



Major studies and research projects

The Faculty of Polish Studies sets modern standards of Polish language, literature and culture research, based on the achievements of modern humanities.

- **Cultural Literary Theory.** This is research devoted to cultural literary theory and to developing new methods of analysing literary phenomena. It also focuses on the poetry of cultural experience, anthropology of literature, gender studies, corporeality, the anthropology of place, Polish memory and cultural trauma, and borderlands literature, especially Polish-Jewish and Polish-Lithuanian. The bases of a new cultural poetics and anthropological aesthetics are being shaped in the framework of this research.
- **Comparative Studies.** These studies cover the relationships between literature, music and painting from both intersemiotic and intermedial perspectives. Moreover, they focus on the history of Polish literature in the context of global literature, from medieval to modern times, as well as on translation theory and intercultural communication.
- **Historical and Literary Studies.** These studies examine the Polish medieval era in a European context, as well as humanism and the Reformation in literary culture. They also cover cultural and social aspects of Enlightenment and Romantic literature, and delve into collective consciousness and symbolic heritage. The studies on literature from the turn of the 20th century, focused on the poetic imagination of Young Poland, are also noteworthy. This research involves preparing editions of works written by the most important authors of the 20th century. Another type of academic research involves exploring the history of Polish literary criticism, its modern varieties, and metacriticism.
- **Editorial Studies.** These studies explore the graphic makeup of Polish prints from the 16th and 18th centuries, as well as the electronic editions of both old and contemporary texts. They focus on the history of the book, the covers of old prints, and the work of Polish publishers in the 19th and 20th centuries.
- **Drama and Theatre Studies.** These studies include contemporary Polish theatre, the history of theatre in Kraków in the 19th and 20th centuries, and Jewish theatre. They also focus on the artistic achievements of outstanding representatives of world theatre and its transformations in the 20th and 21st centuries, as well as performance and dramaturgy studies, categories of memory and post-memory in performance studies, New Historicism, queer studies, and post-colonial studies.
- **Linguistic Studies.** These studies are devoted to interpersonal communication, focused on the analysis of the contemporary Polish language against the backdrop of the communication process. They explore the evolution of the Polish language, in its general and regional forms, as well as the linguistic pictures of the rural communities grounded in lexical sub-dialects. Linguistic studies also focus on teaching Polish as a foreign language, glottodidactics, and models of foreign-language teacher training. The intensive teaching methodology studies prepare students for the teaching profession.



Collaboration

World-famous image and media culture researchers (William J. T. Mitchell from the University of Chicago), literary philosophers (Rodolphe Gasché from State University of New York, Buffalo), and historians of ideas (Martin Jay from the University of California, Berkeley) have collaborated with the Faculty.

Scholars from the Faculty of Polish Studies are involved in numerous national and international research projects, and they belong to consortia whose members come from excellent universities in Europe, Asia, Australia, North America and South America, e.g. Interzones and SPeCTReSS. The Faculty has a full teaching module in English and its academic staff includes visiting professors from abroad (e.g. the United States).

Prof. Andrzej Borowski – a distinguished expert on old Polish literature and its European contexts. Today, his studies on Northern Humanism, relations between Polish and Dutch cultures, national identity, and Sarmatism are part of the canon of knowledge. Among Professor Borowski's most important works are: *Renesans* (The Renaissance; 1992/2002), *Powrót Europy* (The Return of Europe; 1999), *Iter Polono-Belgo-Ollandicum* (2007), and *Humanizm. Historie pojęcia* (Humanism: The Histories of a Concept; 2009). He is the Vice President of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Prof. Jerzy Jarzębski – well-known in the world of scholarship as an expert on the works of Gombrowicz, Schulz and Lem, the most frequently translated Polish writers of our day. His studies provide the basis for knowledge about these authors, defining their position in world culture. His works are mandatory reading for all Polish philologists: *Gra w Gombrowicza* (Playing Gombrowicz; 1982), *W Polsce czyli wszędzie* (In Poland, i.e. Everywhere; 1992), Schulz (2000), *Wszehświat Lema* (Lem's Universe; 2002), and *Gombrowicz* (2004). Professor Jarzębski is a recipient of the prestigious Kościelski Award (1985) and the Wyka Award (1991).

Prof. Maria Korytowska – a world-famous researcher of Romanticism. She created a new school of research into Polish Romanticism from a comparative perspective. Her works include: *O romantycznym poznaniu* (On the Romantic Cognition; 1997), *O Mickiewiczu i Słowackim* (On Mickiewicz and Słowacki; 1999), *Romantyczne przechadzki pograniczem* (Romantic Strolls on the Borderlands; 2004), *Autor, autor!* (Author! Author!; 2010), *Te książki zbrojeckie...* (These Treacherous Books...; 2011). Her research projects have resulted in an esteemed publishing series *Komparatystyka polska. Tradycja i współczesność* (Polish Comparative Studies: Tradition and Modernity).

Prof. Ryszard Nycz – a world-famous scholar who defined Modern Polish Studies, a theorist and historian of modern literature and culture, the founder of a literary studies research school from the perspectives of anthropology and cultural studies. Today, no studies on literature can ignore a number of his books: *Sylwy współczesne* (Modern Silva Rerum; 1993), *Tekstowy świat* (The Textual World; 1995), *Język modernizmu* (The Language of Modernism; 1997), *Literatura jako trop rzeczywistości* (Literature as a Reality Trope; 2001), and *Poetyka doświadczenia* (The Poetics of Experience; 2012). He is the editor of the prestigious *Horyzonty Nowoczesności* (Horizons of Modernity) series and *Teksty Drugie* (Second Texts) journal, which mark the paths for literary research in Poland. He is a member of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Prof. Marian Stala – an expert on 19th- and 20th-century literature, and one of the most praised literary critics. He is the author of ten books that have found their place in the canon of Polish Studies, such as *Pejzaż człowieka* (The Landscape of the Human Being; 1994), *Trzy nieskończoności* (Three Infinities; 2001), and *Blisko wiersza* (Close to the Poem; 2013). His critical works have shaped the image of 20th-century Polish poetry. He is a juror for the Nike Literary Award, a Wyka Award winner, a member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a member of the Editorial Committee of *Polski Słownik Biograficzny* (The Polish Biographical Dictionary).

Achievements

The Faculty has been classified with the highest academic category (A+, a rating given to 3% of the best academic units in Poland) and has a reputation for being the most important Polish Studies centre in Poland. It publishes twelve prestigious series of fundamental importance to the development of Polish humanities, e.g. *Horyzonty Nowoczesności* (Horizons of Modernity), *Modernizm w Polsce* (Modernism in Poland), *Komparatystyka Polska* (Polish Comparative Studies), *Interpretacje Dramatu* (Drama Interpretations), and *Krytyka XX i XXI wieku* (20th- and 21st-century Criticism). It also issues seven highly-rated academic journals.

Several dozen studies and monographs recognised as essential for the development of knowledge about language, literature and culture – including a two-volume publication of *Kulturowa teoria literatury* (Cultural Theory of Literature) and breakthrough works on Miłosz, Schulz, Gombrowicz, and Kantor – are the fruits of innovative research conducted at the Faculty. Innovative didactic and glotto-didactic programs are being developed at the Faculty.

The Faculty organises the Jan Błński Festival, and its representatives co-create large international literary festivals, such as the Conrad Festival and the Miłosz Festival.



Specialisation

- Literary Studies
- Literary Anthropology
- Comparative Studies
- Cultural Studies • Translation Studies • Theatre Studies
- Editing • Linguistic Studies
- Polish Language in Social Communication
- Performance Studies

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