THE GREAT AMERICAN NOVEL

- A 10-15 page research paper on the work of any novelist who might conceivably have been covered by this course (50% of final grade); or, a 10-15 pp synthetic, critical essay discussing any 2-3 writers discussed in this course;
- Three 2-3 page response papers (40% of final grade); sign up for available dates on wiki on Course Moodle
- Class participation (10% of final grade)

texts

James Fenimore Cooper, *The Last of the Mohicans*
Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter*
Herman Melville, *Moby-Dick--or The Whale*
Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*
Mark Twain, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
Henry James, *The Portrait of a Lady*
Edith Wharton, *The House of Mirth*
Willa Cather, *My Antonia*
Richard Wright, *Native Son*
Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man*
Supplemental readings on Moodle (m)

schedule

9/15  Cooper, *The Last of the Mohicans*

9/22  Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter*
      Preface to *The House of the Seven Gables* (m)

9/29  Melville, *Moby-Dick,*
      “Hawthorne and his Mosses” (m)
      letters to Hawthorne (m)
10/6 Moby-Dick

10/13 Stowe, Uncle Tom’s Cabin

10/20 Twain, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
    “Fenimore Cooper’s Literary Offenses” (m)
    W. D. Howells, “Novel-Reading and Novel Writing” (m)

10/27 Fall break

11/3 James, The Portrait of a Lady
    “The Art of Fiction” (m)

11/10 Wharton, The House of Mirth
    Introduction (m)
    “The Great American Novel” (m)

11/17 Cather, My Antonia
    “The Novel Demeublé” (m)

12/1 Wright, Native Son
    preface

12/8 Ellison, Invisible Man
    “Twentieth-Century Fiction and the Black Mask of Humanity” (m)

12/15 Final Papers Due