Министерство образования Республики Беларусь

Учреждение образования

«Гомельский государственный университет имени Франциска Скорины»

Л.Д. АКУЛИЧ

**Культура страны изучаемого языка**

**планы-задания к практическим (семинарским) занятиям**

**для студентов 3 курса**

**специальностей 1-02 03 06 01 «Английский язык. Немецкий язык»**

**1-02 03 06 03 «Английский язык. Французский язык»**

Гомель

УО «ГГУ им. Ф.Скорины»

## BRITISH AND AMERICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

**SEMINAR 1**

**VISUAL ARTS IN THE UK**

1. English Architecture.

* Architectural styles: Romanesque, Gothic, Tudor, Elizabethan, Jacobean, Baroque, Palladian, Georgian, Regency, Greek and Gothic Revivals, Modernist, New Brutalist style, characteristics of each style;
* Architectural monuments exemplifying each style, cathedrals, castles, stately homes: the Tower of London, Windsor Castle, Westminster Abbey, York Minster, Durham Cathedral, St. Paul’s Cathedral, Hampton Court Palace, Blenheim Palace, Banqueting Hall, Castle Howard, Houses of Parliament; mansions: Hardwick Hall, Chatsworth, Somerset House, Wollaton Hall, Strawberry House, other;

2. Leading British architects: Inigo Jones, Robert Adam, Christopher Wren, John Vanbrugh, James Gibbs, John Nash, Charles Barry, Charles Rennie Mackintosh.

3. Leading British painters:

* The Golden age of British painting (18th and 19th centuries): William Hogarth, Joshua Reynolds, Thomas Gainsborough, George Stubbs (18 c.)
* Movement: Romanticism - William Blake, John Constable, Joseph Mallord William Turner (19th century),
* the Pre-Raphaelites: John Everett Millais, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, William Holman Hunt, Ford Madox Brown, John William Waterhouse (19 c.),
* 20th century realism; Lucian Freud, Expressionism – Francis Bacon, Pop Art – David Hockney, Naïve Art – L.S. Lowry,
* Movement “Young British Artists” – Tracy Emin, Damien Hirst;
* Movement :Magical realism – Peter Doig;
* Movement: Street art - graffiti artist Banksy;
* Sculpture: Henry Moore, Antony Gormley.

4. Museums and important art collections in the UK:

* the British Museum, the National Gallery, the National Portrait Gallery, the Tate Gallery – Tate Britain, Tate Liverpool, Tate St. Ives, Tate Modern, Tate Online, the Victoria and Albert Museum.

### SEMINAR 2

**PERFORMING ARTS IN THE UK**

1. Musical life in Britain.

* Musical styles, leading British composers: William Byrd, Thomas Tallis, Orlando Gibbons (16 c.), Henry Purcell (17 c.), John Gay (18 c.), W.S. Gilbert and A. Sullivan (19 c.), Frederick Holst, Edward Elgar, John Taverner, Vaughan Williams, Michael Tippet, Maxwell Davies, Benjamin Britten, Noel Coward, Andrew Lloyd Webber (20 c.).
* Famous orchestras: London Philarmonic Orchestra, the Halle, London Symphony Orchestra;
* Famous choirs: the Royal Choral Society, the Bach Choir;
* Musical pop and rock groups: the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, the Who, Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd, Pet Shop Boys, Arctic Monkeys, other.

2. Music Festivals:

* Aldeburgh festival of Music and the Arts, Glyndebourne Festival, Three Choirs Festival, BBC Henry Wood Promenade Concerts (Proms), Royal National Eisteddfod of Wales.

3. Ballet and Opera.

* Leading opera and dance companies: the Royal Opera, the Royal Ballet, the English National Opera, the Welsh National Opera, the Scottish Opera, the Birmingham Royal Ballet, the Rambert Dance Company, the London Contemporary Dance Theatre.

4. British Theatre, Periods in the history of the British theatre, genres associated with each period:

* medieval period – mummer’s plays, mystery and morality plays;
* the English Renaissance - Elizabethan period (1500-1660): important playwrights - Ben Johnson, Christopher Marlowe, William Shakespeare; types of plays – histories, comedies, tragedies;
* Restoration theatre (since 1660): new genres – Restoration drama and comedy;
* 18th century theatre: popular entertainment – comedies of manners, sentimental comedy, domestic tragedy, burlesque; leading playwrights - Oliver Goldsmith, Richard Brinsley Sheridan;
* 19th century revival with the plays of George Bernard Shaw and Oscar Wilde; comic operas;
* British Theatre in the 20th century: movements of realism, naturalism; comedies of Noel Coward, the absurd school of Samuel Becket, the social drama of J. Osborne, the blend of realism and the absurd in the plays of Harold Pinter; ”plays of ideas” by Tom Stoppard, Alan Ayckburn
* London as the center of the theatrical life, leading theatres – the Globe Theatre, the Old Vic, Theatre Royal in Drury Lane, Royal National Theatre, Royal Shakespeare Theatre; regional theatres;
* festivals of theatre, dance and music – the Edinburgh International Festival, Chichester Theatre Festival, Winter Visitor’s Season at Stratford-upon-Avon.

