

**King Faisal University**  
**College of Arts**  
**Department of English Language**  
**Academic Plan: Course Description**

**1- Course identification**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Department of English Language</b>		<b>Level</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Course title</b>	<b>Introduction to American Literature</b>		<b>Code</b>	<b>ADEL 487</b>
<b>Course</b>	Theoretical <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Practical <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Domain</b>	<b>Literature</b>		<b>Prerequisite(s)</b>	
<b>Credit hours</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>ADEL 280: Eng. Lit. of the Renaissance</b>

**2- Course content**

The course offers a brief introductory survey concentrating on major writers, works trends and genres. The course examines the major literary movements of: Romanticism, Transcendentalism, Realism, Naturalism and ending with the Harlem Renaissance. At least one novel, one play, and a collection of poems to be closely studied of the works of writers such as Longfellow, Poe, Hawthorne, Melville, Dickinson, Whitman, Twain, James, Frost, O'Neill, Hemingway, O'Connor, Stevens, Hughes, Cullen, Wright, and others.

**3- Course rationale**

The course deals with the American Literature, which is one of the great sources for English literature since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Moreover, many American literary works are regarded now among the English literature classics. Accordingly, this course is essential for the student of English language and literature.

**4- Course objectives**

- The course aims at exposing the student of English language and literature to different literary and cultural canons of the English speaking world.
- Through the wide scope of reading, the course aims at giving the student and ample opportunity to trace the development of American literature from being dependent on the English literature to be a real independent and even influential in it.
- The course aims at exposing the reader to the intercultural nature of the American literature.
- One of the main objectives of the course is to develop the student's literary taste and the analytical and critical skills.

## 5- Teaching methods

The student is supposed to learn some sort of independent learning strategies, and not to stop at lecturing method. This is translated through:

- Giving the student reading assignments on certain related topics to be prepared in advance and to be discussed orally in class. This is meant to give time to **discussion sessions** more than to traditional **lecturing**.
- **Analyzing** literary texts in the light of the common literary techniques of the targeted periods whether dramatic or poetic.

## 6- Course evaluation

Continuous assessment is the main method of evaluation. The following instruments are utilized:

1- Attendance	10%
2- Class Quizzes and assignment	10%
3- A report paper	10%
4- Midterm Exam	20%
5- Final Exam	50%

## 7- References and teaching learning resources

### Text Books:

A selection of poems chosen from:

- Murphy, F., H. Parker et.al. eds. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature. Vol. 1.* New York & London: Norton & Co. (recent edition).
- Bayn, Nina, et.al. eds. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature. Vol.2.* New York & London: Norton & Co. (recent edition).

One play by one of the following dramatists:

- E. O'Neill OR Tennessee Williams.

One novel by one of the following novelists:

- Hawthorne, Melville, OR Hemingway.