

**KEY****EXAMINATION**

<b>Course code:</b> SFE11318	<b>Course:</b> American Literature and Culture Culture Studies II (GEN)
<b>Date:</b> 9 May 2019	<b>Duration:</b> 5 hours
<b>Permitted sources:</b> English-English Dictionary ( <b>no</b> encyclopedic dictionaries)	<b>Lecturer:</b> Dr. Johanna Wagner
<b>The examination:</b>  The examination papers consist of 5 pages inclusive of this page (with 3 additional pages of Excerpts for the essay questions). Please check that the examination papers are complete before you start answering the questions.	
<b>Date of announcement of the examination results:</b>  The examination results are available on the Studentweb no later than two workdays after the announcement of the examination results <a href="http://www.hiof.no/studentweb">www.hiof.no/studentweb</a>	



## SECTION 1 (50%)

### I. Matching (10 pts)

Match the numbered words with the *most closely correlated* lettered terms. There is only **one correct answer** for each.

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. Transcendentalism <b>G</b>   | A. Zora Neale Hurston                               |
| 2. Monroe Doctrine <b>D</b>     | B. "Young Goodman Brown"                            |
| 3. Cotton Mather <b>F</b>       | C. Callisto and Aubade                              |
| 4. Ghost Dance <b>I</b>         | D. Foreign policy; non-interference in the Americas |
| 5. Creative Nonfiction <b>H</b> | E. Reason   |
| 6. Unreliable narrator <b>J</b> | F. Puritans   |
| 7. Harlem Renaissance <b>A</b>  | G. Henry David Thoreau                              |
| 8. Heat Death <b>C</b>          | H. "Slouching Toward Bethlehem"                     |
| 9. The Enlightenment <b>E</b>   | I. Wounded Knee Massacre                            |
| 10. Allegory <b>B</b>           | J. "Daisy Miller"                                   |

### II. Fill in the Blank (18 pts)

Each question covers material you've read throughout the semester. Identify the **author's last name** and the **full title of the text**. (\*Use *correct spelling* and do *not* use quotation marks or any other symbols in your answers.)

1. Biff --- is lost. In the greatest country in the world a young man with such – personal attractiveness, gets lost. And such a hard worker. There's one thing about Biff – he's not lazy. (2 pt)

Author last name Miller  
Title Death of a Salesman

2. But they pulled me out of the sack,  
And they stuck me together with glue.  
And then I knew what to do.  
I made a model of you,  
A man in black with a Meinkampf look

And a love of the rack and the screw (2 pts)

Author last name Plath  
Title Daddy

3. "Five years old," Otto says. "On acid."

The five-year-old's name is Susan, and she tells me she is in High Kindergarten. She lives with her mother and some other people, just got over the measles, wants a bicycle for Christmas, and particularly likes Coca-Cola, ice cream. (2 pts)

Author last name Didion  
Title Slouching Towards Bethlehem

4. Downstairs, Meatball Mulligan's lease-breaking party was moving into its 40<sup>th</sup> hour. (2 pts)

Author last name Pynchon  
Title Entropy

5. In **alphabetical order**, name the three branches of government (\*make sure you spell the words correctly). (3 pts)

The Executive Branch  
The Judicial Branch  
The Legislative Branch

6. Which three Amendments to the Constitution were ushered in during Reconstruction, after the Civil War? (use numbers, **not** letters to fill in the blank: 79<sup>th</sup>, **not** seventy-nin<sup>th</sup>) (3 pts)

  13  <sup>th</sup> Amendment  
  14  <sup>th</sup> Amendment  
  15  <sup>th</sup> Amendment

7. This literary term occurs “when a character states or hears something that means more to the audience than it does to the character. Often what the character states or hears is in direct opposition to the truth.” (See example text below). (2 pts)

“John is away all day, and even some nights when his cases are serious.  
I am glad my case is not serious!”

Name the literary term (*spell correctly*):   dramatic     irony  

8. Which American poet does Langston Hughes refer back to in his poem “I, Too” (See below). Make sure you spell the name correctly. (2 pts)

“I, too, sing America”

Name the American poet (first and last name; *spell correctly*):   Walt     Whitman  

### III. True/False (10 pts)

- |   |                |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| 1. The 13 <sup>th</sup> Amendment set <b>all</b> slaves free.   | T <u>    </u>  | F <u>  X  </u> |
| 2. Faith in “Young Goodman Brown” is an allegorical figure.   | T <u>  X  </u> | F <u>    </u>  |
| 3. Transcendentalists were extremely religious, like Puritans.  | T <u>    </u>  | F <u>  X  </u> |
| 4. The 1940s was a decade of countercultural revolution in the U.S.   | T <u>    </u>  | F <u>  X  </u> |
| 5. The line, “Give me my leg” is from the short story “Daisy Miller”.   | T <u>    </u>  | F <u>  X  </u> |
| 6. Sojourner Truth said: “The poor men seems to be all in confusion, and don't know what to do. Why children, if you have woman's rights, give it to her and you will feel better.” | T <u>  X  </u> | F <u>    </u>  |
| 7. There have been 4 waves of immigration to the U.S.   | T <u>  X  </u> | F <u>    </u>  |
| 8. The story “Entropy” uses economics as its foundation   | T <u>    </u>  | F <u>  X  </u> |
| 9. In “Sweat,” it is ironic that the snake bites Sykes.   | T <u>  X  </u> | F <u>    </u>  |
| 10. The 1960s began feminisms 2 <sup>nd</sup> wave.   | T <u>  X  </u> | F <u>    </u>  |

### IV. Multiple Choice (12 pts)

Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence relevant to this course or simply answers the question *most* correctly.

