Course description.
The purpose of this class is to analyze seminal texts by 19\textsuperscript{th} century American writers. It will focus primarily but not exclusively on Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville, Henry James, Mark Twain, Stephen Crane, Kate Chopin and others. It will argue the centrality of novels such as Hawthorne’s \textit{The Scarlet Letter} in the development of American literature; it will discuss the importance of Melville’s “Benito Cereno” and Twain’s \textit{Adventures of Huckleberry Finn} in the 19\textsuperscript{th} century controversies over race and it will focus on Chopin’s \textit{The Awakening} as a proto-feminist text. At the same time, it will connect such texts with the literary currents of the second half of the 19\textsuperscript{th} century, but also with American traditional modes of writing.

Texts.
All texts are from the \textit{Norton Anthology of American Literature} 8\textsuperscript{th} edition, volumes B and C.
Herman Melville. “Benito Cereno” (1855-56).
Mark Twain. \textit{Adventures of Huckleberry Finn} (1884).
Kate Chopin. \textit{The Awakening} (1899).

Course outline.
12/2 Introduction 26/2 \textit{The Scarlet Letter} 5/3 \textit{The Scarlet Letter} 12/3 \textit{The Scarlet Letter} 19/3 “Benito Cereno” 26/3 “Benito Cereno” 2-15 EASTER BREAK 16/4 \textit{Adventures of Huckleberry Finn} 23/4 \textit{Adventures of Huckleberry Finn} 30/4 \textit{Adventures of Huckleberry Finn} 7/5 \textit{The Awakening} 14/5 \textit{The Awakening}—21/5 REVIEW 28/5 HOLIDAY.

THE BIBLIOGRAPHY ON THESE MAJOR AUTHORS IS VAST. STUDENTS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO SEARCH FOR AND CONSULT ARTICLES THAT HAVE APPEARED ON INDIVIDUAL AUTHORS ON THIS LIST AS WELL AS ON MAJOR 19\textsuperscript{th} CENTURY AUTHORS. OUR LIBRARY HOLDS A NUMBER OF BOOKS ON 19\textsuperscript{th} CENTURY AMERICAN LITERATURE.
USE THE PMLA BIBLIOGRAPHY ONLINE IN THE LIBRARY FOR EASY REFERENCE.

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SEMINAL WORKS.


