

Transilvania University of Braşov, Romania

Study program: American Studies

Faculty of Letters

Study period: 3 years (bachelor)

1st Year

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Introduction to Cultural Studies	English	5	2	2		

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: the nature of culture; time; space; identity (ethnic, religious, gender); mass media; teen-age culture; technology.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Time Space Event	English	5	2	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: Culture: a Complex Conundrum; Myths; Difference and Identity. Central versus Marginal; The Self and the Others. Cultural communities; Ideologies, representations, language; National Identity; Religious Identity; Race and Ethnicity; Gender Identities; High culture versus Low Culture; Pop Culture, Subculture. Urban Culture; Visual Culture and Media Culture.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Communication Techniques	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: Reciprocal and non-reciprocal communication; Language registers and context; Formal aspects of communication (cohesion and coherence); Linguistic skills vs. communicative abilities; Characterization of discourse acts (speech acts); Conversation analysis vs. Linguistic description; Non-verbal communication; Communication through art.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Introduction to Academic Ethics	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The purpose of this course is to make students aware of the ethical issues involved in academic work. The course covers topics such as giving references, quoting, use of IT in writing or presenting academic papers.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
English Language Practical Course: Writing	English	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This practical course aims at familiarizing students with the general rules of drafting texts in English, coherently organising and structuring information into paragraphs, using appropriate connectors, checking and proofreading the final draft, as well as, on the one hand, understanding the characteristic features which differentiates among them, and, on the other hand, observing the rules of academic ethics.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Democracy in the USA	English	3	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course presents the structure of American democracy and the way in which it has evolved. The topics covered are the principle of popular sovereignty, legal power, the freedom of the press, individualism, freedom and equality.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Cultural Geography and Regional Development in the USA	English	2	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This is an introductory course demonstrating some of the practical uses of American Studies as a discipline. It maps out the constitutive cultural diversity of the United States highlighting the problems (and solutions) inherent to this particular multicultural way of life. The course mainly draws from practical examples, but it also contains a few theoretical tools that can be used to understand them.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American English - Phonetics	English	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course explains the articulatory system for language that leads to the production of vowel and consonant sounds in the major dialects in the sound system of English. Central issues are: principles of classifying sounds, sounds in connected speech: juncture/assimilation/elision, structure of the English syllable, the suprasegmental phonemes (stress, rhythm and intonation), the pronunciation of English in the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
English Language Practical Course: Grammar Structures and Vocabulary (1)	English	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The Grammar Structures practical course will develop students' ability to use the grammar of English in both spoken and written communication through interactive exercises. The course covers the tenses, modal verbs, the passive voice, the conditional, the subjunctive, gerunds and infinitives, the noun, the article, the adjective, the adverb, indirect speech and sentence formation.

The Vocabulary practical course will develop students' ability to communicate in both spoken and written English through providing efficient techniques of improving their vocabulary for specific purposes. The course covers a range of exercises regarding word-formation and lessons focused on vocabulary for specific purposes such as mass-media, the educational system or the financial world.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Literature as Identity	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course focuses on different ways of constructing the selfhood and covers the following topics: T. S. Eliot – „Tradition and the Individual Talent“; New Criticism – Mark Schorer – formalist criticism as discovery; Northrop Frye – Myth, fiction and verisimilitude, the relation between myth and literature; Formal analyses – sonnets by W. Shakespeare and Philip Sydney, poems by Emily Dickinson; Narrative analysis- E. Hemingway – „Cat in the Rain“, imagery and symbols.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Field Research Methodology	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The aim of this course is to engage students with methods used in qualitative research in the field of Cultural Anthropology. Students will acquire the essential methodology required for conducting proper research in the field - cultural shock, participant observation, different types of interviews, oral history, life narratives - and will practice an anthropological perspective important as an exercise for social empathy.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Introduction to US Civilization	English	4	2	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: The American people: settlement and immigration; The Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos; Native American cultural regions; Cultural regions in the contemporary US; Religion and family life; The American lifestyle; The American psyche; Washington D.C. – historical and cultural treasures; National parks.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Art Forms of the Word	English	4	1	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics : Thomas Jefferson: The Declaration of Independence, Abraham Lincoln: Second Inaugural Address, John F. Kennedy: Inaugural Address, Malcolm X: The Ballot or the Bullet, Martin Luther King: I Have a Dream, Jesse Jackson: 1984 Democratic National Convention Address, Langston Hughes: The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain, Hilary Clinton: Women’s Rights are Human Rights, Franklin Roosevelt: The Four Freedoms, Margaret Sanger: The Morality of Birth Control, Mary Fischer: A Whisper of AIDS, Ellie Wiesel: The Perils of Indifference, Barack Obama: Inaugural Address.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American Literature – the 19th Century	English	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course is consciously eclectic: it focuses on major writers, trends, and phenomena during the 19th century; it presents well-established, “standard” opinions; it includes different approaches and points of emphasis. Although arranged in chronological order, the course is not really a history of American literature of that specific period but a survey. American writing from the early colonial days through the end of the 19th century is divided into 12 units. Some units are devoted to single writers (Twain, James) or perhaps two (Melville and Hawthorne, Whitman and Dickinson). Some discuss specific literary genres (novel, short story, poetry, romance) or trends (the realistic and naturalistic tradition, transcendentalism), while others are organized by historical periods.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
The History of the USA	English	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: The Colonization of the North American Continent; The American War of Independence; North and South in the 19th Century: Two Economical Models; The Civil War; The U.S.A. in WWI and W. Wilson’s Foreign Policy; The Interwar Period: From Prohibition to the “New Deal”; The U.S.A. in WWII; The American Society during the Cold War; The U.S.A. and the New Global Order (1989-2001).

