

Stockholms universitet  
Institutionen för litteraturvetenskap och idéhistoria  
Fördjupningskurskurs i litteraturvetenskap  
Valfri kurs (5 poäng)

## Amerikas litteratur (The Literature of the U.S.A.)

Kursen avser att ge utökade kunskaper i USA:s litteraturhistoria och en ökad beläsenhet i amerikansk litteratur som belyser amerikanskt samhälls- och kulturliv. Den kan inhämtas som läskurs. Den kan också, i mån av resurser, förenas med undervisning. Utbyte av litteratur, både skönlitteratur och facklitteratur, måste samordnas och ske i samråd med examinator.

Kursinnehållet kan i viss mån anpassas efter intresseinriktning, men bör för överblickens skull innefatta representativa nyare och äldre verk och olika genrer (roman, novell, lyrik, dramatik, essäistik) och minst ett mer omfattande litteraturhistoriskt översiktsverk. Särskilt användbar sekundärlitteratur är markerad med asterisk nedan. Sv.= översättning, anges i många fall, men litteraturen läses dock i första hand på originalspråket.

### Handböcker och antologier

- \*\*\* Bradbury, Malcolm & Richard Ruland, *From Puritanism to Postmodernism: A History of American Literature* (London, 1991)
- \*\* *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*, 4th Ed. 1995

### Referensverk

- \* Elliot, Emory (Ed.), *Columbia Literary History of the United States* (New York, 1988)
- Spiller, Robert E. et al., (Eds.), *Literary History of the United States*, 4e uppl. (New York 1974).
- \* Hart, James D. et al (Eds.) *The Oxford Companion to American Literature*, 6th ed. (1996)

### Alternativ och komplement att väljas efter intresseinriktning och litteraturval

#### Textsamlingar

- The Heath Anthology of American Literature*, I-II (1990)
- Lyrik: Gesner, George (Ed.) *Anthology of American Poetry* (1983)
- \* Strand, Mark (Ed.) *Contemporary American Poets: American Poets Since 1940* (1969)

#### Handböcker

- \*\* Bradbury, Malcolm. *The Modern American Novel*, 2nd Ed., Oxford University Press/Opus (1992)

- Ford, Boris (Ed.), *The New Pelican Guide to English Literature*, Vol. 9 *American Literature* (Penguin Books 1991)
- Cunliffe, Marcus (Ed.). *Penguin History of Literature*, Vol. 8 *American Literature to 1900*; Vol. 9 *American Literature since 1900*
- Spiller, Robert E. *The Cycle of American Literature* (sv. Amerikas litteraturhistoria från Columbus till Faulkner, 1968)
- Cunliffe, M. *The Literature of the United States*. Baltimore 1967 o senare.
- \* *American Poetry*, assoc. ed. Irvin Ehrenpreis, London 1965, uppsatserna J. Albert Robbins "America and the Poet"; Elizabeth Jennings "Idea and Expression in Emily Dickinson, Marianne Moore and Ezra Pound"; Malcolm Bradbury "An Ironic Romantic: Three Readings in Wallace Stevens".
- \* *The Modern American Theatre. A Collection of Critical Essays*, ed by Alvin B. Kernan. Englewood Cliffs 1967, uppsatsen Kenneth Tynan "American Blues: The Plays of Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams".
- \* Kazin, A. *Bright Book of Life*, 1973 (sv. *Livets bok. Berättare i USA från Hemingway till Mailer*, 1976), eller *On Native Grounds* (1962) samt \*Tanner, T. *City of Words: American Fiction 1950–1970*. London 1971, kapitel i anslutning till lästa författare.
- Contemporary American Fiction*, ed. by Malcolm Bradbury and Sigmund Ro. London 1987.

## Texter (Grundlista)

### Prosa

#### I.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo. några essäer i urval, främst "The American Scholar" (1837); kan läsas i t.ex. *The Portable Emerson*, ed. by Mark van Doren. Penguin Books 1977 o sen).
- Thoreau, Henry David. "Civil Disobedience" (1849) samt *Walden* (1854; sv. 1924 o sen), kap. I–V ("Economy" till "Solitude"). Bägge arbetena i t.ex. serien American Library.
- Melville, Herman. *Moby Dick* (1851, sv. 1943) (kan läsas i urval, ca 300 sid).
- Hemingway, Ernest. några ej tidigare lästa noveller ur samlingsutgåvan [*The Fifth Column and The First 49 Stories* (1938; sv. 1955)]. Häri ingår bl.a. "The Snows of Kilimanjaro".
- Faulkner, William. "The Bear" (ur *Go Down, Moses*, 1942; sv. 1964), alt. *Absalom, Absalom!* (1936; sv. 1969).

