Required Textbooks:


Course Description: As ASU’s course catalog explains, English 2326 is “a study of diverse works by American writers. Emphasis on reading, comprehending, appreciating, and thinking critically about the selected works within the context of American culture and literary history” (269). The selected works illustrate four major movements in American literature: romanticism, realism, naturalism, and modernism. And they represent four literary genres: novels, drama, short fiction, and poetry.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing sophomore literature, students should be able to

1. understand the role of literature as an expression of values and interpretation of human experience
2. understand and apply methods of responding to literature analytically
3. understand the form, function, scope and variety of literature, including specialized terminology
4. understand the interactive relationship between history, culture, and literature.

Sophomore literature outcomes will be measured by various assignments, including the composition of a literary analysis.

Hybrid Course Information—Blog Activity on Fridays: We do not meet in our classroom on Fridays, with the three exceptions of the first Friday of the semester (August 30), the midterm examination review Friday (October 11), and the final examination review Friday (the last day of class, December 6). On Friday November 29, we will not have class or a blog because it is Thanksgiving Break. On all of the other Fridays, we will participate online in a blog during our fifty-minute class time, 9:00-9:50 or 10:00-10:50 a.m. depending on your section. For these assignments, please log on to our course blog to post a comment and a reply to classmates’ comments. (Links embedded in the schedule below).

Requirements and Grading: The coursework includes six reading tests, a midterm essay examination, a comprehensive final essay examination, and classroom/blog participation, using this grading rubric:
Midterm--------------------------------------------------------------25%
Reading tests (five out of the six will count for 7% each) ---------------35%
Final examination------------------------------------------------------30%
Classroom/blog participation---------------------------------------10%

100%

Absences for Observance of Religious Holy Day: Students who intend to be absent from class to observe a religious holy day (as defined in ASU O.P. 10.19) must inform the professor in writing prior to the absence and make up any scheduled assignments within an appropriate timeframe determined by the professor. While the absence will not be penalized, failure to complete the make-up assignment satisfactorily and within the required timeframe will result in penalties consistent with other absences and assignments.

Attendance: Students are allowed a total of three unexcused absences without penalty. For each additional unexcused absence, 5 points (1/2 letter-grade) will be deducted from the final course grade. Six or more excused or unexcused absences may be grounds for failing the course. Students are responsible for preparing for the class following any absence and for informing me when they miss roll call because of being late. Being late is ½ an absence, and not having the book for class is ½ an absence as well.

Policies for Assignments: Make-up midterm and final examinations will be given only in cases of legitimate, documented emergencies. Reading tests cannot be made up, but a student may miss one without penalty because the lowest grade of the six reading tests will be dropped.

Class Activities: To receive credit for the 10% class participation grade, students must be completely prepared with all the assigned reading and must be active in all classroom and online blog activities.

Class Conduct: Sleeping, eating, drinking, using any tobacco product (including chewing tobacco), talking disruptively, habitually forgetting to bring textbooks to class, and using electronic devices are prohibited during class.

Academic Honesty: Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code: http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/Honor_Code.pdf

ADA: Students with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, University Center 112, in order to request such accommodations prior to any being implemented. Students are encouraged to make these requests early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made as soon as possible.

Schedule:

M 8/26 Course Introduction. After class, begin reading The Scarlet Letter, and each day read an average of 13 pages until the reading test on Wednesday, September 4. If you do not have your book today or tomorrow, you should begin your reading in this public domain, electronic copy of the novel: https://thelitterateurs.files.wordpress.com/2013/04/the-scarlet-letter.pdf This pdf is only for temporary use. Before Friday, August 30, all students must buy a copy of the novel for use in class, the blog, and the exams. And you must have your copies of this book and all of the other print books after the end of the first week of class.

W 8/28 Overview of American literary romanticism.

F 8/30 Discuss The Scarlet Letter, 1-31.

M 9/2 Labor Day: no class today.
Reading Test #1 on *The Scarlet Letter*, pp. 33-180.

Blog activity. Please log on to the blog site (https://asueng2326fall2019.blogspot.com/) during your class period, 9:00-9:50 a.m. or 10:00-10:50 a.m., and publish a comment and a reply.

Discuss Chapters 1-10 of *The Scarlet Letter*.

Discuss Chapters 11-24 of *The Scarlet Letter*.

Blog activity. Please log on to the blog site (https://asueng2326fall2019.blogspot.com/) during your class period, 9:00-9:50 a.m. or 10:00-10:50 a.m., and publish a comment and a reply.

Reading Test #2 on *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, pp. 1-164.

Discuss Chapters 1-18 of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

Blog activity. Please log on to the blog site (https://asueng2326fall2019.blogspot.com/) during your class period, 9:00-9:50 a.m. or 10:00-10:50 a.m., and publish a comment and a reply.

Discuss Chapters 19-30 of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

Discuss Chapters 31-end of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

Blog activity. Please log on to the blog site (https://asueng2326fall2019.blogspot.com/) during your class period, 9:00-9:50 a.m. or 10:00-10:50 a.m., and publish a comment and a reply.

