

Subject card

Subject name and code	Romanticism and Realism in American Literature classes, PG_00144757						
Field of study	American Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject			2026/2027	
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group			Obligatory subject group in the field of study Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study	
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery			at the university	
Year of study	1		Language of instruction			English	
Semester of study	2		ECTS credits			3.0	
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form			credit	
Conducting unit	Division of American Studies -> Institute of English and American Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Arkadiusz Misztal				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		2.0		43.0	75
Subject objectives	- To familiarize students with the history of American literature and its ideological foundations) the second half of the 19th century - the end of the 20th century; - to make students aware of the peculiarities of mainstream American culture and literature of the aforementioned period						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[AMERMU2_K01] Is prepared to critically assess the scope of their knowledge and skills, especially in the field of American literary and cultural studies, contextual knowledge of American studies and the English language.	is ready to critically evaluate the extent of his knowledge of romanticism and realism in American literature.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_U06] Is able to lead a debate, including on American literature and culture, present and evaluate different opinions and positions, and discuss them.	Can lead a debate on the specifics of romanticism and realism in American literature, present and evaluate different opinions and positions, and discuss the reception and significance of literary works.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[AMERMU2_U05] Can communicate with diverse audiences on specialised topics related to literary and cultural phenomena and processes in North America, also using advanced terminology in the fields of literary and cultural studies	Able to communicate with diverse audiences on specialized topics related to romanticism and realism, using advanced terminology from the field of literary studies.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[AMERMU2_U03] Is able to properly select sources and evaluate, select, critically analyse, synthesise, creatively interpret and present the collected information, using advanced information and communication techniques, in particular in the field of American literary and cultural studies.	Able to select sources appropriately and evaluate, select, critically analyze literary phenomena and processes, and creatively interpret selected texts of Romanticism and Realism literature.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report [SU3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_W05] Knows and understands in depth advanced terminology in the field of literary studies applicable to the study of American literature.	Has in-depth knowledge and understanding of advanced terminology in the field of literary studies applicable to research on American Romanticism and Realism.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_U01] Is able to use methods and tools appropriate for literary studies and cultural and religious studies in order to innovatively perform analytical and interpretative tasks related to texts, phenomena and processes in the field of American literature and culture.	Can use methods and tools appropriate for literary studies to critically interpret texts, phenomena, and processes in the field of American Romanticism and Realism.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERMU2_W11] Has in-depth knowledge and understanding of the historical evolution and contemporary trends in American literature.	Has in-depth knowledge and understanding of the developmental trends of Romanticism and Realism in American literature.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_W07] Has in-depth understanding of selected issues constituting advanced detailed knowledge of selected issues in the field of American literature.	Has in-depth knowledge and understanding of selected issues constituting advanced detailed knowledge of selected issues in the field of American Romanticism and Realism.	[SW2] presentation/project/paper/report