#### II.

- James, Henry. *The American* (1877; sv. 1960) alt. *The Ambassadors* (1903).
- Twain, Mark. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1884; sv. bl a 1960).
- Cather, Willa. *O Pioneers!* (1913; sv. 1948).
- Lewis, Sinclair. *Babbitt* (1922; sv. 1923 o sen).
- Dreiser, Theodore. *An American Tragedy* (1925; sv. 1927 o sen) (kan läsas i urval, ca 300 sid).
- Dos Passos, John (Roderigo) *Manhattan Transfer* (1925; sv. 1931) alt *Nineteen Nineteen* (1932; sv. 1981).
- Bellow, Saul. *The Adventures of Augie March* (1953; sv. 1955), alt. *Herzog* (1964; sv. 1965).

Alternativ: prosaverk på grundlista II (ovan) kan utbytas mot verk valda ur listan för Vidareläsning (nedan).

### Poesi

Av följande poeter läses några dikter av vardera: Edgar Allan Poe, Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Carl Sandburg, Edgar Lee Masters, Ezra Pound, Wallace Stevens, Amy Lowell, Allen Ginsberg/Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Robert Frost, Charles Olson, John Ashbery, Robert Bly.

### Dramatik

O'Neill, Eugene. *Long Day's Journey Into Night* (skriven 1941, framförd ffg 1956; sv. 1956).  
Williams, Tennessee. *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1947; sv. 1949), alt Arthur Miller, *Death of a Salesman* (1949; sv. 1949).

### Vidareläsning alternativlista skönlitteratur

#### Prosa

Acker, Kathy. *Don Quixote* (1986; sv. 1987)  
Alther, Lisa. *Kinflicks* (1976; sv. 1985)  
Anderson, Sherwood. *Winesburg, Ohio* (1919; sv. 1951 o sen)  
Angelou, Maya. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* (1970; sv. 1976)  
Auster, Paul. New York-trilogin, företrädesvis *City of Glass* (1985; sv. 1995). *The Music of Chance* (1990; sv. 1991)  
Baldwin, James. *Nobody Knows My Name* (1961; sv. 1962); *Go Tell It On The Mountain* (1953; sv. 1955)  
Bambara, Toni Cade. *The Salt Eaters* (1980)  
Barnes, Djuna. *Nightwood* (1936; sv. 1956, 1989)  
Beattie, Ann. *Love Always* (1985; sv. 1987)  
Buck, Pearl S. *The Good Earth* (1931), *Command the Morning* (1959)  
Bukowski, Charles. *Tales of Ordinary Madness* (1967)  
Burroughs, William. *Naked Lunch* (1959; sv. 1978, 1997)  
Caldwell, Erskine. *Tobacco Road* (1932; sv. 1945), *God's Little Acre* (1933; sv. 1947)  
Capote, Truman. *The Grass Harp* (1951; sv. 1953), *In Cold Blood* (1966, äv. sv.)  
Carver, Raymond. *What We Talk About When We Talk About Love* (stories, 1981; sv. 1985)  
Chandler, Raymond. *The Big Sleep* (1939; sv. 1947)  
Charyn, Jerome. *Metropolis* (1986); *The Tar Baby* (1995)  
Cheever, Susan. *Home Before Dark* (1984)  
Chesnutt, Charles W. *The Goophered Grapevine* (1887); *The Conjure Woman* (stories, 1899)  
Chopin, Kate. *The Awakening* (1899; sv. 1977)  
Crane, Stephen. *The Red Badge of Courage* (1895; sv. 1960)  
Dillard, Annie. *Teaching a Stone to Talk* (1982)  
Doctorow, E.L. *The Book of Daniel* (1971; sv. 1978)  
Dreiser, Theodore. *Sister Carrie* (1900; sv. 1928)

Dworkin, Andrea. *Ice and Fire* (1986; sv. 1988)

Elkin, Stanley. *A Bad Man* (1968)

Ellison, Ralph Waldo. *Invisible Man* (1952; sv. 1953)

Farrell, James T. *Young Lonigan* (1932) eller *The Young Manhood of Studs Lonigan* (1934; sv. 1939)

Fitzgerald, F. Scott. *The Great Gatsby* (1925; sv. 1946 o sen)

French, Marilyn. *The Women's Room* (1977; sv. 1978)

Gaddis, William. *Carpenter's Gothic* (1985; sv. 1987)

