Fall 2015

ENGL 2032

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DESCRIPTION: This survey of American literature is a course required for English majors but is open to all students. The only prerequisite is that students must have credit for ENGL 1158 before taking this class. Our main objective is to gain a thorough understanding of American literary history since the Civil War. We will examine the major literary movements, including Realism, Regionalism, Naturalism, Modernism, and Postmodernism, as well as issues such as Race Relations, the Harlem Renaissance, and Feminism, focusing on both traditionally canonical and newly reconsidered authors. In addition, we will make a special effort to contextualize our readings and attempt to understand how literature both participates in and responds to the larger culture. You will engage in frequent writing activities that will help you develop your analytic skills, which are necessary to succeed in today's competitive job market and to be an active member of our culturally diverse society.

How this course works:

- The course will be conducted entirely online in Moodle.
- Each “topic” in our Moodle course will correspond to a class period.
- The assignments will all be due and the class videos will all be available on Tuesday and Thursday. I am also teaching an on-site section of this class. Just like the on-site students, you will be posting Discussion Starters before the class meets (so that other students can reflect on your questions and respond to them) and Reflections after class that build on the discussion.
- You may do the readings, take the quizzes, and submit Discussion Starters ahead of time. However, videos must be watched after they become available at 10:30 am on T and TH, and Reflections must be posted after watching the videos.
- See the course schedule for when you are assigned to post Discussion Starters and Reflections (approximately 4-5 students for each, for each class; the letters correspond to students’ last names. If your last name starts with “L” then you will post when “I-N” appears on the syllabus). If you are not assigned to that day’s topic, you can still post for extra credit.
- Everyone should view each of the videos and read all of the posts for each topic, as this will constitute the “class discussion” for the course. Failure to watch the videos and keep up with the online discussion, as well as taking notes, as you would in an on-site class, will in all likelihood result in your failing the course.
- Follow these steps for each topic module:
  1. Do the readings as outlined on the syllabus. Remember to read everything, even if you are not assigned to post for that day. You success on the midterm and final depend upon it! Don’t neglect the Notes (PDF files), as these will be used for the short answer questions on the final.
  2. Take the related quiz by 10:30 AM.
  3. Discussion Starters must be posted on the discussion forum by 10:30 AM.
     (Check course schedule to see if you are assigned to post for that day.)
4. **Watch the video.** These will become available at 10:30 AM. (As we discuss specific passages in class, make sure you mark them in your books—they could appear on the Midterm or Final.)

5. **Reflections** must be posted on the discussion forum by 2 pm the following day. (Check course schedule to see if you are assigned to post for that day.)

**REQUIRED TEXTS:** I have ordered the following texts through the UNO Bookstore. You may also purchase them online or at another store.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**
- To gain a thorough knowledge of American literary movements and some of the significant authors associated with them.
- To develop critical thinking and writing skills in online posts about reading assignments.
- To digest critical texts and respond to their insights in a final paper.
- To formulate an effective argument about a text in conversation with other critics.
- To demonstrate on the midterm and final a mastery of the material of the course.
- To demonstrate in in online posts a deep engagement with the themes of the course.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Class attendance will be determined by the quizzes. There is a quiz for each class (Tuesday and Thursday). Students who fail to take more than two quizzes will be docked 5% of their final grade for each additional missed quiz.

**LATE WORK** will not be accepted. All due dates are final, except in extreme circumstances, such as hospitalization, or in the case of Moodle unavailability. If Moodle experiences an outage when an assignment is due, I will notify students of the revised due date.

**GRADES:** Final grades will be determined as follows:
- Discussion Starters and Reflections (20%--quantity 10% + quality 10%)
- Quizzes (10%)
- Self-Analysis (10%)
- Midterm (15%)
- Expanded Reflection (15%)
- Portfolio (10%)
- Final (20%)

Letter grades correspond to the following numerical scale: A+=100, A=95, A-=92, A-/B+=90, B+=88, B=85, B-/C+=80, C+=78, C=75, C-/D+=70, D+=68, D=65, D-/F=62, F=50. A grade of "C" indicates competent completion of the assignment. Grades of "A" and "B" indicate varying levels of distinguished performance beyond competency, while grades of "D" and "F" indicate varying levels of failure to address the assignment competently.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY** is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer

**Plagiarism will result in a score of “0” for the assignment.** Here is the definition of plagiarism in the Student Code of Conduct: "Plagiarism: The unacknowledged inclusion of someone else’s actual words, ideas or data or the paraphrasing of someone else’s words, ideas or data as if they were the student’s own. All source material must be appropriately identified and cited according to the conventions for acknowledging source material. (Students are responsible for learning these scholarly conventions; disregard of proper citation conventions can be considered plagiarism.)"

*University Policy on Academic Integrity in Online Classes:* To ensure academic integrity, all students enrolled in distance learning courses at the University of New Orleans may be required to participate in additional student identification procedures. At the discretion of the faculty member teaching the course, these measures may include on-campus proctored examinations, off-site or online proctored examinations, or other reasonable measures to ensure student identity. Authentication measures for this course are identified below and any fees associated are the responsibility of the student.

