

		Course: <b>American Literature Before the 20<sup>th</sup> Century</b>		
Course code	Course status	Semester	ECTS credits	Number of lessons
AK 1	compulsory	3 <sup>rd</sup>	5	2+2

**The course is organized within the following study programs:**  
English Language and Literature

**The course is conditioned by the following courses:**  
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**Course aims and objectives:**

Introducing students with the cultural and historical dynamics of early and older American literature, with more detailed study and interpretation of the most significant works of American literature of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Learning outcomes:**

After completing this module / course successfully, the students will be able:

- to make the critical reflection of the fundamental features of the American literature before the 20<sup>th</sup> century,
- to recognize the representative works of the period, to make comparisons between them and to contextualize them,
- to perform textual analysis and contextualization of the representative poetic, prose and dramatic texts of the period,
- to perform textual analysis and contextualization of the similar examples in the old American literature successfully,
- to make the synthesis of several works successfully, placing them in wider social and critical contexts.

**Teaching staff:** Tatjana Bijelić, PhD and Milica Jošić-Milinović, MA

**Teaching and learning methods:**

Lectures, practical classes, papers and presentations.

**Course description:** This course presents American literature of the 18<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries within the context of the American civilization and culture, with the special emphasis on the representative works of the American literature of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Preparatory week	Preparing for the semester and semester registration
Week 1	Introductory remarks on the history and culture of the American Indians
Week 2	Colonization period: history, culture, journals and travel books as the beginning of literary expression
Week 3	The Age of Enlightenment and Revolution: a brief overview of the female and male authors within the context
Week 4	19 <sup>th</sup> century – American Renaissance – overview and characteristics
Week 5	Romanticism in the works of Edgar Allan Poe
Week 6	Transcendentalism in the ideas of Emerson, Thoreau, and Margaret Fuller
Week 7	American novel of the 19 <sup>th</sup> century; Melville and Hawthorne
Week 8	Herman Melville: Moby Dick; Nathaniel Hawthorne: The Scarlet Letter
Week 9	<b>Test 1</b>
Week 10	The Civil War Era, realism and naturalism in literature
Week 11	The poetry that resists the simple classification: W. Whitman and E. Dickinson
Week 12	Henry James: The Portrait of a Lady; Harriet B. Stowe: Uncle Tom's Cabin
Week 13	Louisa M. Alcott: The Little Women; Mark Twain: Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
Week 14	The female writers and reformers; Cate Chopin: The Awakening
Week 15	<b>Test 2</b>

**Student workload:**

<u>Per week</u>	<u>Per semester</u>
2 lectures, 2 practical classes 4 hours of individual work including teacher-student consultations	

Students are required to attend lectures and practical classes.

**Mandatory reading materials:**

(Individual chapters / parts of the books mentioned below + copies of the materials from the lectures and practical classes)

- Baym, Nina et al (eds.): *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*, Package 1, W.W. Norton & Company, 2007.  
 Bradbury, Malcolm & Ruland, Richard: *From Puritanism to Postmodernism: A History of American Literature*, Penguin Books, 1991.  
 Cunliffe, Marcus (ed.): *American Literature to 1900*, The Penguin History of Literature, London, 1993.  
 Lauter, Paul (ed.): *The Heath Anthology of American Literature*, Volumes A-C, Fifth Edition, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 2006.  
 O'Callaghan, Bryn, *An Illustrated History of the USA*, Longman, England, 1990.  
 VanSpanckeren, Kathryn: *Outline of American Literature*, US Dept of State, 1994.  
 Vukčević, Radojka, *A History of American Literature: Then and Now*, Univerzitet Crne Gore, Institut za strane jezike, Podgorica, 2005.  
 Vukčević Radojka (ed.): *Perspectives on American Literature*, Univerzitet u Beogradu, 2008.

**Forms of assessment and evaluation of the students' knowledge:**

Students' attendance and engagement in classes + presentations – 8 points  
 Test 1 – 21 points  
 Test 2 – 21 points  
 Final exam – 50 points

The final grade represents the summation of all the aforementioned forms of assessment and evaluation of the students' knowledge.

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*Specific remarks regarding this course:*

*Teacher who prepared the information sheet on the course:* Tatjana Bijelić, PhD

*Notes:*