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American English - Lexicology	English	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: structure and classification, the diachronic approach to the English vocabulary (Old English, Middle English, and Modern English), the synchronic approach to the English vocabulary, word-formation rules, meaning and changes of meaning, figures of speech that bring about changes of meaning, sense relations, lexical strata in contemporary English.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
English Language Practical Course: Grammar Structures and Vocabulary (2)	English	2	-	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: Verb Tenses, The Noun, The Adjective, The Pronoun, The Numeral, The Adverb, The Preposition, The Conjunction. The Vocabulary practical course will develop students' ability to communicate in both spoken and written English through providing efficient techniques of improving their vocabulary for specific purposes. The course covers a range of exercises regarding ways of vocabulary acquisition, words in context, dictionary usage, semantic fields.

2nd Year

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Popular Culture	English	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: What is popular culture?; The 'culture and civilization' tradition: Matthew Arnold and Leavisism; Mass culture and Americanization; Americanization and the critique of mass culture theory; The Frankfurt School and the culture industry: Adorno's theory of popular music, Cadillacs and doo-wop; Structuralism and popular culture: Barthes and Lévi-Strauss; Althusser's theory of ideology; Gramsci's concept of hegemony; Feminism and popular culture: women and advertising in the American context; Postmodernism and contemporary popular culture: American pop music, cinema, television, architecture; Erosion of identity; Globalization as cultural Americanization.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	Seminar	laboratory	project
Institutions and Way of Life	English	5	2	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course deals with different types of institutions (education, politics, economics) and the way they affect human behaviour and expectations, with examples taken from the USA.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Introduction to Linguistics	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: The Architecture of Language, Linguistic typologies, Language Contact and Contact Languages, Bilingualism and its role in promoting cultural and language contact, Contact-induced language change, Linguistic borrowing: causes and consequences, Types of borrowing and their fate in the recipient language.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American Literature 1900-1945	English	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: Introduction – modernity and modernism; Henry James – the international theme; The 20s – experiment and decadentism; F. Scott Fitzgerald – „The Great Gatsby“; E. Hemingway – exploring the psychological dimension; John Dos Passos – the stylistic and existential search; features of the modern American literature.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
The Theory of Culture	English	4	2	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course provides a presentation of the philosophical understanding of the concept of culture (Kant, Voltaire, Rousseau, Vico, Herder) and focuses on the relationship between culture and religion, technology, political values and social conflict.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Perspectives into Cultural Studies	English	2	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course will present a short history of the discipline by focusing on the idea of "art work". Topics to be discussed will be Walter Benjamin's essay on the history of art, his concepts of "aura" and "dialectics", Adorno's critique of "culture industry", and contemporary discussions about performativity.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Social Anthropology	English	3	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course offers a basic introduction to the discipline and covers topics such as Elements of action theory and structural functionalism, Elements of social and cultural anthropology, Elements of ethnography and cultural studies Elements of social dramaturgy and symbolic anthropology.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American Literature after 1945	English	3	1	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: The profile of the American conscience; features of contemporary American literature; social and literary models on the American scene – the 50s; The 60s: the crusade for human rights, Jack Kerouac; Postmodernism: characteristics in the American context, main representatives; John Barth – constructing alternatives to reality; Th. Pynchon – extreme radicalism, entropy and parody.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 1: The Anthropology of the Sacred	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course explores the dialectic relation between sacred and profane but it also looks at the intersection between religion and American society. It will approach topics regarding the early American religious utopias, but also the evangelical "Great Awakenings," as well as the idea of an American civil religion.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 1: The Anthropology of the Art	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course explores the idea of beauty in art, the process of artistic creation, and the possible medium of artistic expression, as well as the function of art in contemporary society.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 2: Literary Translations	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: Formal and dynamic equivalence in translation; Baker's equivalence levels; Style and register in translation; Translatability vs. Untranslatability; Translation review methods; Corpus-based Translation.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 2: Interpretation Studies	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This elective aims at introducing the students to the theory and practice of interpretation. The topics covered include: definition of interpretation, consecutive and simultaneous interpretation, sight translation, bilateral interpretation, message reception, information processing, cognitive aspects of interpretation, note-taking, formulating the message in the target language. During the seminars, the students will experiment the interpretation techniques presented at the course.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 3 Civil Rights and Social Movements in the USA	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course offers an overview of the Civil Rights Movement with an emphasis on the 1960s. The fight for equal opportunity in the United States for the African-American community had started almost a century before, at the end of the Civil War, when they were formally granted citizenship, yet society continued to deny them full participation in the civic life of the country. Racial discrimination is discussed by reference to a couple of milestone events in American history, such as the Emmett Till murder, the Rosa Parks "incident" or Martin Luther King's famous speech "I have a Dream". The course also addresses social and historical movements related to the Civil Rights, such as the migrant workers plight, the Red Scare and McCarthyism, and the Vietnam War. The ultimate purpose is to encourage students to practice critical thinking on controversial issues. The seminar focuses on Philipp Roth's novel *The Human Stain* and provides students with the opportunity to take a close look at a literary masterpiece which challenges readers to reflect on the constructed nature of our racial, ethnic and gender identity.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 3 American Intellectual History	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course traces the genealogies of several historic American intellectual traditions (individualism, democracy, liberty, transcendentalism, pragmatism) and discusses their impact on American contemporary life.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 4 Mass Media in the USA	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course provides a presentation of the main mass media areas, covering topics such as newspapers, TV, radio, cinema, Internet, electronic games, which are presented diachronically and synchronically.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 4 The Discourse of US Newspapers	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course offers a presentation of the evolution of the US newspapers from the 17th to the 21st century. It presents the functions and types of newspapers, article structure, photographs analysis, mythical approach of articles.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 5 American English – Morphosyntax – The Verb Phrase	English	2	0	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The verb phrase is analysed in terms of auxiliaries, finite and non-finite form, tense, aspect, structure, all these topics being approached from a theoretical and practical perspective.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 5 American English – Morphosyntax – The Noun Phrase	English	2	0	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The noun phrase is presented in terms of its structure (determiners, premodifier, and postmodifier), the topics being approached from a theoretical and practical perspective.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 6: Urban Culture and the American City	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: Culture, ideology and diversity. Immigration. Formation of national identity. City growth and structure. Contradictions in the 1920s. Depression years. The contemporary American city.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 6: Conversation Analysis	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Conversation Analysis explores the building of meaning in talk-in-interaction with the help of instruments belonging to various disciplines such as sociolinguistics, pragmatics or the philosophy of language. It aims at analyzing the way in which meaning is built during verbal interaction and it reviews key terms such as: context, conversation structure, the dynamics of verbal exchanges, speech act theory, felicity conditions, implicature, inference, cooperation and politeness.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 7: American Literature - Contemporary Perspectives	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course aims at offering an insight into the 20th century American short story, while providing the necessary knowledge and tools for completing a literary analysis of them. In this respect, it looks at the contemporary American short story as a reflection of a cultural moment and paradigm, in order to offer an inclusive and nuanced perspective of an already consecrated literary form. In this respect, the course focuses on some of the best known contemporary American authors, in an attempt to elicit a cultural and literary pattern.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 7: The Globalization Cultures and Literature	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This elective course aims at putting forward some of the most representative literary pieces of English expression around the world, in order to look into how language has shaped a literature of globalization. In this respect, the course focuses on cultural spaces geographically distinct, such as the Canadian, the Australian, the

