

## **AKE 303: 19<sup>th</sup> Century American Fiction I**

Instructor: Dr. Sotirios Bampatzimopoulos

sotirios@ankara.edu.tr

**19<sup>th</sup> Century American Fiction I** examines major developments in literary expression and their relations to broader cultural and political developments in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The goal here is to gain a deeper understanding of the period and its literary products by analyzing the ways in which significant literary texts embody and reflect the changing concerns of the Americans. The course focuses on articulations of the nation with texts embracing an American sense of novelty.

### **Course Schedule**

**Week 1:** Introduction to the course

**Week 2:** Benedict Anderson: Introduction and Chapter 11 (“Space New and Old”) from *Imagined Communities* (1983)

**Week 3:** St. Jean De Crèvecoeur: “What Is an American” from *Letters from an American Farmer* (1782)

**Week 4:** Washington Irving: “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow” (1820)

**Week 5:** Washington Irving: “Rip Van Winkle” (1819)

**Week 6:** James Fenimore Cooper: “Notions of the Americans” (1823)

**Week 7:** Mid-term Exam

**Week 8:** Frederick Jackson Turner: “The Significance of the Frontier in American History” (1893)

**Week 9:** Edgar Allan Poe: “The Philosophy of Composition” (1846) and “The Raven” (1845)

**Week 10:** Edgar Allan Poe: “Ligeia” (1838)

**Week 11:** Edgar Allan Poe: “The Cask of Amontillado” (1846)

**Week 12:** Nathaniel Hawthorne: “My Kinsman, Major Molineux” (1831)

**Week 13:** Revision

**Week 14:** Final Exam

*(Note: The schedule is subject to change)*

## **Evaluation**

### **Assignments: 20%**

(Almost every week you will be given a home-assignment. The deadline for every assignment is the beginning of the following class. In case of absence, you should send your assignment by e-mail. Any delayed assignments will not be taken into consideration)

### **Mid-term exam: 30%**

### **Final exam: 50%**

Additional Reading List: *The Nineteenth-Century American Novel* (2007) by Gregg Crane and *A People's History of the United States, 1492-Present* (1<sup>st</sup> edition 1980) by Howard Zinn