

Wed. 10:00 - 13:00

new one 8.15.2007.

Classics of 19th Century American Fiction

Assoc. Prof. Don McDermott
Office FL 704, ext. 2963

Course Introduction: The purpose of this course is to acquaint the graduate student with a representative sampling of great fiction by 19th century American writers. Among the works studied will be novels by such luminaries as James Fenimore Cooper, Mark Twain and Henry James. Also short fiction, to which American writers have made such a unique contribution, will be included, such as stories by Nathaniel Hawthorne and Edgar Allan Poe.

Course Reading List:

The Last of the Mohicans by James Fenimore Cooper

The Scarlet Letter, Or if you prefer, *The Blithedale Romance* and various short stories by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Selected short stories by Edgar Allan Poe

Billy Budd and selected short stories by Herman Melville

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Or if you prefer, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain

Washington Square and *The Europeans* by Henry James.

Film versions of these works and other works by these authors will also be provided to the class so as to supplement their understanding and appreciation of these works and authors.

Course Assignment/requirements::

One term paper, 5-7 pages in length on some aspect of these novels. (75% of final grade)

A brief final exam on the basic plots and characters of these novels. (25% of final grade)