Literary History of the United States (III)
AN(L)23002BA/AN28006BA/ AN3302OMA I.

Spring 2019
Time and venue: Wed 10:00- 11:40, Lecture Room II, Mblg.
Class format: lecture
Status of course: required
Course requirement: End-of-semester examination

Instructors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Office hours</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Tel.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leneth Németh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nemeth.lenke@arts.unideb.hu">nemeth.lenke@arts.unideb.hu</a></td>
<td>Wed 12:00-12:50, Thu 10:00-10:50</td>
<td>Mbl 118</td>
<td>512 900/22069</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pétér Csató</td>
<td><a href="mailto:csatop@arts.unideb.hu">csatop@arts.unideb.hu</a></td>
<td>Tue &amp; Wed 16:00-17:00</td>
<td>Room Mbl 108/2</td>
<td>512-900/23092</td>
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Course description
This course is designed to be a full survey of mid- and late 20th and early 21st century American literature. Significant developments as well as representative authors in fiction, poetry, and drama will be introduced. The social, political, and intellectual background, characteristic features of decades, the various literary trends, tendencies, labels, genre debates, as well as the cultural debates and reconceptualizations relating to race, gender, and identity will be highlighted.

SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Feb 13</td>
<td>Introduction (CsP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Feb 20</td>
<td>Non-conformism and American Fiction (NL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Feb 27</td>
<td>African American Literature since 1900 (NL)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>March 6</td>
<td>Women Writers (NL)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>Modern American Drama (NL)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>March 20</td>
<td>Postmodern American Drama (NL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>Existentialism in Modern American Fiction (CsP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Apr 3</td>
<td>CONSULTATION WEEK</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Apr 10</td>
<td>Ethics and Fiction (CsP)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Apr 17</td>
<td>Culture and Fiction (CsP)</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>April 24</td>
<td>Postmodemism I (CsP)</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>HOLIDAY (no class)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>Postmodernism II (CsP)</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>Closing/ Q&amp;A session</td>
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List of required readings for the end-of-semester examination

Novels
1. NON-CONFORMIST, BEAT, COUNTERCULTURE FICTION:
   J. D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye* (1951),
   or Jack Kerouac, *On the Road* (1957),
   or Ken Kesey, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* (1962)
2. EXISTENTIALIST FICTION
Saul Bellow, *Seize the Day* (1956) + ANY relevant novel or short story covered in the seminar

3. CHANGING PARADIGMS OF ETHICS AND MORALITY:

4. AFRICAN-AMERICAN FICTION:
   Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man* (1952),
   or Toni Morrison, *Song of Solomon* (1977)

5. MODERNIST FICTION:

6. POSTMODERNIST FICTION:
   Donald Barthelme, *The Dead Father* (1975)

7. FEMINISM, WOMEN’S EXPERIENCE FICTION:
   Sandra Cisneros, *The House on Mango Street* (1984),
   or Bharati Mukherjee, *Jasmine* (1989)

8. CULTURE AS INTERPRETIVE SPACE
   Rudolfo Anaya, *Bless Me, Ultima* (1972)
   + ANY relevant novel or short story covered in the seminar

**Short Fiction**
Zora Neale Hurston, “The Gilded Six Bits”
Ernest Hemingway, “The Killers”; “The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber”
Ernest J. Gaines, “The Sky is Grey”
Flannery O’Connor, “Good Country People”
John Barth, “Life-Story”; “Lost in the Funhouse”
Raymond Carver, “A Serious Talk”;
Bobbie Ann Mason, “Nancy Culpepper”
Ann Beattie, “In the White Night”

**Poetry**

**Drama**
3. Arthur Miller, *Death of a Salesman* (1949)
**Recommended reading for the examination**

No single book will do. Your best bet is to attend the classes. Among IEAS library possessions—and in inadequate copies—we have items that cover only part of the period, or, full literary histories that carry chapters on post-1945 American literature. The same may apply to thematic, ethnic, and genre monographs. Here are a few basic suggestions, containing only comprehensive, period, genre, or gender titles—not all of them available in our library. Explore libraries and bibliographies for more.


Rudman, Jack. *American Literature: Civil War to the Present*.


