

NOC: American Literature & Culture - Video course

COURSE OUTLINE

The course aims to inculcate an appreciation of specific American authors and texts, along with the literary history of the United States. Participants will also get familiar with the relation between American literature and important related historical and socio-cultural developments. The course also aims to foster an understanding of the development of various genres, forms, and themes in select American literature.

COURSE DETAIL

Week	Lessons/Topics
Week 1	Introduction to the course. Henry James. The Portrait of a Lady. Introduction to Henry James and his works Plot/character/literary techniques/style
Week 2	-do-
Week 3	Theodore Dreiser. An American Tragedy. Plot/character/literary techniques/style
Week 4	Eugene O'Neill. Desire under the Elms. Introduction to Eugene O'Neill and his works Plot/character/literary techniques/style
Week 5	American Romanticism Edgar Allan Poe. "Annabel Lee." Flannery O'Connor. "Good Country People."
Week 6	Ernest Hemingway. The Sun Also Rises Plot/character/literary techniques/style
Week 7	Edith Wharton. The Age of Innocence. Plot/character/literary techniques/style
Week 8	Lillian Hellman. The Children's Hour Plot/character/literary techniques/style
Week 9	Arthur Miller. A View from the Bridge. Plot/character/literary techniques/style
Week 10	Hart Crane. "To Brooklyn Bridge." Pulp fiction Science fiction Counter Culture
Week 11	Christopher Hitchens "Jewish Power, Jewish Peril." Conclusion.

References:

Primary texts:

1. Henry James. The Portrait of a Lady.
2. Theodore Dreiser. An American Tragedy.
3. Eugene O'Neill. Desire under the Elms.
4. Ernest Hemingway. The Sun Also Rises.
5. Edgar Allan Poe. "Annabel Lee".
6. Flannery O'Connor. "Good Country People."



NP-TEL

NPTEL

<http://nptel.ac.in>

**Humanities
and Social
Sciences**

Pre-requisites:

Familiarity with English/American literature

Coordinators:

**Dr. Aysha Iqbal
Viswamohan**
Department of
Humanities and
Social Sciences IIT
Madras

7. Edith Wharton. The Age of Innocence.
8. Lillian Hellman. The Children's Hour.
9. Arthur Miller. A View from the Bridge.
10. Hart Crane. "To Brooklyn Bridge."
11. Christopher Hitchens. "Jewish Power, Jewish Peril."

Secondary texts:

1. Bertens, Hans & Theo D'haen. American Literature: A History, Routledge, 2014.
2. Baym, Nina. Norton Anthology of American Literature vol 1 and 2 , WW Norton & Co. , 2012.
3. Gray, Richard. A History of American Literature (Blackwell, 2004)
4. Bradbury, Malcolm and Ruland, Richard. From Puritanism to Postmodernism: A History of American Literature , Penguin, 1991.
5. Salzman, Jack. The Cambridge Handbook of American Literature. Cambridge University Press, 1986.