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| Title of the subject: **Thematic Approaches to American Literary Texts** | Credit value: 4 |
| Category of the subject: optional | |
| Extent of the theoretical or practical nature of the subject, "*educational character*"[[1]](#footnote-1): practical 100% (credit%) | |
| Type of the class: **seminar** and number of classes: 26 in the given semester,  (*if the subject is (partially) taught in any language other than Hungarian, then the language*:**English**)  Further (*specific*) forms, characteristics[[2]](#footnote-2) of the transfer of the given knowledge *(if any)*: ……………………….. | |
| Form of testing (exam / pract. mark / other): **seminar mark**  Further (*specific*) forms to be applied in [[3]](#footnote-3) knowledge testing*(if any)*: …………………….. | |
| Position of the subject in the curriculum (number of the semester): 3rd | |
| Required preliminary studies *(if any)*:BBNAN00900 | |

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| Description of the subject: the brief, still informative description of the knowledge to be attained |
| This elective course has been designed to complement the American literature foundation courses. The course takes a thematic approach towards exploring major American literary classics of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Students will be focusing on the works of distinguished writers during this long period. These writings demonstrate the wide-ranging social, political and cultural issues that have preoccupied major American writers throughout the past two hundred years. Some of the following themes are addressed: frontier-life and regionalism, urbanism and immigration, alienation and art, feminism, race, ethnicity, war, politics, New World Garden, technology, and the American Dream. The list of authors whose works will be discussed include Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry James, Edith Wharton, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, Willa Cather, Eudora Welty, Flannery O’Connor, J. D. Salinger, Vladimir Nabokov, Raymond Carver, Tim O’Brian, Thomas Pynchon and Jonathan Franzen. |
| List of the most important 2–5 pieces of *required* and *recommended* literature (lecture notes, handbooks) with bibliographical details (author, title, edition information (or specific pages), ISBN) |
| Required reading:   1. *Heritage of American Literature*. Ed. James E. Miller, Jr. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1991. ISBN-13: 978-0155357006 2. *The American Dream*. Ed. Harold Bloom. Infobase Publishers, 2009. ISBN-13: 978-0791098011 3. Adamson, Linda G. *Thematic Guide to the American Novel*. Greenwood, 2002.   Recommended reading:   1. *The Cambridge Companion to American Modernism*. Ed. Walter Kalaidijan. Cambridge UP, 2005. ISBN-13: 978-0521281256 2. Philip Joseph. *American Literary Regionalism in a Global Age*. Louisiana State UP, 2007. |

1. Determination of the educational character, value expressed in credit%: knowledge contents, nature of the competences to be attained *(see description of the subject),* by comparing, evaluating the form of knowledge transfer and form of testing in a combined, complex manner. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. e.g. case discussions, role play, thematic presentations, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. e.g. hand-in assignments, such as case studies, elaboration of specific topics, compositions, essays, business and organizational plans, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)