



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
English

Syllabus

American Literature, 1620-1919

Course Code:

ENADL5

Course Title:

American Literature, 1620-1919

Amerikansk litteratur, 1620-1919

Credits:

7.5

Degree Level:

Master's level

**Progressive
Specialisation:**

Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Major Field of Study:

ENA (English)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2025-09-01, and is valid from the Spring semester 2026 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

90 ECTS credits in English or Comparative Literature as a main field of study, with at least 30 ECTS credits at the G2F level, and upper secondary level English 6 or English level 2, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. give an account of specialised knowledge of American literature from 1620 to 1919,
2. give an account of problems associated with literary historiography, especially in relation to genre issues,
3. critically analyse literature at a specialised level, and
4. critically evaluate different types of literary theory and criticism .

Content

The course covers 300 years of American literature. American genres such as captivity and slave narratives are included, as well as essays, short stories, novels, and poetry. In addition to literary analysis, an important focus is literary historiography and related issues.

Instruction is in the form of seminars.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on individual written hand-in assignments and an individual oral presentation.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades Fail (U), Pass (G), or Distinction (VG) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.