Veranstalter	Marius Henderson
Thema	Introduction to American Literature and Culture [AA-E2, ENG-2, AA3, LAA3, LAA16]
Art der Veranstaltung	Seminar Ia
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-538
Zeit	2st. Di 14-16 (+ 2 Std. Übung)
Raum	Phil 1219
Beginn	13.10.2015

Course Description:

The overall objective of this seminar is to provide students with the necessary tools for scholarly textual analysis and for conducting literary studies at an academic level. Students will become acquainted with key methodologies and theories that will enable them to analyze literature professionally. The seminar will proceed in close dialogue with the accompanying lecture "A History of American Literature," and we will practice the analysis and interpretation of texts by scrutinizing texts from different eras of American literary history, from the seventeenth to the twenty-first century. We will discuss texts from all three traditional literary genres, i.e. prose, poetry, and drama, visual texts, like film and photography, and texts which may seem to defy easy genre classifications. In our encounters with texts we will take formal aspects into consideration as well as the cultural and historical contexts of the respective texts.

This course aims to familiarize you with major concepts, terms, and practices of literary and cultural studies, and to equip you with the basic skills for approaching textual works and media from a scholarly perspective.

This seminar is part of an introductory module consisting of the lecture "A History of American Literature" taught by Prof. Dr. Jan Kucharzewski (Wednesday 2–4 pm) as well as a <u>mandatory</u> tutorial taught by advanced students (to be announced).

Course Requirements:
- Attendance and active participation in the seminar and the tutorial (not more than 2 absences)
- In-class assignments (weekly reading responses)
- Final exam in the last seminar session (January 26)

All necessary texts for the course can be accessed as PDF-files in the course's AGORA-room, once participation in the course has been verified.