

South East European Literature and Culture (A000543)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0 **Study time** 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2023-2024

A (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent	lecture
			group work
			seminar
			independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

Geerardyn, Tilde	LW21	staff member
Troch, Pieter	LW21	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Southeast Europe, literary and cultural history, South Slavic literature, South Slavic culture.

Position of the course

This course connects to the courses History of Southeast Europe and Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I, Bulgarian I or Slovenian I. The course introduces core concepts from the literary and cultural history of Southeast Europe and applies these to the most important movements and representatives of South Slavic literatures and cultures more generally. The focus goes out to the modern period, because the South Slavic middle ages are covered in the course unit 'Slavic philology'.

Contents

The course gives a conceptual overview of the literary and cultural history of Southeast Europe. The course is organised around six thematic and conceptual pillars (memory; dissidence; nation-building; social critique; Europeanisation; modernism). These are discussed through concepts from literary and cultural studies and connected to the social and political history of Southeast Europe. Each theme is illustrated with important movements and representatives from modern South Slavic literatures and cultures. Representative literary works or films are analysed in more depth. The materials are available in translation and in the original South Slavic language. Simple and short texts are read and translated from the target language, depending on the South Slavic language of choice. Students also familiarise themselves with the central movements and representatives of the Bulgarian, Serbian, Croatian or Slovenian literature.

Initial competences

To have successfully completed the course units History of Southeast Europe and Bulgarian I, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I or Slovenian I or to have acquired the required competences by other means.

Final competences

- 1 To distinguish key concepts in the literary and cultural history of Southeast Europe.
- 2 To reason about the historical connection between literature and culture on one hand and society on the other.
- 3 To situate in an argumentative manner works from and representatives of South Slavic literatures and cultures in their cultural-historical and social context.
- 4 To represent the most important developments and representatives of Slovenian, Croatian, Serbian or Bulgarian literature.
- 5 To evaluate the formal aspects and cultural meaning of important works in the South Slavic literatures and cultures.
- 6 To apply concepts from literary and cultural studies on specific literary and other cultural works.
- 7 To synthesise findings from academic studies in Southeast European literary and cultural history.
- 8 To independently contextualise and distinguish the most important characteristics of a literary work.
- 9 To cooperate and communicate in group.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, lecture, seminar, independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Independent work:

- Preparatory reading of extracts from literary works and film and two novels.
- Review of one contemporary novel by use of the core concepts of the course and synthesis of academic studies from Southeast European literary history.
- Self-study of an overview of important representatives from Slovenian, Croatian, Serbian or Bulgarian literature.

Lecture: During the lecture, core concepts and specific developments in literary and cultural history are discussed and illustrated.

Seminar: Guided exercises in analysing and contextualising relevant (fragments of) literature and film.

Group work: In groups students contextualise one contemporary movie.

Adjusted teaching methods may be used if necessary due to Covid-19.

Learning materials and price

Academic papers, fragments of literature and film, or music, and overviews of Serbian, Bulgarian, Slovenian and Croatian literature are made available on Ufora free of charge. For guided self-study and independent work, some novels have to be loaned or bought.

References

Cooper, Henry R. *Anthology of Slovene Literature*. Bloomington, Ind.: Slavica, 2003.

Cooper, Henry R. *An Anthology of Croatian Literature*. Bloomington, Ind.: Slavica Publishers, 2011

Mihailovich, Vasa D., and Branko Mikasinovich. *An Anthology of Serbian Literature*. Bloomington, Ind.: Slavica Publishers, 2007.

Mladenov, Ivan, and Henry R Cooper. *An Anthology of Bulgarian Literature*. Bloomington, Ind.: Slavica Publishers, 2007.

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support through UFORA. Contact hour by appointment.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Presentation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

The oral exam consists of a question related to key concepts from the literary and cultural history of Southeast Europe, an analysis of one of the literary fragments discussed in the course (with excerpts in the target South Slavic language) and a question related to the self-study of overviews of literary history.

Continuous assessment consists of two individual assignments (review of a contemporary novel and synthesis) and a group work (oral introduction and contextualisation of contemporary movie).

Calculation of the examination mark

End-of-term assessment (oral exam): 50% of the final mark.

Continuous assessment (two individual assignments, one group work): 50% of the final mark.

Students who do not pass for the continuous assessment get a compensatory assignment between the first and second exam term. This assignment only concerns those parts of the continuous assessment for which the student did not obtain a passing grade. Passed scores for partial assignments are carried over to the second exam period.

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from attendance.
2. Possible examination on a different time in the same academic year.
3. Feedback can be given by email or by appointment.

For more information concerning flexible learning: <http://www.flw.ugent.be/flexibelstuden>