Subject contents	- American "black romanticism" (Dana, Sr., Allston, Poe) - Transcendentalism as a philosophical and literary current (Emerson, Thoreau, Fuller, Parker) - historical consciousness about the period leading up to the Civil War (Neal, Sedgwick, Child, Hawthorne) - American "domestic novel" (Sedgwick, Warner, Cummins, Fern) and the beginnings of feminist consciousness - literature before the Civil War in the context of US territorial expansion (Irving, Parkman, Kirkland) - Melville's work as a literary phenomenon against the background of popular literature - ideology of the "Young America" group (Manifest Destiny) - abolitionism and the writing of fugitive slaves (Douglass, Jacobs) - Civil War in American literature - evolution of American poetry from Bryant to Dickinson (Longfellow, Lowell, Whitman) - Mark Twain's works: influence of oral tradition, racial issues, criticism of Southern culture - Realism, regional literature and diversity of local cultures (Howells, Harte, Garland, Cable, Chopin, Harris, Jewett, Freeman, role of Atlantic Monthly) - Henry James: the "international novel," aspects of novelistic technique, psychological realism - naturalistic prose (Crane, Norris, Dreiser)historical consciousness of the turn of the century (Henry Adams) - popular literature (black crime fiction, SF) - World War II literature (Mailer, Shaw, Jones, Hawkes, Heller) - prose of the 1940s and 1950s (Penn Warren, O'Connor, McCullers) - Beat Generation poetry and prose (Ginsberg, Ferlinghetti, Snyder, Kerouac) - continuations of realism (Updike, Oates, Kesey) - "New Journalism" and "non-fiction novels" (Capote, Tom Wolfe, Thompson) - African-American literature (Baraka, Angelou, Baldwin, Ellison, Reed, Morrison, Walker) - American Indian prose (Scott Momaday, Erdrich, Silko, Welch, Alexie, Vizenor) - minimalism and "new realism" (Carver, F. Barthelme, Robinson, McCarthy, Baker).																	
Prerequisites and co-requisites	none																	
Assessment methods and criteria	<table><tr><th>Subject passing criteria</th><th>Passing threshold</th><th>Percentage of the final grade</th></tr><tr><td>written assignment</td><td>51.0%</td><td>30.0%</td></tr><tr><td>class discussion/debate</td><td>51.0%</td><td>30.0%</td></tr><tr><td>test</td><td>51.0%</td><td>30.0%</td></tr><tr><td>report on literary events for publication on the IAIA website</td><td>51.0%</td><td>10.0%</td></tr></table>			Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade	written assignment	51.0%	30.0%	class discussion/debate	51.0%	30.0%	test	51.0%	30.0%	report on literary events for publication on the IAIA website	51.0%	10.0%
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Recommended reading	Basic literature	Lauter, Paul (ed.). The Heath Anthology of American Literature. Vols. B, and C. Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 2006. Baym, Nina (ed.). The Norton Anthology of American Literature. Vols. 1-2. Norton, 2007. Nathaniel Hawthorne, chosen by Instructor Herman Melville, Moby Dick Mark Twain, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn Steven Crane, chosen by Instructor Kate Chopin, The Awakening Henry James, chosen by Instructor John Steinbeck, chosen by Instructor. William Styron, Sophie's Choice Norman Mailer, chosen by Instructor Truman Capote, chosen by Instructor Bernard Malamud, selected short stories Alice Walker, selected passage John Updike, selected stories T.C. Boyle, selected stories Raymond Carver, selected stories T.C. Boyle, selected stories and others indicated by Instructor																

	Supplementary literature	Bercovitch, Sacvan (ed.). The Cambridge History of American Literature. Vol. 3. Cambridge UP, 2005. Bercovitch, Sacvan (ed.). The Cambridge History of American Literature. Vol. 5. Cambridge UP, 2003. Elliott Emory (ed.). The Columbia History of the American Novel. Columbia University Press, 2006.. Greil Marcus and Werner Sollors (red.). A New Literary History of America. The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2008. Bell, Michael Davitt, The Problem of American Realism. University of Chicago Press, 1993. Bigsby, C. W. E. The Cambridge Companion to Modern American Culture. Cambridge University Press, 2006. Halliwell, Martin., and Catherine Morley. American Thought and Culture in the 21st Century. University Press, 2008. Hart, James D. The Oxford Companion to American Literature. Oxford University Press, 2014. Kopcewicz, Andrzej, Siennicka, Maria. Historia Literatury Stanów Zjednoczonych w zarysie. (Tom 1 i 2) Warszawa: PWN, 1982, 1983. Salska, Agnieszka (red.), Historia literatury amerykańskiej XX wieku. (Tom 1 i 2). Kraków: Universitas, 2003. Veisland, Jorgen. Henry David Thoreau in an age of reflection. Sopot: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, 2000. Veisland, Jorgen. Mimesis and metamorphosis : the self in contemporary American fiction. Gdańsk: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, 2007.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	New Journalism and non-fiction novel	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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