential phenomena, processes and transformations in the literary work.

Course content: The technological revolution from the Renaissance to the present day. Printing and democracy. Seeing the invisible – photography, X-rays, mind reading. Human connectivity – telegraph, telephone, radio, television, Internet. Horror literature in the context of technology. The telegraph and telegraphic style. God and technology. Photography as a catalyst for realistic trends in literature. The fashion for automatons and the literature of Romanticism. New heroes in literature. Technologies – utopias and dystopias.

Teaching and assessment: The training is carried out in the form of lectures and extracurricular activities. The assessment of knowledge in the discipline is carried out through ongoing control. The ongoing control is formed on the basis of the classroom (attendance and participation in classes) and extracurricular activities (preparation of presentations, essays) and is assessed on a scale from 2 to 6. The final grade is formed on the basis of the grades from the ongoing control and is transformed into a letter designation (A, B, C, D, E) on the ECTS scale. All written work is stored and subject to control in accordance with the Regulations for the educational activities of the university.

THE TEXT – BOUNDARIES AND STRUCTURES

ECTS credits: 6

Weekly workload: 2l+0+10 ind

Assessment form: continuous assessment

Course status: elective

Semester: I – III

Methodological management:

Department of Literature and Ethnology

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Roman Hadjikosev,

Department of Literature and Ethnology,

tel. 073/ 588 528; Email: r.hadjikosev@swu.bg

Course outline: The main goal The aim of the course is to build an idea of the essence and specificity of the literary text. The subject of the course is the different structural levels of the text. The main theoretical concepts commenting on the literary text are examined. Particular attention is paid to the way in which general cultural processes (movements and ideologies), literary trends (genres, aesthetics), the specific features of individual national literatures shape the literary text. The border zones of the text, the meaning and functions of the paratext, the connections of the literary text with extra-literary reality, etc. are commented on. At the end of the course, doctoral students are expected to have a thorough understanding of the dynamics in

the development of the literary text and its determination by certain ideological doctrines, receptive attitudes, literary fashion, manner and style of writing, and the biography of the writer.

Course content: Specificity of the literary text. Language and style. The graphic design of the text in the context of the generic-specific division of literature. Meaning and functions of the paratext. The boundary zones of the text: beginning, end. Rhyme in the context of the boundaries of the verse. Said and unspoken in the literary text. The literary text as a unity of plot and comment fragments.

Teaching and assessment: The training is carried out in the form of lectures and extracurricular activities. The assessment of knowledge in the discipline is carried out through ongoing control. The ongoing control is formed on the basis of the classroom (attendance and participation in classes) and extracurricular activities (preparation of presentations, essays) and is assessed on a scale from 2 to 6. The final grade is formed on the basis of the grades from the ongoing control and is transformed into a letter designation (A, B, C, D, E) on the ECTS scale. All written work is stored and subject to control in accordance with the Regulations for the educational activities of the university.

WESTERN EUROPEAN LITERATURE – READINGS AND DIALOGUES

ECTS credits : 6

Form of assessment: continuous assessment

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l+0+10ind

Course status : elective

Methodological management:

Department of Literature and Ethnology

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers : Assoc. Prof. Dr. Boyka Ilieva, Department of Literature and Ethnology,
tel. 073/ 588 528; E-mail: boyka.ilieva@swu.bg

Course outline: The main goal of the course is to build an understanding of recurring themes and motifs in the development of Western European literature, as well as the existence of intertextual connections and dialogues between individual works. The subject of the course is the stable themes, motifs, plots and types recurring in the evolution of Western European literature from the 14th to the 20th century. The course content examines works from different eras, styles and trends in a comparative manner, in which similar problems and motifs are found. At the end of the course, doctoral students are expected to be able to interpret literary and cultural phenomena in a comparative manner.

