



## ERASMUS+ INCOMING STUDENTS COURSE CATALOGUE

### Department of English Language and Literature

COURSE TITLE: Modern Irish Literature		
Course instructor	Irena Grubica, MA, senior lecturer	
Study programme	English language and literature	
Status of the course	Elective	
Year of study	3	
ECTS credits and manner of instruction	ECTS credits	2
	Number of class hours (Lectures + Exercises + Seminars)	0+0+30

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION
<b>1.1. Course objectives</b>
The main objectives of this course are to enhance students' critical thinking skills through the literary analysis of selected texts that reflect a broader cultural context, to introduce students to Irish culture of the nineteenth century which is often considered as a paradigmatic example of a culture that demonstrates the resistance to colonialism in Europe, to give a diachronic overview of the development of modern Irish literature with the focus on the recurrent themes and motifs related to the formation of Irish national identity from 1890 to 1990ties in selected works from different genres written by the major Irish authors and perform literary analysis of some of these works. One of the important aims of this course is also to hone students' skills needed for oral and written analysis and the interpretation of literary texts.
<b>1.2. Course enrolment requirements and entry competences required for the course</b>
Excellent command of the English language.
<b>1.3. Expected course learning outcomes</b>
Upon completion of the course Modern Irish Literature, the students will be able to:
1. name the major figures in Irish literature from 1890 until today
2. contextualize their work within the canon of world literature in general and Anglophone literatures in particular
3. provide a written and oral interpretation of their most important works from different genres selected for the analysis in the classroom, in particular from a cultural and postcolonial perspective (e.g. write an

interpretative essay and deliver an oral presentation)

4. provide argued criticism on the works included in the course syllabus

#### 1.4. Course content

After a short introduction to the history of Irish literature and the problematization of the term Irish and Anglo-Irish literature, followed by a concise overview of the debates in the 1890ties about the use of the Irish language, the course proceeds with a literary and cultural analysis of some selected works by W. B. Yeats and his (re)definition of Irish identity (with some glimpses of Lady Gregory's work and the role of the Irish national theatre). The main focus of the course is on the works of Irish (post)modernist writers, including James Joyce, Samuel Beckett and Flann O'Brian. (Post)modernism is discussed as a literary and cultural phenomenon and this discussion is intertwined with an in-depth analysis of the major issues related to the formation of national and cultural identity through language and the relationships between politics and language. The analysis of works selected for the course aims at revealing complex relations between political nationalism and culture in modern Ireland, the formation of the subject in modernism, as well as the problematization of Anglo-Irish dualism. Postcolonial topics recurrent in Irish literature are also analysed in the works of Elizabeth Bowen, Brian Friel, modern and contemporary Irish poets. Some documentary materials and films will be used in the classroom.

#### 1.5. Manner of instruction

- ✓ Lectures
- ✓ Seminars and workshops
- Distance learning
- ✓ Individual assignments
- ✓ Other: research