

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES IN WLOCLAWEK**

Course: American Literature

<b>Field of study:</b>	English Philology		<b>Course Code:</b>				
<b>Unit supervising the course:</b>	Institute of Humanities						
<b>Course orientation:</b>	Practical						
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English						
<b>Course type:</b>	Principal						
<b>Course status:</b>	Compulsory						
<b>Level: BA</b>	<b>Year: II, III</b>		<b>Semester: 4, 5</b>				
<b>The number of teaching hours on the full-time programme:</b>							
<b>Total</b>	<b>lecture</b>	<b>classes</b>	<b>laboratory</b>	<b>Projects</b>	<b>tutorials</b>	<b>seminars</b>	<b>practicum</b>
60	30	30					
<b>The number of teaching hours on the part-time programme:</b>							
<b>Total</b>	<b>lecture</b>	<b>classes</b>	<b>laboratory</b>	<b>Projects</b>	<b>tutorials</b>	<b>seminars</b>	<b>practicum</b>

<p><b>Learning outcomes:</b></p>	<p><b>Knowledge:</b></p> <p>Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- possess general knowledge of American literature in a historical context K_W05</li> <li>- know the main representatives of given epochs and literary movements K_W06</li> <li>- have fundamental knowledge of interpreting texts and understand the basic methods of their critical analysis K_W07</li> <li>- has good knowledge of selected issues from the scope of English-speaking countries` culture and history K_W09</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Skills:</b></p> <p>Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- have the ability to use terms and lexicon from the scope of literature, culture and poetry K_U02</li> <li>- can interpret literary texts taking into account various social and cultural aspects, as well as the opinions of other literary critics K_U03</li> <li>- can distinguish and describe various literary genres and texts K_U04</li> <li>- can find required information and make good use of it while preparing written works or oral presentations on a given subject K_U06</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Social competences:</b></p> <p>Students understand the need for lifelong learning and improving their English language competence throughout their entire lives; students understand the importance of reading various literary texts K_K02</p>
<p><b>Full description of the course:</b></p>	<p><b>Lectures</b> in American literature offer the chronological presentation of the most important issues and aspects of American literature; beginning with the Puritan literature, through the literature of the American Renaissance, Romanticism and Transcendentalism. This part is then followed by the discussion of realism and naturalism and</p>

ends with an overview of the modernist and post-war American literature.

The lectures present:

- the main representatives of particular periods in American literature
- the characteristic features of the works belonging to these periods
- the relations between American literature and American philosophy and culture
- regional divisions within American literature
- the links between the development of American literature and trends in the development of European literatures
- American literature as a reflection of the outlook of Western culture

**Seminars** are based on analysing and discussing the characteristic features and selected aspects of the following works or their excerpts:

1. Anne Bradstreet – selected poems
2. William Bradford *Of Plymouth Plantation*
3. Washington Irving ‘Rip Van Winkle’
4. Edgar Allan Poe ‘The Purloined Letter’
5. Henry David Thoreau, *Walden*
6. Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson – selected poems
7. Nathaniel Hawthorne *The Scarlet Letter*
8. Herman Melville *Moby-Dick*
9. Robert Frost – selected poems
10. Mark Twain *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

	<p>11. Henry James <i>The Portrait of a Lady</i>  12. F. Scott Fitzgerald <i>The Great Gatsby</i>  13. Ernest Hemingway <i>The Sun Also Rises</i>  14. William Faulkner <i>The Sound and the Fury</i>  15. John Steinbeck <i>Of Mice and Men</i>  16. Flannery O'Connor <i>Everything That Rises Must Converge</i></p>				
<b>Methods:</b>	<p>Type of the course:  -lecture  - classes based on text analysis and discussion</p>				
<b>The student's workload/ECTS credits:</b>	<b>Type of activity</b>	<b>An average number of hours required to learn the course contents</b>		Full-time course	Part-time course
		Lecture	Class	Lecture	Class
	<b>Teacher-conducted classes</b>	30	30		
	<b>Teacherless study required:</b>	10	20		
	1. Class preparation, including prescribed reading	5	10		
	2. Test or exam preparation	5	10		
	3. Report, presentation or class discussion preparation	0	0		
	<b>Total</b>	40	50		

	<b>Total number of ECTS credits obtained for the respective class type</b>	1	2		
	<b>Total number of ECTS credits obtained for the subject</b>	3			
<b>The type and mode of obtaining the credit and marking criteria or requirements:</b>	<p><b>The type:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- credit with a grade (classes)</li> <li>- exam (lecture)</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>The mode:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- completing tasks specified by the teacher</li> <li>- writing essays</li> <li>- written exam at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> semester</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Basic assessment criteria:</b> Students are required to participate actively in class discussion, complete the tasks specified by the teacher and write essays on topics selected by the teacher.</p>				
<b>Literature:</b>	<p>Prescribed reading:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Klarer, Mario, <i>A Short Literary History of the United States</i>, Routledge, 2014.</li> <li>2. Stachura, Paweł, <i>An Outline of American Literature</i>, Wydawnictwo Poznańskie, 2010.</li> <li>3. Anne Bradstreet – selected poems</li> <li>4. William Bradford <i>Of Plymouth Plantation</i></li> <li>5. Washington Irving „Rip Van Winkle”</li> <li>6. Edgar Allan Poe – selected poems</li> <li>7. Henry David Thoreau, <i>Walden</i></li> <li>8. Walt Whitman i Emily Dickinson – selected poems</li> <li>9. Nathaniel Hawthorne, <i>The Scarlet Letter</i></li> <li>10. Herman Melville, <i>Moby-Dick</i></li> <li>11. Robert Frost selected poems</li> </ol>				

10. Mark Twain *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

11. Henry James *The Portrait of a Lady*

12. F. Scott Fitzgerald *The Great Gatsby*

13. Ernest Hemingway *The Sun Also Rises*

14. William Faulkner *The Sound and the Fury*

15. John Steinbeck *Of Mice and Men*

16. Flannery O'Connor *Everything That Rises Must Converge*

Recommended reading:

Allen, D.R., P.G. Smith i F.G. Malgaretti, *Words Words Words: A History and Anthology of Literatures in English*, La Spiga languages, 2003.

Cuddon, J.A., *The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory*, Penguin Books, 2014.

Cuncliffe, Marcus, red. *American Literature to 1900*, Penguin Books, 1986.

Cuncliffe, Marcus, red. *American Literature since 1900*, Penguin Books, 1987.

Elliott, Emory, red. *Columbia Literary History of the United States*, Columbia University Press, 1988.

Kopcewicz, A. i M. Sienicka, *Historia literatury Stanów Zjednoczonych w zarysie: Wiek XVII-XIX*, PWN, 1983.

Kopcewicz, A. i M. Sienicka, *Historia literatury Stanów Zjednoczonych w zarysie: Wiek XX*, PWN, 1983.

Marcus, G. i W. Sollors, red. *A New Literary History of America*, Cambridge, Mass., 2009.

Ruland, R. i M. Bradbury, *From Puritanism to Postmodernism*, Penguin Books, 1991.

Salska, Agnieszka, red. *Historia literatury*

*amerykańskiej XX wieku*, Vol. I i II, Universitas, 2003.

**Course instructor: Monika Szymczak-Kordulasińska, PhD**