

THE ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES UNIVERSITY
HYDERABAD 500 007



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

COURSE IV: AMERICAN FICTION
ASSIGNMENTS (2020)

(This set of assignments has 2 printed pages.)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. *Each assignment is based on the Blocks of the course material; so read the Blocks and the texts discussed in it, before attempting the assignment for those blocks.*
2. *Answers should be appropriately and adequately illustrated with references to the texts studied in the units. Answers lifted verbatim from the course materials, internet or other sources will be awarded poor grades.*

**ASSIGNMENT I
(BASED ON BLOCK I & II)**

Answer all the following questions with suitable examples (500 words each).

1. Write a critical note on American Revolution
2. Discuss the features of Native American Oral Tradition.
3. Do you find the features of feminism in Henry James' *The Portrait of a Lady*? Explain.
4. Describe the symbolism and allegory used in Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*.

**ASSIGNMENT II
(BASED ON BLOCK III)**

Answer all the following questions with suitable examples (500 words each).

1. Elaborate Identity crisis as one of the major themes in *Light in August*.
2. Write a note on Father-Son relationship as a major motif in Malamud's *The Assistant*.
3. Discuss *The Grapes of Wrath* as an American Classic.

**ASSIGNMENT III
(BASED ON BLOCK IV)**

Answer all the following questions with suitable examples (750 words each)

1. Enumerate and explain the major themes of Edgar Allan Poe's *Fall Of The House Of The Usher*
2. Analyze the depiction of love, adultery and family relationships in John Updike's short fiction.

**ASSIGNMENT IV
(BASED ON BLOCK V)**

Answer all the following, with examples from the block (750 words each)

1. Write an analytical note on the southern gothic tradition in O'Conner's Stories.
2. How does Vonnegut expose Humanism in his short fiction? Describe with suitable examples from the block.