Title of the subject: Irish Fantastika

Description of the subject: the brief, still informative description of the knowledge to be attained

This thematic course aims to highlight the importance of the use of the fantastic and the representation of the monstrous in Irish literature by discussing literary works in the context of the fantastic literary tradition, including Gothic, Horror and Fantasy literature, using the special umbrella term Fantastica. The course incorporates canonical, classical works of Irish Gothic as well as their modern, contemporary manifestations, aiming to give an overview of the evolution of the fantastic texts in Irish literature and providing insight into the significance of Irish Fantastica and its roots in shaping the international field of SFF fiction. The primary readings assigned to students will be sufficiently contextualized by reading essays on the Gothic as well as articles in Monster Studies and on Fantasy theory to encourage in-depth, critical analyses both in class discussions and in writing projects, highlighting the importance of this theoretical background in their possible usage much beyond the Irish literary scene.

List of the most important 2–5 pieces of *required* and *recommended* literature (lecture notes, handbooks) with bibliographical details (author, title, edition information (or specific pages), ISBN)

ARATA, Stephen D, "The Occidental Tourist: 'Dracula' and the Anxiety of Reverse Colonization." *Victorian Studies* 33.4 (Summer 1990): 621-645. JSTOR.

COHEN, Jeffrey Jerome. "Monster Culture. (Seven Theses).", In: *Monster Theory: Reading Culture*, edited by Jeffrey Jerome Cohen, University of Minnesota Press, 1996, pp. 3-25.

FREUD, Sigmund, "The 'Uncanny." *The Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud*, Volume XVII (1917-1919): *An Infantile Neurosis and Other Works*, edited by James Strachey, The Hogarth Press and the Institute of Psychoanalysis, pp. 217-256. ISBN: 0701200677 9780701200671

KRISTEVA, Julia, "Approaching Abjection", In: KRISTEVA, Julia, *Powers of Horror. An Essay on Abjection*, New York: Columbia University Press, 1982. ISBN 0-231-05346-0

MENDLESOHN, Farah, "Introduction" In: MENDLESOHN, Farah, *Rhetorics of Fantasy*. Wesleyan University Press, 2008. pp. xiii-xxviii. ISBN: 0819568686

List of those required professional competences, competence elements (knowledge, skill, etc., Section 8 of the Educational and Output Requirements) to the development of which the subject characteristically, materially contributes

a) knowledge

Students are thoroughly aware of the theoretical problems of English Studies and the theory of the fantastic and the monstrous.

Students understand the methodologies of interpreting literary texts, and of studying cultural phenomena (film, the mass media, etc.).

Students understand the significance of using elements of the fantastic and the monstrous to address issues stemming in reality and can decode the signification of these literary tools.

b) skills

Students can analyse and critically interpret the various manifestations of the fantastic and the monstrous in literary texts.

Students can plan and conduct empirical research analyzing their findings scientifically.