

SVEUČILIŠTE U RIJECI Filozofski fakultet

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### UNIVERSITY OF RIJEKA Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

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# Department of English Studies

General information		
Name of the course	African American Literature	
Course instructor	Dr Tatjana Vukelić, senior lecturer	
Study programme	Undergraduate study programme in English Language and Literature	
Status of the course	Elective	
Academic year	2022-2023 (summer semester)	
Language	English	
ECTS credits and manner of instruction	ECTS credits	2
	Number of class hours	30+0+0
	(Lectures + Exercises + Seminars)	

#### **1. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

#### 1.1. Course objectives

The objective of this course is to introduce the students into the 4 centuries old historical, cultural and literary African American tradition. The course aims at developing critical thinking and analyzing of literary works that the students are expected to read and give presentations.

#### 1.2. Course enrolment requirements and entry competences required for the course

Excellent command of written and spoken English is required

#### 1.3. Expected course learning outcomes

Upon completing the course, the students will be able to:

- define the historical and literary determinants of African American literature as being a part of the American literary mainstream
- identify the main features of African American literary tradition that occur in the works of the distinguished African American writers
- identify and explain the most important issues concerning African American people in their search of identity and freedom (race, gender, sexuality)
- account for and independently analyze the literary works; critically and creatively reflect on a literary work in the presentation

#### 1.4. Course content

- An overview of historical facts and events pertaining to African American tradition
- Literature of slavery and freedom
- Literature of the Reconstruction
- Harlem Renaissance
- Realism, Naturalism, Modernism
- Black Arts
- Contemporary literature

• Issues: race, gender, and sex discrimination; abolitionism; identity search; civil rights; feminism; womanism; black nationalism; new black aesthetics

## 1.5. Manner of instruction

✓ Lectures

- ✓ Seminars and workshops
- ✓ Individual assignments