

# 靜宜大學 100 學年度碩士班暨碩士在職專班招生考試試題

學系：英國語文學系文學組 科目：美國文學

**Please read the instruction for each part very carefully before you answer any of them!**

I. Short-Answer Questions: 60% (Each answer covers twenty percent)

Please answer **THREE** out of the following questions by writing each answer as a “one-paragraph composition,” containing a good topic sentence, supporting sentences and concluding sentence, from 100 to 120 words.

1. Discuss the important features of the so-called “Puritan writers” during the colonial period in American Literature and name some as your examples.
2. What can be the possible connection between the Bible and the study of American Literature according to your knowledge?
3. Identify the author and the title of the work from which the following passage is taken:

Thus the old gentleman ended his harangue. The people heard it, and approved the doctrine, and immediately practiced the contrary, just as if it had been a common sermon; for the vendue opened, and they began to buy extravagantly, notwithstanding all his cautions, and their own fear of taxes.

4. What does so-called “American Transcendentalism” stand for? What might be its importance concerning the study of American Literature?
5. What does so-called “American Renaissance” stand for? Name some writers taken as the representative writers for it!
6. Show your knowledge of the development of American Literature from the very beginning to the nineteenth century!

II. Essay Questions: 40%

Please answer **ONE** out of the following questions by writing the answer as a “multiple-paragraph” composition with an introductory section, body section and concluding section from 250 to 300 words.

1. Discuss the important features in Ralph Waldo Emerson’s *Nature* first and then show the importance of them in studying American Literature during the nineteenth century!
2. Discuss the connection between Henry David Thoreau’s *Walden* and the so-called “Nature Writing” in the west world!
3. Take some episodes from Washington Irving’s *Rip van Winkle* to discuss the important issue regarding one’s problem of having an identity in life throughout the story!
4. Explain any Feminist criticism you know first and take some works written by woman writers in American Literature as examples to explain your point(s) more clearly!