

ÇANKAYA UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND LETTERS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
2026-2027 FALL

ELL 331 Selections from American Literature

Berkem Sağlam, PhD

Class hours: Thurs. 09:20-12:10

Office Hours: Mon. 10:20-11:10, Thurs. 13:20-16:10, Fri. 14:20-15:10

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 read the assigned texts for the week and to bring a hard copy of the text to class. Otherwise, their work will be considered unsatisfactory.

Additionally, please follow the rules of common courtesy during class: do not be late, store away your phone so you do not distract yourself or others, and wait until break times to leave the classroom.

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. 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.**

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	01.10.2026	Introduction to the Course
Week 2	08.10.2026	Anne Bradstreet, "The Prologue [To Her Book]" (1650), "The Flesh and the Spirit" (1678)
Week 3	15.10.2026	Washington Irving, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" (1820)
Week 4	22.10.2026	Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Self-Reliance" (1841)
Week 5	29.10.2026	No Class – Republic Day Holiday
Week 6	05.11.2026	Edgar Allan Poe, "The Fall of the House of Usher" (1839)
Week 7	12.11.2026	Walt Whitman, from <i>Song of Myself</i> (1-4) (1855) Emily Dickinson, "I Felt a Funeral," (1861) "I'm Nobody"
Week 8	19.11.2026	Midterm Examination
Week 9	26.11.2026	Kate Chopin, "A Respectable Woman," (1894)
Week 10	03.12.2026	Ernest Hemingway, "A Clean, Well-Lighted Place" (1933)
Week 11	10.12.2026	J. D. Salinger, <i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> (1951)
Week 12	17.12.2026	J. D. Salinger, <i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> (1951)
Week 13	24.12.2026	Allen Ginsberg, "Howl" (1956)
Week 14	31.12.2026	James Baldwin, "Sonny's Blues" (1957)