



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, JABI, ABUJA
91 CADASTRAL ZONE, NNAMDI AZIKIWE EXPRESSWAY, JABI - ABUJA
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
2024 1 EXAMINATION

COURSE CODE: ENG 822
COURSE TITLE: American Literature

COURSE UNIT: 3 Credit Units

Time Allowed: Three (3) Hours

Instruction: Answer Four questions in all.

1. (a) Outline the popular literary forms of the colonial period in America. (6 marks)
(b) Examine the Puritans' sensibilities which considered creative works immoral. (4 marks)
(c) Analyze Alice Walker's *The Color Purple* to reveal the deep insights into the black community in the United States. (7.5 marks)
2. (a) Enumerate six Roger Williams' principles out of the twelve in which the following words appear: 'blood', 'persecution', 'God', and 'Christianity'. (7.5 marks)
(b) Appraise the prominent themes that emerged from Roger Williams' verses. (4 marks)
(c) Critically analyze Anne Bradstreet's chagrin at her immature composition in the first edition of her collection in "The Author to Her Book". (6 marks)
3. (a) Evaluate the influence of the Age of Reason on American Literature. (5.5 marks)
(b) Highlight five major characteristics of Romanticism. (5 marks)
(c) Give a concise analysis of the Gothic American Literature. (4 marks)
(d) What are the three dominant thematic concerns or characteristic features of the Gothic American Literature. (3 marks)
4. (a) Explain the American Dream in Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*. (3 marks)
(b) Explore women's writings in American Literature; select Margaret Fuller as a case study. (5 marks)
(c) Identify and discuss the major break in the literary tradition of America from Great Britain. Illustrate with James Fenimore Cooper. (5.5 marks)
(d) Analyze Ernest Hemingway's *A Farewell to Arms*. (4 marks)
5. (a) Explain Naturalism and clearly show the writer's affiliated to it. (3.5 marks)
(b) Discuss African American Poetics from the perspectives of Imamu Amiri Baraka. (5 marks)
(c) Analyze Gregory Corso's "The Whole Mess...Almost". (4 marks)
(d) Account for the reaction against the Romantic style of writing in American Literature. (5 marks)