



Department of English Literatures and Cultures

Suggested thesis topics

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Albert Noémi

ON LEAVE

Csikai Zsuzsa

1. Aspects of modern British and Irish drama (issues of postcoloniality, gender, identity, etc., exploration of individual works and authors)
2. Exploration of the works of Irish short story writers (aspects of the genre of the short story, issues of Irish culture examined through short stories)
3. Examination of issues of modern Irish society, culture and politics.
4. Topics in translation studies (the politics of translation, the ethics of translation, translation theory, film script/subtitle translation/localization, game translation, and any other related topic.) and adaptation studies (adaptation of literary works to the screen, adaptation from page to stage, etc.).
5. Investigation of various aspects of literary translation (analysis of Hungarian-English /English-Hungarian literary translation).
6. Aspects of contemporary Irish and British short fiction (analysis of the representation of social and cultural issues through short stories).

Fodor Mónika

1. Life writing, memoir, autobiographical and autoethnographic writing (related to specific works, people or events and eras of your choice)
2. Racial and ethnic groups in the USA (historical and cultural anthropological perspectives of understanding Native American, African American, European American, Latino, Asian American etc. cultures)
3. Social issues in the USA in a contemporary perspective, also in film and other media (religion, education, politics)
4. Memory, intergenerational memory and trauma in contemporary historical fiction (E.g., Morrison, Baldwin, Alice Walker, Amy Tan, Julie Otsuka, etc.)
5. American documentary and autobiographical documentary films
6. Fieldwork-based approach to social issues: interview-based studies on selected themes (students conduct life history interviews with selected individuals, they analyze and interpret the data)
7. Topics in Young Adult fiction (teaching YA or interpreting selected YA works)
8. Issues in teaching literature and culture in TEFL

Gyuris Norbert

1. Examination of the work of a writer in postmodern American fiction (Thomas Pynchon, Don DeLillo, John Barth, etc.)
2. Thematic and structural aspects of metafiction in the 1970's and 1980's literature of the United States and Great

Britain (Vladimir Nabokov, Kurt Vonnegut, John Fowles, Julien Barnes, etc.)

3. Issues of contemporary cultural trends in the United States (special characteristics of the consumer society, electronic culture, mass media, etc.)
4. Exploration of an author, work of art or cultural phenomenon in post-WWII popular English-speaking culture and literature (cyberpunk, feminist science-fiction, fantasy, steampunk, ribofunk etc.)
5. Investigation of the Beat-generation and the counter-culture of the 1950's and 1960's in the US (Jack Kerouac, William Burroughs etc.)

Hartvig Gabriella

1. Analysis of individual works (or comparison of more works) by British or Anglo-Irish authors: Laurence Sterne, Mary Shelley, Jane Austen, the Brontë sisters, Charles Dickens, Robert Louis Stevenson, Joseph Conrad, Virginia Woolf, John Fowles, Jonathan Coe, etc.
2. Eighteenth-century narratives (the imaginary voyage, the philosophical novel, the sentimental novel, confessional literature, the epistolary novel, parody of the novel form etc.). Authors: Daniel Defoe, Henry Fielding, Samuel Richardson, Laurence Sterne, Frances Burney, Mary Wollstonecraft, etc.
3. The reception of British and Anglo-Irish authors in Hungary (Laurence Sterne, Mary Shelley, Jane Austen, Charles Dickens, Arthur Conan Doyle, Bram Stoker, Agatha Christie, Virginia Woolf, James Joyce etc.)
4. The Gothic Revival (Horace Walpole, Ann Radcliffe, Maria Edgeworth, Mary Shelley, Matthew Lewis)
5. Serialization and newspaper fiction in the Victorian period (Charles Dickens, Mary Elizabeth Braddon, Arthur Conan Doyle, etc.)
6. Women writers in the early Romantic and Victorian periods (Mary Shelley, Jane Austen, the Brontë sisters)
7. The Victorian sensation novel and crime fiction
8. The neo-Victorian novel in the 20th century (Jean Rhys, Daphne du Maurier, John Fowles, etc.)
9. Golden Age detective fiction (G. K. Chesterton, Agatha Christie, Dorothy L. Sayers, etc.)

Kvéder Bence

1. Late 19th- and early 20th-century Irish drama (Lady Gregory, William Butler Yeats, John Millington Synge)
2. The works and Hungarian reception of Joseph Conrad and George Bernard Shaw
3. 19th- and 20th-century American short fiction (Washington Irving, Stephen Crane, Jack London, Ernest Hemingway, Flannery O'Connor)
4. Aspects of race and identity in the USA through memoirs and autobiographies (William Apess, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, Maya Angelou)
5. Modern horror and dark fantasy fiction (H. P. Lovecraft, Shirley Jackson, Angela Carter, Neil Gaiman)
6. Issues in the cultural history of the British Isles (England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland) and members of the Commonwealth (Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand)

Maczelka Csaba

1. **Thomas More's *Utopia*.** TM's *Utopia*: editions, paratexts, textuality, and translation. The origins and the fundamental ambiguity of *Utopia*. The dialogue form and/in *Utopia*. Thomas More's *Utopia* and his other literary works in the context of English humanism
2. **The development of the early modern English utopian tradition.** The early English reception of Thomas More. Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis* and the scientific revolution. Henry Neville's *Isle of Pines* and the coffee house culture of the Restoration. Francis Godwin's *The Man in the Moone* and lunar literature of the mid-seventeenth

century. Romance and the 'first' English female utopia: Margaret Cavendish's *The Blazing World*. London as a utopian place in Isabella Whitney's *The maner of her Wyll*.

