American Literature Period List:  
Revolutionary War to Civil War

1. Samson Occom  
   - *A Short Narrative of My Life* (1768)

2. Benjamin Franklin  
   - Autobiography (parts 1 and 2) (1771, 1781)

3. Phillis Wheatley  
   - “To Mæcenus” (1773)  
   - “On Being Brought from Africa to America” (1773)  
   - “On the Death of the Rev. Mr. George Whitefield, 1770” (1773)  
   - “To the Right Honorable William, Earl of Dartmouth” (1773)  
   - “To Samson Occom” (1774)  
   - “To His Excellency General Washington” (1776)

4. Thomas Jefferson  
   - “Declaration” (1776)  
   - *Notes on the State of Virginia* (Queries 6, 8, 14, 18) (1781)

5. Thomas Paine  
   - *Common Sense* (1776)

6. J. Hector St. John de Crevecoeur  
   - *Letters from an American Farmer* (1782)

7. Philip Freneau  
   - “To the Memory of the Brave Americans” (1781)  
   - “The Indian Burying Ground” (1788)

8. James Madison (Alexander Hamilton and John Jay)  
   - *Federalist Papers* (10, 39, 51) (1788)

9. Olaudah Equiano  
   - *Interesting Narrative...* (1789)

10. Suzanna Rowson  
    - *Charlotte Temple* (1791)  
    - *Slaves in Algiers* (1794)

11. Sarah Wentworth Morton  
    - “The African Chief” (1792)

12. Joel Barlow  
    - “The Hasty Pudding” (1793)

13. Timothy Dwight  
    - “Columbia” (1793)

14. Charles Brockden Brown  
    - *Wieland* (1798)

15. Washington Irving  
    - “Rip Van Winkle” (1819)  
    - “Legend of Sleepy Hollow” (1819)

16. James Fenimore Cooper  
    - *The Pioneers* (1823)
17. Oliver Wendell Holmes
   - “Old Ironsides” (1830)
18. William Cullen Bryant
   - “To a Waterfowl” (1815)
   - “Sonnet – to an American Painter Departing for Europe” (1832)
   - “The Prairies” (1833)
19. William Apess
   - “An Indian’s Looking-Glass for the White Man” (1833)
20. Alexis de Tocqueville
   - *Democracy in America* (Introduction; Part 1: Chapters 9, 14, 18; Part 2, Book 1: Chapters 8, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18; Part 2, Book 2: Chapters 6, 13; Part 2, Book 3: Chapters 5, 26; Book 4: Chapter 6) (1835, 1840)
21. Ralph Waldo Emerson
   - *Nature* (1836)
   - “The American Scholar” (1837)
   - “Self-Reliance” (1841)
   - “The Poet” (1844)
   - “The Divinity School Address” (1838)
22. Edgar Allan Poe
   - “Murders in the Rue Morgue” (1841)
   - “The Fall of the House of Usher” (1839)
   - “William Wilson” (1839)
   - “The Man of the Crowd” (1840)
   - “The Raven” (1845)
23. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
   - “The Slave’s Dream” (1842)
   - “The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere” (1860)
24. James Russell Lowell
   - “To the Dandelion” (1845)
25. Anna Cora Mowatt
   - *Fashion; Or, Life in New York* (1845)
26. Frederick Douglass
   - *Narrative of the Life...* (1845)
27. Margaret Fuller
   - *Woman in the Nineteenth Century* (1845)
28. John Greenleaf Whittier
   - “Ichabod!” (1850)
29. Susan Warner
   - *Wide, Wide World* (1850)
30. Nathaniel Hawthorne
   - *The Scarlet Letter* (1850)
   - “My Kinsman, Major Molineux” (1832)
   - “Rappaccini’s Daughter” (1844)
   - “The Minister’s Black Veil” (1836)
31. Herman Melville
- *Moby Dick* (1852)
- “Bartleby the Scrivener” (1853)
- “Benito Cereno” (1856)
- “The House-top” (1866)
- “The Portent” (1866)

32. Harriet Beecher Stowe
- *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* (1852)

33. George Aiken
- *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* (1853)

34. Henry David Thoreau
- *Walden* (1854)
- “Civil Disobedience” (1849)

35. Walt Whitman
- “Song of Myself” (1855)
- “Crossing Brooklyn Ferry” (1856)
- “When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom’d” (1865)
- “O Captain! My Captain!” (1867)
- “For You O Democracy” (1856)
- “City of Orgies” (1856)
- “Eighteen Sixty-One” (1867)
- “Ethiopia Saluting the Colors” (1867)

36. William Wells Brown
- *The Escape; Or, a Leap for Freedom* (1858)

37. Emily Dickinson
- “To fight aloud, is very brave” (1860)
- “Unto like Story – Trouble has enticed me” (1862)
- “I like a look of Agony” (1862)
- “After great pain, a formal feeling comes” (1862)
- “The name – of it – is ‘Autumn!’” (1862)
- “He fought like those Who’ve nought to lose” (1862)
- “When I was small, a Woman died” (1863)
- “It feels a shame to be Alive” (1863)
- “One Anguish – in a Crowd” (1863)
- “They dropped like Flakes” (1863)
- “If any sink, assure that this, now standing” (1863)
- “The battle fought between the Soul” (1863)
- “No Rack can torture me” (1863)
- “My Portion is Defeat – today” (1863)
- “My Life had stood – a Loaded Gun” (1863)
- “Color – Caste – Denomination” (1864)
- “Dying! To be afraid of thee” (1865)

38. Harriet Wilson
- *Our Nig* (1859)

39. Harriet Jacobs
- *Incidents in the Life...* (1861)
40. Rebecca Harding Davis
   - *Life in the Iron Mills* (1861)

41. Abraham Lincoln
   - “First Inaugural Address” (1861)
   - “Gettysburg Address” (1863)
   - “Second Inaugural Address” (1865)

Critical Texts
1. F.O. Mattheissen
   - *American Renaissance* (1941)
2. Leslie Fiedler
   - *Love and Death in the American Novel* (1960)
3. Benedict Anderson
   - *Imagined Communities* (1991)
4. Perry Miller
   - *The Raven & the Whale* (1957)
5. Christopher Looby
6. Cathy Davidson