

Course title: HISTORY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

ECTS credit allocation (and other scores): 8

Semester: autumn and spring (2 semesters)

Level of study: ISCED-6 - first-cycle programmes (EQF-6)

Branch of science: Humanities

Language: English

Number of hours per semester: 4

Course coordinator/ Department and e-mail: Sławomir Studniarz, Department of English,
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Type of classes: classes and lectures

Substantive content

CLASSES: The classes cover a variety of texts, poetry, fiction and non-fiction, written in America between the late seventeenth and the late twentieth century. For the seminars, the students are required to read the selected works of the distinguished American writers. They are advised to read critical annotated texts in reliable editions such as Norton Anthology of American Literature. In the class the students usually work in teams on tasks assigned to each team by the instructor, and then share with the whole group their own observations and in-sights.

LECTURES: The lectures are intended to familiarize the students with the most significant phenomena in the history of American literature as well as with proper historical and theoretical terms applying to them. The lectures include such topics as Literature of the Colonial Period; Literature of the Federal Period American Romantic Poetry and Essay ; American Romanticism – Fiction, Mimetic Fiction in the Age of Realism ; American Poetry in Modernism ; American Fiction in Modernism ; American Drama in Modernism; African American Literature in 20th Century; American Fiction in 1940s and 1950s

Learning purpose: presentation of the most significant phenomena in American literature from the early 17th century to the late 20th century, introducing basic historical and literary terms and notions, familiarizing students with the most significant trends

On completion of the study programme the graduate will gain:

Knowledge: the basic terminology employed in literary studies, comprising genres, conventions, tropes; the literary epochs in the history of American literature, the representative writers and their major works

Skills: selection of proper methodology, analysis of literary texts, recognition of genres, conventions and trends

Social Competencies: establishing priorities in accomplishing chosen tasks, participation in the cultural life, following the latest developments in American literature and its relations with the other arts

Basic literature: 1. N. Baym (Ed.) Norton Anthology of American Literature, Norton & Company, 2002.

2. R. Gray, A History of American Literature, Blackwell Publishing, 2004

3. P.B. High, An Outline of American Literature, Longman, 2000

4. K. Van Spankeren, Outline of American Literature (available on the Internet)

<http://www.america.gov/publications/books/outline-of-american-literature.html>

Supplementary literature: 5. A. Salska (Ed.), Historia literatury amerykańskiej XX wieku, Universitas, 2003.



6. R. Ruland, M. Bradbury, *From Puritanism to Postmodernism*, Penguin, 1992.

The allocated number of ECTS points consists of: 197 hours

Contact hours with an academic teacher: 166

Student's independent work: 31