



English 2326: American Literature

Instructor: Jennifer Brewer, MS; MA

Location: Olfen High School, room 108

Office Hours: M-F 3:05-3:55

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Course Description

This course will provide a survey of 19th and 20th century American literature in terms of the cultural and social events surrounding the creation of the works. Specific attention will be on the authors' use of irony and satire to comment on American society, culture, race, wars, and justice. Literature will include a sampling of male and female authors, as well as authors from a variety of cultural backgrounds. Literary texts will consist of short stories, poetry, and a novel.

Core Curriculum Objectives

1. critical thinking skills-be able to gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information
2. communication skills-be able to develop, interpret, and express ideas through written and oral communication
3. teamwork-be able to demonstrate social responsibility by engaging with others in meaningful ways.
4. personal responsibility-be able to evaluate choices, actions and consequences related to ethical decision-making

Learning Outcomes

- Students will master a series of assigned literary works in terms of conventions and content.
- Students will produce written analyses of literary works that demonstrate both depth of content development and clarity of expression.
- Students will engage in the shared traditions of literary expression, the debates that help shape the literature, and the shared experiences as they relate to American culture and diversity through literature.
- Students will identify choices, actions, and consequences that create conflict for characters in a variety of literary texts.

Prerequisites: Students must have completed English 1301 and 1302 with a 70% or higher.

Extra Credit: There is no extra credit. Students are expected to complete all assigned readings and related quizzes and assignments on time.

Attendance and Makeup Policy:

Attendance and punctuality are imperative in a college course. All assignments are due on their due date regardless of whether a student is absent from class or present. Due dates for assignments are given well in advance. *Minor assignments are not accepted late.* Students who are absent for a school trip or any other reason the day an assignment is due must turn in the assignment digitally. Major assignments that are late will be accepted at the professor's discretion but will receive a decreased grade. If a quiz is given the day a student returns to class, the student is expected to take the quiz. Students who are absent the day a quiz is given are expected to take the quiz online. Students should contact the instructor, consult the syllabus, and check Google Classroom when absent in order to be aware of and complete all classwork while absent.

Course Content: College-level courses may include controversial, sensitive, and/or adult material. Students are expected to have the readiness for college-level rigor and content.

Students with Disabilities: Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office at ASU in order to request such accommodations prior to any being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Academic Honesty: Angelo State University and Olfen ISD expect students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the ASU website at <http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf>. At a minimum, students who are determined to have violated this policy by plagiarizing or cheating will receive a failing grade on the assignment, and other disciplinary consequences may be enforced.

Class Assessment/Grading

Minor Grades each grading period: quizzes, short answers, forums	50%
Midterm: Essay exam	15%
Group Project:	10%
Final Exam: Literary analysis essay	25%

Schedule of Assignments (subject to change based on class needs or unforeseen events)

WEEK	ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE (by 11:59 pm)
8/23-8/27	Syllabus Reading 1 Norton Anthology Intro (1865-1914) pp.1-17. Forum question in Google classroom Reading 2 Walt Whitman Background p. 21 and Cliff Notes Commentary (link in Google Classroom) Reading 3 <i>Song of Myself</i> 1-6. Be prepared to discuss on Friday. Question in Google classroom	Forum: your answer by 8/25. Reply by 8/27. 8/29
8/30-09/03	Irony lecture and handout Reading 4 Mark Twain background p.101 Reading 5 “The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County” p.104 Answer questions in Google Classroom.	9/03
09/07-09/10	Poetic terminology lecture and handout Reading 6 Paul Laurence Dunbar background p. 633 Reading 7 “We Wear the Mask” and “Sympathy” Reading 8 Excerpt from “I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings” in StudySync Answer question in Google Classroom	9/12
09/13-09/17	Society created irony lecture and notes Reading 9 Charlotte Perkins Gilman background p. 509 Reading 10 “The Yellow Wallpaper” p. 511 Reading 11 Jack London background and “To Build a Fire p. 639 Forum Question in Google Classroom	Forum: your answer by 9/16. Reply by 9/19.
09/20-09/24	Reading 12 Literature 1914-1945 Introduction p. 667 Narrative point of view lecture and handout Reading 13 Gertrude Stein and “The Making of Americans” p. 729 Personification Reading 14 Carl Sandburg Background and Poems pp 772-774 Short answer question in StudySync over “Chicago”	9/24
09/27-10/01	Reading 15 Langston Hughes background p. 1036, “Democracy” p. 1042, and “Theme for English B” p.1043 Compare/contrast question in Google classroom.	10/01
10/04-10/08	Review MLA in-text citations format and Works Cited page format Midterm Essay Test Opens 10/4 at 8:00 am	10/07
10/12-10/15	Reading 16 Literature since 1945 Introduction p. 1069 Satire lecture Background on Kurt Vonnegut Group project rubric	Forum: your answer by 10/15 Reply by 10/18
10/18-10/22	Reading 17 <i>God Bless You Mr. Rosewater</i> Ch. 1-4 Short answer question in Google Classroom	10/22
10/25-10/29	Reading 18 <i>God Bless You Mr. Rosewater</i> Ch. 5-8 Short answer question in Google Classroom	10/29
11/01-11/05	Reading 19 <i>God Bless You Mr. Rosewater</i> Ch. 9-11 Short answer question in Google Classroom	11/05
11/08-11/12	Reading 20 <i>God Bless You Mr. Rosewater</i> Ch. 12-14 Group project due Present project	11/11 11/12

11/15- 11/19	Reading 21 Non-traditional poetry forms article link in Google Classroom Yusef Komunyakian background and poems p. 1574 Asian American Authors lecture and video Reading 22 Li-Young Lee background and poem p. 1635 Short answer question in Google Classroom	11/19
11/22- 11/26	Thanksgiving Break	
11/29- 12/03	Native American Authors Reading 23 If Eve Side-Stealer and Mary Busted-Chest Ruled the World by Natalie Diaz in StudySync Reading quiz Reading 24 “AGolden Coin” in StudySync Short Answer question	12/03 12/03
12/06- 12/10	Final Exam Literary Analysis Essay: Opens 12/06 8:00 am	12/08

Neither ASU nor Olfen ISD discriminate against students based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, or political beliefs.