

Subject card

Subject name and code	Romanticism and Realism in American Literature lecture, PG_00144750						
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		4.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
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	30.0	0.0	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		68.0	100
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_W05] Knows and understands in depth advanced terminology in the field of literary studies applicable to the study of American literature.	Has an in-depth knowledge and understanding of advanced terminology in the field of literary studies applicable to research on American Romanticism and Realism.	[SW3] text preparation/written work
	[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 topics constituting advanced specialized knowledge of selected issues in the field of American Romanticism and Realism.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_W11] Has in-depth knowledge and understanding of the historical evolution and contemporary trends in American literature.	Has an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the developmental trends of romanticism and realism in American literature.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[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	Can communicate with diverse audiences on specialized topics related to romanticism and realism, using advanced terminology from the field of literary studies.	[SU3] text preparation/written work
Subject contents	[AMERMU2_W01] Has in-depth knowledge and understanding of selected issues constituting advanced general knowledge in the field of American literature.	Has in-depth knowledge and understanding of selected topics constituting advanced general knowledge of Romanticism and Realism in US literature.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	- 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	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	exam	51.0%	60.0%
	self-reflection report	51.0%	10.0%
	written assignments	51.0%	30.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	Anthologies of American literature, e.g.: (poems, short stories, essays) Lauter, Paul (ed.). The Heath Anthology of American Literature. Vols. A,B, and C. Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 2006. Baym, Nina (ed.). The Norton Anthology of American Literature. Vols. 1-2. Norton, 2007. Novels and short stories indicated by the Instructor Text studied independently by the student: Richard Wright, Native Son Norman Mailer, The Naked and the Dead Ralph Ellison, Invisible Man Ken Kesey, One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest John Updike, Rabbit, Run Philip Roth, Portnoy's Complaint E. L. Doctorow, Ragtime Joyce Carol Oates, Them or any other novel Toni Morrison, Beloved or any other novel N. Scott Momaday, House Made of Dawn Marilynne Robinson, Home or Gilead Nicholson Baker, The Mezzanine or any other novel and others
	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 Gdanskiego, 2000. Veisland, Jorgen. Mimesis and metamorphosis : the self in contemporary American fiction. Gdansk: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdanskiego, 2007
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Black Romanticism, local color writings	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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