

Fall/Winter 2020-2021

AP/EN 2230 6.0A (Y)	Introduction to American Literature
Course Director:	Jonathan Warren Dahdaleh 2045 x. 22883 jwarren@yorku.ca
Time:	Lectures and tutorials posted weekly on Tuesday
Delivery Format:	ONLINE – (asynchronous delivery) – There is no set course meeting time. Students may engage with course content/materials 24/7.
Description:	<p>This course provides a selective overview of major concepts, problems, contexts, and writers in American literature from its beginnings to today. Because American literature in its entirety comprises an immense and exciting sprawl of competing voices, styles, positions, regional differences, and kinds of writing, no single course can truly represent the fullness of American literary expression. Certainly an accelerated summer session version of the course makes that even more of a challenge. So, this course will introduce students to American texts by exemplifying key ideas and modes of expression that have been crucial to the development of the rich and fractious culture of the United States.</p> <p>This course explores crucial features of the American cultural and literary experience, including arrival and encounter, racism and slavery, religion and religiosity, emergence of the nation, freedom and democracy, the frontier and manifest destiny, suffrage and civil rights, homeland security and the outsider, invention of the city, youth culture, and the idea of the future. Trans-historical and multi-genre in design, it will introduce students to American poetry, prose, drama, and nonfiction.</p>
Category:	C
Historical Requirement:	Period II (1700-1900)
Requirements:	Discussion forum participation: 40% Essay 1 (5-6 pages): 10% Midterm examination: 15% Essay 2 (6-8 pages): 15% Final examination: 20%
Reading List:	<p>Baym, Nina, ed. <u>The Norton Anthology of American Literature</u> (Shorter 8th Edition). 2 vols. New York: Norton, 2012.</p> <p>Diaz, Junot. <u>The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao</u>. New York: Riverhead, 2008.</p> <p>Hawthorne, Nathaniel. <u>The Scarlet Letter</u>. New York: Modern Library, 2000.</p> <p>Nabokov, Vladimir. <u>Lolita</u>. New York: Vintage, 1997.</p> <p>Additional electronic readings and audio/visual materials may be posted to Moodle.</p>

Open To:	Year 2, 3
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