Gardner, John. *October Light* (1976; sv. 1979)

Gibbons, Kaye. *A Virtuous Woman* (1989; sv. 1990)

Gilchrist, Ellen. *In the Land of Dreamy Dreams* (stories 1981; sv. 1984)

Glasgow, Ellen. *Barren Ground* (1925)

Godwin, Gail. *Glass People* (1972)

Hawthorne, Nathaniel. *The Scarlet Letter* (1850; sv. 1954) eller *The House of the Seven Gables* (1851; sv. 1978)

Heller, Joseph. *Catch-22* (1961; sv. 1962 o sen) eller *Closing Time* (1994; sv. 1995)

Highsmith, Patricia. *Found in the Street* (1986; sv. 1988)

Humphreys, Josephine. *Dreams of Sleep* (1984; sv. 1985)

Hurston, Zora Neale. *Mules and Men* (1935); *Their Eyes were Watching God* (1937)

Ingalls, Rachel. *Mrs. Caliban* (1982; sv. 1988)

Irving, Washington. *A History of New York* (1809). *Ur Diedrich Knickerbockers papper* (sv. 1958)

Jewett, Sarah Orne. *Tales of New England* (1890)

Jones, Gayl. *Corregidora* (1975; sv. 1979)

Kennedy, William. *Quinn's Book* (1961; sv. 1988); *Ironweed* (1979; sv. 1984)

Kerouac, Jack. *On the Road* (1957; sv. 1959 o sen), *The Dharma Bums* (1958; sv. 1960)

Kosinski, Jerzy. *The Hermit of 69th Street* (1987)

Lardner, Ring. *The Love Nest* (stories, 1926)

London, Jack. *The Call of the Wild* (1903; sv. 1993); *The Sea-Wolf* (1904, sv. 1991); *Martin Eden* (1909; sv. 1970)

Lurie, Alison. *The Nowhere City* (1965)

Mailer, Norman. *The Naked and the Dead* (1948; sv. 1950); *An American Dream* (1965; sv. 1998)

Malamud, Bernard. *The Assistant* (1957; sv. 1962 o sen).

McCarthy, Cormac. *Outer Dark — Gothic Tale from the South* (1968)

McCarthy, Mary. *The Group* (1952; sv. 1964)

McCullers, Carson. *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter* (1940; sv. 1941 o sen), *The Ballad of the Sad Café* (1951; sv. 1957)

McInerney, Jay. *Bright Lights, Big City* (1984; sv. 1987)

McKay, Claude. *Home to Harlem* (1928)

Miller, Henry. *The Air-Conditioned Nightmare* (1945; sv. 1948)

Momaday, N. Scott. *House Made of Dawn* (1969)

Morrison, Toni. *Sula* (1973), *Song of Solomon* (1977), *Tar Baby* (1981)

Nabokov, Vladimir. *Lolita* (1955; sv.1998)

Norris, Frank. *The Pit : A Story of Chicago* (1901; sv. 1904)

O'Connor, Flannery. *A Good Man is Hard to Find* (stories, 1955); *The Violent Bear It Away* (1960; sv. 1967)

Oates, Joyce Carol. *American Appetites* (1989; sv. 1991); *What I Lived For* (1994; sv. 1997)

Ozick, Cynthia. *The Cannibal Galaxy* (1983; sv. 1984); *The Messiah of Stockholm* (1987; sv. 1988)

Phillips, Jayne Anne. *Machine Dreams* (1984; sv. 1986)

Plath, Sylvia. *The Bell Jar* (1963; sv. 1974)

Porter, Katherine Anne. *Ship of Fools* (1962; sv. 1963)

Pynchon, Thomas. *V* (1963); *Gravity's Rainbow* (1973; sv. 1998)

Rossner, Judith. *Looking for Mr. Goodbar* (1975; sv. 1978)

Roth, Henry. *Call it Sleep* (1934; sv. 1996)

Roth, Philip. *Goodbye, Columbus and Five Short Stories* (1959; sv. 1963)

Russ, Joanna. *The Female Man* (1975; sv. 1996)

Salinger, J D. *The Catcher in the Rye* (1951; sv. 1953 o sen)

Sinclair, Upton. *The Jungle* (1906; sv. 1975); *The Metropolis* (1908)

Singer, Isaac Bashevis. *Enemies* (1970; sv. 1990)

Smiley, Jane. *The Greenlanders* (1988; sv. 1989)

Sontag, Susan. *Death Kit* (1967)

Stein, Gertrude. *The Making of Americans* (1925);  
*The Autobiography of Alice B Toklas* (1933; sv. 1949)

