



ENGL 2328
American Literature II
Fall 2021
M/W and T/TH from 7:05-7:55

Instructor Information:

Ria Stubbs-Trevino
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Telephone: 281-229-6541

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means.

Office hours and location: N223, M, T, W, TH, and F from 12:50 pm-1:40 pm. and TH. Tutorials will be held after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:35 pm - 3:35 pm.

Required Textbook: *The Norton Anthology of American Literature, 1865 to the Present*. I will make a PDF textbook for you so that you do not have to purchase this.

Textbook Purchasing Statement:

A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Course Description:

A survey of American literature from the Civil War to the present. Students will study works of prose, poetry, drama, and fiction in relation to their historical and cultural contexts. Texts will be selected from among a diverse group of authors for what they reflect and reveal about the evolving American experience and character.

Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 with a grade of “C” or better.

Course requirements (including description of any special projects or assignments):

Course Requirements/Major Assignments

Besides the assignments as described below, class activities and teaching tools may include presentations, videos, and supplemental readings. Students are expected to read and review all material assigned.

Discussion

Students will be expected to respond to the assigned readings and questions posed in class or posted online. The discussion grade will include an expectation of original thinking (ideas taken from online summaries or analyses will not count). Students will also be expected to respond to other's comments and ideas. For online discussions, inappropriate comments or responses will be removed and will not be credited.

Literary Analysis Students will complete a literary analysis related to the course content. Instructions and a rubric will be provided.

Reading Responses

Students will write responses to the readings in and out of class, and occasionally quizzes will be given to ensure the reading has been completed.

Exams

The midterm and final exam will both consist of essay-type questions based on (but not exactly like) class discussion questions. You may use your class notes and texts while writing these in-class essays.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula (methods of evaluation to be employed to include a variety of means to evaluate student performance):

Course Assignments and Grading/Methods of Evaluation

Discussion	15%
Midterm	20%
Professionalism	10%
Literary Analysis	20%
Quizzes/Reading Responses	15%
Final Exam	20%

Grading scale: A—90-100% B— 80-89% C—70-79% D—60-69 pts.; F—59% and below.

There may be some adjustment of point distributions, values, or weights as needed to correct for changes in assignments/schedules.

Late/make-up policy: I do not accept late work as a general rule, but in the event of a documented, serious personal event or problem, I will work with students. These should be rare and do not include work in other classes, ordinary life situations (fight with or break up from girlfriend or boyfriend, for instance), extra-curricular commitments, etc. I expect students to find a way to work around such normal responsibilities and issues and get work to me through Google Classroom or via other students if they cannot attend class on a due date.

Course outline:

(Schedule and reading assignments subject to change at instructor's discretion; additional readings will likely be assigned. Any changes will be reasonable and fair.)

As indicated by the course description, this is a reading-intensive course. Focus will be on reading and analyzing the texts, and your completion of the reading assignments is critical for the success of the class and for your individual success. The reading and responses are due before class on the assigned days for the readings.

No readings are optional. Use the table of contents and index to find the pieces. Don't just skip it if you can't find it. The author introductions are a required part of the reading assignments.

Week 1

Course Introduction

Getting to know each other

Week 2

Period introduction, pp.1-17

Emily Dickinson, entire section.

Week 3

Mark Twain bio, pp. 101-104

The Notorious Jumping Frog of Calaveras County

The Story of the Good Little Boy Who Did Not Prosper

Week 4

Su Sin Far, "Mrs. Spring Fragrance"

Kate Chopin, "Story of an Hour" and "The Storm"

Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper" and "Why I Wrote 'The Yellow Wallpaper,'" pp. 509-24.

Week 5

Various academic essays over Su Sin Far, Kate Chopin, and Charlotte Perkins Gilman. I will provide these in class.

Week 6

W.E.B. DuBois from *The Souls of Black Folk*

Paul Laurence Dunbar, "An Ante Bellum Sermon," "We Wear the Mask," "Sympathy," and "Frederick Douglas"

Week 7

Amy Lowell, entire section.

Midterm

Week 8

Modernism and Modernist Poets:

Read Period Introduction, pp. 667-87

Ezra Pound, pp. "From A Retrospect," pp. 809-811

Robert Frost, intro. and all poems, pp. 735-50

(Focus on "The Road Not Taken" and "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening.")

Week 9

Langston Hughes: intro. and all poems, pp. 1036-44
"From The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain," pp. 816-18
Langston Hughes Biography (video).
"All About that Troublesome Word" (article to be posted in class)

Week 10

Susan Glaspell, Trifles, pp. 750-761
Gertrude Stein, entire section, pp. 729-734

Week 11

Zora Neale Hurston, intro., pp. 948-950
"Sweat," pp. 950-58
"How It Feels to Be Colored Me," pp. 958-61
Flannery O'Connor "A Good Man is Hard to Find", pp. 1381-1392

Week 12

Anne Sexton, entire section, pp. 1408-1414
Sylvia Plath, entire section, pp. 1442-1450
Additional readings (handouts.)

