

AMERICAN LITERATURE 1 – winter semester 2017

AMERICAN LITERATURE 1: A Survey of American Literature

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

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	<p>Walt Whitman:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • excerpts from <i>Song of Myself</i>: 1-7 • America • Captain! My Captain! 		Transcendentalism	
	<p>Charlotte Perkins Gilman: “The Yellow Wallpaper”</p>	<p>Kate Chopin: “Désirée’s Baby”</p>		Regional Realism
	<p>Mark Twain: <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i></p>			
	<p>Langston Hughes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Weary Blues • The Negro Speaks of Rivers • I, Too • Harlem 	<p>Zora Neale Hurston: “How it feels to be colored me”</p>		Regional Realism The American Dream The Harlem Renaissance
	<p>F. Scott Fitzgerald: <i>The Great Gatsby</i></p>			The American Dream American Modernism The Roaring 20s / The Jazz Age The Lost Generation
	<p>Ernest Hemingway: 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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	John Steinbeck: <i>Of Mice and Men</i>	The American Dream Modern American Drama
	Edward Albee: <i>The Zoo Story</i>	
	Arthur Miller: <i>Death of a Salesman</i>	
	Robert Frost: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening • Fire and Ice • The Road Not Taken 	American Modernism
	William Carlos Williams <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Young Housewife • The Red Wheelbarrow • This Is Just to Say 	
	e.e. cummings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in Just- • next to of course god america i 	

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

COURSE MATERIALS:

McMichael, G. (Ed.). (1989). *Anthology of American Literature: Volume II: Realism to the Present (Fourth Edition)*. New York: Macmillan Publishing Company

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- 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 are available in the English Department library computer.**