

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

ELL 469 Course Syllabus – American Fiction

Assist. Prof. Dr. Berkem Sağlam

Course definition: This course focuses on selected works of American novelists, considered in terms of their historical and cultural contexts as well as contemporary philosophical and artistic developments. The course may focus on a particular period, or cover texts from different periods, together with theoretical and critical readings, and in some cases, film or other media adaptations.

Requirements: Course activities will be based on group discussions of the readings and lectures.

For each class, students are expected to:

1. Don't forget your responsibilities – that means, **bring your assigned text with you to class (in print form)**, as well as pen, pencil and paper
2. Put away your mobile phone during class, I do not accept the use of phones for any reason whatsoever

A minimum attendance of 60% is mandatory. Students who do not meet this requirement will not be permitted to take the final examination. Students are responsible for keeping track of their own attendance.

Students can make use of generative AI tools in developing their academic skills but unethical use of AI technology will be treated as plagiarism and will be subject to academic penalties.

Evaluation: There will be one midterm and one final examination. There will be four in-class reading responses. Your best three will count toward your final grade.

The grade breakdown is as follows:

Midterm 30%
Final Exam 40%
Responses 30 %

Textbook: Students are required to have their own copies of *The Great Gatsby* and *Beloved*. The other texts will be made available in photocopy form.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Week 1	17.02.2026	Introduction to the Course
Week 2	24.02.2026	Katherine Anne Porter, "The Jilting of Granny Weatherall" (1930)
Week 3 R1	03.03.2026	John Cheever, "The Swimmer" (1964)
Week 4	10.03.2026	F. Scott Fitzgerald, <i>The Great Gatsby</i> (1925)
Week 5 R2	17.03.2026	F. Scott Fitzgerald, <i>The Great Gatsby</i> (1925)
Week 6	24.03.2026	Jack Clayton, <i>The Great Gatsby</i> (1974)
Week 7	31.03.2026	Review & Midterm
Week 8 R3	07.04.2026	Alice Walker, "Everyday Use" (1973)
Week 9	14.04.2026	Toni Morrison, <i>Beloved</i> (1987)
Week 10 R4	21.04.2026	Toni Morrison, <i>Beloved</i> (1987)
Week 11	28.04.2026	Toni Morrison, <i>Beloved</i> (1987)
Week 12	05.05.2026	Jonathan Demme, <i>Beloved</i> (1998)
Week 13	12.05.2026	Amy Tan, "A Pair of Tickets" (1989)
Week 14	19.05.2026	NO CLASS