3. **Genres and generic hybridity in early modern English literature.** Travel literature in the age of discoveries. Stephen Parmenius of Buda and Elizabethan colonialist literature. The picaresque tradition in England: from translations to *The English Rogue*. The popularity of the dialogue form and the historiographical problem. The origins of the novel: from prose fiction to the novel in the Restoration period.
4. **Canonical authors in early modern English literature** (Thomas More, William Shakespeare, Francis Bacon, John Milton etc.).
5. **Early Modern Women Writers** (Aphra Behn, Margaret Cavendish etc.).
6. **Modern utopian/dystopian literature** (individual authors like H. G. Wells, E. M. Forster, Aldous Huxley, George Orwell, Margaret Atwood, Lois Lowry, Suzanne Collins, Sandra Newman etc.)
7. **Digital humanities and literary studies** (historiography, development, current issues).

Najbauer Noémi

1. Analysis of individual works or several works by authors of the English Renaissance and Baroque (16th and 17th centuries): Sir Thomas Wyatt, Sir Philip Sidney, Edmund Spenser, William Shakespeare, Christopher Marlowe, John Donne, George Herbert, John Milton, Andrew Marvell
2. The Bible as literature, English-language translations of the Bible, the influence of the Bible on English literature, including linguistic and thematic references, retellings, adaptations, parodies, etc.
3. Devotional verse, miracle-, mystery-, and morality plays and sermon literature of the English Middle Ages and Renaissance
4. American young adult fiction (with a special focus on Newbery Medal winners) as a source of personal enrichment and its uses in the classroom
5. Comparison of a translated work of literature (poetry or prose, English to Hungarian or Hungarian to English) to its original, evaluation of the translation process

Sári László

1. British and American film (history) (individual auteurs, genres, specific trends in filmmaking, film, technology, & ideology, etc.)
2. Literary adaptations (adaptations of literary authors from Shakespeare to E. M. Forster and to Stephen King, comparative approaches to multiple adaptations, intermedial aspects of adaptation, etc.)
3. Social and political issues in post-war America (political movements and issues in the US, social and cultural anxieties, politics and media, culture and the Cold War, etc.)
4. Modern and postmodern American fiction (literary genres, oeuvres from that of Henry James's onward, reception and critical understanding, social issues & aesthetic considerations and trends in fiction, etc.)
5. The history of literary criticism and cultural studies in Great Britain and in the U.S.

Szamosi Gertrud

1. Victorian literature across the different authors and genres
2. Modern and postmodern literature in Britain (authors, genres, etc.)
3. Exploring theoretical and literary aspects of post/colonialism (orientalism, hybridity, alterity etc.)
4. Postcolonial literatures: the empire writes back (literature of the former British colonies: Indian, African, Caribbean, etc. literatures)



5. Forms of identity (national, ethnic, social, gender) in 18-21st century British literature
6. Canadian culture and literature in the context of multiculturalism
7. Hungarian diaspora literatures and cultures
8. Gothic literatures and films, major representative of the different periods; Victorian-, imperial-, female-, nature-, horror, etc. gothic
9. Transnational literatures

Voelker John

1. Early Modern & Modern American Religious Movements and their Writings — Encratite/Ascetic, Utopian, Apocalyptic/Millenarian Sects
2. The Canon of American of American Wilderness Writers — Thoreau, Muir, Grey Owl, Leopold, Olson, McPhee, Berry
3. The Confessional Autobiography Novel in Canadian Literature: Robertson Davies
4. Slight Rebellion off Modern Culture: The Short Canon of J.D. Salinger
5. The 20th Century Coalescence of Science Fiction Literature
6. Literary-Historical Hoaxes in Modern/Postmodern Publications

Vöö Gabriella

1. Ecocritical approaches to literature (British and American)
2. The culture and literature of the Revolution and the early republic (political thought, institutional history, issues of nationalism, race relations, gender)
3. American culture before the Civil War and American prose writing (Edgar Allan Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville, Harriet Beecher Stowe)
4. Social movements in the US and the literature of reform (Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau; Margaret Fuller, the Peabody sisters, Bronson Alcott, Lydia Maria Child, Harriet Beecher Stowe)
5. Nineteenth-century American poetry (Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson)
6. Culture and literature after the Civil War (Mark Twain, Louisa May Alcott, Charles Chesnutt, Kate Chopin, Charlotte Perkins Gilman)
7. The culture and literature of American modernism (W. E. B. Du Bois, Richard Wright, Ralph Ellison, Eugene O'Neill, Henry James, Gertrude Stein, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, William Faulkner, Flannery O'Connor, Zora Neale Hurston, Tennessee Williams)
8. American poetry in the interwar period (Robert Frost, Wallace Stevens, Langston Hughes, William Carlos Williams)
9. American ethnic culture and literature (N. Scott Momaday, Leslie Marmon Silko, Louise Erdrick, Gerald Vizenor; Maxine Hong Kingston, Frank Chin, Amy Tan, David Henry Hwang, John Okada; Sandra Cisneros, Gloria Anzaldúa, Arturo Islas, Oscar Zeta Acosta; Alice Walker, Toni Morrison, Maya Angelou, Imamu Amiri Baraka, Gwendolyn Brooks)
10. The literature of American regions in the nineteenth and twentieth century (the North, the South, the Midwest, the West)