Week 13

Elizabeth Bishop, "The Fish," pp. 1106-08
Sandra Cisneros, "Woman Hollering Creek" pp. 1613-1622
Literary Analysis drafting

Week 14

Literary Analysis drafting, Peer Critiques

Week 15

Literary Analysis Due

Week 16

Final Exam

Attendance Policy: Attendance and punctuality are both requirements of the course. Therefore, absence and tardiness will be penalized. I understand that sickness and emergencies occur, so I will allow four absences. On the fifth absence, the student's score will be lowered by ten percentage points. On the sixth absence, the student will be dropped from the class, or given a failing grade if the final drop date has passed.

Tardiness Policy: Tardies will be treated similarly. On the fourth tardy, the student's grade will be lowered by two percentage points. For each subsequent tardy, another two percentage points will be removed, until the tenth tardy, at which point the student will be dropped from the course, or given a failing grade if the final drop date has passed. A student more than fifteen minutes late will be considered absent.

Professionalism: A student's professionalism or participation grade is based on attendance and contribution to class discussions, group work, completion of minor assignments, and related activities. Participation points may be deducted for missing class, disruptive or inappropriate behavior, or not completing reading or in-class assignments. A student will be awarded a final professionalism grade reflecting his or her overall attendance and participation as evaluated by the instructor (see rubric in this syllabus). Students engaged in disruptive or unprofessional behavior may also be asked to leave the class or referred to the appropriate student supervisors. I do not penalize students for being shy or introverted. Quality of participation is valued more highly than quantity. If you are a naturally quiet person, I will most likely recognize this, and I will expect you to contribute as much as you can to discussions and contribute to group work in other ways. For all students, attentiveness and listening (to me and others) are also considered forms of quality participation.

Policy on cell phones and laptops: Please be courteous to others and put away all devices at the beginning of class. Students may use a laptop to take notes or use phones to look up relevant information during discussions, but shopping, watching cat videos on Tik Tok, wandering through social media, etc. are not appropriate behaviors during class, and students who do so will lose points on the professionalism score. During tests or quizzes, electronic devices are not allowed.

Syllabus changes: The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus and/or schedule as needed. You will be duly notified of any such changes in advance. After reviewing this syllabus and its policies and continuing with this class, it is understood that you agree to follow the rules and standards by remaining in the course.

Success Tips for Students:

- Attend all class meetings and take responsibility for learning.
- Be aware of deadlines and responsibilities.
- Complete all course readings in a timely manner.
- Read directions carefully for details about each assignment's requirements.

Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams -- is an extremely serious offense and will result in a grade of zero on that exam or assignment, and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate disciplinary action.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is using someone else's words or ideas and claiming them as your own. Plagiarism is a very serious offense. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to) paraphrasing someone else's words or ideas without giving proper citation, copying directly from a website or other source into your paper with proper citation, or using someone else's words without quotation marks. Any assignment containing any plagiarized material will receive a grade of zero, and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate disciplinary action and remediation. Writecheck.com provides some guidance on this issue (<http://en.writecheck.com/ways-to-avoid-plagiarism/>), and Grammarly in Google Docs also has a plagiarism check if you want to double check your work for proper documentation.

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Brian Anderson at banderson@com.edu and 409-933-8186.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Identify key ideas, representative authors and works, significant historical or cultural events, and characteristic perspectives or attitudes expressed in the literature of different periods or regions.	Social Responsibility (SR)	Exams
2. Analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods.	Personal Responsibility (PR)	Exams, Literary Analysis
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of characteristic forms or styles of expression during different historical periods or in different regions.	Critical Thinking (CT)	Exams
4. Articulate the aesthetic principles that guide the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.	Critical Thinking (CT) and Communication Skills (CS1)	Exams, Literary Analysis
5. Write research-based critical papers about the assigned readings in clear and grammatically correct prose, using various critical approaches to literature.	Critical Thinking (CT) and Communication Skills (CS1)	Literary Analysis

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook. <https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf>. *An appeal will not be considered because of*

general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal. https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

Counseling Statement: Any student needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email counseling@com.edu to set up their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however, some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is October 6. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 19. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is December 2.

F_N Grading: The F_N grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The F_N grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the F_N grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an F_N grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

COVID-19 Statement: All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland's Coronavirus Information site at www.com.edu/coronavirus. In compliance with Governor Abbott's May 18 Executive

Order, face coverings/masks will no longer be required on COM campus. Protocols and college signage are being updated. We will no longer enforce any COM protocol that requires face coverings. We continue to encourage all members of the COM community to distance when possible, use hygiene measures, and get vaccinated to protect against COVID-19. Please visit com.edu/coronavirus for future updates.