Course content: Literature of Western Europe – periodization guidelines. The sonnet: compositional framework, characteristics. The novel – the enlightenment (18th century) and the social (19th century). Realism and credibility. Conventions of the genre. What does the literary hero read? Where and how does the literary hero travel? Hidden and overt intertextual dialogues. The Western European novel and its paratexts. The motif of time – lost, found, wasted. Female characters – roles and uses. The hero in society: careerists and marginals. The hero in the semester: fathers and children; the literary Cain and Abel. Crime and redemption.

Teaching and assessment : The training is carried out in the form of lectures and extracurricular activities (independent work with artistic and critical texts). The assessment of knowledge in the discipline is carried out through ongoing control of the classroom (attendance and participation in classes) and extracurricular activities (preparation of presentations, essays) on a scale from 2 to 6. The assessment from the ongoing control is entered as a final assessment for the discipline and is transformed into a letter designation (A, B, C, D, E) on the ECTS scale. All written work is stored and subject to control in accordance with the Regulations for the educational activities of the university.

SYMBOLISM – SIGNS, THEORIES, INFLUENCES

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment form: continuous assessment

Semester: I- III

Weekly workload: 2l+0+10ind

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Literature and Ethnology

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Elena Azmanova-Rudarska, Department of Literature and Ethnology
tel. +359 73 588 528, elena_azmanova@swu.bg

Course outline: The course aims to introduce doctoral students to the issues of European and Bulgarian symbolism, considered as a cultural and historical phenomenon, an aesthetic direction and a literary and creative practice. Emphasis is placed on the main ideas and theoretical models of symbolism, on the system of signs and symbols through which the artistic world is built, as well as on its dialogue with the philosophical, religious and mystical teachings of the era. The course traces the transformations of the symbolist discourse in European literature and its reflections in Bulgarian poetry and criticism, clarifying key influences and receptive models. The course aims not only to form knowledge about the stylistic specificity and thematic cores of symbolism, but also to develop in students skills for analytical reading, interpretation and comparison of texts in a broad interdisciplinary context.

Course content: Historical and cultural context of symbolism – emergence and consolidation of symbolism in Europe and its connections with the cultural and philosophical movements of the era. Theoretical foundations of symbolism – key manifestos, aesthetic programs and the role of the poetics of Paul Verlaine, Stéphane Mallarmé, Charles Baudelaire. Sign systems and symbols – study of artistic signs, metaphors and symbols as carriers of multi-layered meanings. Philosophical and religious influences – the influence of mysticism, Neoplatonism, Christian symbolism and Eastern teachings on the symbolist discourse. Symbolism and musicality – interaction between poetry and music; rhythm, sound and melody as structuring elements of the symbolist text. European literary models – development of symbolism in France, Russia, Germany and its various national manifestations. Bulgarian symbolism – beginnings and features – the emergence of symbolism in Bulgaria, main representatives and ideological accents. Criticism and reception of symbolism – acceptance and rejection of symbolist aesthetics in the cultural debates of the era. Symbolism and modernism – interactions and distinctions between symbolism and other modernist movements in a European and Bulgarian context. Legacy and influences – reflections of symbolist poetics in later literary movements and contemporary interpretations of symbolism.

Teaching and assessment: The training consists of lectures and independent work of the students. Extracurricular activities include: consultations with the teacher, written development of tasks and topics (coursework), work with bibliography (collection and processing of material), etc. The assessment of the acquired knowledge in the subject is carried out through ongoing assessment, which is based on ongoing control.

METHODS AND METHODOLOGIES OF LITERARY ANALYSIS

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment form: continuous assessment

Semester: I- III

Weekly workload: 2l+0+10ind

Course status: elective

Methodological guide:

Department of Literature and Ethnology

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Elena Azmanova-Rudarska, Department of Literature and Ethnology,
tel. +359 73 588 528, elena_azmanova@swu.bg

Course outline: The discipline aims to introduce doctoral students to the main methods and methodological approaches in literary analysis, both in their classical form and in their contemporary interpretations. Traditional critical practices are examined – biographicalism, formalism, structuralism – as well as modern theoretical models – post-structuralism, receptive aesthetics, cultural and interdisciplinary approaches. Emphasis is placed on the comparison of different methodological perspectives and their application in the analysis of specific literary texts. The goal is for doctoral students to acquire skills for critical choice of method, to be aware of its advantages and limitations and to build their own research strategy. The discipline develops the ability for analytical thinking, interpretation and argumentation, necessary for the in-depth and academically valid study of the literary process.

