

Course title	World literature history: Ancient times - the 19th century I
Course code	LitZ1041
Credit points	2
ECTS creditpoints	3
Total Contact Hours	32
Number of hours for lectures	32

Course developers

Inna Dvorecka

Course abstract

The course is envisaged for students of bachelor's study programme "History (cultural history)".

The aim of the course is to provide concept of basic periods in the history of Western European literature (from emergence of literature of Ancient Greeks till Renaissance). The main attention is drawn to principles of depiction of human, space and time in literature from ancient times till Renaissance.

Tasks of the course:

- to promote improvement and systematization of students' knowledge in history of Western European literature;
- to provide percept of peculiarities of development of European literature from ancient times till Renaissance;
- to acquaint with the most significant creative works in this time period;
- to develop students' skills of independent analysis of literary creative works from ancient times till Renaissance in the context artistic paradigm, represented in them.

Learning outcomes

Students, having acquired the study course

- demonstrate understanding of development logic of history of Western European literature from ancient times till Renaissance.
- are able to independently identify, analyse and evaluate causes and results of alterations in basic periods of literary process of Western Europe;
- possess skills to apply theoretical and historical knowledge in research of Western European literature phenomena;
- possess skills to analytically describe any world view, depicted in literary creative works in Western Europe from ancient times till Renaissance;
- independently improve their own professional competence, studying topical tendencies in research of Western European literature.

Course plan

Course structure: lectures - 32 h.

Themes of lectures:

1. Ancient Greek mythology. Mythology - one of the forms of premieval human cognition, base of Ancient Greek literature.
2. Ancient Greek epos. Structure and semantics of Homer's epos.
3. Ancient Greek literature of archaic period.
4. Ancient Greek literature of classical period. Greek drama, comedy, emergence of prose, themes, philosophy and ideology of tragedy.
5. Hellenism literature.
6. Literature in Ancient Rome republic. Roman theatre.
7. Literature in period of Ancient Rome principate and empire. Historiography.
8. Literature of the Early Middle Age. Crisis of antique culture.
9. Literature of the developed Middle Age. Heroic epos in Classical Middle Age.
10. Crisis of medieval culture cognition and formation of Humanism. Proto-Renaissance.
11. Literature of classical Renaissance. Renaissance literature in Italy.
12. Renaissance literature in France.
13. Renaissance literature in Spain and Portugal.
14. Reformation. Literature of northern Renaissance. Renaissance literature in the Netherlands. Renaissance literature in Germany.
15. Renaissance literature in England.
16. Literature of Late Renaissance. Split of culture cognition and crisis of Humanism.

Independent work: elaboration of research paper on one of themes.

Tests during the semester:

Ancient Greek mythology: plots and characters

Bible in European literature: plots and characters

Requirements for awarding credit points

Regular attendance of classes - 40%, accomplishment of independent tasks - 40%, passed final examination (differentiated test) - 20%.

Compulsory reading

1. Ambote A. Senā Grieķija. Rīga. 1999.
2. Ambote A. Senā Roma. Rīga. 1999.
3. Mitoloģija. 2 sējums. Rīga, 1993. - 1994.
4. Morris C. The Discovery of the Individual, 1050-1200. London, 1972.
5. История всемирной литературы. Тт. 1 - 3. Москва, 1983 - 1994. (Internetā: „Fundamentālā elektroniskā bibliotēka” (ФЭБ) - <http://feb-web.ru/feb/ivi/default.asp>)
6. Мифы народов мира. Т.1, 2. Москва, 1992.-1994.

Further reading

1. A history of Icelandic literature / edited by Daisy Neijmann. Lincoln, 2006.
2. Averincevs S. Cilvēks un vārds. Rīga, 1998.
3. Agrā renesanse. Rīga : Zvaigzne, 1981.
4. Ārzemju literatūras vēsture: Viduslaiki un Renesanse. Rīga, 1968.
5. Bahtins M. Laiks un hronotops // Kentaurs XXI. 1999. Nr. 19. 111. – 129.lpp.
6. Bate J. Shakespeare : staging the world. London, 2012.
7. Bradley A. C. Shakespearean tragedy : lectures on Hamlet, Othello, King Lear, Macbeth Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire; New York, 2007.
8. Chernaik W.L. The Cambridge introduction to Shakespeare's history plays. Cambridge, 2007.
9. Cole A. Renesanse : enciklopēdija. Rīga, 2001.
10. Curtius E. R. European literature and the Latin Middle Ages. Princeton, New Jersey, 2013.
11. Fletcher A. Time, space, and motion in the Age of Shakespeare. Cambridge, Massachusetts; London, 2007.
12. Gurevich A. J. Categories of Medieval culture. Trans. by G. L. Campbell. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1985. / Гуревич А.Я. Категории средневековой культуры. Москва, 1984.
13. Le Goff J. In search of sacred time : Jacobus de Voragine and the Golden legend. Princeton, 2014.
14. Le Goff J. The medieval imagination. Chicago; London, 1992.
15. Rubenis A. Renesanses filosofiski maģiskais reālisms. Rīga, 2008.
16. Senās Romas literatūras antoloģija. Rīga, 1994.
17. Sengrieķu literatūras antoloģija. Rīga, 1990.
18. Sophocles and the Greek tragic tradition / edited by Simon Goldhill and Edith Hall. Cambridge; New York, 2009.
19. The Cambridge companion to English Renaissance tragedy / edited by Emma Smith and Garrett A. Sullivan, Jr. Cambridge; New York, 2010.
20. Аверинцев С.С. Риторика и истоки европейской литературной традиции. Москва, 1996.
21. Ауэрбах Э. Мимесис. Изображение действительности в западноевропейской литературе. Москва - Санкт-Петербург, 2000.
22. Бахтин М. Творчество Франсуа Рабле и народная культура Средневековья и Ренессанса. Москва, 1990.
23. Лосев А.Ф. Эстетика Возрождения. Москва, 1998.
24. Мелетинский Е. Поэтика мифа. Москва, 2006.
25. Мелетинский Е. Происхождение героического эпоса: ранние формы и архаические памятники. Москва, 2004.
26. Мелетинский Е. Средневековый роман: происхождение и классические формы. Москва, 1983.
27. Словарь античности. Москва, 1989.
28. Эко У. Эволюция средневековой эстетики. Санкт-Петербург , 2004.

Periodicals and other sources

Zinātnisko rakstukrājumi: „Antiquitas Viva: Stusia classica”.

Žurnāli „Kentaurs”, „НЛО”, „Вопросы литературы”

Elektroniskā bibliotēka „Библиотека Гумер: литературоведение” (www.gumer.info/bibliotek_Buks/Literat/Index_Lit.php.)

Notes

ABSP "History" (cultural history) Part B.

Course content

1. Theme. Muthology - base of literature. L2
2. Ancient Greek literature. L8
3. Theme. Ancient Roman literature. L4
4. Theme. Medieval literature. L6
5. Theme. Literature of Renaissance. L12