

ÇANKAYA UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND LETTERS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
2025-2026 FALL

ELL 331 Course Syllabus – Selections from American Literature

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Course Description and Objectives

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 21st Century. The course provides a survey of the major works of selected American writers 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- Don't look at your phone 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, and some quizzes. **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 20%

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

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Week 1	01.10.2025	Introduction to the Course
Week 2	08.10.2025	Washington Irving, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" (1820)
Week 3	15.10.2025	Edgar Allan Poe, "The Fall of the House of Usher" (1839)
Week 4	22.10.2025	Walt Whitman, from <i>Song of Myself</i> (1-4) (1855) Emily Dickinson, "I Felt a Funeral," (1861) "I'm Nobody"
Week 5	29.10.2025	No Class – Republic Day Holiday
Week 6	05.11.2025	Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper" (1892)
Week 7	12.11.2025	Midterm Examination
Week 8	19.11.2025	Kate Chopin, "A Respectable Woman," (1894)
Week 9	26.11.2025	Ernest Hemingway, "A Clean, Well-Lighted Place" (1933)
Week 10	03.12.2025	J. D. Salinger, <i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> (1951)
Week 11	10.12.2025	J. D. Salinger, <i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> (1951)
Week 12	17.12.2025	Allan Ginsberg, from <i>Howl</i> (I) (1956)
Week 13	24.12.2025	James Baldwin, "Sonny's Blues" (1957)
Week 14	31.12.2025	Review