

History of American literature 1865-2000

1. Introduction to the course

Part I Realism and Naturalism 1865-1910

Culture in the wake of Secessional War

Poetics of realism

Mark Twain

William Dean Howells

2. Henry James

3. Culture at the turn of the century

Darwinism

Psychology: William James

Social Darwinism (Sumner, Huxley, Fiske)

4. Local color literature

New England

Sarah Orne Jewett

Charlotte Perkins Gilman

The West

Jack London

Willa Cather

The South

Kate Chopin

5. Poetics of Naturalism

Stephen Crane

Theodore Dreiser

6. Libraries and the reading public

Rise of "English" as an academic subject: Literary criticism

Rise of the Western and Indian literature

Rise of juvenile literature

Frank Baum

Louisa May Alcott

7. Poetry

Stephen Crane

Edwin Arlington Robinson

II Modernism 1910-1970

8. 1910s Modernism vs traditionalism (as a rejection of tradition)

Futurism

- Constructivism
- Dada
- Freudian modernisation of culture
- First sexual revolution
- Francis Scott Fitzgerald

- 9. Ernest Hemingway
- Sherwood Anderson
- Gertrude Stein

- 10. Modernist Poetry
- TS Eliot
- Ezra Pound
- The Fugitives
- Robert Frost
- Edgar Lee Masters
- Wallace Stevens
- ee cumming

- 11. Rise of ethnic fiction
- Black Literature: Harlem Renaissance
- Black poetry Countee Cullen
- Claude McKey
- Black fiction
- Black theater

- 12. 1930s Depression and its literary expression
- Communism and effects of Moscow Trials
- John Steinbeck

- 13. William Faulkner
- Eudora Welty
- Robert Penn Warren

- 14. Jewish Literature
- Henry Roth
- Black Literature
- Zora Neal Hurston
- Richard Wright

- 15. Rise of popular literary genres
- Horror
- Lovecraft
- Detective fiction
- Dashiell Hammett
- Science Fiction
- Southern Writers

Margaret Mitchell

16. The War and its aftermath: "The Silent Decade"
Jewish-American Literature
Bernard Malamud
Isaac Bashevis Singer
J.D Salinger
17. Saul Bellow
Joseph Heller
18. American poetry : Confessional, Existentialist and Academic
Robert Lowell
William Carlos Williams
19. American Drama
Arthur Miller
Tennessee Williams
20. The Age of Rebellion and experimentation
Cold War and Scientism
The Beat Generation
Jack Kerouac
Allen Ginsberg
- 21 American Fiction
Norman Mailer
John Updike
22. Southern Literature
William Styron
Carson McCullers
Flannery O'Connor
23. American Poetry
Black Mountain College
24. American Drama
Edward Albee
Christopher Durang
Neil Simon
Rochelle Owens
Joseph Chaikin
25. Golden Age of Science Fiction
Isaac Asimov
Robert Heinlein
Ursula LeGuin
Philip K. Dick

Frank Herbert
Larry Niven

26. Censorship of literature

Sexual liberation of literature: The case of Henry Miller

III Postmodernism 1970 -

27. Doubt with everything: Postmodern epistemology and ideology: antiscientism

28. Postmodern fiction

John Barth
Thomas Pynchon
Robert Coover
John Hawkes
Jonathan Carroll
Paul Auster

29. American Theater

David Mammet
Sam Shepard
Spalding Gray
Robert Wilson

30. Triumph of ethnic literatures

Black Arts Movement
Black theater
Amiri Baraka
Ed Bullins
Adrienne Kennedy
Black poetry
Derek Walcott
Black fiction
Ishmael Reed
Alice Walker
Toni Morrison

31. Asian-American literature

Amy Tan
Maxine Hong Kingston
David Hwang (drama)

Indian American literature

Louise Erdridge
Leslie Marmion Silko

Jewish-American literature

Jerzy Kosiński
Philip Roth

32. Gay fiction

Edmund White

David Leavitt
Lesbian fiction

33. Science Fiction

Orson Scot Card
William Gibson and Bruce Sterling
Kim Stanley Robinson
Margaret Atwood

34. Experimentation and Performance in the theater

American drama Gay

Tony Kushner
Tim Miller
Holy Hughes

Black Theater

Ntozake Shange
Athol Fugard
August Wilson
Charles Fuller

35. Canon wars

Rise of “critical theory” as a way of interpreting literature

Gender criticism

Feminist criticism
Gay criticism
Lesbian criticism
Queer criticism

Postcolonial criticism (subaltern studies)