Course content: The course begins with an introduction to literary analysis, where the main goals, tasks and scope of literary criticism and methodology are clarified. Then, attention is directed to the biographical and historical-literary methods, which examine the relationships between the author, the historical context and the literary text. Formalism and structuralism, which emphasize the form, structure and language of the work, occupy a special place. Within the semiotic and narrative approaches, literature is viewed as a system of signs, and analysis focuses on narrative structures.

The psychoanalytic method introduces into literary analysis the ideas of Freud, Jung and Lacan and their application in the interpretation of images, motifs and plots. Marxist and ideological readings are directed towards literature as a reflection of social and class relations and as a field of cultural criticism. An important emphasis is the receptive aesthetics, which places the reader and his community at the center of meaning formation. Poststructuralism and deconstruction, in turn, problematize traditional meanings and offer multiple readings of the text.

The course also includes feminist and cultural studies approaches that examine literature as a space of identities, power relations, and cultural patterns. It concludes with interdisciplinary methods – anthropological, sociological, and media readings of literature – that show how literary texts function in broader cultural, social, and communication contexts.

Teaching and assessment: The training consists of lectures and independent work of the students. Extracurricular activities include: consultations with the teacher, written development of tasks and topics (coursework), work with bibliography (collection and processing of material), etc. The

assessment of the acquired knowledge in the subject is carried out through ongoing assessment, which is based on ongoing control.

METAMORPHOSES OF THE LITERARY WORK

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment form: continuous assessment

Semester : I-III

Weekly workload: 2l + 0 + 12 ind

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Literature and Ethnology

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Maria Anastasova, Department of German and Romance Studies,
phone +359 73 588 528, m.anastasova@swu.bg

Course outline: The course is interdisciplinary and aims to introduce students to the adaptation of a literary work for other media – cinema, theatre, television, etc. The idea is to trace the metamorphoses of the literary text when it goes beyond its narrative field. The main emphasis is on distinguishing analytical approaches to the same work when it is “translated” into a different media context. For this purpose, some terms from film, theatre and television art are introduced.

Course content : The course is theoretical in nature and aims to familiarize students with the basic theories of the adaptation of a literary work. The theoretical tools from the field of different media are introduced and both contemporary and considered classic film adaptations of literary works are examined. Visual materials and critical texts are used. A comparison is made between different adaptations of the same literary work in order to trace its transformations in different media contexts.

Teaching and assessment: The training consists of classroom classes, which include lectures, discussions and film readings, and extracurricular activities, which include: consultations with the teacher, familiarization with the discussed film and literary works, review of critical materials, etc. The assessment of the acquired knowledge in the course is carried out through a final exam, essay or presentation.

WESTERN EUROPEAN LITERATURE – BETWEEN THE NORM AND THE MANIFESTO

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment form: continuous assessment

Semester: I – III

Weekly workload: 2l + 0 + 10 ind

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Literature and Ethnology

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Boyka Ilieva, Department of Literature and Ethnology,

tel. 073/ 588 528; E-mail: boyka.ilieva@swu.bg

Course outline: The main goal The aim of the course is to build an understanding of the cultural processes and trends that set the direction of European literary development. The subject of the course is the literature of Western Europe from the Middle Ages to the present day. The main eras and directions through which it passes are examined. Particular attention is paid to general cultural processes (movements and ideologies), literary trends (genres, aesthetics), and the specific features of individual national literatures. Authors and works representative of each era are studied. At the end of the course, doctoral students are expected to know the developmental literary processes in different eras; to acquire skills for scientific interpretation and comparison of literary and cultural phenomena.

