#### **COURSE OUTLINE**

# Armenian 127 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Armenian Literature

#### I. <u>Catalog Statement</u>

Armenian 127 will provide students with a basic knowledge of Armenian literature from the 1910s to date. Topics to be covered include: the revolutionary poems of the 1920s in Soviet Armenia, the so-called "literature of nostalgia" of the post-genocide Armenian Diaspora, literary hardship and stagnation in Stalinist-era Armenian literature, the moderately relaxed period of post-Stalinist Armenia, and the contemporary literature in both Armenia and Diaspora.

Units – 3.0 Lecture Hours – 3.0

Prerequisite: Armenian 101 or 115, or equivalent

#### II. Course Entry Expectations

Skills Level Ranges: Reading: 5; Writing: 5; Speaking/Listening: 5; Math: 1

Prior to enrolling in this course, the student should be able to:

- 1. communicate orally and in writing in both Eastern and Western Armenian;
- 2. demonstrate a knowledge of a larger, more complex vocabulary;
- 3. apply advanced grammatical constructions;
- 4. evaluate a given situation and select the construction and usage appropriate for it;
- 5. analyze points of comparison and contrast between cultures.

#### III. Course Exit Standards

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

- 1. discuss Soviet Armenian literature;
- 2. discuss Diaspora Armenian literature;
- 3. analyze literary movements both in Soviet Armenia and Diaspora;
- 4. demonstrate a knowledge of literary criticism in modern times;
- 5. compare and contrast contemporary poets and prose writers both in Armenia and Diaspora;
- 6. describe literary trends in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century.

# IV. <u>Course Content</u>

A.	The political and social situation of Armenia at the beginning of the century	1 hour
В.	Yeghishe Charents (as spokesman for the revolutionary ferment in Armenian letters on the establishment of Soviet orders in Transcaucasia and beyond)	4 hours
C.	Vahan Totovents (in between socialist work ethic and bourgeois aesthetics with regard to artistic freedom)	2 hours
D.	Zabel Yesayan (the call to homeland)	2 hours
E.	Hacob Oshagan (the writer and the critique)	3 hours
F.	The "Menk" movement (a challenge to Armenian national	3 hours
	identity)	
	1. Shahan Shanour	
	2. Harout Kostandian	
	3. Zareh Vorpouni	
G.	Hamo Sahian (singer of the earth and the soul)	1 hour
H.	Khachik Dashtents, Hrachya Kochar, Gourgen Mahari	3 hours
	(The memories bringing Western Armenia into light again)	
I.	Hovhaness Shriaz (the sole fighter for the lost homeland)	2 hours
J.	Vahagn Davtyan (historical themes in poetry)	1 hour
K.	Parouyr Sevak (the intellect and the conscience combined)	3 hours
L.	Hrant Matevosian (the country in a modern prose)	3 hours
M.	Perch Zeytuntsyan (the playwright with a Western touch)	2 hours
N.	The post-independence Armenian writers	6 hours
	1. Prose	
	a. Levon Khechoyan	
	b. Gourgen Khanjian	
	2. Poetry	
	a. Violet Grigorian	
	b. Marine Petrosian	
	c. Khachik Manoukian	
	d. Hovhannes Grigorian	
	e. Artem Haroutyounian	2.1
O.	Diasporan comtemporaries	3 hours
	1. Hagop Karapents (in pursuit of identity)	2.1
P.	Vahe Oshagan (breaking more taboos in literature)	3 hours
Q.	Grikor Bldian (the master and the experimentalist)	3 hours
R.	More Diasporan writers	3 hours
	1. Prose	
	<ul><li>a. Vahe Berberian</li><li>b. Ishkhan Jimbashian</li></ul>	
	<ul><li>c. Khoren Aramouni</li><li>d. Garnik Sahakian</li></ul>	
	u. Gaithe Sahakian	

#### 2. Poetry

- a. Ara Kazanjian
- b. Vehanoush Tekian
- c. Maroush

## V. Methods of Presentation

The following instructional methodologies may be used in the course:

- 1. class lecture and discussion;
- 2. group learning;
- 3. guests speakers;
- 4. videos.

## VI. Assignments and Methods of Evaluation

- 1. Regular attendance and participation in class activities and discussion
- 2. Oral and written presentations of topics
- 3. One ten-page essay for midterm examination
- 4. Final examination

#### VII. Textbooks

(Instructor will distribute materials)

Tamrazian, Hrant, Armenian Literature

Yerevan: Louys Press, 1993

12<sup>th</sup> Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN: N/A

Kalantaryan Jenia, and Davit Gasparyan, Post Modern Armenian Literature

Yerevan: Louys Press, 1996

12<sup>th</sup> Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN: 5-545-01181-1

Topchyan, Stepan, Diaspora Literature

Soviet Writers Press, 1985

12th Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN: N/A

#### VIII. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

- 1. discuss Soviet Armenian literature;
- 2. discuss Diaspora Armenian literature;
- 3. analyze literary movements both in Soviet Armenia and Diaspora;
- 4. demonstrate a knowledge of literary criticism in modern times;
- 5. compare and contrast contemporary poets and prose writers both in Armenia and Diaspora;
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