

Transilvania University of Braşov, Romania

Study program: American Studies

Faculty of Letters

Study period: 3 years (bachelor)

1st Year

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Institutions and Public Life in the USA	IVP	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course deals with political principles which govern the contemporary American society, undoubtedly having the state as the basis of their origin and source of development. The states which compose the American Union nowadays, all present the same characteristics as far as regards the aspect of their institutions. According to their political or administrative existence the course is organized on three levels: local government, state government and the federal government.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
An Introduction to Cultural Studies	ISC	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The nature of culture; Time; Space; Identity (ethnicity, religious, gender); Mass media; Teen-age culture; Technology.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Cultural Concepts	CCu	3	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Cultural Geography and Regional Development of the USA	GCS	3	1	1	-	-

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

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American English - Phonetics	EAF	3	-	2	-	-

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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Communication Techniques	TCm	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Academic Skills	CAd	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The purpose of this lecture course and of its accompanying seminar is to help students become better readers of a variety of texts. The leading argument I am offering students is the idea that reading is a process in which meaning is constantly negotiated based on the „clues“ within the text. Students learn how to recognize textual suggestions and how to make use of them in a manner which does justice to the text. At the end of the course they will be able to paraphrase, identify arguments and supporting ideas and to position themselves with regards to the various messages a text conveys and they will engage in the reading process with a newly gained appreciation for their quality as academic readers and writers.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
English Language Practical Course: Grammar Structures and Vocabulary (1)	CPE1	3	-	2	-	-

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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Course: Applied Romanian Language (1)	LbRA1	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Lexical-semantic errors in Romanian: causes, mechanisms, prevention methods; Principles of current Romanian language spelling system; Mechanisms obtaining common nouns from proper nouns – stylistic valences.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
English Language Practical Course: Academic Writing in English	CPE2	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This is a course aimed to clarify the rigors of academic writing, with a focus on Chicago Manual of Style. Students will have to exercise and assimilate the methods used for researching and writing in the field of humanities.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
A Critical Introduction to American Literature	ICLA	4	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American Literature 1 – the 19th Century	LitA1	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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
History of the USA	IsA	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American English - Lexicology	EAL	2	-	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Mass Media in USA	MMS	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Introduction to communication; History of American journalism; Functions of the press; Organization of a newspaper; The language of newspapers; Newspapers and Politics; Newspapers and Wars: Representation of groups in newspapers; Myth in newspapers.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Introduction to American Civilization	ICA	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Art Forms of the Word	FdAC	4	1	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
English Language Practical Course: Grammar Structures and Vocabulary (2)	CPE3	3	-	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Course: Applied Romanian Language (2)	LbRA2	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Syntactic errors in Romanian language – causes, mechanisms, prevention methods; Aspects of hypercorrectness in Romanian language; Situational and stylistic appropriateness in various registers of Romanian language.

2nd Year

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American Literature between 1900-1945	LtA2	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American Popular Culture	CPALpc	5	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Democracy in the USA	DMS	5	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The course describes the modern American democracy in the form of a democratic republic and a representative democracy in the same time. It is focused on how the representatives are elected with the idea that they will accurately represent their constituents. The course is organized according to the government division into three branches to keep corruption in check. These three branches are the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches. No one branch contains absolute power; rather, each branch is balanced off of the others creating a system of checks and balances to protect the principles of democracy.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Civil Rights and Social Movements in USA	DCMS	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 Philip 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
An Introduction to Linguistics	ILg	2	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American English - Morphosyntax	EAM	2	-	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Verbs and Verb Phrases. Verb categories: Tense, Aspect, Voice. Finite and Non-finite verb forms. Nouns and Noun Phrases. Nominal Categories: Number and Case. Adjectives and Adjectival Phrases. Adverbs and Adverbials. Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Theory of Culture	TC	5	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The Theory of Culture course offers a discussion on the key concepts and schools of thought in the description and analysis of modern and contemporary society and culture. The topics range from the masters of XVIII century and their philosophical work (Kant, Voltaire, Rousseau, Herder, Vico) to the contemporary anthropology of Clifford Geertz and the cultural sociology of Peter Berger and Ronald Inglehart.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American Literature after 1945	LtA3	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Perspectives in American Studies	PSA	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This is an introductory course to American Studies as a discipline. It will present a short history of this discipline and then focus on its major current topics (and its specific way of treating them): cultural pluralism, popular culture, transnationalism.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American English – Syntax	EAS	3	-	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Ways of describing language; Syntactic categories; Copulative, intransitive and transitive predication; There insertion; Reflexivization; Coordination; Subordinate clauses –introduced by that, for-to and-ing; Interrogative and negative sentences; Relative clauses; Adverbial clauses