Course content: Western European Middle Ages. Genre system of medieval literature. Pre-Renaissance. Characteristics. Renaissance. Philosophy and aesthetics. Genre system of Renaissance literature. National specifics. Classicism. Aesthetics and normativity. Enlightenment. Ideology and aesthetic principles. Genre system. Enlightenment novel. National identity. Western European romanticism. Aesthetic features, genres. National specifics and representatives. The European novel of the 19th century. Trends, features of artistic depiction. Literary trends in the late 19th and first half of the 20th centuries. Naturalism. Aestheticism. Symbolism. Modern drama. The novel between the two world wars. Aesthetic features. Ideas and motifs. Existentialism. Philosophical basis. Themes and problems. Theater of the absurd. Development of the European novel after the Second World War. Intellectual novel.

Teaching and assessment: The training is carried out in the form of lectures and extracurricular activities. The assessment of knowledge in the discipline is carried out through current control and a semester exam. Current control is formed on the basis of classroom (attendance and participation in classes) and extracurricular activities (preparation of presentations, essays) and is assessed on a scale from 2 to 6. The semester exam is conducted in written form (development of a topic from the questionnaire, defense of an essay, presentation). The final grade is formed on the basis of the grades from the current control and the semester exam in a ratio of 65% : 35% and is transformed into a letter designation (A, B, C, D, E) on the ECTS scale. All written work is stored and subject to control according to the Regulations for the educational activities of the university.

SOCIO-CULTURAL CONTEXTS OF LITERARY RESEARCH

ECTS credits: 6

Assessment form: continuous assessment

Semester: I- III

Weekly workload: 2l+0+10 ind

Course status: elective

Methodological management:

Department of Literature and Ethnology

Faculty of Philology

Lecturers:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Elena Azmanova-Rudarska, Department of Literature and Ethnology,

tel. +359 73 588 528, elena_azmanova@swu.bg

Course outline: The discipline aims to introduce the doctoral student to the thematic and problematic cores of the era, relevant to his research activity, and to reveal the interrelationships

between literary creation and cultural and historical processes. In addition to historical events, the social dimensions of the community in which the author was formed and realized are considered with particular importance for the literary field. His works are a direct reflection of the semester environment, circles of friends, creative communities and literary opponents, while at the same time reflecting the broader social and cultural contexts. Thus, a deep layer is formed in the literary work, which sheds light on the reasons for the emergence of literary polemics and dialogues. The discipline stimulates critical thinking and analytical skills in the doctoral student, directing him towards an interdisciplinary approach and a deeper understanding of the processes in literary history.

Course content: Historical context and literary dynamics – the main historical events and their impact on the literary process and the author's presence are examined. The social life of the community – the role of the semester, friendship circles and social contacts in building the author's literary image is analyzed. Creative circles and societies – the various literary and cultural communities are presented, which set directions for aesthetic and ideological development. Literary opponents and polemics – the clashes of ideas, critical texts and oppositions that accompany literary life are discussed. Dialogicity as a method – emphasis on the dialogue between authors, critics and the audience, as well as on intertextual connections. Genre transformations – the dynamics of literary genres are traced depending on social and cultural influences. Criticism and reception – critical practices are analyzed and their role in the affirmation or rejection of certain authors and movements is examined. Cultural models and identity – national and international influences that shape the literary consciousness of the era are examined. Literature and Public Life – traces the interactions between artistic work and public processes, including political and cultural debates. Polemics as a driver of development – outlines the importance of conflict and opposition in the creation of new aesthetic horizons and literary schools.

Teaching and assessment: The training consists of lectures and independent work of the doctoral students. Extracurricular activities include: consultations with the lecturer, written development of tasks and topics (coursework), work with bibliographic sources (collection and processing of material), etc. The assessment of the acquired knowledge in the discipline is carried out through ongoing assessment, which is based on ongoing control.