American, the British, the Indian, etc., which are intimately connected by the use of the same language in its local variations: English. Thus, this course offers a global understanding of literature beyond boundaries.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 8: Mass Media Discourse	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course focuses on identifying and analyzing traditional and new-media genres and discursive strategies employed by journalists and content creators. The theoretical input is accompanied by a consistent analytical framework employing (critical) discourse analysis, multimodal analysis and rhetoric devices.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 8: Institutional Discourse	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course offers an insight into the cultural and discursive features of oral and written communication in both blue-collar and white-collar organisations, with a focus on management communication, meetings, gendered communication at work, small-talk and humor in the workplace. The theoretical input is a pretext for the analysis of authentic linguistic data and for the production of some basic written genres specific to this field (letter of application, letter of complaint, recommendation, report, proposal, etc.).

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 9: Introduction to American Philosophy	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course offers an introduction to the field of American Philosophy, structured into three categories: philosophical problems, key-concepts and authors. The special background and intellectual history of philosophy in America is surveyed from Jonathan Edwards' Calvinism, through those Founding Fathers who represent authors of the philosophical Enlightenment and through the masters of the 19th century (Thoreau, Emerson, W. James, C. S. Peirce) and finishing with contemporary authors like Quine, Putnam or Rorty.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 9: Digital Culture	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course explores the intellectual genealogy of contemporary digital culture, seeking at the same time to introduce students to the main debates on this particular topic: democracy, intellectual property, artistic value, and epistemic paradigms.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 10: American English Syntax Nominal Clauses	English	2	0	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course provides a theoretical and practical approach to the noun phrase and nominal clauses (introduced by that, for-to and-ing).

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 10: American English Syntax Relative and Adverbial Clauses	English	2	0	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course provides a theoretical and practical approach to the relative and adverbial clauses, from a formal and semantic perspective.

