Is American literature defined by geographical boundaries? What is the difference between American literature and American history? How does the in-depth study of early American literature prompt us rethink representations of American culture today? In our global era, it is clear that past definitions of American literature must be revisited. This anthology moves to answer the question “what is American literature?” by framing the texts in new and provocative ways that fit the modern age.

- Front Matter
- 1: Native American and Ethnographic Texts (2015)
- 2: Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca
- 3: Anne Bradstreet
- 4: Phillis Wheatley
- 5: Washington Irving
- 6: Edgar Allan Poe
- 7: Nathaniel Hawthorne
8: Henry David Thoreau
9: Ralph Waldo Emerson
10: Frederick Douglass
11: Walt Whitman
12: Emily Dickinson
13: Harriet Beecher Stowe
14: Harriet Jacobs
15: Mark Twain
16: “Where is American Literature Now?”—Contemporary Connections
17: Earlier American Literature in Music
18: Earlier American Literature in Film
19: The Female American (1767) Supplementary Readings
20: Letters from an American Farmer (1767) Supplementary Readings

Back Matter