

Note: This is an updated version which includes a change in venue



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Website:
u3adunedin.org.nz

Series 3 – 2017

Course title: **Stories of the US:
The Literature of America
(1588–1900)**

Dates: **Thursdays
7 September – 12 October 2017**

Time: **10am – 12noon**

Venue: **Otago Golf Club
125 Balmacewen Road, Dunedin**

Course fee: **\$45.** Tea and coffee provided.

(Enrolments for this course will be limited to **150**)

Course Convenor: **Gretchen Kivell**
Email: Gretchen.kivell@xtra.co.nz
Phone: 473 0031
Mobile: 027 473 0031

Course Developer and Presenter: **Dr Karen Love**

If you would like to apply for more than one course, please rank your choices. If you enrol via our website **please complete payment of the appropriate fees** EITHER by internet banking (include Membership No. in Reference box), OR by cheque (to: Programme Secretary, U3A Dunedin, PO Box 6491, North Dunedin 9059.)

All applications must be received by **Wednesday 9 August 2017** and you will receive a response to your application by Wednesday 16 August 2017.

Please contact the Programme Convenor (courses@u3adunedin.org.nz, or the Secretary (mw.potter42@gmail.com, 453 4721) with any queries.

Postponements: Check the website: u3adunedin.org.nz or listen to: The Breeze 98.2 FM — Radio Dunedin 99.8 FM — MoreFM 97.4 FM

Please note: no recording, photographing or videoing during any of the courses.

Please keep this brochure as a reminder of venue, dates, and times for the courses for which you apply.

Stories of the US: The Literature of America (1588-1900)

Dr Karen Love and her husband Darrell have lived in Invercargill, and now Dunedin, for the last 16 years. Karen has a PhD in Literary Criticism, and a Masters in American Literature. She describes herself as quick witted, opinionated and outspoken. She is a story-teller and is interested in Communications, especially laughter as a communication tool.

7 Sept **A Poem in our Eyes (1)**

A brief reprise on the realities on the real story of who "discovered" America and why Columbus' idea of sailing west to get to the East was more logical than we think. It includes a look at how the earliest mapmakers determined what would later become the Confederate States of America and surveys of the earliest writers of American literature, including Sir Walter Raleigh, Puritan writers, and narratives of captivity. This section ends with Emily Dickinson, Edgar Alan Poe, and Herman Melville.

14 Sept **A Poem in our Eyes (2)**

A survey of the writers from the end of the Colonial period until the American Civil War. This section considers Benjamin Franklin, Joel Chandler Harris, Mark Twain, and the link between England's Industrial Revolution and slavery in the American South. It also includes the origins of the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and of the song, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." It reveals a surprise regarding the song "America"- which most school children in my generation sang at the beginning of our school day.

21 Sept **Shakespeare in America**

The little-known link between Shakespeare's works and the new colonies begins, as the American colonies did, in the second half of the eighteenth century. This presentation considers how the colonists used Shakespeare's plays as both entertainment and a source of moral teachings. As Americans moved westward, they took with them two books (if they could afford them): *The Bible* and *The Complete Works of Shakespeare*. Contemporary American high school and university curricula look at the social questions that his plays force us to consider including Lady Macbeth and gender constructions; Othello and racial assimilation; Shylock and anti-Semitism.

28 Sept **The American Novel**

The term "Great American Novel" was first used by a Civil War novelist John DeForest in 1868 in an article which has become a benchmark in contemporary American studies. In this presentation, we will consider selected novels from the 19th and 20th centuries such as Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*, Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*, Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn*.

5 Oct **African American Literature**

African American literature is the body of literature produced in the United States by writers of African descent. Among the themes and issues explored in African American literature are the role of African Americans within the larger American society, African American culture, racism, slavery, and equality.

12 Oct **Native American Literature**

Also called Indian literature or American Indian literature, these are the traditional oral and written literatures of the indigenous peoples of the Americas. These include an extensive set of folktales, myths, and oral histories that were transmitted for centuries by storytellers and that live on in the works of many contemporary American Indian writers. We will look at excerpts from *Black Elk Speaks* and excerpts from Paula Gunn Allen's *The Sacred Hoops*.