

SCHEDA INSEGNAMENTO - A.A. 2018-2019

COGNOME E NOME: SCANNAVINI, ANNA

QUALIFICA: professoressa associata

SETTORE SCIENTIFICO DISCIPLINARE: L-LIN/11

NOME INSEGNAMENTO: LETTERATURE ANGLOAMERICANE T

SETTORE SCIENTIFICO DISCIPLINARE: L-LIN/11

NUMERO CREDITI: 6

CODICE: DQ0096

PERIODO INSEGNAMENTO: PRIMO SEMESTRE

PROGRAMMA DEL CORSO (syllabus)

TITLE: Transnational encounters in the literature of the Americas: 1920-1960

OBIETTIVI (goals): Upon successful completion of the course, students should be provided with such analytical tools as are necessary to produce informed readings and interpretations of multilingual “encounters”, with their attending practices of “trans-national” communication. They will be able to read and interpret the primary texts in the original language, and will have a good understanding of how some US writers developed fantasies of national culture.

They should be able to:

- Identify ethical issues in the assigned primary sources (literary texts)
- understand the interrelationships and differences between works of literature and historical sources
- identify and tackle at least some of the critical issues raised by literary texts
- be aware that authoriality and canons are historically determined
- understand America as a contact zone.

CONTENUTI (contents): the course will center on the representation of multilingualism and translation practices in the historical novels produced between the Early Republic and the American Renaissance. Working on three major texts published in the ante-bellum US, we will investigate the paradigms that govern narrations of cultural and linguistic contact between Europeans, Africans and the Indian populations of the Americas. Attention will be given to trans-national and trans-cultural communication and to cross-cultural passages. Special attention will be given also to issues of authorial positioning in the context of race and trans-cultural contact. The students will have to make themselves knowledgeable about the history of American literature during the time period we are studying.

PREREQUISITI (prerequisites): B2 level in English; full mastery of written and oral expression in mother tongue. The ability to differentiate between primary and secondary sources will be also required as a course prerequisite.

METODO DI INSEGNAMENTO (teaching methodology): Learning activities will include class lectures and presentations, class discussion, and seminar work done under the direction of the teacher.

Students will actively contribute to the course with presentations in the classroom; they will answer questions by their fellow students and by the teacher showing a good ability to cooperate and share their knowledge and findings.

LINGUA IN CUI SI TIENE IL CORSO (language of teaching): Italian or English, according to attendance.

MATERIALE DIDATTICO (texts to be studied):

Primary sources

- James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851), *The Last of the Mohicans* (1826)
- Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864), *The Scarlet Letter* (with *The Custom House*) (1851)
- Herman Melville (1819-1891), *Benito Cereno* (1855)

Any full edition will be fine, but I highly recommend The library of America editions of all books (they are in the library).

Secondary Sources

- Colleen G. Boggs, *Transnationalism and American Literature: Literary Translations 1773-1892*, Routledge 2007 (the text has been ordered on 3 July 2017)

On the history of narrative literature in the nineteenth century:

- Jonathan Arac, "Narrative Forms", in Sacvan Bercovitch, gen ed, *Cambridge History of American Literature*, Vol. Two: Prose Writing 1820-1865, Cambridge UP 1995 – pp. 605-734

INFORMAZIONI PER STUDENTI DI ORDINAMENTI O COORTI PRECEDENTI (supplementary information)

Students of previous years ("coorti" other than the one now attending their third year of course) study a program of their choice between the current one or the program offered during the academic year corresponding to their third year of course.

MODALITA' DI VERIFICA (assessment methods):

Formative assessment: the students are encouraged to actively participate in the class, by making questions and discussing the presented texts. Assigned homework and presentations will provide an opportunity for students to work with the teacher and their fellow-students developing their ability to produce critical analysis and interpretation of particular texts.

Summative assessment: Oral exam.

The exam will move from one of the texts of the syllabus to assess: A. the student's knowledge and understanding of the assigned readings, and her/his ability to discuss each primary text in the context of nineteenth century American Literature (50%); B. the ability to compare the texts, describing and accounting for continuities and differences (30%); C. the ability to explain and critically apply the learned techniques of analysis to the literary construction of multilingual subjects, milieus, and exchanges (20%). The number of questions is somewhat difficult to determine, but the students will be given space to express their knowledge. In any case, the questions will not be less than two.

ORARIO DI RICEVIMENTO: <http://scienzeumane.univaq.it/index.php?id=1696>

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