

Syllabus

Course title: <u>Theoretical lecture with reading seminar</u> . Popular Geopolitics				
Course instructor(s), contact details: Anna Keszeg (she/her), PhD, habil, keszeg.anna@mome.hu				
Code: M-AE-E-201-B	Curriculum (program/level): ESMA (ENG)	Recommended semester: 2-3.	Credit: 5	Number of class hours: 36 Student task hours: 114
Related codes: ER-THEO-BA-ELM-232401-01	Type: lecture	Can it be an elective course? No.	In case of an elective course what are the specific prerequisites:	
Course connections (prerequisites, parallels):				
Learning outcomes (professional and general competences to be developed):				
<p>Knowledge:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understands the rules of analytical and critical thinking. 2. Understands the methods and techniques of studying cultural and artistic phenomena, the institutional system, and the functioning of culture. 3. Understands the professional language, and communicates effectively (in written, oral, and visual language) in his/her mother tongue and in at least one foreign language. <p>Skills:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communicate effectively in writing, orally, visually and in at least one foreign language other than his/her mother tongue. 2. Assess the validity, professionalism and relevance of sources and information. <p>Attitude:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is open to new knowledge, methods, creative and dynamic ways of analysis and implementation. 2. Consciously reflects upon the social implications of his/her work. <p>Autonomy and responsibility:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to observe and evaluate fictional representation of geopolitical realities and the ideologies behind them. 2. Critical attitude towards geopolitical realities and their depiction. 				
Topics and themes to be covered in the course:				

Geopolitics focuses on the implications / impact of geography on politics and international relations. Popular geopolitics studies how those implications are reflected in popular culture. This course offers an introduction to the philosophical, aesthetic, ethical, political, mediatic, intercultural, communicational, and ecological dimensions of contemporary culture through the approach of geopolitics and especially geopolitics in popular culture. The course deals with popular cultural products in various media, from literature to film and TV series. The reading seminar will take the scientific approach of popular geopolitics as a starting point and will examine representations of the contemporary world in popular and media culture, broken down according to major geopolitical regions.

Course schedule, learning process:

1. week Concept and fields of geopolitics - introduction to the subject, clarification of the concepts of geopolitics and popular geopolitics – 07. 09. 2023.
2. week Defining and mindmapping the concepts – 14. 09. 2023. DITTMER, Jason: Popular Culture, Geopolitics and Identity. ROWMAN & LITTLEFIELD PUBLISHERS , 2010. 1–47. (Chapter 1–2).
3. week Popular geopolitics of North America 1. Mandatory movie: *Vice*. Directed by Adam McKay, 2018 – 21. 09. 2023.
4. week Popular geopolitics of North America 2. Mandatory movie: *Nomadland*. Directed by Chloé Zhao, 2020. – 28. 09. 2023.
5. week Europe's Popular Geopolitics 1. *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, directed by Niels Arden Oplev, 2009; - 05. 10. 2023.
6. week Europe's Popular Geopolitics 2. *Lupin*, George Kay and François Uzan, season 1, 2021; 12. 10. 2023.
7. week Europe's Popular Geopolitics 3. *The Diplomat*, Debora Cahn, season 1, 2023-; 26. 10. 2023.
8. week Popular Geopolitics of East-Central Europe 1. Mandatory media content: ECO, Umberto: *The Prague Cemetery*. Europe, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2011. – 02. 11. 2023.
9. week Popular Geopolitics of East-Central Europe 2. *Spy/Master*, Christopher Smith, 2023-; 09. 11. 2023. SAUNDERS, Robert A.: *Popular Geopolitics and Nation Branding in the Post-Soviet Realm*. Routledge, 2016. (Introduction only) 1–12.
10. week Popular Geopolitics of Asia. Mandatory TV series: *Squid Game*, directed by Hwang Dong-hyuk, 2021; 16. 11. 2023.
11. week Popular Geopolitics of Africa. Mandatory reading: Dodds, Klaus: *Geopolitics. A very short introduction*. Oxford, 2007. Mandatory movies: *Black Panther*, dir. Ryan Coogler, 2018; *Black Panther. Wakanda Forever*, dir. Ryan Coogler, 2022; 23. 11. 2023.
12. week Seminar. Guided creative content development exercise; 30. 11. 2023.

Students' tasks and responsibilities:

- One page of notes from the class material (uploaded in the drive folder) on a Word document (9/semester)
- End-of-semester knowledge assessment test (1/semester)
- A handout from the presented topic (1/semester).

Learning environment:

- Classroom
 Studio
 Off-campus location

Online

Other

Requirements to be met, assignments:

- Class attendance (maximum number of absences: 3)
- Assignment #1 handout from the presented topic
- Assignment #2 one page note for each class uploaded in Classroom
- Assignment #3 end-of-semester test
- During the final lesson, students will take a knowledge assessment test with a combined score of 25% towards the final grade.
- The semester will end with the preparation of a seminar-led handout, which will be prepared in a guided manner; the criteria for this will be clarified in the first class.
- Finalization and submission of the portfolios will take place in the week following the last class. The portfolio should be prepared in pdf format, with the possibility to use visual elements of students' choice.

Assessment criteria:

- Active participation in classes
- Attendance - Participation is compulsory; 3 classes by exception, and with notification, can be missed.
- Student participation in class is also part of the end of semester evaluation.

Method of assessment:

- x Written test
- Oral exam (collocvium)
- x Evaluation of the submitted material (e.g. notes)
- x Evaluation of the presentation
- Other

How the grade is calculated:

Class participation, notes: 25% (= max 1.25 points)

Assessment test: 25% (= max 1.25 points)

Seminar leader handout: 50% (= max 2.5 points)

Required literature:

DITTMER, Jason: Popular Culture, Geopolitics and Identity. ROWMAN & LITTLEFIELD PUBLISHERS , 2010. 1–47. (Chapter 1–2).

DODDS, Klaus: Geopolitics. A very short introduction. Oxford, 2007.

ECO, Umberto: The Prague Cemetery. Europe, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2011.

SAUNDERS, Robert A.: Popular Geopolitics and Nation Branding in the Post-Soviet Realm. Routledge, 2016. (Introduction only) 1–12.

Compulsory filmography: see above under breakdown for each topic.

Recommended literature:

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Other information:

Lectures are organised in 50-50-20-minute time frames: the first 50-minute unit is for the transmission and processing of new knowledge and the review of the material that has been prepared for the lesson, while the second 50-minute interval is for the joint processing of reading and viewing. During the semester, each student is required to undertake a reading seminar topic and to complete its analysis+discussion in class.

Students will post questions on the google classroom no later than 48 hours before the start of class.

Texts can be downloaded in pdf format from the drive folder linked to the classroom; these texts will be made available before the start of the semester.

Preparation of assigned readings and materials to be viewed is mandatory from class to class, so that knowledge is assessed during class.

The semester will end with a quick knowledge assessment test, and a practice-based content development task assigned to groups.

Recognition of knowledge acquired elsewhere/previously/validation principle:

- No exemption from attending and completing the course.
- Exemptions from the acquisition of certain competences and the completion of certain tasks may be granted.
- Some tasks may be replaced by other activities.
- Full exemption may be granted.

Out-of-class consultation times and location: office hours on Tuesday upon email appointment request at: keszeg.anna@mome.hu