- Of the 6 American Values, what is the cost for the benefit of Individual Freedom (1 pt)
  - Competition
  - Self-reliance**
  - Hard work
- Of the 6 American Values, what is the cost for the benefit of Equality of Opportunity (1 pt)
  - Competition**
  - Self-reliance
  - Hard Work
- Of the 6 American Values, what is the cost for the benefit of Material Wealth? (1 pt)
  - Competition
  - Self-reliance

- c. **Hard work**
4. During the Salem Witch Trials, what might an accused person do to be released? (1 pt)
- Deny their participation through an oath
  - Answer a series of questions and swearing an oath on their dead ancestors
  - Show their church attendance and various letters of reference by high ranking friends
  - Show humbleness in front of the community and doing community service
  - Confess their guilt and name others involved**
5. Manifest Destiny was an idea that: (1 pt)
- Suggested that the U.S. had the right and duty to rule the world
  - Suggested that the U.S. had the right and duty to fight against China
  - Suggested that the U.S. had the right and duty to conquer the American Frontier**
  - Suggested that the U.S. had the right and duty to annex Puerto Rico
  - Suggested that the U.S. had the right and duty to put forth the Monroe Doctrine
6. Why is “Recitative” such a tricky story? (1 pt)
- Because Morrison jumps around through the 20<sup>th</sup> century
  - Because Morrison’s narrator is omniscient
  - Because Morrison’s diction is very difficult
  - Because Morrison uses unclear racial stereotypes**
  - Because Morrison crafts a very unlikeable protagonist
7. What way of thinking influenced Transcendentalism? (1 pt)
- Romanticism**
  - Postmodernism
  - Realism
  - Modernism
  - Naturalism
8. As opposed to Transcendentalists and Naturalists, Realists saw the individual as: (1 pt)
- A divine being
  - A helpless being/object in the natural world
  - A humiliated being suffering from mental weakness
  - A superpowerful ego
  - Simply a person**
9. The Civil War was a national argument about the very idea of what the union was and what America wanted to be. What was its main argument about? (1 pt)
- The corn industry
  - The ports
  - Empire
  - Slavery**
  - Immigration
10. Fictional characters are of many types. Choose the **two** types that describe the character of Willy Loman in “Death of a Salesman.” (1 pt)
- Round**
  - Flat
  - Dynamic
  - Static**
  - Neutral
11. The Puritan preacher John Winthrop compared the New World something said in the bible: “A city upon a...”

- a. Mountain
  - b. Sanctuary
  - c. Rock
  - d. High place
  - e. Hill
12. The belief that the U.S. is unique in world history, and superior to other countries; therefore it has a special place in the world is an idea known as:
- a. Manifest Destiny
  - b. American Exceptionalism
  - c. The Monroe Doctrine
  - d. American Isolationism
  - e. American Internationalism

### SECTION 2 (Essay): (50%)

Write an essay on **ONE** of the topics below. The essay does not need to be a certain length, but must develop your points sufficiently to make a solid argument. **REMEMBER:** A strong thesis should guide your work, define your terms, use the excerpt if provided (no need for a bibliography) and the parts of an essay are important.

1. Adrienne Rich (“Diving into the Wreck”) and Allen Ginsberg (“A Supermarket in California”) wrote poetry critical of some aspect of contemporary America. Choose **one** of these poems (provided in Excerpts) and discuss its critique, especially paying attention to how *imagery*, *symbolism*, and *tone* help to express this critique.
2. See the image provided in the Excerpts. Using this image, discuss the historical context of the image in American history, as well as the image’s symbolic value. Think about what is happening at the time, and what the image suggests about American values of the time? (tip: the American Dream should **NOT** figure in to this discussion)
3. Discuss the Civil War, Reconstruction, and its aftermath. Why was the Civil War fought, and what were the goals of Reconstruction? What were the consequences to a certain group of people when Reconstruction ended?
4. Read the excerpt provided from “Sweat” by Zora Neale Hurston, and then write about the short story. In an essay, show how the quote fits into the overall story by explaining the significance of this scene to the character of Delia. For example, you can ask yourself what has Delia gone through? What is the significance of the rattlesnake in the kitchen? What is this scene’s significance to Delia’s relationship?