Steinbeck, John. *The Grapes of Wrath* (1939; sv. 1940 o sen)

Styron, William. *Sophie's Choice* (1979; sv. 1980)

Susann, Jaqueline. *Valley of the Dolls* (1967)

Theroux, Paul. *The Mosquito Coast* (1982; sv. 1984)

Tyler, Anne. *Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant* (1982; sv. 1983),  
*The Accidental Tourist* (1985; sv. 1986)

Updike, John. *Rabbit Run* (1960; sv. 1961)

Van Vechten, Carl. *Nigger Heaven* (1926; sv. 1927)

Vidal, Gore. *Washington, D.C.* (1967)

Vonnegut, Kurt. *Slaughterhouse-Five* (1969; sv. 1996); *Timequake* (1997)

Walker, Alice. *Meridian* (1976)

West, Nathanael. *Miss Lonelyhearts* (1933; sv. 1955)

Wharton, Edith. *The Age of Innocence* (1920; sv. 1994)

Wolfe, Thomas. *Look Homeward, Angel* (1929; sv. 1932)

Wolfe, Tom. *The Bonfires of the Vanities* (1988; sv. 1988)

Wright, Richard. *Native Son* (1940; sv. 1943 o sen)

#### Lyrik

E A Robinson, R Frost, V Lindsay, R Lowell, M Moore, L Hughes, W C Williams, E E Cummings, Th Roethke, M Rukeyser, K Shapiro, D Schwartz, J Berryman, D Levertov, W S Merwin, G Snyder, S Plath, J C Oates, M Strand.

Dramatik

Albee, Edward. *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (1962; sv. 1963) eller *The American Dream* (1961)

Anderson, Maxwell. *Winterset* (1935; sv. 1935)

Odets, Clifford. *Clash By Night* (1941; sv. 1949).

Shepard, Sam. *Curse of the Starving Class* (1976; i: Plays, II, 1997)

Wilder, Thornton. *Our Town* (1938; sv. 1938)

011109 Anders Hallengren

## Amerikansk litteratur II.

Alternativ läskurs

### Kurslitteratur (2 böcker):

- \*Bradbury, Malcolm & Richard Ruland, *From Puritanism to Postmodernism: A History of American Literature* (London, 1991), samt ett urval texter i:
- \**The Norton Anthology of American Literature*, 4th Ed. New York and London 1995.

Läs följande texter i Norton Anthology samt antologins introduktioner till författarna.  
Texter före 1820 läses extensivt:

### Literature to 1620

The Iroquois Creation Story

Thomas Harriot (1560–1621), *A Brief and True Report*

John Smith (1580–1631), *The General History of Virginia, New England, and the Summer Isles*, The Third Book

### Early American Literature 1620–1820

William Bradford (1590–1657), *Of Plymouth Plantation*, Chs. I & X

John Winthrop (1588–1649), *A Model of Christian Charity* (Arbella sermon)

Anne Bradstreet (c1612–1672), dikter samt *Meditations Divine and Moral*

Mary Rowlandson (c1636–1711), *A Narrative*

Jonathan Edwards (1703–1758), *A Divine and Supernatural Light*

Benjamin Franklin (1706–1790), *The Way to Wealth*

J. Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur (1735–1813), *Letters from an American Farmer*, III: "What Is an American?"

Thomas Paine (1737–1809), introduktionen

Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826), *The Declaration of Independence*

Olaudah Equiano (c 1745–1797), *The interesting narrative of... Gustavus Vassa, the African*

Philip Freneau (1752–1832), "On the Religion of Nature" (poem)

Phillis Wheatley (c 1753–1784), "On Being Brought from Africa to America"; "Thoughts on the Works of Providence" (poems); samt *Letter to Rev. Samson Occom* [The natural rights of Negroes]

### American Literature 1820—1865

Washington Irving (1783–1859), *Rip Van Winkle*

James Fenimore Cooper (1789–1851), *The Pioneers*  
 William Cullen Bryant (1794–1878), "Thanatopsis", alt. "To a Waterfowl" (poems)  
 Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803–1882), "The American Scholar", "Self-Reliance", "Experience"  
 (essays/lectures)  
 Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804–1864), "Rappaccinis Daughter" (short story), Preface to *The House of the Seven Gables*  
 Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807–1882), "A Psalm of Life" (poem)  
 John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892), "Ichabod!" (poem)  
 Edgar Allan Poe (1809–1849), "Sonnet-To Science", "The Raven", "Annabel Lee" (poems),  
 "The Philosophy of Composition" (poetics)  
 Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865), "Address... at Gettysburg"  
 Margaret Fuller (1810–1850) intro.  
 Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811–1896) intro.  
 Henry David Thoreau (1817–1862), "Resistance to Civil Government", *Walden*  
 Frederick Douglass (1818–1895), *Narrative* (intro.)  
 Walt Whitman (1819–1892), "Song of Myself"  
 Herman Melville (1819–1891), *Billy Budd, Sailor*  
 Emily Dickinson (1830–1886) [välj 5 dikter]

