

# LEKTÜRELISTE ZUR AMERIKANISCHEN LITERATUR

Bachelorstudium (BA)

Institut für Amerikastudien

## Vorbemerkungen

Die Leselistenprüfung in amerikanischer Literatur besteht aus Werken aller literarischer Gattungen und aus allen Epochen - von der *Colonial Period* bis zur Gegenwart. Einige AutorInnen und Werke sind von den Studierenden frei zu wählen. Die Leseliste ist mit dem/r Prüfer/in zu vereinbaren und muss von diesem/r mindestens zwei Wochen vor der Prüfung genehmigt sein.

## Colonial Period

### 17<sup>th</sup> Century (Native Americans and Puritans)

William Bradford (1590-1657)	from: <i>Of Plymouth Plantation</i> (1630-50)
Anne Bradstreet (ca. 1612-1672)	3 poems
Edward Taylor (ca. 1642-1729)	3 poems
Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758)	“Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” (1741)

### 18<sup>th</sup> Century (Age of Enlightenment)

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)	<i>Autobiography</i> (1771-1790)
J. Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur (1735-1813)	“Letter III What Is an American” from: <i>Letters from an American Farmer</i> (1782)
The Declaration of Independence (1776)	

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century

### 1800-1865: Early to Mid-19th Century (Transcendentalism)

Washington Irving (1783-1859)	“Rip Van Winkle” (1819)
Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864)	<i>The Scarlet Letter</i> (1850) 1 short story (such as “Young Goodman Brown” [1835], “Rappaccini's Daughter” [1844], “The Birthmark” [1843], “My Kinsman, Major Molineux” [1831], or “Ethan Brand” [1850])
Ralph W. Emerson (1803-1882)	1 essay (“Self-Reliance” [1841], or one of the following: “Nature” [1836], “The American Scholar” [1837], “The Poet” [1844])
Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849)	1 short story (such as “The Purloined Letter” [1844] or “The Murders in the Rue Morgue” [1841]; “The Fall of the House of Usher” [1839] “Ligeia” [1838]) “The Philosophy of Composition” (1846) 3 poems
Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865)	The Gettysburg Address (1863)
Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-1896)	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> (1852)
Henry D. Thoreau (1817-1862)	<i>Walden</i> (1854)
Herman Melville (1819-1891)	“Bartleby, the Scrivener” (1856) from: <i>Moby Dick</i> (1851)

**Walt Whitman** (1819-1892)      **3 poems from *Leaves of Grass*** (1855-1881) (such as “There Was a Child,” “Song of Myself,” “One’s Self I Sing,” “As I Ebb’d with,” “When Lilacs,” “Brooklyn Ferry,” “Out of the Cradle”)

**Emily Dickinson** (1830-1886)      **3 poems**

**1865-1920: Late 19th Century/Early 20th Century (Realism and Naturalism)**

**Mark Twain** (1835-1910)      *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1885)  
**1 short story**

**Henry James** (1843-1916)      *The Portrait of a Lady* (1881) or another novel  
“Daisy Miller” or “The Beast in the Jungle”

**Charlotte Perkins Gilman** (1860-1935)      *The Yellow Wallpaper* (1892)

**Edith Wharton** (1862-1937)      *The Age of Innocence* (1920) or *The House of Mirth* (1905)

**Sherwood Anderson** (1876-1941)      **1 short story from *Winesburg, Ohio*** (1919) (such as “I Want to Know Why,” “The Man Who Became a Woman,” “Mother,” “Adventure,” “Queer”)

**20th Century: Before 1945 (Modernism, Literary Experimentation, Early Ethnic Voices)**

**Prose**

**Gertrude Stein** (1874-1946)      from: *The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas* (1933) or from: *Tender Buttons* (1914); or “Melanctha” from *Three Lives* (1909)

**Scott F. Fitzgerald** (1896-1940)      *The Great Gatsby* (1925)  
**1 short story**

**Ernest Hemingway** (1899-1961)      *The Sun also Rises* (1926) or *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (1940)  
**1 short story**

**Poetry**

**Wallace Stevens** (1879-1955)      *The Man with the Blue Guitar* (1937)

**Ezra Pound** (1885-1972)      “In a Station of the Metro” (1913)  
**2 other poems**  
“A Retrospect” (1913)

**T. S. Eliot** (1888-1965)      from: *The Waste Land* (1922)  
“The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (1915)

**Drama**

**Eugene O’Neill** (1888-1953)      **1 play** (such as *Emperor Jones* [1920], *Strange Interlude* [1928], *The Hairy Ape* [1922], *Long Day’s Journey into Night* [1941])

**Elmer Rice** (1892-1967)      *The Adding Machine* (1923)

**Lillian Hellman** (1907-1984)      **1 play** (*The Children’s Hour* [1934] or *The Little Foxes* [1939])

## 20th Century: After 1945 (Postmodernism, Feminist and Ethnic Voices)

### Prose

Ralph Ellison (1914-1994)	<i>Invisible Man</i> (1953)
Flannery O'Connor (1925-1964)	<b>1 short story</b> (such as “ <b>A Good Man Is Hard to Find</b> ” [1955] or “Everything that Rises Must Converge” [1965])
Ursula LeGuin (*1929)	<i>The Left Hand of Darkness</i> (1969)
Robert Coover (*1932)	<b>1 short story</b> (such as “ <b>The Babysitter</b> ” [1969])
An author of your choice	<b>1 novel</b>
An author of your choice	<b>1 short story</b>

### Poetry

Sylvia Plath (1932-1963)	<b>3 poems from: <i>Ariel</i></b> (1965)
One poet of your choice	<b>3 poems</b>

### Drama

Tennessee Williams (1911-1983)	<b>1 play</b> (such as <i>The Glass Menagerie</i> [1944], <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> [1947], <i>Cat on a Hot Tin Roof</i> [1945])
Edward Albee (*1928)	<i>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?</i> (1962) or <i>The Zoo Story</i> (1958)
LeRoi Jones (Amiri Baraka) (*1934)	<i>Dutchman</i> (1964)
Ntozake Shange (*1948)	<i>for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf</i> (1975)

### Ethnic Voices

Maxine Hong Kingston (*1940)	<i>The Woman Warrior</i> (1975)
Louise Erdrich (*1954)	<i>Love Medicine</i> (1984)
A Chicano/a writer of your choice	<b>1 short story</b>
An African-American writer of your choice	<b>1 short story</b>