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American Sociology	ScA	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course is a basic introduction to the discipline of sociology, with a focus on its American developments throughout the twentieth century. The students will be exposed to the fundamental (European) theories of sociology, followed by an exploration of various American schools of sociological thought.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Training	Prt.	2	-	-	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The aim of practical training is to prepare the students for employment. The internship is organized in companies whose activity is related to the specialization of American Studies students: museums, cultural organizations, libraries, other types of companies.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 1: Transmedia Interpretation	ltm	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course uses a transmedia approach in order to highlight the ways in which a given literary text may be adapted and transformed by the medium of expression that acts as its host. We will look especially at the connections between literature, film, and video games, using hermeneutics as theoretical background.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 1: Art and Society	ASoc	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Theoretic syntheses of art: artistic style, artistic type, classification of arts; Features of artistic personality, genius and talent in art; The process of artistic creation: general presentation, stages of the creation process; Categories: the beautiful, sublime, grotesque, comic, tragic, fantastic etc.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 2: Literary Translations	TraLE3	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 2: Interpretation Studies	In	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The elective course INTERPRETATION STUDIES (in English) aims at introducing the students in 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 3: Modern and Contemporary American Poetry	PAM	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 19th century roots: E. A. Poe and Walt Whitman; Beginnings of the 20th century: Ezra Pound and Imagism; T. S. Eliot's objective correlative; William Carlos Williams and 'no ideas but in things'; Wallace Stevens and the supreme fiction; Confessional poetry: Robert Lowell, Sylvia Plath, John Berryman; Beat Generation Poetry: Allen Ginsberg, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Gregory Corso; Romanian Translations from American Poetry.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 3: Jewish Writers in American Literature	Sea	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Diaspora as a cultural descriptor; Paul Gilroy's idea of diaspora; The poetics of place; The Holocaust woven into the narrative fabric of America; The Jewish survivor inserted into the very typology of the American Dream; Philip Roth's The Ghost Writer and the condition of Jews in America; Cynthia Ozick's The Messiah of Stockholm: how to find one's place in life and how one might live that life; Jewish characters as critical readers of the texts of their pasts; Homi Bhabha and the construction of discourse on society.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 4: Urban Culture and the American City	Ocu	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective course 4: Conversation Analysis	Anc	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. The Conversation Analysis course aims at analyzing the way in which meaning is built during verbal interaction. The course 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 5: American Prose	PAM	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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 5: The Literature of Globalization	Ltgl	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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 6: Humour in Mass Media	Ums	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The optional course proposes an intercultural perspective on humour as it is displayed in the media. After discussing several definitions of humour, the main humorous genres, the typology and functions of humour, we aim at analyzing the linguistic means of creating and understanding culturally dependent humour. The analysed examples are taken from a large corpus of humour collected from printed, audio-visual, and online media. The analytical approach is highly practical, based on conversational and discourse analysis. The evaluation of the course is based on the same approach – making use of the theoretical background in order to analyze culturally dependent humour as it occurs in the media.

Course outline: Humour – definitions, genres, typology, and functions; Humour across cultures; Linguistic means of creating culturally dependent humour; The role of humour in printed, audio-visual, and online media; Translating humour – the case of sitcoms; Ethnic humour portrayed in British and Romanian printed media; Humour and teasing – intercultural issues.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 6: The American Constitution	CtS	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course will examine 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 7: Introduction to American Philosophy	IFIA	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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 7: Digital Culture	Cdig	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.

3rd Year

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

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Cultural Anthropology	Apc	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Contemporary English Language: Pragmatics	LEnC5	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Pragmatic perspectives. Interdisciplinarity. Generation of meaning in communication. Deixis and implicit meaning. Speech acts. The cooperative principle. Inference and implicature in conversation. Speech events and activity types. Conversation analysis. Talk in professional settings. Transcription conventions.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Educational System in the USA	SEdA	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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Course: Visual Culture in Arts	CVA	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): A course focused on the American visual culture, it will attempt a definition of this interdisciplinary field and provide a classification of its objects of study: painting, photography, print image and graphic design, architecture, fine art.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Course: Visual Culture in Mass Media	CVMM	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): A course focused on the American visual culture, it will attempt a definition of this interdisciplinary field and provide a classification of its objects of study: film, television, cyberspace.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Course: American Prose Analysis	Apam	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Ezra Pound – „Salutation“, „A Pact“, analysis of two important American poems about tradition; Eugene O’Neill – „Long Day’s Journey into Night“, modern American drama.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American Political Thought	GPA	5	2	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course is a short overview and history of American political thought. It will focus on detailing the two major doctrines active on the American political scene (liberalism and conservatism), highlighting at the same time their theoretical genealogies and implications. The course will deal with theoretical issues but also with practical ones, viewed from these political doctrines’ perspectives.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Perspectives in American Studies	PSA	5	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This is an introductory course to American Studies as a discipline. It will present a short history of this discipline and then focus on its major current topics (and its specific way of treating them): cultural pluralism, popular culture, transnationalism.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Contemporary English Language: Discourse Analysis	LEnC6	4	2	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Discourse, genre, text, context. Cohesion and coherence. The politeness theory. The role of knowledge in discourse. Interaction in written texts. Intertextuality. Discourse types. Critical Discourse Analysis. Discourse and cross-cultural communication.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
American Cultural Identities	ICAm	5	2	2	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Practical Course: Anglo-American Prose Analysis	APAA	2	-	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 1: Image Rhetoric	Relm	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The objectives of this course are: the critical assimilation and comparative discussion of image theories (semiotic, structuralist, philosophical, anthropological, and psychoanalytic); the understanding of the fundamental concepts used in the study of images (signs, symbols, allegories, etc.); the understanding of the production mechanisms of symbolic images and the contemporary world's mythologies.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 1: American Cultural Studies	SCAm	3	1	1	-	

