

21st Century LITERATURE in ENGLISH

(Anglicky psaná literatura v 21. století)

jednoletý seminář, pro 3. ročník

Instructor: Tereza Hornová

Do you like reading? Do you like modern literature? Would you like to improve your English?

The seminar targets students who like reading and would like to become familiar with **contemporary trends in quality literature written in English**. The seminar will provide them with a company of like-minded people and a safe space where they can share their ideas, impressions and feelings.

Contents:

In the seminar, we will analyze **various extracts from texts by contemporary authors** writing in English dealing with diverse themes and employing language techniques representative of the time - flashbacks, stream of consciousness etc.

In terms of content, students can expect **themes of sexual and racial/ethnic minorities, feminism, mental health, social exclusion, alienation and other ethical and societal issues of the world today**.

The authors discussed will be, for example: **Alison Bechdel, Gillian Flynn, Mark Haddon, Kazuo Ishiguro, Alice Munro, Philip Pullman, Ali Smith, Jeannette Winterson** and others.

Both books and literary excerpts will be discussed in detail. Apart from the **analysis of characters, narration and language, students will also focus on messages of the works, their potential social impact and backgrounds and possible motives of the authors**.

Students will adopt skills how to analyze and discuss literary works with expertise. They will improve in the ability to **present their thoughts, feelings, and opinions, but also to listen to others and consider their viewpoints**.

Requirements:

Expected entry language level is **B2**.

Students will need to read **3 complete books** - about a book in 3 months. Students will read the books individually outside the seminar. Students **will obtain the assigned books by themselves**.

Active approach and participation in guided discussions in classes is a must.

Students will write a **500-word essay** on a topic unknown to them beforehand in class every semester. There will be a **choice of three topics** - each of them dealing with the aspects of works having been analyzed in seminars.