



Universität Hamburg

Fakultät für Geisteswissenschaften
Department II – Sprache, Literatur und Medien
Fachbereich Fremdsprachliche Philologien
Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik
Prof. Dr. Susanne Rohr



Vorlesung: 53-529

Prof. Dr. Susanne Rohr

Winter Term 2016/17

Office hours: Tuesday, 11am-12pm, room 1256

Tuesday 2pm to 4pm; lecture hall: G

Start: 18 October, 2016

History of American Literature
(AA-E2, ENG-2, AA3, LAA3, LAA16)

This lecture course will provide you with an overview of the history of American literature from the orally transmitted myths and legends of Native American cultures to the latest developments. The individual lectures will describe the major concerns of a particular literary period, outline the cultural context of the most important writers and their works and talk about significant historical events. Our discussions will thus lead us from the Puritan world-view to Enlightenment and the cultural scene of the Early Republic. We will then trace what has come to be seen as the beginning of American literature in the first half of the 19th century, the era of Romanticism, and then move on to the late 19th century, a literary period that was dominated by the conventions of realism. After crossing the threshold to the 20th century we will examine modernist and post-modernist forms of expression and will then end with a survey of contemporary literary developments in the US in the 21st century.

All necessary texts for the course can be accessed as pdf-files in the course's Agora-room. You may also buy a printed copy at Cobra-Copy, Von-Melle-Park 5 (located in WiWi- Bunker's passageway to Grindelallee).

Attention: In order to receive credits for this lecture course, students must pass three multiple-choice quizzes.