3rd Year

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	English	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: What is anthropology?; Anthropology domains of study: physical anthropology, historical anthropology, linguistic anthropology, socio-cultural anthropology, applied anthropology; Method and theory in cultural anthropology; Ethnography, Ethnology; Directions in cultural anthropology, schools of thought and theorists: Animism, Diffusionism, Evolutionism, Functionalism, Marxist anthropology, Structuralism, Cultural relativism, Postmodernism; American School of Cultural Anthropology; Research methods in cultural anthropology.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Visual Culture in Art and Mass-Media	English	3	1	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course is focused on the American visual culture; it attempts a definition of this interdisciplinary field and provides a classification of its objects of study: painting, photography, print image and graphic design, architecture, fine art as well as a classification film, television, cyberspace.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
The Literature of Ethnic Minorities	English	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: The birth of minority literature; Chicano literature in the context of American literature; Characteristics and evolution of Chicano literature; Representatives of Chicano literature: José Antonio Villarreal, Tomàs Rivera, Rudolfo A. Anaya; Native American literatures; Tribal poetics; Representatives of contemporary Native American literature: Louise Erdrich, Linda Hogan, N. Scott Momaday, James Welch; An introduction to Chinese-American and Japanese-American literature: Frank Chin, Lawson Fusao Inada; The issue of cultural identity in the literature of ethnic minorities.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American Literature – 21 st Century	English	3	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course aims at offering a comprehensive outlook on contemporary American fiction, focusing on the major themes and modes of contemporary narration, as well as on the main aesthetic changes that have occurred in the past few decades. In this respect, it focuses on a selection of American authors whose work illustrates the current trends in contemporary world literature, as well as the features of American culture.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
The American Film	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course focuses on the history of genre in films. It concentrates on distinguishing among types of fiction such as horror, crime, film noir, docudrama, and many other categories. It also dwells into the history of film-making, Hollywood productions, and types of film techniques and strategies. Besides the assigned bibliography, the students will have to watch and engage both through discussions and writing several major films dealing with, or resulted from, this particular topic.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Political Culture and Religion in Human Society	English	4	2	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course looks at the major political traditions of a contemporary democratic society, as well as their current and past intersections with religion.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Ethnocultural Diversity and Identity	English	4	2	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: Conceptualising Identity. Theories and Debates on Identity; Cultural Identities: Sameness and Difference. Identity and Otherness. Difference and Identity; The Construction of Identity; Hybridity and Multi-layered Cultural Identities; Cultural communities. Imagined Communities or Communal Images?; The Matrix of National Identity: Conceptualising, Performing, Representing and Exhibiting National Identity; Central versus Marginal Identity; Identity and Multiculturalism: Globalization. Mixing Cultural Identities through Transracial Adoption: the American Melting Pot.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Anglo-American Prose Analysis	English	2		1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course aims at offering an insight into the 20th century short story, providing the necessary knowledge and tools for completing a literary analysis of them. In this respect, it looks at contemporary Anglo-American short stories as a reflection of a cultural moment and paradigm.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 1: History and World Civilization	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course presents a genealogy of the intellectual tradition that created the cultural landscape we now call "The West." It focuses on some of the most important primary texts of this tradition, from its inception to the contemporary times.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 1: History and European Civilization	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course presents a genealogy of the intellectual tradition that created the idea of Europe, both from a political-economic standpoint, but also cultural. It focuses on some of the most important primary texts of this tradition, from its inception to the contemporary times.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 2: The Educational System in the US	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course deals with the philosophical, sociological, psychological, economic and political foundations of education in the United States and addresses current legal acts affecting education today and in the future.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 2: The US Constitution	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course examines the major contours of the American Constitution: the Constitutional history and framework of social and underlying philosophy; how the Constitution defines and restricts the power of the national government; and how the Constitution protects individual rights and liberties. The two major themes that run through the course are federalism and separation of powers.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 3: Cultural Management	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This is an introduction on what the management of cultural events and productions is and includes research on magazines, museums and ethno-cultural diversity. It draws on articles and recorded talks to indicate modalities in which culture is promoted and sold, along various critiques of its uses and commodification.