Course Unit Descriptor

Study Programme: English Studies

Course Unit Title: Transgressive Literature

Course Unit Code: 21EM012

Name of Lecturer(s): Ass. Prof. Arijana Luburić Cvijanović, PhD; Ass. Prof. Viktorija Krombholc, PhD

**Type and Level of Studies:** Master

Course Status (compulsory/elective): elective

Semester (winter/summer): winter+summer

Language of instruction: English

Mode of course unit delivery (face-to-face/distance learning): Face-to-face

**Number of ECTS Allocated:** 6

Prerequisites: B2 English

### **Course Aims:**

Students are introduced to different aspects of transgression in Anglophone literature. They learn about the development of transgressive literature as a genre and the socio-historical context from which it emerged. Discussions of works by representative authors will provide insight into one of the most controversial genres of Anglophone literature.

# **Learning Outcomes:**

Students are expected to become familiar with various aspects of transgression in Anglophone literature, through the analysis of works by key authors. The knowledge gained in the course will lead to a deeper understanding of the latest tendencies in contemporary Anglophone literature and provide insight into transgression in film and popular culture.

## **Syllabus:**

## Theory

Transgression as a mode and as a genre. Transgression as a technique of subversion, transgression and abjection, transgression and the carnivalesque. Development of transgressive literature and its socio-historical context. Key features of transgressive literature (themes, characters, language, style). Transgressive aspects of magical realism. Transgressive poetry and drama. Transgression and form: graphic novel. Transgressive literature and satire. Transgressive literature and film.

#### Practice

Analysis of selected texts: Bret Easton Ellis, *American Psycho*; Chuck Palahniuk, *Fight Club*; Cormac McCarthy, *No Country for Old Men*; Will Self, *Dorian: An Imitation*; Philip Roth, *Portnoy's Complaint*; Jeanette Winterson, *Art&Lies*; Hanif Kureishi, 'The Body'; Nick Cave, selected poems; Anthony Nielson, *Normal*; Frank Miller, *Sin City: The Hard Goodbye*.

## **Required Reading:**

Booker, M. K. Techniques of Subversion in Modern Literature: Transgression, Abjection, and the Carnivalesque,

Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1991.

Mookerjee, R. Transgressive Fiction: The New Satiric Tradition, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013.

Stallybrass, P. and White, A. The Politics of Poetics of Transgression, Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1986.

Weekly Contact Hours: Lectures: Practical work:

**Teaching Methods:** 

Lectures, interactive classes: text analysis and discussion.  Knowledge Assessment (maximum of 100 points):				
Active class		written exam	30	
participation		witten exam	30	
Practical work		oral exam		-
Tests	2x25			
Seminar paper	20			