## SEMINAR 3

**THE MEDIA IN BRITAIN and the USA**

1. The press.

* characteristics of British newspapers; two broad categories of the national newspaper –the “popular” and “quality” press; difference in format, style, and content, circulation, readership, political bias;
* variety of types of newspaper – national, regional, local, daily, Sunday;
* ownership of the press – press publishing groups;

-news agencies – Reuters, Associated press, United Press International.

- The U.S News Media.

* the idea of press freedom;
* functions of the news media in a democracy;
* tradition of objective reporting;
* types of newspaper: daily, weekly, national, large, medium, small, zoned; on-line;
* leading US newspapers by circulation;
* US news agencies: AP, UPI.

2. Magazines and periodicals in the U.K.

* consumer titles, general and specialist;
* business and professional titles; literary and political journals;
* best-selling periodicals;

-leading opinion journals.

The U.S Magazines Industry.

* Content categories of US magazines: general consumer, business publications, literary reviews and academic journals, newsletters, public relations magazines;
* specialization of magazines according to specific lifestyle and demographic groups of the audience;
* best-selling US magazines.

3. Radio.

* BBC Network Radio, 5 national radio networks;
* stations’ formats: BBC Radio 1, BBC Radio 2, BBC Radio 3, BBC Radio 4, BBC Radio 5, BBC World Service;

- Independent national radio.

. - Structure of the radio industry in the USA: commercial, non-commercial, local, nets, and syndicators;

* radio formats: the music format, all news, talk format, Black / ethnic format;

4. Television.

* structure of television in the U.K. – BBC television: 2 domestic channels – BBC 1, BBC 2; BBC World;
* Independent Television Commission – 3 commercial television services: Independent Terrestrial Services (ITV / channel 3), Channel 4, Channel 5;
* difference in aims, formats, range of programmes;
* tradition of Britain’s excellence in the field of television; top TV programmes;
* technical developments: cable services, digital technology, satellite TV, the Internet.
* the structure of the U.S. TV industry, the largest networks, commercial and public: ABC, CBS, NBC, FOX, PBS; The principal cable services: CNN, DISC, DISNEY, HBO, MTV, etc.;

-TV programming: local productions, syndicated programs, network programming.

## SEMINAR 4

**CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS IN THE UK. LIFESTYLES**

1. National and regional identities in the UK.

* British ethnic characteristics: individualism, conservatism, love of traditions, insularity, patriotism, reserve, common sense, sense of humour, civic sense, love of the countryside, love of animals, other;
* regional and geographic distinctions of the people in Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland.

2. Lifestyles.

* eating and drinking habits, the English breakfast, roastbeef, Yorkshire pudding, Christmas pudding, tea;
* leisure and recreation, pubs and clubs in British culture, hobbies;
* sports: football, cricket, rugby, rowing, horse-racing, golf, hunting, tennis; sporting events – the Henley Regatta, Royal Ascot, Derby, other.

3. Public holidays and celebrations.

* New Year’s day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, May Day Holiday, Spring Bank holiday, Summer Bank holiday, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, national days, national flags and emblems, Halloween, Guy Fawke’s Night, associated customs and traditions.

4. Royal Traditions and pageantry in London.

* Changing the Guard, Trooping the Colour, the Ceremony of the Keys, the Lord Mayor’s Show, Remembrance Day, the State Opening of Parliament, Royal Maundy Service, the Order of the Garter Ceremony, Swan – upping.

**SEMINAR 5**

**VISUAL ARTS OF THE USA**

1. Painting.

* Artistic creativity in the colonial period. Leading American painters of the period. Portrait-painting: John Singleton Copley, Gilbert Stuart. History painting: John Trumball, Benjamin West.
* The Hudson River school of landscape painting: Thomas Cole, Washington Allston, Asher Durand.
* Realism: Winslow Homer, Thomas Eakins.
* Impressionist painters of the late 19th century; Mary Cassat, James Abbot McNeil Whistler, John Singer Sargent.
* The “Ash-Can” school – realistic portrayal of the squalid aspects of city life: Robert Henry, George Bellows, John French Sloan.
* Regionalism – portrayal of the native people and landscapes: Thomas Hart Benton, Wood, Edward Hopper.
* The Harlem Renaissance of the 1920’s and 1930’s: Aaron Douglas.
* Abstract Expressionism of the 1940’s and 1950’s: Jackson Pollock, Willem de Kooning, Mark Rothko.
* “Pop” art, Op Art, Neo-expressionism, conceptual art, performance art: Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Larry Rivers.
* Contemporary movements in American painting.

