


Course unit Descriptor		 UNIVERZITET U NOVOM SADU UNIVERSITY OF NOVI SAD
	Faculty of Philosophy	

GENERAL INFORMATION

Study program in which the course unit is offered	English Studies
Course unit title	Contemporary American Women Writers
Course unit code	o8EJ2EJ410
Type of course unit ¹	optional
Level of course unit ²	Bachelor
Field of Study (please see ISCED ³)	Literature and Linguistics
Semester when the course unit is offered	summer
Year of study (if applicable)	
Number of ECTS allocated	4
Name of lecturer/lecturers	Dr Aleksandra Izgarjan
Name of contact person	Dr Aleksandra Izgarjan
Mode of course unit delivery ⁴	Face to face
Course unit pre-requisites (e.g. level of language required, etc)	

PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW (max 5-10 sentences)

The objective of the course is the analysis of the works of contemporary American women writers which, with their distinctive narrative strategies, blur and deconstruct socially constructed categories such as gender, race and class, as well as question political and social acts of reading and writing and canon formation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES (knowledge and skills)

¹ Compulsory, optional

² First, second or third cycle (Bachelor, Master's, Doctoral)

³ ISCED-F 2013 - <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/isced-f-detailed-field-descriptions-en.pdf> (page 54)

⁴ Face-to-face, distance learning, etc.

The works offered in the course are often studied in separate courses, but by bringing them together, it becomes obvious that they share similar narrative strategies which include experimenting with genres, multiple narration, fragmentation, palimpsest, historiographic metafiction, and magic realism. Analysis of these works in a continuum also allows us to observe their intersection with postmodernism, postcolonialism, multiculturalism and feminist movements. The writers' gender, national and ethnic identity is refracted through their works and gives us insight into their unique experience as members of different ethnic communities.

SYLLABUS (outline and summary of topics)

Louise Erdrich – The Round House
Isabel Allende – The House of Spirits
Amy Tan – The Joy Luck Club
Edwidge Danticat – “Krik? Krak!”
Barbara Kingsolver – The Poisonwood Bible
Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie – Purple Hibiscus

LEARNING AND TEACHING (planned learning activities and teaching methods)

Descriptive and comparative method. close reading

REQUIRED READING

Louise Erdrich, *The Round House*, Harper Perennial, 2013
Isabel Allende, *The House of Spirits*, Dial Press, 2005
Amy Tan, *The Joy Luck Club*, Penguin, 2006
Edwidge Danticat, “Krik? Krak!”, Vintage, 1996
Barbara Kingsolver, *The Poisonwood Bible*, Harper Perennial, 2008
Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Purple Hibiscus*, Algonquin Books, 2012
Catherine Rainwater, William Scheick, *Contemporary American Women Writers: Narrative Strategies*, University Press of Kentucky, 2005
Marilyn Kallet (Author), Patricia Clark (Author), *Worlds in Our Words: Contemporary American Women Writers*, Longman, 1996
Lois Parkinson Zamora, *Contemporary American Women Writers: Gender, Class, Ethnicity*, Routledge, 1998

ASSESSMENT METHODS AND CRITERIA

Written exam (50%), oral exam (50%)

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English