**Excerpt, Question 1 “Diving into the Wreck” by Adrienne Rich:**

First having read the book of myths,  
and loaded the camera,  
and checked the edge of the knife-blade,  
I put on  
the body-armor of black rubber  
the absurd flippers  
the grave and awkward mask.  
I am having to do this  
not like Cousteau with his  
assiduous team  
aboard the sun-flooded schooner  
but here alone.

There is a ladder.  
The ladder is always there  
hanging innocently  
close to the side of the schooner.  
We know what it is for,  
we who have used it.  
Otherwise  
it is a piece of maritime floss  
some sundry equipment.

I go down.  
Rung after rung and still  
the oxygen immerses me  
the blue light  
the clear atoms  
of our human air.  
I go down.  
My flippers cripple me,  
I crawl like an insect down the ladder  
and there is no one  
to tell me when the ocean  
will begin.

First the air is blue and then  
it is bluer and then green and then  
black I am blacking out and yet  
my mask is powerful  
it pumps my blood with power  
the sea is another story  
the sea is not a question of power  
I have to learn alone  
to turn my body without force  
in the deep element.

And now: it is easy to forget  
what I came for  
among so many who have always  
lived here  
swaying their crenellated fans  
between the reefs  
and besides  
you breathe differently down here.

I came to explore the wreck.  
The words are purposes.  
The words are maps.  
I came to see the damage that was done  
and the treasures that prevail.  
I stroke the beam of my lamp  
slowly along the flank  
of something more permanent  
than fish or weed

the thing I came for:  
the wreck and not the story of the wreck  
the thing itself and not the myth  
the drowned face always staring  
toward the sun  
the evidence of damage  
worn by salt and sway into this threadbare beauty  
the ribs of the disaster  
curving their assertion  
among the tentative haunters.

This is the place.  
And I am here, the mermaid whose dark hair  
streams black, the merman in his armored body.  
We circle silently  
about the wreck  
we dive into the hold.  
I am she: I am he

whose drowned face sleeps with open eyes  
whose breasts still bear the stress  
whose silver, copper, vermeil cargo lies  
obscurely inside barrels  
half-wedged and left to rot  
we are the half-destroyed instruments  
that once held to a course  
the water-eaten log  
the fouled compass

We are, I am, you are  
by cowardice or courage  
the one who find our way  
back to this scene  
carrying a knife, a camera  
a book of myths  
in which  
our names do not appear.

## Excerpt, Question 1 “A Supermarket in California” by Allen Ginsberg

What thoughts I have of you tonight, Walt Whitman, for I walked down the sidestreets under the trees with a headache self-conscious looking at the full moon.

In my hungry fatigue, and shopping for images, I went into the neon fruit supermarket, dreaming of your enumerations!

What peaches and what penumbras! Whole families shopping at night! Aisles full of husbands! Wives in the avocados, babies in the tomatoes!—and you, García Lorca, what were you doing down by the watermelons?

I saw you, Walt Whitman, childless, lonely old grubber, poking among the meats in the refrigerator and eyeing the grocery boys.

I heard you asking questions of each: Who killed the pork chops? What price bananas? Are you my Angel?

I wandered in and out of the brilliant stacks of cans following you, and followed in my imagination by the store detective.

We strode down the open corridors together in our solitary fancy tasting artichokes, possessing every frozen delicacy, and never passing the cashier.

Where are we going, Walt Whitman? The doors close in a hour. Which way does your beard point tonight? (I touch your book and dream of our odyssey in the supermarket and feel absurd.)

Will we walk all night through solitary streets? The trees add shade to shade, lights out in the houses, we'll both be lonely.

Will we stroll dreaming of the lost America of love past blue automobiles in driveways, home to our silent cottage?

Ah, dear father, graybeard, lonely old courage-teacher, what America did you have when Charon quit poling his ferry and you got out on a smoking bank and stood watching the boat disappear on the black waters of Lethe?

## Excerpt, Question 2



## Excerpt, Question 4 "Sweat" by Zora Neale Hurston

"Mah Gawd!" he chatterd, "ef Ah could on'y strack uh light!"

The rattling ceased for a moment as he stood paralyzed. He waited. It seemed that the snake waited also.

"Oh fuh de light! Ah thought he'd be too sick" – Sykes was muttering to himself when the whirr began again, closer, right underfoot this time. Long before this, Sykes' ability to think had been flattened down to primitive instinct and he leaped – onto the bed.

Outside Delia heard a cry that might have come from a maddened chimpanzee, a stricken gorilla. All the terror, all the horror, all the rage that man possibly could express, without a recognizable human sound.

A tremendous stir inside there, another series of animal screams, the intermittent whirr of the reptile. The shade torn violently down from the window, letting in the red dawn, a huge brown hand seizing the window stick, great dull blows upon the wooden floor punctuating the gibberish of sound long after the rattle of the snake had abruptly subsided. All this Delia could see and hear from her place beneath the window, and it made her ill. She crept over to the four-o'clocks and stretched herself on the cool earth to recover."