Angelo State University

English 2326: Intro to American Literature

Instructor: Nathan Morrill, M.Ed.

Location: Brady High School room B114

Email: nmorrill@bradyisd.org (best way to reach me) or during conference period which is 5th period

Course Description and Student Learning Outcomes

English 2326 generally aims to introduce students to the skills of literary analysis through exposure to important periods/movements and major works of American Literature.

Upon completing English 2326, students should:

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.

Prerequisites: Students must have credit for English 1301 and 1302 and must have applied to and been accepted into the dual credit program through Angelo State University.

Necessary Materials: 1 inch binder for portfolio, paper, pens, collegiate dictionary, computer and internet access-All drafts of all essays must be processed, and will be using Blackboard extensively. Students will submit all essays through Turnititin.com.
Course Evaluation

Your final grade is determined by your performance in the following areas:

1. Reading quizzes 10%
2. Discussion Board Posts 15%
3. Response Papers 30%
4. Portfolio 5% (this is where students keep all assignments, essays, and notes in an organized manner so that students can reflect upon growth as a writer and thinker)
5. Exams (midterm and Final) 40%

Discussion posts: Students will submit reflection posts to Blackboard on assigned prompt or question. I will evaluate these responses via email with each student, assigning a grade, but more importantly, asking questions, prompting further consideration and development, etc. Each post must be between 250-500 words, should take a position that makes an argument and support each claim with well considered textual evidence. No late discussion board posts will be accepted.

Response papers: At three times during the semester, students must submit a paper that responds to an assigned academic article and prompt. These papers must be between 1500-2000 words and should represent the students’ most polished and complex understanding of the question assigned. These papers will be due on the appointed due dates mentioned in class.

Essay Format

Please follow the guidelines below when submitting final drafts.

1. Use proper MLA style title
2. Use 12 point Times New Roman font
3. Use proper MLA style formatting for margins
4. Use Proper MLA style pagination
5. Double space
6. Spell check

I will deduct points from essays that do not follow these guidelines.

Use of Technology

Students must upload all essay assignments on Blackboard as WORD documents or PDFs. I will not accept excuses for any technical difficulties students may have with their papers which include computers crashing, difficulty uploading papers, Blackboard shutting down, etc. Students need to make sure to give themselves enough time after finishing their assignments to manage these problems. I will not accept any essay assignments via email.
No Drama Clause

I will drop one letter grade per day a paper is late in case of illness, death in family, car trouble, etc. I do not want students to ask for special exceptions for such occurrences. Students must upload papers on **not only the due date, but also the time.** If students turn in their papers any later than the time specified in class, I will automatically deduct five points. For each day that the paper is late, I will deduct ten points.

Departmental Policy on 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, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook:


Failure to comply with the honor code will result in disciplinary action and a failing grade in this course.

**I will assign a grade of “F” for the following violations:**

I. Plagiarism “the appropriation and the unacknowledged incorporation of another’s work or idea into one’s own work offered for credit” (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Chapter VI, Section 5.32)

II. Cheating – this includes copying material from another member of the class, having someone in or outside of class complete an assignment or exam for you.

Since about 90% of students who plagiarize use Wikipedia, I am not permitting students to use Wikipedia under any circumstance for this course. Wikipedia is not scholarly, accurate, and it is unreliable. Do not attempt to cite or consult Wikipedia for any class assignments, especially papers and exams.