

ENGLISH 2326 : American Literature
Prerequisite: English 1301

Instructor: Elizabeth SoRelle, M.A.
Cell Phone: (325) 234-1934
Office Hours: by appointment before &
after school; break 9:20 -
9:35; 8th period 2:45 - 3:35.

Email: elizabeth.sorelle@wallisd.net
Location: Wall High School Room 110
Class Meeting Times:
2nd Per. 7:50 – 9:25, alternates
3rd Per. 9:35 – 10:25, alternates

GOALS AND OUTCOMES

In this American literature survey course, you will read and analyze works of prose, poetry, and drama. Upon completing sophomore literature, you 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;
and
4. understand the interactive relationship between history, culture, and literature.

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

ASU LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Core Objective	Student Learning Outcome
<i>Critical Thinking</i>	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. Students will demonstrate mastery in reading quizzes, written analyses, or examinations.
<i>Communication</i>	Students will develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written communication. Students will demonstrate mastery in reading quizzes, written analyses, or examinations.
<i>Teamwork</i>	Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate choices, actions, and consequences by identifying, analyzing, and evaluating ethical decision-making in literary examples. Students will demonstrate mastery in reading quizzes, written analyses, or examinations.

<i>Personal Responsibility</i>	Students will demonstrate the 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. Students will demonstrate mastery in written reflection on public reading or lecture.
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REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Nye, Naomi Shihab. *The Tiny Journalist*.

Link:

https://www.amazon.com/Tiny-Journalist-American-Poets-Continuum/dp/1942683731/ref=sr_1_13?keywords=naomi+shihab+nye&qid=1638992694&s=books&sr=1-13

Fitzgerald, F. Scott. *The Great Gatsby*

Link:

https://www.amazon.com/Great-Gatsby-F-Scott-Fitzgerald/dp/B08RYK64GM/ref=sr_1_5?keywords=great+gatsby&qid=1638993588&s=books&sr=1-5

*** I have copies of *The Great Gatsby* for you, but if you want to order a copy for yourself, here is the link. **

You will also be selecting a third novel, but what you purchase will depend upon your group. Details to come.

SUPPLIES

You need something to take notes in and something to keep handouts in.

COURSE OUTLINE

Unit 1: American Literature Timeline and Overview

Before we get started digging into individual authors, we'll study a quick overview of literature in our American history. What are the significant movements? Which writers represent each movement? We will build a timeline and use it throughout the semester.

Unit 2: Poetry

Poetry is a complex art form, often scaring students away. We will break down this delicate craft and learn how the magic is created. From strict rules and structures to freedom in design, we will learn to appreciate poetry in new ways. We'll include examples from a smattering of American poets, both

well-known and under-appreciated. And best of all, you will write your own modeled poetry. We will end this unit with a poetry cafe, where we will share our masterpieces.

We will also read Naomi Shihab Nye's newest collection of poetry entitled *The Tiny Journalist*. An American, Nye is the daughter of immigrant parents. Using free verse, Nye paints a picture of the suffering of Palestinians through a variety of speakers. We'll get to meet Ms. Nye at Angelo State University's Writers Conference on March 3rd. For more information on the conference or Ms. Nye, visit this site. https://www.angelo.edu/departments/english-modern-languages/writers_conference.php

Unit 3: Wealth and Privilege vs. Poverty, Racism and Segregation

In this unit we'll read *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald. We'll learn about The Lost Generation of writers and also about the Harlem Renaissance. We'll watch a film called *Passing*, which is based on a novel written in 1920. What will our selections reveal about race, class, and wealth during the 1920s? What universal truths still linger today?

Unit 4: Nature and Independence

Our American identity often collides with our wide open spaces. We strike out on our own to find ourselves and to connect to our freedom in nature. Our literature of course reflects this connection. In this unit, you'll have quite a bit of freedom to choose a novel or memoir that deals with the topic. You'll be working in small groups to do your analysis but will be responsible for the material in a test at the end of the unit.

ATTENDANCE POLICIES / MAKEUP WORK

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory, whether we meet online in ZOOM or face to face in class. Attendance will be taken each class period. It goes without saying that you need to be in class (face to face or online) in order to learn. You are responsible for learning the material you miss.

Assignments: I will post daily assignments under WHAT TO DO TODAY in Google Classroom. I will also post a link to a live calendar, which may change often. If the calendar changes, it is always in your benefit.

Late work: Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period. If you are absent, your assignment is still due unless you use your one late pass. Sickness is NOT an exception. All students will receive ONE late pass, which can be used for any assignment EXCEPT the final presentation.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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

Minor Assignments: Minor assignments are comprised of a wide variety of activities, including but not limited to in-class writing, homework readings and reading responses, peer review, informal presentations, and research.

Major Assignments: Major assignments include essays, tests and formal presentations.

Quizzes: In order to show mastery over certain concepts, you will take quizzes throughout the semester. You will always be given advance notice of quizzes.

	Total # of Assignments	Percentage of Total Grade
Major Assignments	4-5	50%
Minor Assignments	15-20	20%
Quizzes	8-10	30%

ONLINE POLICIES

All course information will be posted in Google Classroom. Should you be absent for whatever reason, you still need to do the required assignment. If you are going to be absent for an extended period of time, please visit with me BEFORE you leave so we can work out a schedule.

Should TurnItin not be working at the time the assignment is due, you should be prepared to email the assignment in an attachment to me along with an explanation of the issue. Neither of these issues excuse you from turning in assignments on time. You should email that assignment to me BEFORE the deadline for that assignment and inform me of the issue.

OTHER

Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at www.angelo.edu/ADA. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dr. Dallas Swafford

Director of Student Disability Services

Office of Student Affairs

325-942-2047

dallas.swafford@angelo.edu

Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Title IX Statement

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance. This is done in order to connect students with resources and options in addressing the allegations reported. As a student, are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU's Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator. You may do so by contacting:

Michelle Miller, J.D.

Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator

Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

325-942-2022

michelle.miller@angelo.edu

You may also [file a report online](#) 24/7.

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

The Office of Title IX Compliance also provides accommodations related to pregnancy (such as communicating with your professors regarding medically necessary absences, modifications required because of pregnancy, etc.). If you are pregnant and need assistance or accommodations, please contact the Office of Title IX Compliance utilizing the information above.

For more information, visit the [Title IX website](#).

Absences for Religious Holidays

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Incomplete Grading Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft. In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list. Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Copyright Policy

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