Reading Test #3 on *The Awakening*, pp. 1-116.

Discuss Chapters 1-24 of *The Awakening*.

Blog activity. Please log on to the blog site (https://asueng2326fall2019.blogspot.com/) during your class period, 9:00-9:50 a.m. or 10:00-10:50 a.m., and publish a comment and a reply.

Discuss Chapters 25-36 of *The Awakening*.

Discuss Chapters 37-39 of *The Awakening*.

Discuss format of midterm examination. No blog activity today.

Midterm examination, Part 1

Midterm examination, Part 2

Blog activity. Please log on to the blog site (https://asueng2326fall2019.blogspot.com/) during your class period, 9:00-9:50 a.m. or 10:00-10:50 a.m., and publish a comment and a reply.
M 10/21  **Reading Test #4 on Death of a Salesman, 11-139.** To prepare for the test, you may either read the play or you may watch the library’s streaming video of this excellent production: https://phl.angelo.edu/vwebv/holdingsInfo?searchId=288&recCount=10&recPointer=0&bibId=899502 (Directions: click on the link, and then click on the "A kanopy streaming video, access requires login to the proxy server" link. Type in your ASU username and password, click on "Login," and the film viewing page will open.) The film is only two and ½ hours, considerably less time than reading the play would probably take.

W 10/23  **Discuss Death of a Salesman.** Act I.

F 10/25  **Blog activity.** Please log on to the blog site (https://asueng2326fall2019.blogspot.com/) during your class period, 9:00-9:50 a.m. or 10:00-10:50 a.m., and publish a comment and a reply.

M 10/28  **Discuss Death of a Salesman.** Act II.

W 10/30  **Continue discussing Death of a Salesman.** Act II.

F 11/1  **Blog activity.** Please log on to the blog site (https://asueng2326fall2019.blogspot.com/) during your class period, 9:00-9:50 a.m. or 10:00-10:50 a.m., and publish a comment and a reply.

M 11/4  **Reading Test #5 on Porter’s Pale Horse, Pale Rider, pp. 3-208.**

W 11/6  **Discuss “Old Mortality,”** pp. 3-70.

F 11/8  **Blog activity.** Please log on to the blog site (https://asueng2326fall2019.blogspot.com/) during your class period, 9:00-9:50 a.m. or 10:00-10:50 a.m., and publish a comment and a reply.

M 11/11  **Discuss “Noon Wine,”** 73-138.

W 11/13  **Continue discussing “Noon Wine.”**

F 11/15  **Blog activity.** Please log on to the blog site (https://asueng2326fall2019.blogspot.com/) during your class period, 9:00-9:50 a.m. or 10:00-10:50 a.m., and publish a comment and a reply.

M 11/18  **Discuss “Pale Horse, Pale Rider,”** 141-208.

W 11/20  **Continue discussing “Pale Horse, Pale Rider.”**

F 11/22  **Blog activity.** Please log on to the blog site (https://asueng2326fall2019.blogspot.com/) during your class period, 9:00-9:50 a.m. or 10:00-10:50 a.m., and publish a comment and a reply.

M 11/25  **Reading Test #6 on Thomas and Beulah.** 9-79. To prepare for the test, please watch this hour-long documentary that Rita Dove made to explain the structure and themes of her book: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7duHFUjieME

W 11/27  **Thanksgiving break: no class today.**
F 11/29  Thanksgiving break: no blog today.

M 12/2  Discuss Thomas and Beulah. 9-64.

W 12/4  Discuss Thomas and Beulah. 65-77.

F 12/6  Discuss format of final examination. No blog activity today.

M 12/9  10:00 section:
Final examination—10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

W 12/11  9:00 section:
Final examination—8:00-10:00 a.m.

Students in either section are welcome to attend the examination at the time of the other course section, with prior permission.

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ASU Core Curriculum Objectives for Sophomore Literature and Related Course Assessments

Students in sophomore literature will practice the following core curriculum learning objectives in critical thinking, communication, social responsibility, and personal responsibility. Students will then demonstrate their capabilities in these objectives through reading quizzes, written analyses, reflections, or examinations.

Critical thinking will be demonstrated in reading quizzes, written analyses, or examinations.

• Students will gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to a question or issue by mastering a series of assigned literary works in terms of generic conventions and content.

Communication will be demonstrated in reading quizzes, written analyses, or examinations.

• Students will develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written communication.

Social responsibility will be demonstrated in written reflection on public reading or lecture.

• Students will demonstrate ability to engage with locally, regionally, nationally, or internationally known literary artists and the texts they create, and to reflect upon the shared traditions of literary expression, the debates that help shape literature, and the conflicts, cultural differences, and shared experiences.

Personal responsibility will be demonstrated in reading quizzes, written analyses, or examinations.

• Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate choices, actions, and consequences by identifying, analyzing, and evaluating ethical decision-making in literary examples.