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 3: Cultural Policies	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The aim of this elective course is to present how cultural policies are shaped as the result of the complex processes of institutional planning and under the influence of international and Romanian regulations. It contains research on funding for theaters, cinemas, museums and other institutions.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 4: Pragmatics (1)	English	2	0	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): In this part of the course students will explore aspects of how meaning is generated and understood in communication. The semester will begin with an exploration of deixis and its role in conveying implicit meaning in various contexts. Students will then be introduced to the diverse types of speech acts, understanding how these acts function in daily communication. The course will cover the basics of the cooperative principle, laying the groundwork for understanding its significance in conversational inference and implicature. This semester will primarily focus on the theoretical aspects of pragmatics, providing students with a strong conceptual framework. As part of their practical training, students will start learning transcription conventions, an essential skill for capturing and analyzing spoken discourse. The semester will conclude with an introduction to analyzing casual conversations, setting the stage for more advanced topics in the following semester.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 4: Discourse Analysis (1)	English	2	0	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): In the first part of this course, students will be introduced to concepts and methodologies essential for understanding and analyzing discourse. They will start with an exploration of key concepts such as discourse, genre, text, and context, will learn about various approaches to discourse analysis and begin examining the relationship between discourse and text, with an emphasis on grammatical and lexical cohesion. The course will then cover the notion of discourse communities and the diverse roles that genre plays in communication. Additionally, the course will explore the basics of knowledge structure in discourse, introducing the relevance theory. In this part of the course, students will cover interaction in written texts, the reciprocity principle and basic aspects of information structure.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 5: American Prose Analysis	English	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: Introduction- theoretical and practical aspects; E. A. Poe – „The Black Cat”, gothic and romantic elements in American romanticism; Katherine Anne Porter – „The Grave” – features of the literature of the South.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 5: American Literary Criticism 20th Century	English	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course aims at introducing the most relevant 20th century American literary theories, in order to establish the necessary connections between various contemporary American ideas and discourses about literature. From Modernism to American New Criticism, Formalism and Deconstruction, this course presents the major schools of criticism and the concepts they operate with in order to establish a dialogue between theory and fiction.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 6: Gender Discourse in Humanities	English	3	1	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course aims at offering a panoramic understanding of gender as a cultural concept and of its implications in the discourse of cultural studies, at identifying and analysing the particular features of gender discourse, as a recipient of many cultural misconceptions and the generator of even more cultural stereotypes. In this sense, the course approaches issues such as feminism, power relations, gender stereotypes, gender and the media, gender in literature and gender in politics.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 6: Gender Discourse in Mass media	English	3	1	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course aims at offering a panoramic understanding of gender as a cultural concept and of its implications in the discourse of the mass media, focusing on how gender is relevant in the written and visual media and how it has appropriated a set of cultural stereotypes that have become ubiquitous in its media representations. In this sense, this course insists on the practical analysis of various media products within the framework of gender theories, in order to expose how gender roles, power relations and gender discourse are being produced and received.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 7: The History of Immigration	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course aims at presenting the waves of immigration in the USA and their respective effects on the economic, social, and cultural life of the country.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 7: Cultural Pluralism	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course is an exploration of the American idea and tradition of cultural pluralism. It will move along the usual coordinates of race, class, and gender, highlighting the historic and contemporary effects these have on American society.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 8: US Utopias	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The concept of utopia has an uneasy connection with the American culture and politics. Despite its inherent problems, the course discusses this connection addressing a series of cultural phenomena and political projects throughout the history of United States: from the Puritans and Quakers of early America to the Great Awakenings, and from Woodrow Wilson's crusade for democracy to George W. Bush's "Vulcan" administration.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 8: Post-colonial Literature	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course is an attempt to introduce students to the complex problematic of post-colonial studies. Basic characteristics of both colonialism and post-colonialism are presented in an attempt to create a comprehensive image of the theory that provides the background of the texts to be analyzed.

