Course Objectives:
- To develop an understanding of Pre-1900 American Literature
- To analyze the emerging themes of a growing nation
- To develop a critical attitude towards the issues of the period
- To evaluate the conflicts that develop over the period
- To write critically about the texts
- To discuss major issues and questions posed by the texts

Course Requirements:
- **Class Attendance & Participation:** Class participation consists of attending class, being prepared with the readings, answering thoughtfully when called on, and responding in writing to thought questions for the day. This part of the course is worth 10% of the final grade. Rules: You will receive 100 Class attendance and participation points. No more than three absences are allowed, after which I will deduct 10 points for each absence from you 100 points. If you are unprepared for class—cannot answer a discussion question, do not have text in hand, etc, I will deduct 5 points from the 100. Tardiness distracts others in the class. If you are late, I will deduct five points for each late arrival. This is an easy A for 10% of the grade, so take it seriously.
- **Three Reader Response Papers:** Topics will be posted on Blackboard, and due dates are on the calendar below. These should be three pages, double spaced, Times New Roman 12 point type. Use MLA format for citations, works cited page, and for name, title, and pagination. Each paper is worth 10% of the final grade.
- **2,000 Word Paper:** This paper must be on a novel that we do not cover in class. Topics will be posted on Blackboard. Due date is on the calendar. This paper is worth 20% of the final grade.
- **Mid-semester Exam:** This exam is marked on the calendar. It will be both essay and Identification. Bring two Blue Books. This exam is worth 10% of the final grade.
- **Final Exam:** This exam will cover the work of the semester. It will be both essay and identification. Bring two Blue Books. This exam is worth 20% of the final grade.
- **TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES WHEN IN CLASS**
- **You may use computers to take notes, but if I find anyone doing other work, the privilege will be rescinded for that individual.**
Remember, college is a way of preparing for the big bad world. You are expected to do all of the above in a job, so get some practice here.

**Late and Make Up Work:**
- Thought questions responses may not be made up because their primary purpose is to generate discussion in the class.
- Papers that are late may **not** receive an A. This is to protect the work of students who turn in their work on time. Paper more than two weeks late will not receive a grade higher than a C+. Mid-semester exam may be made up if there is a valid excuse for absence—Doctor’s note, verified family emergency, etc. Students doing make up exams will not receive the same exam as that given in class.

**Texts:** All texts will be posted on Blackboard. This is an experiment because most anthologies are very expensive. I have downloaded materials. At the end of the course I will ask you to assess the success of the experiment. **You will be expected to buy one of the following novels for your long Paper. I suggest that you use one of the local bookstores or Amazon.com. I am not ordering these texts through the Loyola bookstore.**
- Charles Brockden Brown: *Wieland*
- James Fenimore Cooper: *The Last of the Mohicans*
- Nathaniel Hawthorne: *Blithedale Romance*
- Herman Melville: *Typee*
- Louisa May Alcott: *Little Women*
- Harriet Jacobs: *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*
- Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens): *Pudd’nhead Wilson*
- Rebecca Harding Davis: *Life in the Iron Mills*

**Calendar**

**Week 1, Jan. 12-14:** Introduction to course and to syllabus.

**Week 2, Jan. 19-21:** Puritanism and its excesses. Read William Bradford, John Winthrop, and Anne Bradstreet.


**Week 4, Feb. 2-4:** First Response Paper due at beginning of class on February 4. Topics posted on Blackboard. Showing of *The Crucible* and discussion of the Salem Witch Trials.

**Week 5, Feb. 9-11:** Thomas Jefferson and John Adams. Benjamin Franklin

**Week 6, Feb 18:** Mardi Gras Holiday on February 16. **February 19:** Fall incompletes turn to F’s.

Week 7, Feb. 23-25: Mid-semester Exam on February 25. Bring two Blue Books to class.

Week 8, March 2-4: James Fenimore Cooper and Edgar Allan Poe. American Romanticism in Both Impressionistic and Gothic Forms

Week 9, March 9-11: Second Response Paper due at beginning of class on March 9. Topics on Blackboard. Nathaniel Hawthorne. I will discuss background and themes, and we will read several stories posted on Blackboard.

March 12: Last Day to Withdraw.

Week 10, March 16-18: Herman Melville
March 15: Early Advising begins

Week 11, March 23-25: Transcendentalism: Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau
March 22: Early Registration begins

Week 12, March 29-April 5: Easter Holiday.

Week 13, April 6-8: Paper on Novel due at the beginning of class. Margaret Fuller and Louisa May Alcott.

Week 14: April 13-15: Frederick Douglass and Harriet Jacobs. You should download books from the website indicated.


Week 16: April 27: Review for final exam and Third response paper due at the beginning of class.

Final Exam will be held in the classroom on the specified day. Bring two Blue books. The exam will cover the entire course and will include identification and essays.