

Course Syllabus
English 3332: American Literature II
Spring 2012
TR 2:00-3:15
Hinton 126
Department of English
Dr. Micah Mattix
Assistant Professor in Literature

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines American literary trends after the Civil War, including Realism, Naturalism, and Modernism. Writers under consideration include Twain, S. Crane, Frost, Stevens, Fitzgerald, Hemingway, and Faulkner.

COURSE SEQUENCE IN CURRICULUM AND PREREQUISITE INFORMATION

Prerequisite: ENGL 1313, and 1323, or permission of the instructor. For English majors or by permission of instructor.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Name: Dr. Micah Mattix
E-mail: mmattix@hbu.edu
Office Phone: 281-649-3615
Office Location: UAC 121
Office Hours: 1:00-3:00 MWF, 9:00-11:00 TR

LEARNING RESOURCES

Course Text:

Baym, Nina, et al. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature: Package 2 (Volumes C and E)*. 7th edition. New York: WW Norton, 2007. ISBN: 978-0393929942

RELATION TO THE MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY

The mission of Houston Baptist University is to provide a learning experience that instills in students a passion for academic, spiritual, and professional excellence as a result of our central confession, "*Jesus Christ is Lord.*"

RELATION TO COLLEGE GOALS AND PURPOSES

This course is designed to support the mission of the College of Arts and Humanities: "To develop intellectual, moral and aesthetic growth in its students"

This course requires students to engage with deep intellectual, moral and aesthetic issues through the study of great art.

RELATION TO DEPARTMENTAL GOALS AND PURPOSES

One of the department purposes is to provide instruction in writing and rhetorical skills. In this course students develop writing and rhetorical skills and demonstrate effective communication.

This course introduces students to great writing and rhetorically advanced works of literature and requires students to emulate these works in the writing of college essays.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Overview/ purpose of the course:

1. Students will read selected works by the authors of each period and will be able to explain orally and in writing the content of the works, the authors' themes and purposes in writing the works, and the relationship between the works and the authors' intellectual milieus.
2. Students will define and discuss literary genres and terms.
3. Students will write critical papers that demonstrate competency in the use of the English language, develop a thesis, and show they have correctly used the MLA guidelines for correct form and documentation.

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in reading through the successful completion of reading assignments.
2. Illustrate critical thinking and analytical ability through the discussion of reading assignments and oral presentations.
3. Show proficiency in written communication through written exams and papers.
4. Demonstrate proficiency in oral communication through class discussion and oral presentation.
5. Use technology to access information for assignments and to critically evaluate the validity of that information.

Technology, writing, or oral objectives;

Technology, writing, reading and oral competencies are reinforced through the successful completion of assignments as described above.

TOPICAL OUTLINE

- 01.12 Course introduction
- 01.17 Henry James, "The Real Thing" and "The Beast in the Jungle"
- 01.19 Sarah Orne Jewett, "A White Heron;" Kate Chopin, "The Storm" and "The Awakening"
- 01.24 Jack London, "The Law of Life" and "To Build a Fire"
- 01.26 Edgar Lee Masters, Edwin Arlington Robinson and Amy Lowell
- 01.31 Robert Frost
- 02.02 Wallace Stevens
- 02.07 William Carlos Williams and Ezra Pound
- 02.09 Marianne Moore and T.S. Eliot
- 02.14 Eugene O'Neill, *Long Day's Journey into Night*
- 02.16 O'Neill, *Long Day's Journey into Night* (cont.)
- 02.21 William Faulkner, *As I Lay Dying*
- 02.23 Faulkner, *As I Lay Dying* (cont.). **Essay 1 due.**
- 02.28 F. Scott Fitzgerald, "Winter Dreams;" Ernest Hemingway, "The Snows of Kilimanjaro"
- 03.01 Langston Hughes and E.E. Cummings

03.06 John Steinbeck and Richard Wright

03.08 **Mid-Term Exam.**

SPRING BREAK: NO CLASS

03.20 Lorine Niedecker and George Oppen

03.22 Theodore Roethke and Elizabeth Bishop

03.27 Eudora Welty and John Cheever

03.29 Arthur Miller, *Death of Salesman*

04.03 Miller, *Death of a Salesman* (cont.)

04.05 Robert Lowell, Robert Duncan and Richard Wilbur

04.10 Denise Levertov and A.R. Ammons

04.12 Allen Ginsberg, Frank O'Hara and John Ashbery

04.17 Philip Levine, Mary Oliver, and Li-Young Lee

04.19 Flannery O'Connor, Thomas Pynchon and Raymond Carver. **Essay 2 due.**

04.24 Yusef Komunyakaa and Louise Erdrich

04.26 Review for Final Exam

Final Exam: Tuesday, May 1, 3:00-5:00

Last day to drop without a "W": January 25, 2012

Last day to drop with a "W": March 23, 2012

The content of this outline and the attached schedule are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

TEACHING STRATEGIES

Through lecture, discussion, individual conferences, papers and exams, students will display an understanding and appreciation of text and context.

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING

Course Requirements:

Quizzes:

There will be 10 quizzes over the course of the semester. These reading quizzes are to determine if you have read the texts due on the day of the quiz. **Students absent for a quiz will receive a zero.**

Essays:

Students will be asked to two eight to twelve page essays for the course. These will be on a topic of the student's choosing.

Exams:

Students will be given a mid-term and a final. The purpose of these exams is to test the students' knowledge and understanding of the texts.

Grade Distribution:

Essays: 40%
Quizzes: 20%
Exams (Mid-term and Final): 40%

Grading Standards:

Numeric Grading Scale:

A: 90-100
B: 80-89
C: 70-79
D: 60-69
F: 59 and below

Student Appraisal:

The professor shall administer the Student Evaluation Form and review the results.

