

**SEMESTER IV**  
**ENGDSC-251**  
**American Literature**

**Course Objective:**

- 1) To familiarize students with the different literary forms and terminology found in American literature.
- 2) To make them more aware of the topics and literary forms found in American literature.
- 3) To expose students, via literary texts, to the socio-cultural context of America
- 4) To introduce students to literary works that represent African American, American, and multicultural perspectives in order to improve their comprehension of these themes.
- 5) To encourage conversations about American literature and cross-cultural viewpoints

**Learning Outcome:**

The following skills will be acquired by students upon successful completion of the course:

- 1) Identify the key historical and cultural changes in American literature.
- 2) Review the writings of notable American authors
- 3) Examine the different American literary genres, including drama, fiction, and poetry.
- 4) Evaluate the relationship between American history and culture and literary literature.
- 5) Write a critical essay analyzing the unique literary traits of American literature.

**Unit 1: The History and Culture of the United States of America:**

- 1) The Gold Rush and American Dream
- 2) The American Revolutionary War and the Declaration of Independence
- 3) The framing of the Constitution, Lincoln and the Civil war
- 4) Harlem Renaissance

**Unit 2: Poetry**

- 1) Ralph Waldo Emerson: "Brahma"
- 2) Robert Frost: "The Road Not Taken"
- 3) Emily Dickinson: "Because I could not Stop for Death"
- 4) Langston Hughes: "Mother to Son"

**Unit 3: Novel**

- 1) Ernest Hemingway: *The Old Man and the Sea*

**Unit 4: Drama**

- 1) Arthur Millar: *All My Sons*

## Unit 5: Short Stories

- 1) Edgar Allan Poe: “The Purloined letter”
- 2) Alice Walker: “Everyday Use”

### Suggested Reading:

Baym, Nina et al. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*, Vol. C, D, E Fifth Avenue, USA, 2012.

Bloom, Harold. Ed. *Short Story Writers and Short Stories*. Chelsea House, 2005.

David Lehman, John Brehm. Eds. *The Oxford Book of American Poetry*. OUP, 2006.

Sen, Krishana and Ashok Sengupta. *A Short History of American Literature*, New Delhi: Orient Black Swan, 2017

Sheppard, C. A. Ed. *A Pageant of Poems*. Orient Longman Press. 1998.

Voss, Arthur. *The American Short Story: A Critical Survey*. Univ. of Oklahoma Press, 1980.

### Scheme of Examination:

The Core Course will be of 100 marks.  
Internal Examination: 30 marks.  
End Semester Examination: 70 marks.

### End Semester Examination (70 Marks):

1. STA: To answer 2 questions out of 3 from each unit @ 2 marks per question  
(3 questions per unit x 5 units = 15 questions)  
2 questions x 5 units x 2marks each = 20 marks
2. Broad Type/Essay Type Answer with “either/or” option:  
{like “either (a) or (b)”, “either (a) and (b) or (c) and (d)”, etc.}  
To answer 1 question out of 2 from each unit @ 10 marks per question  
(1 question x 5 units x 10 marks each = 50 marks)

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## ENGDSC-252 Women’s Writing

**Course Objective:** The Course aims to understand Gender and Women’s Studies as an academic field of study, to be familiar with its major issues and ideas, concepts, diversity, character and analyze the ways in which societal institutions and power structures impact the material realities of women’s lives. By evaluating literature derived from various women’s writing, the course aims to interest students in the experience of being women across the globe.