

Subject card

Subject name and code	Early American Literature classes, PG_00144739						
Field of study	American Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject			2025/2026	
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	1		ECTS credits			3.0	
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form			credit	
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 Beata Williamson				
	Teachers		dr Grzegorz Welizarowicz				
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	30.0	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		43.0	75
Subject objectives	The objectives of the course are: - to familiarise students with the history of American literature and its ideological foundations from 1620 to the mid-19th century; to make students aware of the specificity of American culture and literature in relation to British culture and literature as well as other European literatures of the European literature of the above-mentioned period.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[AMERMU2_U06] Student is able to conduct a debate on American literature, culture and society, present and evaluate different opinions and positions and discuss them.	is able to conduct a debate on early American literature, present and critically evaluate different opinions and positions on literary phenomena and processes	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[AMERMU2_W07] Student knows and comprehensively understands selected topics representing advanced detailed knowledge of selected issues in American literature.	knows and understands in depth other issues, selected by the Instructor, that constitute advanced detailed knowledge of American literature up to 1850	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERMU2_U05] Student is able to communicate with diverse audiences on specialized topics concerning literary and cultural phenomena and processes in North America, using advanced terminology in literary and cultural and religious studies.	Independently prepare and discuss issues related to early American literature using advanced concepts from the field of literary studies	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERMU2_K01] Student is ready to critically assess the extent of her/his knowledge and skills, especially in the fields of American literature and cultural studies, contextual knowledge of American studies and the English language.	is ready to critically assess the extent of his knowledge and skills, especially in the field of early American literature	[SK3] text preparation/written work [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_W11] Student knows and comprehensively understands advanced methods of analysis and interpretation specific to American literature.	knows and understands to a deeper degree advanced methods of analysis and interpretation specific to early American literature	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[AMERMU2_K06] Student is ready to actively participate in literary, cultural and artistic life.	is ready to actively participate in contemporary literary life as an informed and active consumer of early American literature	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERMU2_U03] Student is able to properly select sources and evaluate, select, critically analyze, synthesize and creatively interpret and present the collected information, using advanced information and communication techniques, especially in the field of American literature and cultural studies and in his professional work.	can properly select sources of literary and literary studies texts, critically analyze and synthesize them, and present the collected information, using advanced information and communication techniques	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report [SU3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_W05] Student knows and comprehensively understands advanced terminology in literary studies applicable to the study of American literature.	knows thoroughly and understands advanced terminology in literary studies applicable to the study of early American literature	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report
Subject contents	oral transmission of North American Indians, legends, stories about the creation of the world and other myths English-language writing in the British colonies in the 17th and 18th centuries elements of Puritan religious consciousness in the British colonies in the 17th century specifics of the American Enlightenment (Franklin, "Federalist Papers") literature of the "early republic" in the context of the acquisition of independence by the United States generic differentiation of the literature of the "early republic" (novel subgenres, the beginnings of epic poetry, drama) American nationalism and nature mythology (periodicals, Irving, Cooper, Bird) and others		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	znajomość angielskiego na poziomie C1		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	presentation	51.0%	10.0%
	paper assignment	51.0%	30.0%
	debate	51.0%	30.0%
	test	51.0%	30.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	Anthologies of American literature, e.g.: (poems, stories, essays). Lauter, Paul (ed.). The Heath Anthology of American Literature. Vols. A, B, C. Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 2006. Baym, Nina (ed.). The Norton Anthology of American Literature. Vols. A, B, C. New York: Norton, 2007. Benjamin Franklin, Autobiography,(excerpts indicated by the presenter). Novels: James Fenimore Cooper, Title indicated by the Instructor(s). and others indicated by the Instructor. A.2. studied independently by the student Bercovitch, Sacvan (ed.). The Cambridge History of American Literature. Vols.1-3. Cambridge: Cambridge UP. Kopcewicz, Andrzej, Sienicka Marta, History of the literature of the United States in outline. Centuries XVII-XIX. Warsaw: PWN, 1982.
	Supplementary literature	Elliott, Emory, ed. Columbia Literary History of the United States. New York: Columbia UP, 2008. Howe, Daniel Walker, The Unitarian Conscience. Middletown: Wesleyan UP, 1988. Reynolds, David S. Beneath the American Renaissance. Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP, 1988. Sundquist, Eric J. To Wake the Nations. Race in the Making of American Literature. Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP, 1993.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Native American mythologies, Puritanism; how does early American fiction draw on European generic conventions?	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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