

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- www.unine.ch/lettres

#### Seminar 4: 20th Century American Poetry (2AN1438)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
<b>Pilier principal B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	5
<b>Pilier secondaire B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	5

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

#### Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps

#### Equipe enseignante

Patrick Vincent

#### Contenu

Poets, in Emerson's words, are 'liberating gods...They are free, and they make free'. This seminar will examine a diverse sample of 20th century American poets (4-5 per week) to better understand the variety of styles, themes, and ideological functions of poetry during what Henry Luce famously called 'the 'American Century'. Special attention will be paid to the development of different 'schools' and aesthetic groupings; to ways in which poets responded to their social, economic, and political contexts; to issues of voice, identity, and positionality (race, class, gender, sexuality); and to the sometimes-fraught processes of canon formation.

#### OBJECTIFS D'APPRENTISSAGE

The aims of this course are the following:

- To develop students' close reading skills, learned in the first-year Introduction to Literature course.
- To pursue in more depth a specific genre, period, or theme in modern literary history.
- To improve oral-presentation and writing skills in English.
- To improve research skills, notably by preparing on oral presentation, and by learning how to integrate secondary criticism into the essay.
- To learn about American history, society, and culture.

#### COMPETENCES TRANSFERABLES

oral discussion skills (in English)  
close reading skills  
critical thinking skills  
argumentative writing skills  
general knowledge in history and culture

#### Forme de l'évaluation

Ev. Int.: One in-class oral presentation (20%) and two short essays (4-6 double-spaced pages) (80%; students get once chance to rewrite a failed essay).

#### Documentation

The Penguin Anthology of Twentieth-Century American Poetry  
Dove, Rita

(available at Payot or online)

#### Pré-requis

'Lecture 4 : Introduction to American Literature' is recommended, but not compulsory.

#### Forme de l'enseignement

Seminar format: 20% lecture and video or audio presentations, 20 % student presentations, 60% in-class discussion. Because this course is mainly discussion-driven, attendance is mandatory. More than three unexcused absences can lead to a fail.