**Students will have two options for taking the midterm and the final exam.** The first option is to take them with the on-site class (the midterm will be on Thursday, Oct. 1 from 11:00-12:15; the final TBA during finals week.) The second option is take a proctored exam online. The University of New Orleans partners with Proctor U, a live, online proctoring service that allows students to complete exams from any location using a computer, webcam, and reliable internet connection. The schedule of Proctor U fees can be found on our online testing page at http://www.uno.edu/globaluno/online-testing.aspx (both tests will be 120 minutes) and more information about Proctor U can be found on our UNO portal page at http://www.proctoru.com/portal/uno. **Please note that proctored exams should be scheduled with Proctor U at least 72 hours in advance to avoid extra fees.**

Please see Syllabus Attachment Fall 2015 for additional information.
COURSE SCHEDULE

ENGL 2032-476
FALL 2015
Dr. Anne Boyd Rioux

All readings are in the Norton Anthology of American Literature, shorter eighth ed., vol. 2, 1865-present, except for Little Women (separate text) and where indicated to see Moodle (these will be PDF files for you to print out).

Notes will be posted in Moodle.

D=Discussion starters; R=Reflections (See Assignment handout for specifics)

Week 1 (8/20)
TH Introduction to class

Week 2 (8/25-8/27)
T Notes on Realism, “Realism and Naturalism,” Howells and James, 548-557; and James, Daisy Miller, 324-366. D (A-Ch); R (Ci-F)
TH Notes on Late-Nineteenth-Century Women Writers; Woolson, "Miss Grief" (see Moodle) D (G-I); R (J-Ma)

Week 3 (9/1-9/3):
T Little Women, Preface and chap. 1-13 D (Mc-R); R (S-Z)
TH Little Women, chap. 14-23 D (Ci-F); R (A-Ch)

Week 4 (9/8-9/10):
T Little Women, chap. 24-37 D (J-Ma); R (G-I)
TH Little Women, chap. 38-end D (S-Z); R (Mc-R)

Week 5 (9/15-9/17)
T Notes on Regionalism; Harte, 297-305; Jewett, 412-420 D (A-Ch); R (Ci-F)
TH Freeman, 437-447; Gilman, 484-498 D (G-I); R (J-Ma)

Week 6 (9/22-9/24)
T Notes on Race Relations; Chopin, “Desiree’s Baby,” 420-425; Chesnutt, 457-473 D (Mc-R); R (S-Z)
TH Sui Sin Far, 521-531; Zitkala-Sa, 639-647 D (Ci-F); R (A-Ch)

Week 7 (9/29-10/1):
T Notes on Naturalism; “Realism and Naturalism,” Norris, Dreiser, and London, 557-566; Crane, “The Open Boat,” 581-600; London, 627-638 D (J-Ma); R (G-I)
TH Take MIDTERM
Week 8 (10/6-10/8):
T  Notes on Modernism; Frost, 727-742  D (S-Z); R (Mc-R)
TH Pound, 786-790; and Eliot, “Love Song,” 819-825 D (A-Ch); R (Ci-F); Self-Analysis due

Week 9 (10/13-10/15):
T  Hemingway, 1019-1037; Fitzgerald, 963-994 D (G-I); R (J-Ma)
TH NO CLASS--OCTOBER BREAK

Week 10 (10/20-10/22):
T  Notes on the Harlem Renaissance; Hurston, 939-951; Hughes, 1037-1045; 806-808 D (Mc-R); R S-Z
TH Notes on the Southern Renaissance; Faulkner, 994-1016 D (Ci-F); R (A-Ch)

Week 11 (10/27-10/29):
T  Welty, "Petrified Man," 1092-1103; O’Connor, 1339-1354; D (J-Ma); R (G-I)
TH Williams, 1113-1144 D (S-Z); R (Mc-R)

Week 12 (11/3-11/5):
T  Williams 1144-1177 D (A-Ch); R (Ci-F)
TH Notes on Postmodernism; Ginsberg, 1354-1364; Kerouac, 1313-1323 D (G-I); R (J-Ma)

Week 13 (11/10-11/12):
T  Lowell, 1298-1308; Brooks, 1309-1313; Lorde, 1474-1477; Pynchon, 1482-1494 D (Mc-R); R (S-Z)
TH NO CLASS—Work on Expanded Reflection

Week 14 (11/17-11/19):
T  Roth, 1434-1456; Updike, 1424-1434 D (Ci-F); R (A-Ch)
TH Plath, 1416-1424; Sexton, 1373-1379 D (J-Ma); R (G-I)

Week 15 (11/24-11/26):
T  Kingston, 1506-1516; Walker, 1530-1537 D (S-Z); R (Mc-R)
TH NO CLASS--THANKSGIVING

Week 16 (12/1-12/3):
T  Expanded Reflection due; Creative Nonfiction, 1619-1645 D&R extra credit
TH Lahiri, 1649-1665 D&R extra credit

Finals Week: Take Final and turn in Portfolio