

Subject card

Subject name and code	Early American Literature lecture, PG_00144742						
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		4.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
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	30.0	0.0	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		68.0	100
Subject objectives	The purpose of the lectures is: to acquaint students with the history of American literature and its ideological foundations from 1620 to the mid-19th century; to make students aware of the peculiarities of American culture and literature in relation to British culture and literature and other European literatures of the aforementioned period.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[AMERMU2_W05] Student knows and comprehensively understands advanced terminology in literary studies applicable to the study of American literature.	Knows and understands in depth advanced terminology in literary studies applicable to the study of early American literature (K_W05)	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[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.	Able to communicate with diverse audiences on topics related to early American literature using advanced concepts from literary studies	[SU3] text preparation/written work
	[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, evaluate, critically analyze and synthesize them, and present the collected information, using advanced information and communication techniques in the field of literary studies	[SU3] text preparation/written work
	[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 viewer of early American literature	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERMU2_U01] Student is able to use methods and tools appropriate to literary studies and cultural and religious studies to innovatively perform analytical and interpretive tasks concerning phenomena and processes in American literature and culture.	is able to use methods and tools specific to literary studies to innovatively perform analytical and interpretive tasks on the phenomena and processes shaping early American literature	[SU3] text preparation/written work [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_W13] Student knows and comprehensively understands development trends of American literature and its historical evolution.	Knows and understands in depth the developmental trends of early American literature and its historical evolution	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_W11] Student knows and comprehensively understands advanced methods of analysis and interpretation specific to American literature.	knows and comprehensively understands advanced methods of analysis and interpretation specific to early American literature, points out the relationships between the creation of works of American literature of the aforementioned period and the political and social situation	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_W07] Student knows and comprehensively understands selected topics representing advanced detailed knowledge of selected issues in American literature.	Knows and understands to an in-depth degree selected issues that constitute advanced specific knowledge of early American literature)	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_W01] Student knows and comprehensively understands selected issues that constitute advanced general knowledge of American literature.	knows and comprehensively understands selected issues in the field of literary studies applicable to the study of early American literature	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW3] text preparation/written work
Subject contents	- oral tradition and Native American culture - 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			

Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	auto-reflexive report	51.0%	10.0%
	written assignment	51.0%	30.0%
	final exam	51.0%	60.0%
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. Studied independently by the student Bercovitch, Sacvan (ed.). The Cambridge History of American Literature. Vols.1-3. Cambridge: Cambridge UP. .	
	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	Puritanism in early American literature; The American Enlightenment	
Work placement	Not applicable		

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