**American Fiction**

**Spring 2020**

**Dr. Angeliki Tseti**

**Course Outline:**

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| **Date** | **Readings Due** |
| Week 1  24/02 | Introduction: Early American (16th-17th cent.) history and literature overview / Formal Elements of Fiction.  Excerpts from: John Winthrop’s “A Model of Christian Charity”; “A Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs Mary Rowlandson”; Thomas Jefferson’s *Autobiography* – “The Declaration of Independence”. |
| Week 2  09/03 | Benjamin Franklin’s “The Way to Wealth”;  W. Irving, “Rip Van Winkle” |
| **PART 1. AMERICAN FICTION: 1820-1900** | |
| Week 3  16/03 | N. Hawthorne, “The Minister’s Black Veil”  E. A. Poe, "The Fall of the House of Usher” |
| Week 4  23/03 | H. D. Thoreau, “Resistance to Civil Government”; from *Walden*: “Where I Lived and What I Lived for”; “Solitude”.  R. W. Emerson, excerpts from: "The American Scholar"; “Self-Reliance”; “Over-Soul” (Handout). |
| Week 5  30/03 | H. Melville, “Bartleby, The Scrivener” |
| Week 6  06/04 | H. James, "The Aspern Papers" |
| Week 7  27/04 | Women's Writing: First Feminist Wave  C. P. Gilman, “The Yellow Wallpaper”; “Why I Wrote the Yellow Wallpaper”  K. Chopin, "The Story of an Hour" |
| **PART 2. MODERNIST PERIOD 1910 – 1945** | |
| Week 8  04/05 | F. Scott Fitzgerald, "The Rich Boy";  E. Hemingway, “The Snows of Kilimanjaro” |
| Week 9  11/05 | William Faulkner, “A Rose for Emily”;  Eudora Welty, “Why I Live in the P.O.” |
| **PART 3. CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN LITERATURE 1945 – present** | |
| Week 10  18/05 | African-American Writing  A. Walker, “Everyday Use”;  T. Morrison, "Recitatif" |
| Week 11  25/05 | Postmodernism  Thomas Pynchon, "Entropy";  Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., “Welcome to the Monkey House” |
| Week 12  01/06 | Post-9/11 Fiction  Don DeLillo "The Starveling"  (From: *The Angel Esmeralda: Nine Stories*) |
|  | Review and Conclusion |