

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS
B.A. DEGREE COURSE IN ENGLISH
SYLLABUS WITH EFFECT FROM 2020-2021

Title of the Course	Core Course BEN-DSC09: AMERICAN LITERATURE – PAPER II		
Category of the Course	Year & Semester Third Year & Fifth Semester	Credits 4	Subject Code
Hours:	90		
Objectives:	To enable the students to understand the trends in American literature through the study of seminal texts and its contribution.		
Course Introduction (to be considered for internal assessment tasks only)	The emergence of America as a super power. African-American History. America and Russia. The Great Depression		
Course Components	UNIT 1: Poetry		
	1.1 “A Hillside Thaw”	Robert Frost	
	1.2 “Chicago”	Carl Sandburg	
	1.3 “Poetry”	Marianne Moore	
	1.4 “Skunk Hour”	Robert Lowell	
	1.5 “Runagate, Runagate”	Robert Hayden	
	1.6 “Mirror”	Sylvia Plath	
	1.7 “Harlem”	Langston Hughes	
	1.8 “Perhaps the World Ends Here”	Joy Harjo	
	UNIT 2: Prose		
	2.1 “The Figure a Poem Makes”	Robert Frost	
	2.2 “The Man of Letters in the Modern World”	Allen Tate	
	2.3 “I Have a Dream”	Martin Luther King Jr	
	2.4 “The Black writer and the Southern Experience” from <i>In Search of our Mother’s Garden</i>	Alice Walker	
	UNIT 3: Drama		
	3.1 The Glass Menagerie	Tennessee Williams	
	UNIT 4: Short Story		
	4.1 “A Journey”	Edith Wharton	
	4.2 “The Snows of Kilimanjaro”	Ernest Hemingway	
	4.3 “The World's Greatest Fisherman”	Louise Erdrich	
	4.4 “Living Space”	Isaac Asimov	
	UNIT 5: Fiction		
	5.1 To Kill a Mocking Bird	Harper Lee	
Learning Outcomes:	After doing the course, students will be able <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ to evaluate new forms of space, identity, and writing that transformed canonical English literary structures ➤ to assess thematic aspects of literary texts as a part of cultural and historical movements in America. 		

Prescribed Texts/Web Sources:

- i) 2.2 <https://stormfields.files.wordpress.com/2014/12/tate-man-of-letters-1952.pdf>
- ii) 2.3 https://archive.org/stream/in.ernet.dli.2015.458777/2015.458777.Literary-Essays_djvu.txt
- iii) 2.4 *In Search of our Mother’s Garden* -Alice Walker
- iv) 4.1 https://loa-shared.s3.amazonaws.com/static/pdf/Wharton_Journey.pdf
- v) 4.4 <https://nyc3.digitaloceanspaces.com/sffaudio-usa/usa-pdfs/LivingSpaceByIsaacAsimov.pdf>

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS
B.A. DEGREE COURSE IN ENGLISH
SYLLABUS WITH EFFECT FROM 2020-2021

FURTHER READING: (to be considered for Internal Assessment tasks only)

- The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- “After Apple Picking” by Robert Frost
- “The Walls do not Fall” by Hilda Doolittle
- “One Art” by Elizabeth Bishop
- “Anecdote of the Jar” by Wallace Stevens
- “the Cambridge ladies” by e.e.cummings
- “Persephone Falling” by Rita Dove
- The Hairy Ape by Eugene O’ Neil
- All My Sons by Arthur Miller
- As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner
- The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan

BOOKS & WEB SOURCES FOR FURTHER REFERENCE

- The Cambridge History of American Literature
- Parini, Jay. The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Literature, Volume 3, OUP, 2004.
- Burt, Daniel S. The Chronology of American Literature
<https://books.google.co.in/books?id=VQ0fgo5v6e0C&printsec=frontcover&dq=american+literature&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwitjKyP-LzpAhVWXSsKHRgIDK0Q6AEISjAE#v=onepage&q=american%20literature&f=false>
- Gray, Richard. A Brief History of American Literature
<https://books.google.co.in/books?id=GmIyLe13HjEC&printsec=frontcover&dq=american+literature&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwitjKyP-LzpAhVWXSsKHRgIDK0Q6AEIOjAC#v=onepage&q=american%20literature&f=false>
- www.britannica.com
- americanliterature.com
- www.history.com : Black History: Facts and People

TEDX TALKS

- The dangers of whitewashing black history | David Ikard | TEDxNashville
- https://www.ted.com/talks/david_ikard_the_dangers_of_whitewashing_black_history?language=en
- The Great Migration and the power of a single decision: Isabel Wilkerson. 2017
- https://www.ted.com/talks/isabel_wilkerson_the_great_migration_and_the_power_of_a_single_decision?referrer=playlist-10_great_talks_to_celebrate_black_history
- The Danger of a Single Story : Chimamanda Adichie
https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_ngozi_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story?referrer=playlist-10_great_talks_to_celebrate_black_history