

AMERICAN LITERATURE 1 – winter semester 2018

AMERICAN LITERATURE 1: A Survey of American Literature

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DATE	READING ASSIGNMENT		TOPIC
	<b>Introduction to the course and course objectives</b>		<b>General overview and periodization</b>
	<b>Washington Irving:</b> “Rip Van Winkle”	<b>Nathaniel Hawthorne:</b> “Rappaccini’s Daughter”	<b>American Romanticism</b> <b>The American Gothic</b>
	<b>Edgar Allan Poe:</b>  Poems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Raven</li> <li>• Annabel Lee</li> <li>• To Helen</li> </ul>	Short stories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Ligeia” and/or “The Fall of the House of Usher”</li> </ul> Essay: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The Philosophy of Composition”</li> </ul>	
	<b>Herman Melville:</b> “Bartleby the Scrivener”		<b>American Romanticism</b> <b>The American Gothic</b> <b>Transcendentalism</b>
	<b>Emily Dickinson:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I never lost as much but twice</li> <li>• My life closed twice before its close</li> <li>• Because I could not stop for Death</li> <li>• The Soul selects her own Society</li> <li>• I heard a fly buzz when I died</li> <li>• <i>Optional:</i> Presentiment, Faith, For each ecstatic instant, Wild nights--Wild nights! , Success is counted sweetest</li> </ul>		

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	<p><b>Walt Whitman:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• excerpts from <i>Song of Myself</i>: 1-7</li> <li>• America</li> <li>• Captain! My Captain!</li> </ul>		<b>Transcendentalism</b>	
	<p><b>Charlotte Perkins Gilman:</b> “The Yellow Wallpaper”</p>	<p><b>Kate Chopin:</b> “Désirée’s Baby”</p>		<b>Regional Realism</b>
	<p><b>Mark Twain:</b> <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i></p>			
	<p><b>Langston Hughes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Weary Blues</li> <li>• The Negro Speaks of Rivers</li> <li>• I, Too</li> <li>• Harlem</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zora Neale Hurston:</b> “How it feels to be colored me”</p>		<b>Regional Realism</b> <b>The American Dream</b> <b>The Harlem Renaissance</b>
	<p><b>F. Scott Fitzgerald:</b> <i>The Great Gatsby</i></p>			<b>The American Dream</b> <b>American Modernism</b> <b>The Roaring 20s / The Jazz Age</b> <b>The Lost Generation</b>
	<p><b>Ernest Hemingway:</b> Essays from <i>A Moveable Feast</i>:  “Hawks Do Not Share”  “Scott Fitzgerald”  “A Matter of Measurement”  “The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber” (short story)  “Hills Like White Elephants” (short story)</p>			

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	<b>Eugene O’Neil:</b> <i>Long Day’s Journey Into Night</i>	<b>The American Dream American Drama</b>
	<b>John Steinbeck:</b> <i>Of Mice and Men</i>	
	<b>Arthur Miller:</b> <i>Death of a Salesman</i>	
	<b>Robert Frost:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening</li> <li>• Fire and Ice</li> <li>• The Road Not Taken</li> </ul>	<b>American Modernism</b>
	<b>William Carlos Williams</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Young Housewife</li> <li>• The Red Wheelbarrow</li> <li>• This Is Just to Say</li> </ul>	
	<b>e.e. cummings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in Just-</li> <li>• next to of course god america i</li> </ul>	

**EXTRA READING ASSIGNMENTS SUCH AS CRITICAL ESSAYS WILL BE ANNOUNCED DURING THE SEMESTER.**

**REGULAR ATTENDANCE TO CLASS, COMPLETING READING ASSIGNMENTS AND SIGNING UP FOR PRESENTATIONS IS MANDATORY AND COUNTS TOWARD THE FINAL GRADE.**

**COURSE MATERIALS:**

- McMichael, G. (Ed.). (1989). *Anthology of American Literature: Volume II: Realism to the Present (Fourth Edition)*. New York: Macmillan Publishing Company
- Baym, N. (Ed.). (2003). *The Norton Anthology of American Literature: Shorter Sixth Edition*. New York and London: W.W. Norton and Company
- McQuade, D.(Ed.). (1897). *The Harper American Literature*. New York: Harper & Row Publishers. Blackwell
- Gray, R. (2004). *A History of American Literature*. Malden, Oxford and Victoria: Blackwell Publishing (can be downloaded on libgen.org)
- American Passages: A Literary Survey*. (2004). New York: W.W. Norton and Company

**Additional texts:**

- Bloom, Harold. (2006). *F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby*. New York: Chelsea House.
- Centola, Steven R. (2007). Family Values in *Death of a Salesman*. In Bloom, Harold (Ed.) *Arthur Miller's Death of a Salesman*. New York: Chelsea House.
- Vyacheslav Shestakov. "American Dream and American Culture". p. 8 (full text and source in library computer)
- Jeffrey Louis Decker. "Gatsby's Pristine Dream: The Diminishment of the Self-Made Man in the Tribal Twenties" p. 42 (full text and source in library computer)
- Emery, Jean. "Manhood Beset: Mysogyny in *Of Mice and Men*". In Michael J. Meyer, Ed. (2009) *The Essential Criticism of John Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men*. Lanham, Toronto, Plymouth: The Scarecrow Press, Inc.
- Regionalism and Local Color in Nineteenth-Century Literature. *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*. Ed. Russel Whitaker and Kathy D. Darrow. Vol. 188. Detroit: Thomson Gale, 2008. p174-340

**All additional materials will be made available throughout the semester through a Dropbox shared folder.**