

**ANG 351 AMERICAN LITERATURE II
(3 crédits)**

CONCOMITANTE : ANG 140 Introduction to Literature **ou**
ANG 245 The Narrative

Nombre limite : 60 étudiantes ou étudiants

DESCRIPTEURS :

Objectifs : Se familiariser avec les principaux romans, nouvelles et pièces de théâtre qui ont marqué le 20^e siècle.

Contenu : Principaux auteurs américains du 20^e siècle. Étude de leurs œuvres en fonction du contexte historique.

AUTRES INFORMATIONS GÉNÉRALES

Pour vérifier si cette activité pédagogique est offerte à la présente session, consulter l'horaire sur le site du Département des arts, langues et littératures à la rubrique Étudiants actuels <https://www.usherbrooke.ca/dall/etudiants-actuels/>

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Objectives

At the conclusion of this course students will be able :

- to read, analyze, discuss and write about major American literary works (novels, drama, poetry and short fiction) in an informed and authoritative manner;
- to demonstrate a decade-by-decade knowledge of modern American history and culture;
- to cite relevant literary examples of modern American cultural trends, and conversely to illustrate how certain literary works are exemplary of and/or anomalous to the periods in which they were written;
- to show an awareness of the differences and similarities between American literature and other forms of American culture: religion, politics, music, performing arts, and, in particular, film and TV;
- finally, to discuss madness and marginality as major themes in modern American literature.

Content

- Historical/cultural periods: the turn of the century and American innocence, the war years and "the lost generation", the roaring twenties including American 'modernism' and the decline of the South, the dirty thirties, World War II and the rise of American tragedy, McCarthyism and the Beat Generation in the fifties, Baby Boomers, hippies and *Hair* in the sixties, liberalism in the seventies, new and emerging literatures of the eighties, facing the millennia in the nineties.
- Four novels : Wharton's *The Age of Innocence*, Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*, Kesey's *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*, and Walker's *The Color Purple*.
- Two plays : Tennessee Williams' *Suddenly Last Summer* and Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*.
- A selection of poems and short stories to be distributed in class.

Pedagogical Method

Classes will consist of professorial lectures, frequently and substantially interrupted by questions and discussion. Students should appear at every class prepared to ask and answer questions about the works under study. The course will include the presentation of materials on video and the presentation of other culturally relevant materials.

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Workload

In addition to extensive reading the course will entail :

- regular, active participation
- two brief quizzes
- a mid-term examination
- an end-of-term examination and
- a 1500-to-3000-word research paper.

Evaluation

Quizzes	10%
Participation	10%
Mid-term examination	20%
Term paper	30%
Final examination	30%

Bibliography

A reading list will be distributed at the first class meeting.