The course will focus on basic Polish, through reading, speaking and learning grammatical structures. Primary emphasis is on enabling the student to speak and understand fundamentals of the Polish language.

This course focuses on improving students’ ability to understand, speak, read and write by practicing useful phrases, grammar, spelling, vocabulary and sentence structure. It includes elements of Polish history, politics, economy, literature and culture.

This course is designed to improve language proficiency by developing vocabulary and grammatical skills in the context of present day Polish culture. Students will read and discuss literary and professional texts in Polish, and practice their speaking and writing.

The course explores the challenge of balancing nation and art in modern Polish and Irish drama. The texts covered will not only familiarize students with these two unique national dramatic traditions, but will also examine the hidden linkages that exist between them and how they both contributed to modern European literature.

This course will focus on works of 20th century Polish writers from the post WWII Poland to the present. Selected readings will depict both local and universal concerns and topics (social/political/aesthetic) in the context of a larger European experience.

This course will focus on the dynamic and yet troubled literature that emerged in the turbulent period in Polish history between WWI and WWII (1918-1939). In addition to producing major talents in the areas of art, poetry, drama and fiction, the Interwar Period offers a glimpse of a uniquely poignant moment in the ongoing struggle for self-realization against tragic backdrop of the 20th century.

This course will trace Poland's unique contribution to world literature, beginning with the earliest known works of the Medieval Period and ending with the celebrated works of the Romantic Period in the nineteenth century. The selected texts will be examined for the light they shed on Polish participation in the broader evolution of ideas in Europe as well as for their contribution to the maturation of the literary voice that sustains the essence of Polish cultural and national identity.

Over the past twenty years, Poland has made a transition from a communist state to a free market economy and parliamentary democracy. This course will examine through film the many faces of today's Poland, exploring its current political, social and cultural dimensions. Screenings will include both documentary and feature productions.

The course will examine the various roles of female characters in Polish films, and provide an overview of the careers of the most important Polish women directors. The cumulative format of their works allows for a comprehensive socio-economic, political, cultural and cinematic analysis of Polish realities.

A historical survey and analysis of the processes of political, social, cultural and economic change that affected East Central Europe in the twentieth century with special emphasis on Poland, begin with the break-up of multi-national empires and the establishment of nation-states in Eastern Europe and end with the collapse of communism, with its implications for the peoples of the region.