



**Instructor:** Mark Crimmins

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**Course Number:** ENG250Y5Y

**Course Title:** American Literature

**Course description:** This course will examine the development of American Literature from the colonial era to the contemporary period, and will include a very broad selection of American texts from a broadly representative collection of American authors. We will start our studies with Native American creation myths and move through the early colonial accounts of the 'New World' to the texts of the Founding Fathers of the new nation and on into the American Renaissance, with its efflorescence of literary culture. From the Renaissance to the end of the Nineteenth Century, we will examine movements such as Transcendentalism, Realism, and Naturalism, before exploring the creative explosion of Modernism, including the Harlem Renaissance. Our studies will take us up to recent publications by still living and often still young authors who are publishing their early work even as we study them.

**Required Reading:**

*The Norton Anthology of American Literature* (Shorter Seventh Edition, Volumes 1 and 2: Eds.: Baym, Franklin, Gura, Kliknowitz et. Al.).

Continued...

**First Authors to be Studied:** Pima and Iroquois Creation Myths, Letters of Columbus, Cabeza de Vaca.

**Method of Instruction:** Lecture and discussion

**Method of Evaluation:**

2 Papers: 20% each

2 Tests: 10% each

Final Exam: 30%

Participation: 10%