Course description (Syllabus): This course explores the genealogy of the American strain of cultural studies, looking at both its European theoretical roots and its development as an academic discipline through American scholarship and in American universities.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 2: Gender Representations in the Contemporary American Visual Art	Rgv	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The main purpose of this course is to present contemporary American visual culture and its key-concepts and to investigate the way in which gender difference finds its visual expressions in this context. In this sense, the course looks at various images from different areas of visual art in order to analyze the allotropies of gender difference. Gender transitions (transgender, transsexual, LGBT, androgynous) are also looked at as transgressions of the male/female binary and as markers of a new understanding of the concept of difference in contemporary Western culture.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 2: American Film	FmA	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): This course will approach the medium of film in its specificity, but will also provide one possible narrative arc that can be used for highlighting the connection between film studies and cultural studies: the American war film, with a focus on Vietnam. 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 3: Cultural Management	MgCl	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The topics of this optional course cover a series of cultural subareas, including magazines, museums and ethno-cultural diversity. The course includes face-to-face meetings with people having different levels of responsibilities in the current running of cultural activities. Besides becoming acquainted with practices related to the cultural areas, as the result of the meetings, the students will have a very practical understanding of the cultural challenges of any working environment, of the influence of the cultural identity on social life and of the diverse ways in which it can be celebrated and capitalized on.

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

Course description (Syllabus): The students attending this course will understand how cultural policies are shaped as the result of the complex processes of institutional planning and under the influence of international and Romanian regulations, involving ministries, local administration, organizations of civil society and private players. This optional course also includes face-to-face meetings with people having different levels of responsibilities in activities related to cultural planning and implementation of public policies – town halls, county public institutions, national public institutions, non-governmental organizations and last but not least players from related areas of the public sector of culture.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 4: American Utopias	UAm	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): The concept of utopia has an uneasy connection with the American culture and politics. Despite its inherent problems, we can discuss 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 4: Post-colonial Literature	Lpc	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.

With respect to colonialism the focus is on the cultural conditions that produced and were produced by colonialism. Post-colonialism, on the other hand, basically refers to a set of theories in philosophy and literature that have taken as main subject matter the legacy of colonial rule and are reactions to the cultural legacy of colonialism. Post-colonialism introduced in the academia the question of cultural identity as central in the humanities and social sciences. 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.

The course is structured as a series of theoretical lectures and practical seminars for which a selection of post-colonial writings (mainly novels) has been made. For the seminars, students are expected to prepare oral presentations on a selected reading and answer questions on that particular topic.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 5: Political discourse	Dpl	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 5: The language of advertising	Lpb	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): 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	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 6: American Foreign Policy	PExA	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): What is foreign policy? The American foreign policy: concept, tools and objectives; Realism and idealism perceived as two different approaches to the American foreign policy; The American perceptions of the world; Major periods, trends and turning points in the evolution of America's relations with the rest of the world: expansionism, isolationism, internationalism, the cold war era and the post-cold war period; Significant changes in the US foreign policy from 1945 to the present; Main challenges to the American foreign policy: terrorism, nuclear

proliferation, global economy, regional conflicts; The role of the institutional structures in America's foreign policy establishment.

Course title	Code	No. of credits	Number of hours per week			
			course	seminar	laboratory	project
Elective Course 6: Native Americans' Culture	LCNAE6	3	1	1	-	-

Course description (Syllabus): Native American cultural groups: values and traditions; Native American cultural regions; The arrival of the white man; Conflicts with the settlers; Federalization and Christianization; The world the Native Americans used to live in; The Land and the Cosmos; The spiritual universe; Dreams – the approach of the sacred; Powers conferred on the medicine men; Words of power: voices from Indian America