

JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
State University of New York

INSTITUTIONAL COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: American Literature Before the Civil War

Course Abbreviation and Number: ENG 2550

Credit Hours: 3

Course Type: Lecture

Course Description: Students will study key works of early American literature (pre-1865) in their literary, cultural, and historical contexts. Students will be asked to explore what "American" means and what major ideas were at work to create a cultural definition for that term. In addition to studying the traditional texts of authors such as Hawthorne, Whitman, Fuller, Emerson, Bradstreet, Franklin, Bradford, etc., students will be exposed to literature outside of the New England canon including Native Americans, French and Spanish colonizers, and African slaves.

Prerequisite: ENG 1530.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

1. Read and interpret various works of American literature.
 2. Discuss the impact of history and culture on American literature both verbally and in writing.
 3. Critically interpret literary themes from a variety of American literature.
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Topics Covered:

- New England authors
 - Women's literature
 - French and Spanish colonial literature
 - African slave literature
 - Native American literature
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Information for Students

- Expectations of Students
 - [Civility Statement](#)
 - [Student Responsibility Statement](#)
 - [Academic Integrity Statement](#)
- [Accessibility Services](#)
Students who require accommodations to complete the requirements and expectations of this course because of a disability must make their accommodation requests to the Accessibility Services Coordinator.
- [Get Help: JCC & Community Resources](#)
- [Emergency Closing Procedures](#)
- Course grade is determined by the instructor based on a combination of factors, including but not limited to, homework, quizzes, exams, projects, and participation. Final course grade can be translated into a grade point value according to the following:

A=4.0	B+=3.5	B=3	C+=2.5	C=2	D+=1.5	D=1	F=0
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- Veterans and active duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, VA appointments) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these to the instructor.
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Effective Date: Fall 2021