Primary texts:

- 1. Irving, Washington. "Rip Van Winkle" (1819); "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" (1820)
- 2. Child, Lydia Marie. Hobomok (1824); An Appeal in Favor of That Class of Americans Called Africans (1833)
- 3. Cooper, James Fenimore. The Last of the Mohicans (1826)
- 4. Sedgwick, Catherine Maria. *Hope Leslie* (1827)
- 5. Apess, William. Son of the Forest (1829); "An Indian's Looking-Glass for the White Man" (1833)
- 6. Poe, Edgar Allan. "Romance" (1829); "To Science" (1829); "To Helen" (1831); "Ligeia" (1838); "The Fall of the House of Usher" (1839); "The Masque of Red Death" (1842); "The Tell-Tale Heart" (1843); "The Purloined Letter" (1844); "The Raven" (1845); "The City in the Sea" (1845); "The Philosophy of Composition" (1846); "Ulalume" (1847); "The Poetic Principle" (1850)
- 7. Walker, David. David Walker's Appeal (1829)
- 8. Hawthorne, Nathaniel. "My Kinsman, Major Molineaux" (1832); "Young Goodman Brown" (1835); "The Minister's Black Veil" (1836); "The Birth-mark" (1843); "Rappaccini's Daughter" (1844); *The Scarlet Letter* (1850)
- 9. Emerson, Ralph Waldo. "Nature" (1836); "The American Scholar" (1837); "Divinity School Address" (1838); "Self-Reliance" (1841); "The Poet" (1844); "Experience" (1844); "The Rhodora" (1839); "Each and All" (1839); "The Snow-Storm" (1841); "Merlin" (1847); "Brahma" (1857)
- 10. Douglass, Frederick. Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845)
- 11. Fuller, Margaret. Woman in the Nineteenth Century (1845)
- 12. Thoreau, Henry David. "Civil Disobedience" (1849); Walden (1854)
- 13. Melville, Herman. Moby Dick (1851); "Benito Cereno" (1856)
- 14. Stowe, Harriet Beecher. Uncle Tom's Cabin (1852)
- 15. Ridge, John Rollin. The Life and Adventures of Joaquin Murieta (1854)
- 16. Whitman, Walt. Leaves of Grass (1855)
- 17. Jacobs, Harriet. Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (1861)
- 18. Dickinson, Emily. Selected poems (1860s)
- 19. James, Henry. "Daisy Miller" (1878); *The Portrait of a Lady* (1881); "The Art of Fiction" (1884); "The Turn of the Screw" (1898); "The Beast in the Jungle" (1903)
- 20. Jackson, Helen Hunt. Ramona (1884)
- 21. Howells, William Dean. The Rise of Silas Lapham (1885)
- 22. Ruiz de Burton, Maria. The Squatter and the Don (1885)
- 23. Chopin, Kate. "At the Cadian Ball" (1892); "Desiree's Baby" (1893); "The Storm" (1898); *The Awakening* (1899)
- 24. Twain, Mark. Pudd'nhead Wilson (1894)
- 25. Chestnutt, Charles. The Conjure Woman (1899)
- 26. Dreiser, Theodore. Sister Carrie (1900)
- 27. Washington, Booker T. Up from Slavery (1901)
- 28. Du Bois, W. E. B. The Souls of Black Folk (1903)
- 29. Norris, Frank. McTeague (1899)
- 30. Noguchi, Yone. The American Diary of a Japanese Girl (1902); selected poems
- 31. Johnson, James Weldon. The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man (1912)
- 32. Sui Sin Far. Mrs. Spring Fragrance (1912)

Critical texts:

- 1. Douglas, Ann. The Feminization of American Culture (1977)
- 2. Bercovitch, Sacvan, and Myra Jehlen, eds. *Ideology and Classic American Literature* (1986)
- 3. Tompkins, Jane. Sensational Designs (1986)
- 4. Wald, Priscilla. Constituting Americans (1995)
- 5. Maddox, Lucy, ed. Locating American Studies: The Evolution of a Discipline (1998)
- 6. Gruesz, Kirsten Silva. Ambassadors of Culture (2001)
- 7. Kaplan, Amy. *The Anarchy of Empire* (2002)
- 8. Streeby, Shelley. American Sensations (2002)
- 9. Murphy, Gretchen. Hemispheric Imaginings (2005)
- 10. Sundquist, Eric. Empire and Slavery in American Literature (2006)
- 11. Rifkin, Mark. Manifesting America (2009)