ÇANKAYA UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND LETTERS

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

2019-2020 FALL

ELL 331 Course Syllabus – Survey of American Literature I

Assist. Prof. Berkem Gürenci Sağlam

**Aim of the course:** The course involves discussions on the significant works of American literature and the major literary trends from the Colonial Period up to the beginning of the First World War (1914). The course provides a survey of the major works of selected American poets, writers, and playwrights in their cultural contexts.

**Requirements:** As the course aims to enhance students’ abilities in evaluating literature, course activities will be based on group discussions. Therefore, for each class, students are expected to:

1. Read the assigned text(s) for that week
2. Bring the text with them, ready to discuss it in class
3. Bring pen, pencil and paper to be able to take notes
4. Turn off their mobile phones during class, I do not accept the use of phones for any reason whatsoever

If the student fails to bring any of these items to class, their work will be considered unsatisfactory. Additionally, tardiness is considered rude and distracting, before being late to class, please consider the following: a) Do not enter the classroom if you are more than 10 minutes late b) Do not forget that repetitive tardiness (at least 3 times) could result in a deduction of your final grade.

**Evaluation:** There will be one midterm and one final examination. **Please be warned that plagiarism of even one sentence will result in a direct F on the assignment, more than one paragraph will be a direct fail of the course.**

The grade breakdown is as follows:

Midterm 40%

Final Exam 40%

Quizzes 15%

Attendance and participation 5%

**Textbook:** Photocopy material will be handed out by the lecturer during the first week.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Week 1 | 26. 09.2019 | Introduction to the Course |
| Week 2 | 03.10.2019 | Native American Oral Narratives:  “The Iroquois Creation Story”  “The Story of the Creation” (Pima)  Sioux Trickster tale, “Ikto Conquers Iya, the Eater” |
| Week 3 | 10.10.2019 | America Before Columbus (Documentary)  Colonial Period: to 1700  Christopher Columbus, “Letter to Luis de Santagel Regarding the First Voyage” “Letter to Ferdinand and Isabella Regarding the Fourth Voyage” |
| Week 4 | 17.10.2019 | The Puritans, 1620-1820  William Bradford, from *Of Plymouth Plantation*  Ann Bradstreet, “The Prologue [To Her Book]”  “The Flesh and the Spirit” |
| Week 5 | 24.10.2019 | Mary Rowlandson, from *A Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson*  Edward Taylor, “Upon Wedlock, and Death of Children” |
| Week 6 | 31.10.2019 | American Literature 1700-1820  Jonathan Edwards, “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”  Benjamin Franklin, “The Way to Wealth”  “Information to Those Who Would Remove to America” |
| Week 7 | 07.11.2019 | J. Hector St. John de Crévecoeur, “What is an American?”  Thomas Paine, from *Common Sense*  Phillis Wheatley, “On Being Brought from Africa to America” |
| Week 8 | 14.11.2019 | **Midterm Week** |
| Week 9 | 21.11.2019 | American Literature, 1820-1865  Washington Irving, “Rip Van Winkle” |
| Week 10 | 28.11.2019 | Ralph Waldo Emerson, “Self-Reliance” |
| Week 11 | 05.12.2019 | Edgar Allan Poe, “The Fall of the House of Usher” |
| Week 12 | 12.12.2019 | No class – METU conference on Daniel Defoe |
| Week 13 | 19.12.2019 | Henry David Thoreau, from *Walden* |
| Week 14 | 26.12.2019 | Herman Melville, “Bartleby, the Scrivener: A Story of Wall-Street” |