#### American Literature 1865–1914

Mark Twain [Samuel Clemens 1835–1910], *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*  
 Henry James (1843–1916), "The Art of Fiction" (essay)  
 Sarah Orne Jewett (1849–1909) intro.  
 Kate Chopin (1850–1904), intro.  
 Booker T Washington (1856?–1915) intro.  
 Edith Warton (1862–1937) "The Other Two"  
 Stephen Crane (1871–1900), "A man adrift on a slim spar" (poem)  
 Theodore Dreiser (1871–1945) intro.  
 Jack London (1876–1916), "The Law of Life" (short-story)  
 Henry Adams (1838–1918), *The Education of Henry Adams*, Ch. "The Dynamo and the Virgin"  
 Chippewa Songs: "The approach of the storm", "The Sioux Women Gather Up Their Wounded".  
 Songs of the Sioux: "The whole world is coming" (Native American Chants and Songs)

#### American Literature between the Wars 1914–1945

Black Elk (1863–1950), *Black Elk Speaks*  
 Edwin Arlington Robinson (1869–1935), "The Mill" (poem)  
 Willa Cather (1873–1947), "Neighbour Rosicki" (short-story)  
 Amy Lowell (1874–1925) "September, 1918" (poem)  
 Robert Frost (1874–1963), "The Road Not Taken", "The Gift Outright" (poems)  
 Sherwood Anderson (1876–1941), *Winesburg, Ohio* ("Mother")  
 Carl Sandburg (1878–1955) "Chicago" (poem)



Wallace Stevens (1879–1955) "The Snow Man", "The Death of a Soldier", "A Postcard from the Volcano", "Of Modern Poetry", "The Plain Sense of Things"  
William Carlos Williams (1883–1963), "Landscape with the Fall of Icarus" (poem)  
Ezra Pound (1885–1972) *Cantos*, I ("And then went down to the ship")  
Marianne More (1887–1972) "O to Be a Dragon" (poem)  
T.S. Eliot (1888–1965) "Burnt Norton"  
Eugene O'Neill (1888–1953), *Long Day's Journey into Night* (drama)  
Zora Neale Hurston (1891–1960), "How It Feels to Be Colored Me"  
E.E. Cummings (1894–1962), "O sweet spontaneous" (poem)  
William Faulkner (1897–1962), "Barn Burning" (short-story)  
Ernest Hemingway (1899–1961), *The Snows of Kilimanjaro*  
Hart Crane (1899–1932), "At Melville's Tomb", *The Bridge*: "To Brooklyn Bridge", II.  
"Powhatan's Daughter": The River, VIII. Atlantis"  
Langston Hughes (1902–1967), "The Negro Speaks of Rivers"

#### American Prose (and Drama) since 1945

Tennessee Williams (1911–1983), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (drama)  
Ralph Ellison (1914–1994), *Invisible Man*, Ch. I  
Norman Mailer (1923–), *The Armies of the Night*, Part I:5 "Toward a Theater of Ideas"  
John Updike (1932–), "Separating" (short-story)  
Philip Roth (1933–), "Defender of the Faith" (short-story)  
Thomas Pynchon (1937–), *The Crying of Lot 49*, Ch. I

#### American Poetry since 1945

Theodore Roethke (1908–1963), "In a Dark Time"  
John Berryman (1914–1972), *Dream Songs*  
Robert Lowell (1917–1977), "For the Union Dead"  
Elizabeth Bishop (1911–1979), "The Armadillo"  
Denise Levertov (1923–1997), "To the Snake"  
Allen Ginsberg (1926–1997), *Howl*, I  
John Ashbery (1927–), "Soonest Mended"  
Adrienne Rich (1929–), *Twenty-One Love Poems*, I: "Wherever in this city", "Transcendental Etude"  
Gary Snyder (1930–), "Riprap"  
Sylvia Plath (1932–1963), "Blackberrying", "Child"  
Audre Lorde (1934–1992), "The Woman Thing", "Chain"  
Amiri Baraka (1934–), "An Agony. As Now."

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