2. The history of sculpture (in the USA): decorative art, folk art, public monuments, modern classicism, the turn forwards abstraction, revival of figurative sculpture.

3. The character of American architecture. The amalgamation of many disparate cultures.

* Colonial mansion. Reproduction of Georgian style / architecture.
* Neo-classic architecture: reproduction of the neo-classically inspired architecture of England.
* “Federal” style of architecture.
* Greek revival.
* The invention of skyscrapers.
* Notable American architects. Ch. Bulfinch, Louis Sullivan, Frank Lloyd Wright, Mies Van der Rohe, Gropius, Philip Johnson, I.M. Pei, M. Graves.

4. Museums and Art Collections in the USA.

* The Metropolitan Museum of Art in N.Y.
* The National Gallery of Art in Washington.
* The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in N.Y.
* The Museum of Modern Art in N.Y. (MoMA)

## SEMINAR 6

**PERFORMING ARTS OF THE USA**

1. The theatre in the United States.

* Colonial period: the birth of professional theatre, opposition from the religious organizations to theatrical performances; Simplicism in the 19th century entertainment: melodramas, minstrel shows, bucolic comedies, burlesque;
* The 20th century: movements: realism, expressionism, theatre of the absurd, social drama, dramatic developments of the late 20th century – early 21st century – black theatre (August Wilson, Sam Shepard); women’s theatre; multicultural theatre (David Henry Hwang, Tony Kushner);
* notable contemporary American playwrights: Irwin Shaw, Arthur Miller, Tennessee Williams, Edward Albee, Tony Kushner.
* New York – the theatrical center of the USA; Broadway professional theatres, off – Broadway and off-off Broadway experimental and avant-garde theatres;

2. The music of the United States: American music as a result of cross-cultural hybridization of disparate sources from Africa and Europe.

* African-American folk tradition and musical styles: minstrel shows, slave songs, spirituals, gospel, blues, jazz, soul, hip hop;
* Country music as a fusion of English, Scottish and Irish folk ballads brought across the Atlantic by settlers;
* Serious “art” music: elite audiences of classical music; leading American opera companies – the Metropolitan Opera, the New York City Opera; top symphony orchestras: the Philarmonic (New York), Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, and Philadelphia; Tradition of quality associated with Menuhin, Stern, Horowitz, Tucker, Merrill, Price, Sills, and Horne.
* America’s most influential musicians: Hopkinson, Billings, MacDowell, Joplin, B.B. King, Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Gershwin, Elvis Presley, Bob Dylan, Bob Marley,other.

3. American musical theatre: evolution of the musical – musical play and musical comedy: “semi-classical” or “classical popular” musical form, from “Oklahoma” and “Westside Story” to “Hair”, “Cats”, “Phantom of the Opera”; the music of Gershwin and Bernstein, R.Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II.

4. Dance in the United States.

* Classical ballet: leading ballet organizations: The New York City Ballet (George Balanchine), American Ballet Theatre (Lucia Chase);
* African-American Dance;
* Modern Dance: Isadora Duncan, Martha Graham, Alvin Ailey, Mark Morris.

## SEMINAR 7

**CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN POPULAR CULTURE. LIFESTYLES**

1. American national characteristics: individualism, competitiveness, materialism, optimism, common sense, individual freedom, privacy, patriotism, religiosity, etc.; beliefs, ways of thinking and acting.
2. Traditions and holidays in the USA.

New Year’s Day Columbus Day

Martin Luther King’s Day Veterans’ Day

President’s Day Thanksgiving Day

Memorial Day Easter

Independence Day Christmas Day

Labour Day Valentine’s Day

Halloween

Ethnic holidays: Mardi Gras, St. Patrick’s Day, Chinese New year Celebrations etc.

3. Lifestyles.

* Eating in America: American cuisine, variety of dishes and styles – breakfast cereal, the hamburger, hot dog, potato chips, apple pie, doughnuts, candy bars, Coca-Cola, fast food service, the McDonald chain;
* shopping in America: department stores, supermarkets, large shopping malls;
* housing in America: home ownership, types of accommodation;
* fashion in America: casual and informal American clothing – blue jeans, a T-shirt, athletic shoes, baseball cap; suburban style – blazers, loafers and khakis; designer label clothing;

4. Sports in the United States.

* Baseball – the “national pastime”, the roots and evolution;
* American football: preeminent spectator sport;
* basketball: a uniquely American sport, it origins and popularity;
* the trend towards fitness; physical fitness as fashion and way of life.