

## **Past for Present**

**By Prof. Maria Kalinowska**

Students:

Maria Piekarska; Agata Starownik; Maciej Talaga

Faculty: Dr hab. Roksana Chowaniec; Dr Ewa Janion, Prof. Maria Kalinowska (Head of the Section); Prof. Jan Kieniewicz; Prof. Alina Nowicka-Jeżowa; Prof. Shoshana Ronen; Prof. Jolanta Sujecka; Prof. Paweł Stępień

In 2019-2020, the section "Past for Present" will meet nine times for three-hours each time (a total of 27 hours) on Fridays, October 25, November 29, December 20, January 24, February 21, March 6, March 20, April 24 and May 29, at 12-2:30 pm.

This syllabus presents the overall description of the seminar, the mode of operating, the goals and the ways to achieve them, as well as the plan, including specific tasks to be undertaken by the PhD students. More information regarding specific seminar meetings will follow.

The direction taken by the sectional seminar „Past for Present” in 2019-2020 relies on the overall framework of our Program during the current academic year and takes advantage of the conclusions drawn from the students’ evaluations of the previous year. A particular emphasis is put on students’ personal work on their individual dissertations, as well as on the increased collaboration within the learning community of the seminar.

The PhD students taking part in the sectional seminar “Past for Present” are:

1. Maria Piekarska (tentative discipline of the dissertation: „nauki o kulturze i religii”) – PhD Advisors: prof. Ronen, prof. Sujecka;
2. Maciej Talaga (tentative discipline of the dissertation: “historia”) – PhD Advisors: dr hab. Chowaniec, prof. Jan Kieniewicz;
3. Agata Starownik – (tentative discipline of the dissertation: “literaturoznawstwo”) PhD Advisor: prof. Stępień;

In conformity to our Program’s procedures, all the PhD students as well as their PhD Advisors are invited to take part in the meetings of our section. The faculty of this sectional seminar are:

Dr hab. Roksana Chowaniec (PhD Advisor for Maciej Talaga)

Dr Ewa Janion

Prof. Maria Kalinowska

Prof. Jan Kieniewicz (PhD Advisor for Maciej Talaga)

Prof. Alina Nowicka Jeżowa

Prof. Shoshana Ronen (PhD Advisor for Maria Piekarska)

Prof. Paweł Stępień (PhD Advisor for Agata Starownik)

Prof. Jolanta Sujecka (Maria Piekarska)

1. The seminar will consist in two types of meetings:

A/ The main portion of the seminar meetings will be devoted to the presentations by each of the PhD students devoted to the topics of their particular dissertations.

Each of the PhD students will be invited to present a text dealing with his or her dissertation. Newly written parts of the dissertations are preferred for presentations. However, especially at the beginning of the academic year, students can present samples of previously generated scholarship (articles submitted for publication or conference papers), provided that they pertain to the topic of their dissertation. This presentation will be the starting point of a discussion pertaining both to the research problems specific for the dissertation itself, as well as reaching beyond it, towards scholarly questions that are pertinent for the section as a whole.

One month in advance of the seminar meeting, the presenter slotted for that day should inform the members of the seminar about the topic of his or her presentation and provide them with general information regarding the necessary bibliographical sources. Two weeks in advance of the seminar meeting, the presenter should send his or her text to all the members of the seminar, along with suggested additional readings. The seminar meeting will start with a short presentation of the main issues pertinent to the text already sent. All materials should be shared with all the members of the section (professors, fellow students), as well as other people who will be willing to attend a given seminar meeting.

We are planning for two presentations by each of the PhD students during the academic year. Each presentation will be followed by a response („koreferat”) by another PhD student from our section.

The seminar meeting is moderated by two people: both of the presenter's PhD Advisors or one of the PhD Advisors and another faculty from our Program.

Here is a tentative plan of a seminar meeting, which can be modified according to the preferences of the moderators of a given meeting:

1. The professors who moderate the meeting sketch the research problems that will be the object of the seminar discussion, paying special attention to their interdisciplinary aspects.

2. The presenter makes his or her presentation, which will be a short version of the texts shared in advance. The presentation should highlight the thesis and the research questions. Handouts with quotations are strongly recommended.

3. The members of the section will make their contributions to the presenter's research, thanks to their knowledge of the bibliography and their reading of the full text of the presentation that were provided beforehand.

4. Possible contribution by an expert invited for the occasion.

5. Questions and remarks by guests coming from other sections.

6. General discussion, based on the bibliography.

B/ The second type of seminar meetings (the number of which will depend on the final number of students in the section after the September admission process) will be devoted to the

discussion of scholarly studies that are pertinent to the overall Program or particularly important for the individual research of the students in this section. Those studies will be freely chosen by the members of the section in charge of the preparation of a given seminar meeting.

Each of such meetings will be prepared by two PhD students who will invite one of the professors of the Program to collaborate, or by a professor who will invite two PhD students to collaborate on the preparation and the moderation of the seminar meeting. The seminar meeting will be conducted according to the preferences of the three people in charge or its organization: it may rely on a pairing of presentations, a critical assessment, a discussion with the invited author, etc.

It is advisable that such seminar meeting highlights the methodological orientation of the study under discussion, its importance for the discipline or the individual research of the members of the section, as well as its potential for interdisciplinary research. Individual assessments of the study under discussion should also be expressed. All the members of the seminar should have read the text to be discussed in its entirety or in the portion previously designated by the moderators of the meeting.

2. All the seminar meetings will be recorded. After each meeting, one designated PhD student will post on the website of the Program a short information regarding the problems under discussion during the meeting in order to foster a further discussion.

3. The syllabus with the plan of the sectional seminar, along with the readings will be posted on the Moodle page of section. All PhD students are invited to chose a date and provide a topic of their presentation by the end of September. The calendar of seminar presentations will be posted on the web page of the section.

4. The design of the seminar meetings of this section aims at fostering the individual research of each PhD student and at building a learning community based on teamwork and the achievement of individual research goals.

5. The seminars will be conducted in Polish, unless the needs of the Participants require that English is used. All written materials (student papers, proposed readings) should be provided in Polish or English.

6. Evaluation:

Will be evaluated:

a. The assiduity in participating in all seminar meetings,

b. The performance in completing the assignments,

c. The active participation in the seminar discussion; the capacity to clearly formulate and rationally justify one's position in the debate as well as the capacity to modify one's position following the academic debate.

d. The capacity for collaborative work

e. The progress made in one's own doctoral research.