



## READING SCHEDULE

**WEEK 1:** John Smith, "A Description of New England," John Winthrop, "A Model of Christian Charity," and Roger Williams, "The Bloody Tenet of Persecution."

**WEEK 2:** William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation* (read the selections from Book I and II) and Anne Bradstreet poetry selections ("To My Dear and Loving Husband," "Contemplations," and "The Flesh and the Spirit.").

**WEEK 3:** J. Hector St. John de Crevecoeur, *Letters from an American Farmer* (read the selections from Letters III, IX, X, and XII) and Benjamin Franklin, "The Way to Wealth" and *The Autobiography* (Part I).

**WEEK 4:** Edgar Allan Poe, "The Man of the Crowd" and Nathaniel Hawthorne, "My Kinsman, Major Molineux." **ESSAY 1 DUE**

**WEEK 5:** Harriet Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (selections from chapter I, VII, X, XIV, XXI, and XLI) and Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Nature," and "Self-Reliance."

**WEEK 6:** Melville, *Moby-Dick*.

**WEEK 7:** Walt Whitman, "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry" and *Song of Myself* and Emily Dickinson, poetry selections.

**WEEK 8:** Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wall-Paper" and Henry James, *Daisy Miller: A Study*. **ESSAY 2 DUE**

**WEEK 9:** William Carlos Williams poetry ("The Red Wheelbarrow," "Portrait of a Lady," "Spring and All," "To Elsie," and "The Dance,") and Wallace Stevens poetry ("Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird," "Anecdote of a Jar," "The Snow Man," "The Emperor of Ice Cream," "A High-Toned Old Christian Woman," and "Sunday Morning."

**WEEK 10:** Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man* (selections)

**WEEK 11:** Morrison, *Beloved*.

**WEEK 12:** Don DeLillo *White Noise*. **ESSAY 3 DUE**

**NOTE: EXCEPT FOR THE FOLLOWING NOVELS--MOBY DICK, INVISIBLE MAN, BELOVED, AND WHITE NOISE--ALL READINGS ARE IN THE NORTON ANTHOLOGY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE.**

Reading and working with these specific editions is preferred, especially for essays.





- \* Write about what interests and excites you. When considering a topic, think of what you liked most in the texts on the course – issues, ideas, themes, passages, and so forth. What would you like to explore further? What would you find interesting to write about for six or eight pages? If any of the suggested topics do not appeal to you, you can devise your own topic in consultation with me? If you enjoy what you are writing about, your essay will show it.*
- \* Finally, reread and edit. Before submitting your paper, reread it and revise it as necessary, looking for everything from typos to potentially unclear sentences to improper essay format. Having someone else look at a draft is always a good idea, particularly if you trust that person to be honest and helpful.*