The novels selected deal with the issue of cultural identity in colonized societies, the dilemmas of developing a national identity after colonial rule, the ways in which writers articulate and celebrate identity often reclaiming it from and maintaining strong connections with the colonizers, the ways in which the knowledge of the colonized people has been used to serve the colonizers' interests and the ways in which the colonizers' literature has justified colonialism via images of the colonized as inferior people.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 9: Political Discourse Critical Analysis	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: Discursive practices in the Parliament, Festive political speeches, Humorous action and interaction in present-day parliamentary debate, A different way of doing politics: creating brands in the political arena.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 9: Advertising Discourse Analysis	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course covers the following topics: Short history of advertising, Construction and deconstruction of meaning, The power of slogans, Sentence types and sentence structure, Puns, associations, and meanings, Multimodal analysis: Words and pictures.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 10: Introduction to Geopolitics	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The topics covered in this course include: The globalization of politics: American foreign policy in the 21st century. International relations and geopolitics as a method of studying foreign policy. Focus on security, intelligence and diplomatic relations. Geopolitics and diplomacy – understanding the political, economic and social situation of different regions of the world knowledge. Current geopolitical issues: tensions between Russia and NATO, cyberattacks, strategic competition between US and China, COVID-19 pandemic fallout.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 10: Introduction to Folklore	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The topics covered in this course include American folklore: folktales, songs, dances, myths and legends. Traditional folklore of the Native American peoples: the Universe of Spirits, Dreams – the Approach of the Sacred, Powers conferred on the Medicine Men – healing practices, ceremonies, rituals, vision quest experiences, sacred stones and places, the Land and the Cosmos: making plants grow, bringing rain, changing the nature of a storm, rain as an affirmation of a blessing.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 11: Pragmatics (2)	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Building on the knowledge gained in the first part of the PRAGMATICS course students will explore the application of pragmatic concepts in real-world settings. The focus will shift to examining different speech events and activity types, exploring how these are manifested in various communication scenarios. Students will engage extensively in conversation analysis, with a special emphasis on talk-in-interaction in professional settings. This part of the course will enable students to apply their understanding of pragmatic principles in analyzing and interpreting complex interactions. The practical aspect will be further enhanced by advanced training in transcription conventions, where students will transcribe and analyze more challenging pieces of spoken discourse. By the end of the semester, students will have developed a comprehensive skill set that allows them to analyze pragmatic aspects of communication effectively, both in casual and professional contexts.

Course title	Language of instruction	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 11: Discourse Analysis (2)	English	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Building on the introductory concepts from the first part, the DISCOURSE ANALYSIS course will advance into more complex and specialized areas of the field. It will focus on the practical application of theories and methods learned earlier. Students will extensively engage with the study of intertextuality, exploring its various types and implications in discourse analysis. A significant portion of the course will be dedicated to critical discourse analysis, particularly emphasizing its application in political and social domains. This will involve analyzing how discourse shapes and is shaped by sociopolitical contexts. Additionally, the course will address the application of discourse analysis in intercultural communication and examine discourse in gendered contexts, offering students a holistic view of how discourse functions in diverse settings. By the end of this semester, students will have developed a deeper understanding and ability to critically analyze and interpret complex discourses in various real-world contexts.