CLASS POLICIES

Absence and Tardy Policies

Regular attendance in class is important for student success, and it is university policy that students must attend class. Absences are recorded beginning from the first class session after the student has enrolled in the course. Professors are not obligated to allow students to make up work they miss due to unexcused absences. Any student who does not attend at least 75% of the scheduled class sessions will receive a grade of "F" for the course, regardless of his performance on other assessments such as tests, quizzes, papers, or projects. Professors may apply additional attendance policies as appropriate to individual courses. Likewise, the college or school may also apply additional attendance requirements as necessary. Please see the catalog currently in use for the university's policy on classroom absences caused in the course of student representation of the university, such as athletics, chorale, and mock trial activities.

Academic Honesty

Please refer to the current catalog for the university's policy and procedures regarding academic honesty. Note that the university utilizes "Turn-It-In" and other programs to investigate possible plagiarism activities. All major papers for this course will be submitted to the plagiarism prevention software, **Turnitin.com** on or before a paper's due date. No paper will be graded without meeting this requirement beforehand. A separate handout will be provided to give detailed instructions on this process which must include the class identification number and class password.

In accordance with FERPA, and to best protect the students' privacy, no personal identification (e.g., name, social security number, H number) should be uploaded with the text of student papers. However, Turnitin will ask for the student's name and e-mail address when setting up a personal account. This identifying information will be used by the professor to evaluate the student's paper and cannot be viewed by other faculty or students. To further increase confidentiality, the student may choose to use a pseudonym (false name) when setting up his or her personal Turnitin account.

If a pseudonym is used for Turnitin, the student must provide this identifier next to his/her typed name on the paper copy which is submitted to the professor. Five (5)

points will be deducted if the professor is unable to easily match the paper copy to the Turnitin submission of the student's paper.

Children in Classroom

In almost all instances, children are not allowed in the classroom nor are they allowed to be on campus unattended. Class sessions are for enrolled students only unless other arrangements are approved by the instructor in advance.

Classroom Behavior Expectations

The classroom environment is to be conducive to learning and is under the authority of the instructor. In order to assure that all students have the opportunity to gain from the time spent in class, students are expected to demonstrate civil behavior in the classroom and show appropriate respect for the instructor and other students. Inappropriate behavior toward the instructor, in or out of the classroom, may result in a directive to the offending student to leave the classroom or the course entirely.

Classroom behaviors that disturb the teaching-learning experiences include the following behaviors: activated cellular phone or other device, demands for special treatment, frequent episodes of leaving and then returning to the class, excessive tardiness, leaving class early, making offensive remarks or disrespectful comments or gestures to the instructor or other students, missing deadlines, prolonged chattering, sleeping, arriving late to class, dominating discussions, shuffling backpacks or notebooks, disruption of group work, and overt inattentiveness. **No laptops are allowed in the classroom. All cell phones must be turned off or put on silent. Students using laptops are cell phones during class will be asked to leave.**

Early Alert

As an instructor, I am committed to your success, not only in this class, but in all aspects of HBU life. To ensure that every student takes full advantage of the educational and learning opportunities, HBU has implemented an *Academic Early Alert Referral System (EARS)*. If I think you would benefit from some of these special programs or services available to you, I will make the appropriate referral. You, in turn, will be expected to take advantage of the help offered to you.

Email Policy

All university and class email communication will be sent to your HBU email account. You are responsible for checking this frequently. If you choose, you may reroute your HBU email to another email address. Your emails should be in a professional format with correct spelling, capitalization, and grammar.

Grievance Procedures

The Academic Grievance Policy may be found in the catalog currently in use, in the Academic section of the HBU Forms section of the HBU Portal, and on the Registrar's page on the HBU Website.

Incomplete Grades

Only the dean of the college or school may grant incompletes and only to students who have a major documented emergency in the last few days of a semester. Students with excessive absences, which will result in failing the course, will not be allowed to take the final exam nor be eligible to receive an incomplete.

Late Work

Anything we do in-class cannot be made up. Papers are due at the beginning of class. Late papers are docked one letter grade for each day late. ***This applies to both rough and final drafts.*** If you know that you will be absent on a day a paper is due, you must turn it in before you are absent. If you are ill (with a Doctor's note) or on a university-sponsored trip on the day a paper is due, please email the paper. ***This is the only case in which email submissions are acceptable.***

Learning Disabilities/Academic Accommodations

Houston Baptist University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 regarding students with disabilities. Any student who needs learning accommodations should inform the professor immediately at the beginning of the semester that he/she will be requesting accommodations. In order to request and establish academic accommodations, the student should contact the Coordinator for Learning Disability Services at 504@hbu.edu to schedule an appointment to discuss and request academic accommodation services. Academic Accommodations must be applied for and written each semester. If academic accommodations are approved, a Letter of Accommodations will then be sent to the professor(s). Please refer to the website, www.hbu.edu/504 for all accommodation policies and procedures.

Missed Tests

Regardless of the reason for your absence from class, you are responsible for all missed class work. Quizzes and exams cannot be made up unless the student has a valid, documented excuse (doctor's note or death certificate in the case of a death in the family) or is absent because of a university sponsored event. The make-up date of the exam or quiz is determined by the professor in consultation with the student.

PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING SYLLABUS

Dr. Micah Mattix

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS REGARDING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COURSE IN TERMS OF HISTORY, MOMENT, MOVEMENT, TRENDS, TIMELINESS, BODY OF BASIC KNOWLEDGE, ETC.

None.

Instructor's Signature

Date