

THE ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES UNIVERSITY
HYDERABAD 500 007



SCHOOL OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
M.A. ENGLISH – PART II

COURSE IV: AMERICAN FICTION

(This set of assignments has 2 printed page.)

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Each Assignment is based on one Block of the course material; so read the Block, and the texts discussed in it, before attempting the Assignments for that Block.
2. Answers should be suitably and adequately illustrated with references to the texts studied in the Units. Answers lifted verbatim from the course material, the internet, or other sources will be awarded poor grades.

ASSIGNMENT 1
(BASED ON BLOCK I)

1. Discuss the formation of the United States of America. (1000 words)

ASSIGNMENT 2
(BASED ON BLOCK II)
ATTEMPT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (AROUND 500-750 WORDS EACH).

1. Describe the portrayal of racial issues in Mark Twain's "**Huckleberry Finn**".
2. Examine Henry James' "**The Portrait of a Lady**" from a feminist perspective.
3. Write a note on the symbolism and allegory in "**The Scarlet Letter**".
4. Discuss the autobiographical elements in "**A farewell to Arms**".

ASSIGNMENT 3
(BASED ON BLOCK III)
ATTEMPT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (AROUND 500-750 WORDS EACH).

1. What are the innovative narrative techniques used in the writings of William Faulkner and John Steinbeck?
2. Elaborate the theme of Home and Homelessness in Toni Morrison's "**Bluest Eye**".
3. Write a critical note on the theme of the myth of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden in Joyce Carol Oates' "**A Garden of Earthly Delights**".
4. Discuss the representation of the Jewish tradition in Saul Bellow's "**Herzogo**", and Bernard Malamud's "**The Assistant**".

ASSIGNMENT 4

(BASED ON BLOCK IV)

ATTEMPT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (AROUND 500-750 WORDS EACH).

1. Explain the major themes of Poe's "**Fall of the House of usher**"
2. Explain the major issues of feminism raised by Kate Chopin in her short stories.
3. Write a note on Style and Imagery in "**The Open Boat**".

ASSIGNMENT 5

(BASED ON BLOCK V)

ATTEMPT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (AROUND 500-750 WORDS EACH).

1. Describe the combination of the Comic, the Tragic and the Brutal in O' Conner's Short Fiction.
2. Write a note on the representation of African-American women and changing life style in Alice Walker's short fiction.
3. Comment on Kurt Vonnegut's Humanism