

Course Title	American Fiction				
Course Code	LIT400				
Course Type	Compulsory				
Level	Bachelor (1 <sup>st</sup> Cycle)				
Year / Semester	4 <sup>th</sup> Year / 7 <sup>th</sup> Semester				
Teacher's Name	TBA				
ECTS	6	Lectures / week	Up to 6 teleconferences	Laboratories / week	N/A
Course Purpose and Objectives	This course introduces students to the literatures of North America since World War II, with an emphasis on questions of American identity, including diverse national, ethnic, and transnational identity formations.				
Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify unique traits and tropes of American writing</li> <li>• Assess the impact of factors such as ethnicity, gender and location on American authors</li> <li>• Write about the relationship between history, society and literature in post-war America</li> <li>• Discuss America as both national and transnational space</li> <li>• Discuss America as both nation state and abstract ideal</li> </ul>				
Prerequisites	LIT200 or permission of the instructor	Co-requisites	None		
Course Content	<p>Students will research the history and culture of America from the moment of first European contact, with reference to significant American texts such as the Declaration of Independence and various Presidential addresses, and relate this history to the evolution of a distinctively American culture. Traits of this culture to be discussed include individualism, religiosity, attitudes to race, gender and sexuality, American exceptionalism, regionalism, exploitation of the natural environment, and relationship with other world cultures. Theories of American identity will be explored, from Frederick Jackson Turner's frontier thesis, via ideas of America as melting pot and the concept of the American Dream, to more recent emphases on nationalism and the transnational turn. Students will also be encouraged to relate their reading both fictive and theoretical to current affairs in America, and America's relationships with Europe and Asia. Much of the content of this course will take an interdisciplinary approach to the interpretation of literary text, encouraging students to take in materials from social sciences, history, economics and other fields.</p>				
Teaching Methodology	E-Learning				

Bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy Acker. <i>Blood and Guts in High School</i>. Grove, 1984.</li> <li>• Neil Campbell and Alasdair Kean. <i>American Cultural Studies: An Introduction to American Culture</i>. 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Routledge, 2016.</li> <li>• Louise Erdrich. <i>Love Medicine</i>. HarperCollins, 2009.</li> <li>• Ken Kesey. <i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</i>. Penguin, 2011.</li> <li>• Percival Everett. <i>Erasure</i>. University Press of New England, 2001.</li> <li>• <i>Best American Short Stories</i>. Most recent edition. Houghton Mifflin, 2019, 1984.</li> </ul>				
Assessment	<table border="1" data-bbox="506 600 1203 703"> <tr> <td data-bbox="506 600 1071 651">Final Examination</td> <td data-bbox="1071 600 1203 651">50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="506 651 1071 703">Assignments/On-going Evaluation</td> <td data-bbox="1071 651 1203 703">50%</td> </tr> </table>	Final Examination	50%	Assignments/On-going Evaluation	50%
Final Examination	50%				
Assignments/On-going Evaluation	50%				
Language	English				